**成人学位外语考试复习资料Ⅲ--Reading Comprehension**

**Directions:** *There are 4 passages in this part. Each passage is followed by 5 questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are 4 choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the best one and mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET with a single bar through the centre of the letter that indicates your choice.*

**Passage 1**

The pursuit of lasting happiness has long been a subject of interest for scientists and surveys alike. But what makes us really happy and what lasting benefits does happiness have?

Earlier this month, scientists from the University of Illinois found the people who are happy and positive about life live longer. The researchers found clear and compelling（令人信服的） evidence that happiness is key when it comes to better health and longer lifespan. Last month a British study, which tracked members of 40,000 households across the country, concluded that eating a family meal at least three times a week is the key to happiness because it helps build a strong bond between parents and their children.

But happiness might be decided when you were born. Names can apparently predict how happy we are as individuals, with researchers at Manchester Metropolitan University claiming that people called Judy and Joshua enjoy life the most. Ben, Andrew and Edward are seen as miserable names on the other hand.

Married couples are most likely to be happy with their relationships, according to the study. Research has suggested that happiness begins at 50. A study from Stony Brook University, New York, found that stress, anger and worry fade after your 50th. Women were also reported to suffer greater stress, worry and sadness all ages.

Money makes the world go round, but it is not the key to happiness, according to other studies. In 2008, a survey found that British families were healthier and twice as well-off as they were 20 years ago, but were not happier. However, other studies have found money can buy you happiness after all, but only if you spend it wisely. Indeed, that might be why a good holiday can boost your happiness levels “for up to two months” after—although the break has to be “very relaxing” to have such an effect.

1. What is the key to better health and longer lifespan according to the passage?

A. Benefits. B. Interests. C. Happiness. D. Family.

2. According to the British study, what is the key to happiness in a family?

A. Eating a family meal at least three times a week.

B. Having a child and buying anything he asks for.

C. Going to picnic at weekends with friends.

D. Earning more money for family members.

3. What do researchers at Manchester Metropolitan University claim?

A.The date one was born can decide his happiness.

B. Names can apparently predict how happy one is.

C. Family can apparently predict how happy one is.

D. A strong bond between parents and their children is important.

4. The researchers suggest that happiness would begin \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. after marriage B. at the age of 50

C. after having children D. after having a good name

5. According to a British survey, how could money give people happiness?

A. As long as people have enough money,they can do anything.

B. People would be happier if they earn more than they did 20 years ago.

C. The more money people have, the happier they will become.

D. People can have happiness only if they spend money wisely.

**Passage 2**

Learning to play a musical instrument can change your brain, according to a US review. It also finds that music training can lead to improved speech and foreign language skills.

Although it has been suggested that in the past that listening to Mozart or other classical music could Make you smarter, there has been little evidence to show that music improves brain power. But a data-driven Review by Northwestern University has explored the research about the effect of musical training on the learning skills including language, speech, memory, attention and even vocal emotion.

Researcher Nina Kraus said the data strongly suggest that the neural connections made during musical training also strengthens the brain for other aspects of human communication. The researchers said that in their study the effect of music training suggests that, just like the physical exercise and its impact on body fitness, music is a resource that strengthens the brain for listening fitness, thus requiring society to re-examine the role of music in shaping individual development.

The study, published in Nature Reviews Neuroscience, looked at the rapid increase of research in recent years focused on the effects of music training on the nervous system which could have strong effects on education. The study found that playing an instrument strengthens the brain to choose what is relevant in a complex process that may involve reading or remembering a score, timing issues and working with other musicians.

Kraus said in a statement that a musician’s brain selectively tells apart the information-bearing elements in sounds and in a beautiful interrelationship between sensory（感觉的）and cognitive（认知的）processes, the nervous system makes associations between complex sounds and what they mean. The study reviewed the past research and found, for example, that musicians are more successful than non-musicians in learning to incorporate（合并）sound patterns for a new language into words.

1. We can learn from the passage that in the past people thought \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. listening to music could change their minds

B. they should listen to classical music

C. listening to music could improve their brain power

D. there wasn’t a connection between music and intelligence

2. According to Nina Kraus, the research shows that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. neural connections from musical training are very important for learning music

B. neural connections from musical training are very important for human communication

C. musical training is very important for social communication

D. musical training is very important for people’s physical health

3. What is the researchers’ opinion on the effect of music training in their study?

A. People should pay attention to the role of music.

B. Physical exercise has an important impact on body fitness.

C. Music is the source of the power of human brains.

D. Music can make the society re-examine the listening ability.

4. What can be obtained from the study published in Nature Reviews Neuroscience?

A. Music training could have a strong influence on education.

B. The research in the past is important to our humans.

C. The effect of music instruments plays an important role on human brains.

D. The nervous system may have strong effect on education.

5. How does a musician make associations between sounds and the meanings of them?

A. By telling us the elements in sounds and the meanings of them.

B. By distinguishing the necessary elements in sounds and thus forming the associations.

C. By selecting the information and finding the relationship with the association.

D. By making the complex sounds and studying the meanings of them.

**Passage 3**

London has become a cycle friendly zone after the launch of a new bike hire scheme. It has been designed to encourage more people to cycle in and around central London.

So how does it work? First you have to sign up to the scheme to be sent a key. The key will unlock one of the bikes, which are kept at docking stations（停车点）in and around central London. You have to pay for the key and then you pay as you go, for the length of time you use the bike.

Transport for London, which runs the scheme, is hoping to have 6,000 bikes and 400 docking stations in place by the end of the year. The new hire system is hoping to ease bad traffic in London and is expected to generate up to 40,000 extra cycle trips a day into the city center.

London Mayor Boris Johnston launched the scheme and said London had been filled with thousands of gleaming machines that will transform the look and feel of our streets and become as commonplace on our roads as black cabs and red buses.

However, there have been a few problems since the scheme was launched last Friday. On the first day some people found they couldn’t dock their bike properly and their usage of the bike had not registered. Officials of Transport for London did admit they had been expecting a few teething problems（初期问题）and have said they would waive（免除）the charges for the first day as a gesture of goodwill.

Some other people have criticized the lack of docking stations and locks for the bikes as well as the price it costs to hire the bicycles.

Despite the comments, the green-thinking London mayor still seems very positive about things. He said that his activity for the capital to become the greatest big cycling city in the world has taken a big pedal-powered push forwards.

1. What should people pay for when they want to ride a bike?

A. They should pay for the registration of the bike hire scheme.

B. They should pay for an access fee for the key.

C. They should pay for the key and the usage of the bike.

D. They should pay for their going around in central London.

2. According to the passage, the aim of launching the bike hire scheme is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. have less bikes and docking stations in place

B. solve the problem of bad traffic in London

C. decrease 40,000 extra bicycle trips a day into the city center

D. fill London with thousands of bikes to make the road different

3. At first the problems of the scheme lie in the fact that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. some people don’t know how to use the bikes

B. some people find problems in placing the bikes and registration

C. some people use the bikes without registration on purpose

D. some people don’t want to launch the scheme from the beginning

4. Why can people use the bikes free on the first day?

A. Transport for London wants to show its welcome.

B. Transport for London wants to avoid some problems.

C. Transport for London wants to solve some problems.

D. Transport for London wants to get more support.

5. Facing the people’s criticism, the mayor of London \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. finds some ways to satisfy these people in the city

B. is positive about the finance of the capital city

C. thinks the activity has made London become great

D. continues to carry on the activity

**Passage 4**

Many of the employees think their career path begins during their employment or when they get a job. But basically, if we look at what becomes of a person, you can root it from the upbringing（培养）of the person, to be more specific, from childhood.

As parents, we usually groom（培养）our children’s future according to what we are or what we wanted to be. We buy them toys and educational materials according to what we dream our children would become someday. For example, we know that becoming a teacher means a lot of sacrifices and lot of time engaged but the pay is not satisfying. Thus, if we see this profession not favorable financially, we discourage our children to become teachers.

However, the earliest exposure of children is usually in the medical field profession (every time they visit the hospital for consultation or any medical requirements) and the education or teaching profession (by the time they start attending classes). Information other than the two professions mentioned comes from the parents and later exposure or experiences when they grow up.

The parents’ role plays a major part for the individual’s success. The best approach is to support the children’s interests and not forcing them to take courses that the parents wanted for themselves. Support can be provided by helping them read materials on their field of interests, exposing them to the career and providing information as to the advantages and sacrifices that one may take to accomplish their chosen field. The Internet and the publications are now very affordable and even the media provides the information for the different careers that our children may take. There are shows and programs that can provide a picture of the different field. But before you go to your television and change the channel of what your children are watching, check first if the program is fit for their age and maturity.

1. According to the author, people’s career path begins with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. their experience from their employment

B. the acceptance by their bosses

C. their course in looking for a job

D. their education from childhood

2. Why don’t some parents want their children to be a teacher?

A. They think they should decide what their children should be.

B. They think being a teacher means hard work but low pay.

C. They don’t think their children dream to be a teacher.

D. They don’t think their children want to make sacrifices.

3. For the children the information about most jobs comes from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the books that their teachers recommend to them

B. their parents and later exposure or experiences

C. the Internet including much information about employment

D. their friends who have much work experience

4. The best thing the parents can do to help their children choose a career is to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. respect their children’s will about interests

B. play a major role in their children’s choice

C. help their children make a choice on education

D. expose their children to the information about parents’ career

5. As parents, what can they do to support their children’s interests?

A. They can give their children some books to read.

B. They can offer their children the information they should know.

C. They can buy their children toys and educational materials.

D. They can sacrifice their time for their children.

**Passage 5**

A friend of mine told me recently that she met her boyfriend on an Internet dating site, and now they are talking about starting a family. When asked if she thought online matchmaking was a better way to find guys who were more compatible with her, she laughed, “You never know how things are going to evolve until they do.”

This has been borne out in a new study by social psychologists. Digital dating is now the second most common way that couples get together, after the meeting through friends. But there are certain properties of online dating that actually work against love-seekers, making it no more effective than traditional dating.

One downside to Internet dating has to do with the profile. In the real world, it takes day or even weeks for the mating dance to unfold, as people learn each other’s likes and dislikes and stumble through the awkward but often rewarding process of finding common ground. Online, that process is packaged into a net little digital profile, usually with an equally artificial video attached. That leaves less mystery and surprise when singles meet face to face. Some of the pleasure of dating, and building a relationship by learning to like a person, is also diluted（稀释）.

It also means that people may unknowingly skip over potential mates for the wrong reasons. People notoriously unpredictable about what’s important to them about potential dates. Most people cite attractiveness as key to a potential romantic connection when surveying profiles online, but once people meet face to face, it turns out that physical appeal doesn’t lead to more love connections.

Making thing harder, many sites now depend on their supposedly scientific formulas for matching you with your soul mate based on similar characteristics or personality types. It may seem intuitively logical that people who share the same tastes or attitudes would be compatible, but love, in many cases, doesn’t work that way.

1. What does the author’s friend think of online matchmaking?

A. It has contributed a lot to her happy family life presently.

B. It is better than the traditional way to seek a happy relationship.

C. It is quite unpredictable until one dates regularly with someone.

D. It has misled her into choosing a man who doesn’t fit her at all.

2. What have the social psychologists found about online dating?

A. It has become the most popular way of dating.

B. It prevents couples from meeting more friends.

C. It proves more effective than traditional dating.

D. It is less effective for some of its special features.

3. How do digital profiles impact dating between couples?

A. Couples have to spend more time getting along.

B. Couples find dating with each other less pleasurable.

C. Couples have more difficulty finding mutual interest.

D. Couples find digital profiles more artificial than videos.

4. Which of the following often misleads people into screening out a potentially good date?

A. He or she is presented as unattractive in the digital profile.

B. He or she is regarded as indifferent to romantic connection.

C. He or she is described as incapable of learning to like others.

D. He or she is profiled as physically unhealthy on the dating site.

5. What is the author’s attitude towards the adoption of formulas for matchmaking?

A. Supportive. B. Skeptical. C. Neutral. D. Indifferent.

**Passage 6**

Sign has become a scientific hot button. Only in the past 20 years have specialists in language study realized that signed languages are unique－a speech of the hand. They offer a new way to probe how the brain generates and understands language, and throw new light on an old scientific controversy (争论): whether language, completed with grammar, is something that we are born with, or whether it is a learned behavior. The current interest in sign language has roots in the pioneering work of one rebel teacher at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., the world’s only liberal arts university for deaf people.

　　When Bill Stokoe went to teach English, the school enrolled him in a course in signing. But Stokoe noticed something odd: among themselves, students signed differently from his classroom teacher．

Stokoe had been taught a sort of gestural code, each movement of the hands representing a word in English. At the time, American Sign Language (ASL) was thought to be no more than a form of pidgin English (混杂英语). But Stokoe believed the “hand talk” his students used looked richer. He wondered: Might deaf people actually have a genuine language? And could that language be unlike any other on Earth? It was 1955, when even deaf people dismissed their signing as “substandard”. Stokoe’s idea was academic heresy (异端邪说).

It is 37 years later. Stokoe－now devoting his time to writing and editing books and journals and to producing video materials on ASL and the deaf culture－is having lunch at a café near the Gallaudet campus and explaining how he started a revolution. For decades educators fought his idea that signed languages are natural languages like English, French and Japanese. They assumed language must be based on speech, the modulation（调节）of sound. But sign language is based on the movement of hands, the modulation of space. “What I said,” Stokoe explains, “is that language is not mouth stuff－it’s brain stuff.”

1. The study of sign language is thought to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. an approach to simplifying the grammatical structure of a language

B. an attempt to clarify misunderstanding about the origin of language

C. a challenge to traditional views on the nature of language

D. a new way to look at the learning of language

2. The present growing interest in sign language was stimulated by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. a leading specialist in the study of liberal arts

B. an English teacher in a university for the deaf

C. some senior experts in American Sign Language

D. a famous scholar in the study of the human brain

3. According to Stokoe, sign language is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. an international language B. a substandard language

C. an artificial language D. a genuine language

4. Most educators objected to Stokoe’s idea because they thought \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. a language should be easy to use and understand

B. sign language was too artificial to be widely accepted

C. a language could only exist in the form of speech sounds

D. sign language was not extensively used even by deaf people

5. Stokoe’s argument is based on his belief that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. language is a product of the brain

B. language is a system of meaningful codes

C. sign language is derived from natural language

D. sign language is as efficient as any other language

**Passage 7**

We can see how the product life cycle works by looking at the introduction of instant coffee. When it was introduced, most people did not like it as well as “regular” coffee, and it took several years to gain general acceptance (introduction stage). At one point, though, instant coffee grew rapidly in popularity, and many brands were introduced (stage of rapid growth). After a while, people became attached to one brand and sales leveled off (stage of maturity). Sales went into a slight decline（衰退）when freeze-dried coffees were introduced (stage of decline).

The importance of the product life cycle to marketers is this: Different stages in the product life cycle call for different strategies. The goal is to extend product life so that sales and profits do not decline. One strategy is called market modification. It means that marketing managers look for new users and market sections. Did you know, for example, that the backpacks that so many students carry today were originally designed for the military?

Market modification also means searching for increased usage among present customers or going for a different market, such as senior citizens. A marketer may re-position the product to appeal to new market sections.

Another product extension strategy is called product modification. It involves changing product quality, features, or style to attract new users or more usage from present users. American auto manufacturers are using quality improvement as one way to recapture world markets. Note, also, how auto manufacturers once changed styles dramatically from year to year to keep demand from falling.

1. According to the passage, when people grow fond of one particular brand of a product, its sales will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. decrease gradually B. remain at the same level

C. become unstable D. improve enormously

2. The fist paragraph tells us that a new product is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. not easily accepted by the public B. often inferior to old ones at first

C. often more expensive than old ones D. usually introduced to satisfy different tastes

3. Marketers need to know which of the four stages a product is in so as to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. promote its production B. work out marketing policies

C. speed up its life cycle D. increase its popularity

4. The author mentions the example of “backpacks” (Line 4, Para. 2) to show the importance of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. pleasing the young as well as the old B. increasing usage among students

C. exploring new market sections D. serving both military and civil needs

5. In order to recover their share of the world market, U.S. auto makers are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. improving product quality B. increasing product features

C. modernizing product style D. re-positioning their product in the market

**Passage 8**

It seems like every day there’s some new research about whether our favorite drinks are good for us. One day, science says a glass of red wine a day will help us live longer. The next day, maybe not. It seems journalists are pretty interested in wine research and the same might be said for coffee. Now, there’s been a lot of research into whether coffee’s good for our health. “The results have really been mixed,” admits Neal Freedman who led the coffee study and published his findings in a medical journal recently. “There’s been some evidence that coffee might increase the risk of certain diseases and there’s also been maybe more recent evidence that coffee may protect against other diseases as well.”

Freedman and his colleagues undertook the biggest study yet to look at the relationship between coffee and health. They analyzed data collected from more than 400,000 Americans ages 50 to 71 participating in the study. “We found that the coffee drinkers had a modestly lower risk of death than the non-drinkers,” he said. Here’s what he means by “modestly”: those who drank at least two or three cups a day were about 10 percent or 15 percent less likely to die for any reason during the 13 years of the study. When the researchers looked at specific causes of death, coffee drinking appeared to cut the risk of dying from heart disease, lung disease, injuries, accidents and infections.

Now, Freedman stressed that the study doesn’t prove coffee can make people live longer. A study like this can never prove a cause-and-effect relationship. All it can really do is to point researchers in the right direction for further investigation. And even if it turns out that coffee is really good for you, scientists have no idea why.

1.According to the first paragraph, reporters would like to know the research findings of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. tea B. beer C. alcohol D. coffee

2. According to the passage, which of the following is TRUE?

A. Freedman and his colleagues hired 400,000 Americans to collect data.

B. About four hundred thousand Americans worked for Freedman’s team full time for 13 years.

C. People who took part in Freedman’s research are about 50 to 70 years old.

D. People who are 50 to 70 years old seldom drink coffee.

3. According to the author, scientists \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. have already proved that coffee is good for human health

B. have along way to go before they find a way to study coffee

C. have avoided the cause-and-effect approach to study coffee

D. are still unable to figure out why coffee is good for us

4. The word “mixed” in the first paragraph means “\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ”.

A. both good and bad B. put together

C. both sharp and soft D. confused

5. Which of the following is an appropriate title for this passage?

A. Can Beer Help You Live Longer? B. Can Coffee Help You Live Longer?

C. Can Wine Help You Live Longer? D. Can Tea Help You Live Longer?

**Passage 9**

The first year of school in America, known as kindergarten, usually begins between the ages of five and six. Among rich countries such a late start is very strange. President Obama believes it is an economic and social problem; his education secretary goes as far as to say that it is “morally wrong”. This statement has some support, as it is clear from research into vocabulary that youngsters from poor families enter kindergarten well behind those from rich families―a disadvantage that usually lasts a lifetime. Children from households on welfare knew 525 words by the age of three, while the children of professionals had mastered 1,116.

Pre-school can help close this gap. So in a speech last month, Mr. Obama called for a partnership between the federal government and the states to expand it to every American child. It later became known that “every” meant those who come from families with incomes of up to 200% above the poverty line―equal to an income of $47,000 for a family of four.

Some critics say that sending children to school at the age of four does not work. The evidence suggests otherwise. For example, on March 20th new results were announced from a study of 9-to-11-year-olds in New Jersey. This report found that disadvantaged children who had attended pre-school had better literacy（读写能力）, language, maths and science skills. And two years of pre-kindergarten were better than one.

Some studies also follow the effects of early learning over lifetimes, such as its effect on crime rates and other factors that may eventually burden society. Critics have singled out a government scheme called Head Start, created in 1965, which provides poor households with a range of services including school-based early education.

1. Kindergarten in rich countries other than America usually begins at the age of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. Eight                     B. seven                            C. six                            D. four

2. According to the passage, which of the following is TRUE？

A. Poor pre-school kids have a larger vocabulary than rich kids.

B. President Obama believes that early education can solve all economic and social problems.

C. Rich pre-school kids have a richer vocabulary than poor kids.

D. President Obama’s education secretary thinks it is morally wrong to let kids start kindergarten early.

3. Which of the following about the New Jersey study is TRUE？

A. There is no evidence to support the New Jersey study.

B. New Jersey has created a new Head Start to help disadvantaged kids.

C. Sending children to school at the age of four is not going to help.

D. Two years of pre-kindergarten were better than one.

4. The phrase “singled out” in the last paragraph means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. Choose              B. think about                     C. count                            D. depend on

5. Which of the following is an appropriate title for this passage？

A. Secondary Education                                   B. Pre-school Education

C. Poor Kids’ Education                                   D. Rich Kids’ Education

**Passage 10**

To us it seems so natural to put up an umbrella to keep the water off when it rains. But actually the umbrella was not invented as protection against rain. It was first used as a shade against the sun.

Nobody knows who first invented it, but the umbrella was used in very ancient times. Probably the first to use it were the Chinese, way back in the eleventh century B.C. .

We know that the umbrella was also used in ancient Egypt and Babylon as a sunshade. And there was a strange thing connected with its use: it became a symbol of honor and authority. In the Far East in ancient times, the umbrella was allowed to be used only by royal people or by those in high office.

In Europe, the Greeks were the first to use the umbrella as a sunshade. And the umbrella was in common used in ancient Greece. But it is believed that the first persons in Europe to use the umbrellas as protection against the rain were the ancient Romans.

During the Middle Ages, the use of umbrella practically disappeared. Then it appeared again in Italy in 16th century. And again it became a symbol of power and authority.

Umbrellas have not changed much in style during all this time, though they have become much lighter in weight. It wasn’t until the twentieth century that women’s umbrellas began to be made in a variety of colors.

1. The first use of umbrella was as\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. protection against rain B. a shade against the sun

C. a symbol of power D. a symbol of honor

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were regarded as the people who first used umbrellas.

A. Romans B. Greeks C. Chinese D. Europeans

3. The umbrella was used only by royal people or those in high office \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. in European in the eighteenth century

B. in ancient Egypt and Babylon

C. in the Far East in ancient times

D. during the Middle Ages

4. According to the passage, which of the following statements is NOT true?

A. Women enjoy using umbrella with various kinds of colors.

B. The inventor of the umbrella is unknown.

C. Once ordinary people had no right to use umbrellas.

D. Umbrellas were popular and cheap in ancient times.

5. Which of the following may be the best title for the passage?

A.When Was the Umbrella Invented.

B. The Role of Umbrella in History.

C. The Colors and Shapes of Umbrella

D. Who Needed Umbrella First

**Passage 11**

Last fall, the Walt Disney Company did something rare: It admitted defeat in its fight to build a history theme park in Virginia. The park was going to be called “Disney’s America.”

Americans rush out to see Disney films, and then replay them—on videotapes; they read Disney books to their children; they watch Disney shows on Disney TV; they make trips to Disneyland and Disney World, where they stay in Disney hotels and eat Disney food; Americans buy Disney products at Disney stores, and listen to Disney records of Disney songs.

All this makes some people more than a little upset. Harold Bloom, a professor at Yale University, provides an examination of the cultural history of Western society.

“At the end of this road lies cultural uniformity of the worst kind. It’s just terrible.”

This is becoming a popular opinion in universities around the world.

Those who oppose Disney (and there are many) see its films and by-products as sexist, racist and as simpler, cheered-up accounts of American history and folklore.

“There’s a kind of protection at work here,” said Henry Giroux, a professor at Penn State University. Giroux said he believes that Disney has become a basic educator of America’s children, most of whom will be able to perform every word of The Lion King long before they even learn US President Abraham Lincoln’s historic Gettysburg Address.

However, even the most strongly opposed are quick to note that Disney has many positive values—cheerfulness, good-hearted fun, and a tradition of artistic quality—that help explain its success. Critical or not, most of those who oppose the company are Disney customers themselves.

1. What rare thing did the Walt Disney Company do last autumn?

A. It planned to build a history theme park in Virginia.

B. It admitted that their plan to build another park failed.

C. It bought a big company.

D. It claimed to be the mirror of American culture.

2. People are influenced by Disney in many ways. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the text?

A. People eat Disney food.

B. People love to see Disney films.

C. People listen to Disney songs on Radio Disney.

D. People visit Disneyland and Disney World.

3. According to Professor Bloom, what will happen if people continue to be influenced by Disney in such a way?

A. Children can learn a lot before they go to school.

B. People will have many different forms of entertainment.

C. People will find themselves in the same culture all over—Disney’s culture.

D. People will become sexists or racists.

4. According to the text, what is wrong with Disney films?

A. Some films are love stories and not good for children.

B. Some films are not good in quality.

C. Some films are too cheerful to be true.

D. Some films are not true to the history.

5. What is the main idea of the text?

A. Walt Disney Company is a successful company.

B. Disney is the symbol of American culture, though some people don’t like it.

C. Disney is not good because it gives false accounts in its films.

D. Disney is good because it brings people fun.

**Passage 12**

The Thames is one of London’s greatest sights. It was there when the Romans arrived 2,000 years ago and it’s still central to life in the city today.

Before the creation of the Victorian sewer system, the Thames was a very dirty dumping ground for industrial and human waste. The smell coming from the Thames was so bad in the summer 1858 that many of London’s wealthier residents fled to the countryside. Members of Parliament worked behind heavy curtains to try and block out the very bad smell.

The celebrated sewers made the London stretch of the Thames smell better and reduced cholera outbreaks in the city, but they didn’t get rid of the problem, they just shifted it downstream.

The real cleanup of the Thames didn’t begin until the 1960s. Sewage treatment works were vastly expanded and new laws brought into place to stop industry from pouring or pumping chemical waste into the river. Environmental consciousness was rising, and London residents were no longer satisfied with a poisonous river.

By 1974, salmon had begun to return to the Thames for the first time in more than a century. Some other species of fish have returned, and there have even been seahorses sighted in the mouth of the Thames. With the fish came the birds, the plants, and even the occasional seal. As water quality rose, literally hundreds of species reappeared in and around the river. Walking along the banks, it’s now possible to see herons and even kingfishers.

The transformation of London’s river system from poisonous soup to living ecosystem is an outstanding example of what can be done for polluted waters elsewhere in the world. A few decades ago, the Thames was one of the worst polluted rivers in the world. Today it has become a perfect example of sustainability in the urban environment. The Thames cleanup shows that no river, no matter how badly polluted, is beyond saving.

1. What was NOT true about the Thames before the creation of the Victorian sewer system?

A. It was a dumping ground for industrial and human waste.

B. Its water was poisonous to both people and fish.

C. It gave off so bad a smell that people could hardly tolerate it.

D. The bad smell from the Thames forced all London residents to flee to the countryside.

2. What can be said about the Victorian sewer system?

A. It increased the level of oxygen in the Thames.

B. It improved water quality in the London stretch of the Thames.

C. It solved the pollution problem of the Thames once and for all.

D. It turned the Thames into a healthy ecosystem for a variety of fish species.

3. All of the following made the Thames cleanup a success EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. rising public concern about the environment

B. the expansion of sewage treatment works

C. no commercial fishing in the lower stretches of the river

D. new laws to stop industry from dumping chemical waste into the river

4. What can be inferred from the text?

A. The bad smell from the Thames was a major reason that led to the creation of the sewer system.

B. Salmon was the first fish species that returned to the Thames in the 1970s.

C. With today’s technology, the cleanup project would have cost far less money.

D. The Thames was once one of the most polluted rivers in the world.

5. What’s the main idea of the text?

A. It is not as difficult as one might think to clean up a polluted river.

B. Without the Victorian sewer system, the Thames would still be a dead river today.

C. The return of fish and plant species can turn a polluted river into a living ecosystem again.

D. The success story of the Thames cleanup sets a good example for polluted rivers elsewhere.

**Passage 13**

In pictures from college I was thin. I worked full time, went to school full time, smoked, and lived off fast food and soft drinks. I looked ill, sad, and unhealthy.

Now, at a weight considered to be dangerously high by medical charts, I live better than ever. I exercise and eat well because I love living, not because I want to lose weight. My doctor tells me I am healthy, and this is much more important than being thin.

Negative attitudes toward fat people begin in childhood. These attitudes create discrimination that affects fat people in every aspect of their lives, including money matters. In fact, overweight, white women usually earn less than thin, white women—24 percent less, according to one study.

People often justify their judgments about fat people by saying that people choose to be fat. Choose? Who would choose life as a fat person in this weight-obsessed culture? There are many false ideas about fat people in society: that all fat people have eating disorders or emotional or mental issues; that if they really wanted to lose weight they could.

In reality, however, some people are naturally fat. How a person is born is simply science, not a comment on someone’s character. The Center for Disease Control reports that 78 percent of American women are trying hard to lose weight, and at an amazing failure rate—95 percent get back what they’ve lost within two to five years.

The often-heard comment of “you have such a pretty face” does not please me because of all that’s not said: “If you’d just lose the weight you’d be beautiful.” Beauty is a taught concept and the cultural standards for beauty change constantly.

Later in life, I was happy to learn that some cultures have very different standards of beauty.

1. From Paragraph 1 we know that the author \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A . is a little fatter than before

B. usually had fast food and soft drinks

C. often fell ill

D. didn’t like to take pictures at college

2. The author enjoys exercising because \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. she wants to be more beautiful by losing weight

B. she doesn’t want to die early

C. she likes to live a healthy life

D. she would like to make up the happy time she lost before

3. The text mentions there are many false ideas about fat people in society. Which of the following is NOT one of these false ideas?

A. They could not lose weight even if they decided to do so.

B. They have emotional or mental issues.

C. They have eating disorders.

D. They have chosen to be fat.

4. When the author hears someone saying, “You have such a pretty face” (Para. 6), she understands what the speaker really means is \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. “You have such a beautiful face”

B. “You are too fat to be fit”

C. “I like you with such a pretty face”

D. “You’d be prettier if you weren’t that fat”

5. The author feels happy when she learns that some cultures have different standards of beauty, because \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. she loves to experience different cultures

B. she needn’t worry about the problem of being overweight

C. she enjoys being liked for beauty

D. she likes to make friends with men from different cultures

**Passage 14**

Getting the job you want requires drive, energy, and preparation. Though you may qualify for many positions, there is bitter competition for good jobs these days. There may be a dozen or more equally qualified candidates. Thus, you must convince your possible employer that you are that one special person he has been looking for.

I was shocked when I learned that a person must treat looking for a job like a job itself. If you invest the same amount of energy into your job hunt as you would into your work, you will find a job much sooner.

One way to look for a job without risking your current position is to join a professional society in your field of interest—and play an active role in it. This will help you to get to know people, like top managers in companies you’d like to work for.

Another big challenge is the interview—it is critical. Psychologists have studied job interviews and found that they consist of two main parts. I call the first part the “30-Second Road Block”, because research has shown that most employers judge their candidates’ suitability in the first 30 seconds.

Upon entry to the interview, remember to compose yourself, smile, use a firm handshake, and look the interviewer in the eye.

In addition, be prepared to answer the following three questions that almost every interviewer asks. The sample questions are:

1. So, you are interested in working as an assistant in our laboratory—is that correct?

The answer is not simply “yes”. Keep your answer short, but never reply with a naked yes or no.

2. Why do you want this job?

3. What can you tell me about yourself?

The interviewer does NOT want your life history. What he is looking for is evidence of your character, ability, and drive.

That’s it! With these instructions, you are certain to get the job you want.

1. You must be at your best in the interview because \_\_\_\_\_.

A. most interviewers are difficult to please

B. the job market is very competitive

C. you are the special person for the interviewer

D. it requires drive, energy and preparation

2. We can infer from the text that \_\_\_\_\_.

A. the author didn’t know before that a person should treat looking for a job like job itself

B. the author is an employer

C. the author is a member of a professional society

D. the author is a psychologist

3. According to the text, the following things are important for the very first part of the interview EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

A. calmness B. smiling C. good appearances D. a firm handshake

4. Why are you advised to join a professional society in your field of interest?

A. To enrich your professional knowledge.

B. To broaden your mind.

C. To keep up with the development in your profession.

D. To know important people in your profession.

5. What should you mention in the interview if asked to tell about yourself?

A. Your life history.

B. Your drive to do things well.

C. Your previous salary.

D. Your interest in the job.

**Passage 15**

I believe that we are not real social workers. We may be doing social work in the eyes of the people, but we are really contemplatives (沉思者) in the heart of the world. For we are touching the body of Christ twenty-four hours. And I think that in our family we don’t need bombs and guns to destroy. Instead bring peace, just get together, love one another, and bring that peace, that joy, that strength of presence of each other in the home. And, thus, we will be able to overcome all the evil that is in the world.

And with this Prize of Peace that I have received, I am going to try to make a home for many people who have no home. Because I believe that love begins at home and if we can create a home for the poor, I think that more and more love will spread. And we will be able through this understanding love to bring peace and good news to the poor. The poor we must focus on first is in our own family, in our country and then all over the world. To be able to do this, sisters, our lives have to be woven with prayer. They have to be woven with Christ to be able to understand, to be able to share. To be woven with Christ is to be able to understand, to be able to share. Because today there is so much suffering... When I pick up a person from the street, hungry, I give him a plate of rice, a piece of bread, I have satisfied him. I have removed that hunger. But a person who is shut out, who feels unwanted, unloved, terrified, the person who has been thrown out from society－that kind of poverty is full of hurt and so unbearable. Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love, and once we begin to love each other naturally we want to do something for others.

1. Why does the author say that we are not real social workers?

A. Because we don't work for public welfare.

B. Because we are just doing our own jobs, but not helping others who need help in society.

C. Because we are not peaceful enough to other people.

D.Because we don't do well in our own jobs.

2.The author has received a Prize of Peace because \_\_\_\_\_.

A. she is always peaceful to others

B. she never quarrels with other people

C. she loves peaceful life and she likes helping those who are in trouble

D.she does her best to make a home for the homeless

3. Why is the author going to make a home for the homeless?

A. Because she believes that home is where they start to spread love.

B. Because she believes that home is the primary need for them.

C. Because she believes that home is the source of ideals for them.

D. Because she believes that she has the ability to provide a shelter for them.

4. Why does a poor person who gets food may still feel shut out by society?

A. Because being helped once is not enough for him to get out of poverty.

B. Because he lacks genuine care and love from society.

C. Because he is not provided with a place to live by society.

D. Because he feels that he cannot always get enough food.

5. Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the passage?

A.We should make a home for the poor.

B.We should give food to people who are hungry.

C.We should meet each other with a smile.

D.We should pray for the poor every day.

**Passage 16**

In the traditional marriage, the man worked at a job to earn money for the family.

Most men worked in an office, a factory, or some other places away from home. Since the man earned the money, he paid the bills and the money used for food, clothes, a house, and other family needs. The man made most of the decisions. He was the boss.

In the traditional marriage, the woman seldom worked away from the house. She stayed at home to care for the children and her husband, cook the meals, clean the house, wash the clothes, and do other household work. Her job at home was very important.

In recent years, many couples continue to have a traditional relationship of this kind. The man has a job and earns the money for the family. The woman stays at home and cares for the children and the house.

There are two important differences in male and female roles now. One is that both men and women have many more choices. They may choose to get married or to stay single. They may choose to work or to stay at home. Both men and women may choose roles that are comfortable for them.

The second difference between male and female is that within marriage many decisions and responsibilities are shared. The husband and wife may choose to have children, or they may not. The woman may want to stay at home and take care of the children, or she may want to go to work. Men and women now decide these things together in a marriage. Many married people now share these decisions and the responsibilities of their families.

1. In the traditional marriage, why did the man have the last word in most of family affairs?

A. Because the man undertook a lot of household chores.

B. Because the woman gave up her power to make decisions of her own accord.

C. Because household incomes were mainly brought by the man.

D. Because the man had a higher family status than the woman.

2. The bills of a family usually include \_\_\_\_\_.

A. clothes B. food C. a house D. all of the above

3. According to the passage, which is NOT one of the changes in female roles now?

A. A woman can share many decisions with her husband.

B. A woman takes the place of a man to become the mainstay of the family.

C. A woman is free to choose to have a family or stay single.

D. A woman is free to choose to have a job or stay at home as a housewife.

4. Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the passage?

A. Traditionally the man was the only breadwinner of the family.

B. Although the woman may stay at home today, she plays a role in making decisions for the family.

C. Women today may choose to go to work and stay single if they feel that this is the way they like.

D. Since the male and female roles have greatly changed, their traditional relationship in a family has broken down.

5. The differences in male and female roles now best reflect \_\_\_\_\_.

A. the equality between men and women

B. women’s inferiority to men

C. the rise of feminism

D. the interchange of their roles

**Passage 17**

Imagine writing notes to your friends using pictures instead of words. Imagine having a monkey as a pet or having your head shaved except for a single sidelock (侧边发辫). You might have done some of these things if you had lived in ancient Egypt.

Egypt is a country in northeastern Africa. It is mostly desert－hot and dry. However, the longest river in the world, the Nile, cuts through Egypt. Along the river are fertile, green lands. From the air, the Nile looks like a long, snakelike curve of green surrounded by desert.

In ancient times, the Nile flooded every year between July and September. The floodwaters spread silt (淤泥), a mixture of tiny bits of soil and rock, over the land around the river. Water and silt turned dry land into good farmland.

Today, most people in Egypt still live along or near the Nile. Many boats still travel along the river. But now some are cruise ships filled with tourists. Others are freighters (货船) carrying crops or oil. You can also see feluccas (三桅小帆船), which are long, narrow boats. They were used long ago and are still used today.

Egypt is mostly desert. Only the land near the Nile can be used for farming. Over time, more and more people chose to live here. But there was not enough farmland to raise food for all these people. To create more farmland, a dam was built at Aswan in 1902. Farmers used water from the dam to irrigate, or water their land. During dry spells, they could grow more crops.

A second dam, the Aswan High Dam, opened in 1971. Now the Nile no longer floods. The dam holds back the waters from flowing over the land. The dam also created Lake Nasser on the border between Egypt and Sudan. The waters of Lake Nasser can be used all year to irrigate desert land.

1. According to the passage, the ancient Egyptians might do the following things EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. using pictures to communicate with friends

B. raising a monkey as a pet

C. only keeping a single sidelock when shaving head

D. drinking water from the Nile

2. How many kinds of boats are mentioned in the passage?

A. One. B. Two. C. Three. D. Four.

3. As time went by, more and more people chose to live \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. on the land near the Nile B. in northeast Egypt

C. near Lake Nasser D. in Sudan

4. The function of the two dams can be all the following EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. creating more farmland B. creating a lake

C. irrigating desert land D. carrying crops or oil

5. It can be inferred from the passage EXCEPT that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. the land irrigated by the Nile was most suitable for farming and human survival

B. the flooding of the Nile had a devastating impact on the Egyptians

C. the building of dams helped farmers grow crops during dry seasons

D. the Egyptian tourism has developed very well along the Nile

**Passage 18**

Shyness is the cause of much unhappiness for a great many people. Shy people are anxious and self-conscious; that is, they are excessively concerned with their won appearance and actions. Worrisome thoughts are constantly occurring in their minds: what kind of impression am I making? Do they like me? Do I sound stupid? Am I wearing unattractive clothes?

It is obvious that such uncomfortable feelings must negatively affect people. A person’s conception of himself or herself is reflected in the way he or she behaves, and the way a person behaves affects other people’s reactions. In general, the way people think about themselves has a profound effect on all areas of their lives.

Shy people, having low self-esteem, are likely to be passive and easily influenced by others. They need reassurance that they are doing “the right thing.” Shy people are very sensitive to criticism; they feel it confirms their feelings of inferiority. They also find it difficult to be pleased by compliment with a statement like this one, “You’re just saying that to make me feel good. I know it’s not true.” It is clear that while self-awareness is a healthy quality, overdoing it is harmful.

Can shyness be completely eliminated, or at least reduced? Fortunately, people can overcome shyness with determined and patient efforts in building self-confidence. Since shyness goes hand in hand with a lack of self-esteem, it is important for people to accept their weaknesses as well as their strengths.

Each one of us is a unique, worthwhile individual, interested in our own personal ways. The better we understand ourselves, the easier it becomes to live up to our full potential. Let’s not allow shyness to block our chances for a rich and fulfilling life.

1. What does the author try to prove by citing “what kind of impression am I making?”

A. Shy people benefit from their caring about their appearance.

B. People’s shyness made them care too much about their appearance and actions.

C. It’s natural that shy people don’t believe other’s compliments.

D. Shy people think they are different from others.

2. According to the writer, self-awareness is \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. a good quality B. the cause of unhappiness

C. harmful to people D. a weak point of shy people

3. When being praised, shy people feel that it is \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. good B. unreal C. very reasonable D. harmful

4. Which of the following statements is true according to the passage?

A. Shyness helps us to develop our potential

B. Shyness enables us to understand ourselves better

C. Shyness can block our chances for a rich life

D. Shyness has nothing to do with lack of self-esteem

5. It can be inferred from the passage that shy people \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. should find more of their weakness

B. should understand themselves in the right way

C. had better ignore their weakness

D. can get rid of their shyness while maintaining low self-esteem

**Passage 19**

Today, computers are a huge and fast-moving field of technology. Smaller, more powerful and user-friendly equipment is developed almost daily.

Charles Babbage, a British inventor, is sometimes called the father of the computer. In 1823, he started to build a machine that could do sums and print out the results. The machine was far ahead of its time. Sadly, it was so complicated that he never finished making it. over a century later, people were still trying to build efficient counting machines. They were so big that they filled entire rooms and weighed, many tons. But these huge counting machines were not really computers—they did not have memories.

Modern computers use complicated data memory systems to handle information, either as computer memory or data on stored disks and CDs. The data can be words, numbers, pictures or a mixture of all three. Modern computer memories can store more data than a roomful of filing boxes. They use tiny electric currents and have thousands of circuits inside them, put tightly, into tiny “chips”.

Before it can be read by the computer, the data has to be turned into an electronic code of very small on-off pulses or signals. These signals are made and translated by small switches within the “chips”.

Internet pioneer Dr. Vinton Cerf is called Father of the Internet. He loves to answer peoples questions about the Internet whenever he meets them. Twenty years ago Cerf and Robert Kahn developed the structure for the Internet. Their work brought about the rapid growth of the Internet. In 1983 there were about 50,000 users and the number has grown to more than 360 million today. When he was asked if he ever expected the Internet to become so popular, Dr. Cerf said the number was a surprise.

He pointed out one of the key issues facing the net today as privacy and said we could not avoid having e-mails seen or monitored by others. “It happened with the telephone system and it will certainly happen with e-mail. There are tools to fight against it, but the problem is that right now its not easy enough to use them”. He also pointed out that the junk emails and the unwelcome materials such as porn on the Internet was a worry, but it was difficult to stop.

He said, “There’s no way to stop it technically—but the Internet is a mirror of mankind. If we don’t like what we see in the mirror, then touching up the mirror is not the answer.”

1. According to the passage, as early as \_\_\_\_\_\_, people started trying to build a computer.

A. twenty years ago C. a century ago

B. almost two hundred years ago D. 360 million days ago

2. According to the passage, the computers we use today are different from those old huge counting machines mainly in that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. they are very small C. they use tiny electric currents

B. they can handle information D. they have memories

3. What makes it possible for a computer to mad the data?

A. The data has to be turned into an electronic code of small on-off signals.

B. The data has to be translated into English by a translator.

C. The data must be turned into words, numbers, and pictures.

D. The data must be put into tiny “chips”.

4. Dr. Vinton Cerf \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. pushes forward the rapid growth of the Internet by asking peoples questions about it

B. believes that there are tools to fight against privacy

C. thinks that e-mail will certainly be as popular as telephones

D. never expected the internet could be so popular

5. Dr. Vinton Ceff compared the Internet to a mirror. When he said, “If we don’t like what we see in the mirror, then touching up the mirror is not the answer,” he probably meant that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. techniques will help human beings work better with the Internet

B. we will never be able to deal with the problem of the Internet

C. what we should do is to change peoples behaviour

D. what we should do is to change the whole system of the Internet

**Passage 20**

Do you want to voice your complaint about the oil price, concerns about noise pollution or suggestions on traffic jams? Do you want to say something about filing your income tax, registering your business or giving your vote with just a click on the mouse? All these will come true in such big cities as Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou in the near future as China races into the future with a series of IT projects.

People and businesses in these large cities will have access to their e-government when the website offering a wide range of governmental information, policy and services starts up. Soon, features like business registration, tax payment and billing for water, gas and electricity will be right at their fingertips, officials said.

The new website holds out the promise of a clean, clear and efficient administration, they said. “ A huge website will open next year to combine all the governmental agencies in Shanghai and people can log onto only one site for official business.” said a senior official of the Information Office of Shanghai Peoples Government in charge of the e-government project. In a recent interview, the senior official said that the city administration would create a special fund for the project.

Shanghai began to move governmental affairs on-line in January last year, and up to now about 55 government agencies have set up their websites, providing information and services to the public. However the effort has not met expectations so far. Information is not frequently updated and services are very limited. Citizens cannot get interactive with the agencies. Some major work still lies ahead.

“Traditional mindsets（思想倾向）are hard to change. The e-government concept is not very well received by many and that is the challenge faced by governments around the globe,” said Todd Ramsey, general manager of IBM in charge of global government industry. However, e-government is part of the global future.

Worldwide, developed countries like the US, Japan and emerging markets like Indonesia and Singapore are engaged in e-government projects to improve their job performance.

1. What is e-government, according to the passage?

A. It is a project which will make citizens have access to computers and the Internet.

B. It is a future plan of a series of IT projects in big cities.

C. It is an open policy to offer a wide range of information to citizens.

D. It is the on-line government that people can log onto for information and services.

2. In the near future, citizens in big cities in China could expect to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. voice their complaint about oil price

B. pay their bills with just a click on the mouse

C. file their income tax

D. be given some special fund

3. The effort to move governmental affairs on-line in Shanghai has not met expectations, because \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. information is not often updated and services are very limited

B. there is a lack of interaction among people

C. some major work is left undone

D. all of the above

4. What is the challenge that governments around the globe face,according to Todd Ramsey?

A. Traditional mindsets are hard to change.

B. E-government will become part of the global future.

C. The government concept is not very well received by many.

D. IMB will be in charge of global government industry.

5. Many governments worldwide are engaged in e-government projects in order to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. promise a clean, clear and efficient administration

B. open more job markets

C. make their work more efficient

D. give some performances

**答案及参考译文**

**Passage 1**

1. C. Happiness

2. A. Eating a family meal at least three times a week.

3. B. Names can apparently predict how happy one is.

4. B. at the age of 50

5. D. People can have happiness only if they spend money wisely.

【参考译文】

长期以来，追求持久的幸福一直是科学家和调查人员感兴趣的话题。但是什么让我们真正快乐，快乐有什么持久的好处呢？

本月早些时候，伊利诺伊大学的科学家发现，那些快乐、对生活乐观的人活得更长久。研究人员发现了明确而令人信服的结论：幸福是改善健康和延长寿命的关键。上个月，英国一项跟踪调查了全国4万户家庭成员的研究得出结论，每周至少吃三顿家庭餐是幸福的关键，因为它有助于在父母和孩子之间建立牢固的纽带。

但幸福可能是在你出生的时候就决定了。名字显然可以预测我们作为个体的幸福程度，曼彻斯特大都会大学的研究人员声称，名叫朱迪和约书亚的人最享受生活。而另一方面，本、安德鲁和爱德华被视为悲惨的名字。

研究表明，已婚夫妇最有可能对他们的关系感到满意。研究表明，幸福始于50岁。纽约石溪大学的一项研究发现，压力、愤怒和担忧在50岁后会消退。据报道，各个年龄段的女性都会承受更大的压力、担忧和悲伤。

其他研究表明，虽然金钱使世界运转，但它并不是幸福的关键。2008年，一项调查发现，英国家庭比20年前更健康，且富裕两倍，但并不幸福。然而，其他研究发现，金钱可以买到幸福，但前提是要明智地花钱。事实上，这可能就是为什么一个好的假期可以在之后的“长达两个月时间里”也能提升你的快乐水平的原因——尽管假期必须“非常放松”才能产生这样的效果。

**Passage 2**

1. C. listening to music could improve their brain power

2. B. neural connections from musical training are very important for human communication

3. A. People should pay attention to the role of music.

4. A. Music training could have a strong influence on education.

5. B. By distinguishing the necessary elements in sounds and thus forming the associations.

【参考译文】

根据美国的一项调查表明，学习演奏乐器可以改变你的大脑。研究还发现，音乐训练可以提高演讲和外语技能。

尽管过去有人认为听莫扎特或其他古典音乐可以让你更聪明，但几乎没有任何证据证明音乐可以提高脑力。但是，西北大学的一项经数据分析的调查探讨了音乐训练对学习技能的影响，包括语言、言语、记忆、注意力甚至声乐情感。

研究人员尼娜·克劳斯说，这些数据有力地表明，在音乐训练中形成的神经联系也加强了大脑在人类交流其他方面的功能。研究人员说，在他们的研究中，音乐训练的效果表明，音乐是一种增强大脑听力健康的资源，就像体育锻炼及其对身体健康的影响一样，因此需要社会重新审视音乐在塑造个人发展中的作用。

这项发表在《自然神经科学评述》上的研究着眼于近年来迅速增加的研究，重点是音乐训练对神经系统的影响，这可能对教育产生重大影响。这项研究发现，演奏乐器可以增强大脑在复杂的过程中选择与之相关的东西，这一过程可能涉及到阅读或记忆乐谱、计时问题以及与其他音乐家合作。

克劳斯在一份声明中说，音乐家的大脑有选择地分辨声音中的信息承载元素，以及感官和认知过程之间美好的相互关系，神经系统将复杂的声音与它们的含义联系起来。该研究回顾了过去的研究和发现，例如，音乐家比非音乐家能更顺利地学习将一种新语言的声音模式融入到词语方面。

**Passage 3**

1. C. They should pay for the key and the usage of the bike.

2. B. solve the problem of bad traffic in London

3. B. some people find problems in placing the bikes and registration

4. A. Transport for London wants to show its welcome.

5. D. continues to carry on the activity

【参考译文】

新的自行车租赁计划启动后，伦敦已成为自行车友好区。其目的是鼓励更多的人在伦敦市中心和周围骑自行车。

那么它是如何工作的呢？首先，您必须注册该方案以便得到秘钥。该秘钥能解锁存放在伦敦市中心及其周围的自行车停放点中的一辆。你必须付秘钥的钱，然后按你使用自行车的时间长短随走随付。

负责该计划的伦敦交通局希望在年底前拥有6千辆自行车，建成400个停放点。新的租赁系统希望缓解伦敦糟糕的交通状况，以期每天产生多达4万次进入市中心的自行车出行。

伦敦市长鲍里斯·约翰斯顿发起的这项计划，并表示这些已经充斥伦敦各处的数千辆闪闪发光的车辆将改变我们街道的外观和感觉，并成为我们的道路上像黑色出租车和红色公共汽车一样常见的事物。

然而，自上周五启动该计划以来，出现了一些问题。第一天，一些人发现他们不能正确地停靠自行车，他们的自行车使用情况也没有得以登记。伦敦交通局的官员承认，他们一直在期待一些初期的问题，并表示，作为善意的姿态，他们将在第一天免收费用。

其他一些人则不满自行车停放点过少和车秘钥及租用自行车的价格。

尽管有这些评论，这位具环保思维的伦敦市长似乎仍然对事情持积极态度。他说，他的行为会使首都成为世界上最大的自行车城做出巨大的推动作用。

**Passage 4**

1. D. their education from childhood

2. B. They think being a teacher means hard work but low pay.

3. B. their parents and later exposure or experiences

4. A. respect their children’s will about interests

5. B. They can offer their children the information they should know.

【参考译文】

许多员工认为他们的职业道路始于就业期间或找到工作之时。但基本上，如果我们看看是什么造就一个人，可以从一个人，更具体地说，是从童年开始的成长过程找到根源。

作为父母，我们通常根据我们自己的状态或想成的样子来培养孩子的未来。我们是根据我们梦想孩子有一天会变成什么样子给他们买玩具和教育材料。例如，我们知道成为一名教师意味着许多牺牲和投入大量的时间，但报酬并不令人满意。因此，如果我们认为这个职业在经济上无利，我们就不会鼓励孩子成为教师。

然而，儿童最早接触的职业通常是医疗领域（每次他们去医院咨询或任何医疗需求时）和教育或教学行业（在他们开始上课时）。除了上述两种职业以外的职业信息来自父母以及他们长大后的接触或经历。

父母的角色对个人的成功起着重要作用。最好的办法是支持孩子的兴趣，而不是强迫他们去学习父母自己想要学的课程。可以通过帮助他们阅读自己兴趣范围年的材料，让他们了解自己的职业生涯以及提供相关的优势和完成所选领域可能需要的牺牲。互联网和出版物现在非常便宜，甚至媒体也为我们的孩子可能从事的不同职业提供信息。有一些节目可以提供不同领域的描绘。但在你走到电视机跟前该换孩子们正在看的频道之前，先检查一下这个节目是否适合他们的年龄和成熟度。

**Passage 5**

1. C. It is quite unpredictable until one dates regularly with someone.

2. D. It is less effective for some of its special features.

3. B. Couples find dating with each other less pleasurable.

4. A. He or she is presented as unattractive in the digital profile.

5. B. Skeptical.

【参考译文】

我的一个朋友最近告诉我，她在一个交友网站上遇到了她的男朋友，现在他们正在谈论组建一个家庭。当被问及是否认为网上相亲是找到更适合她的人的更好方式时，她笑说。 “在事情发生之前，你永远不知道会如何发展。”

社会心理学家的一项新研究证实了这一点。网络交友现在是继通过朋友聚会之后，第二种最常见的情侣聚会方式。但网上约会的某些特性实际上对求爱者不利，因此它并不比传统约会更有效。

网络约会的一个缺点与个人资料有关。在现实世界中，约会舞需要一天甚至几周的时间才能展开，因为人们要了解彼此的好恶，并在寻找共同点这一尴尬但往往有益的过程中步履蹒跚。在网上，这个过程被打包成一个小小的数码档案，通常附带一个同样人造的视频。这样一来，当单身人士面对面见面时，神秘感和惊喜就会减少，约会的一些乐趣，以及通过学习喜欢一个人来建立关系的乐趣，也被冲淡了。

这也意味着人们可能会因为错误的原因而在不知不觉中跳过潜在的伴侣。众所周知，人们无法预测潜在约会对他们来说什么是重要的。在网上调查个人资料时，大多数人认为吸引力是潜在浪漫关系的关键，但事实证明，一旦人们面对面地见面，身体吸引力不会导致更多的爱情联系。

更困难的是，许多网站现在依赖于他们所谓的科学公式，根据相似的特征或性格类型来匹配你和你的灵魂伴侣。从直觉上看，具有相同品味或态度的人是可以相处的，这似乎是合乎逻辑的，但在许多情况下，爱情并不是这样的。

**Passage 6**

1. B. an attempt to clarify misunderstanding about the origin of language

2. B. an English teacher in a university for the deaf

3. D. a genuine language

4. C. a language could only exist in the form of speech sounds

5. A. language is a product of the brain

【参考译文】

手语已经成为一个科学热点。仅仅在过去20年里，语言研究专家才意识到手语是独一无二的——一种手的语言。手语为探索大脑如何生成和理解语言提供了一种新的方式，并为一场古老的科学争论提供了新的视角：语言，连同语法，是否是我们与生俱来的东西，还是它是一种后天习得的行为。目前人们对手语的兴趣源于华盛顿特区加拉德特大学一位叛逆老师的开创性工作。加拉德特大学是世界上唯一一所面向聋人的文科大学。

当比尔·斯托科伊去教英语时，学校为他开设了一门签名课程。但斯托科伊注意到了一件奇怪的事情：在他们之间，学生们的签名与他们的任课老师的不同。

斯托科伊被教授一种手势语，每一个手势都代表一个英语单词。当时，美国手语被认为只不过是洋泾浜英语的一种形式。但斯托科伊认为，他的学生使用的“手语”看起来更丰富。他想知道：聋人真的会有一种真正的语言吗？这种语言会和地球上其他语言不同吗？那是在1955年，甚至连聋人也认为他们的签名“不合标准”。斯托科伊的想法是学术异端邪说。

37年后的今天，斯托科伊正在加拉德特校区附近的一家咖啡馆里吃午饭，同时解释他是如何开始一场革命的。他现在致力于撰写和编辑书籍和期刊，并制作有关美国手语和聋人文化的视频材料。几十年来，教育工作者一直反对他认为手语是和英语、法语和日语一样的自然语言的观点。他们认为语言必须基于语音，即声音调节。但手语是基于手的运动，即空间的调节。斯托科解释道：“我说的是，语言不是嘴的东西——它是大脑的东西。”

**Passage 7**

1. B. remain at the same level

2. A. not easily accepted by the public

3. B. work out marketing policies

4. C. exploring new market sections

5. A. improving product quality

【参考译文】

通过速溶咖啡的引入，我们可以看到产品生命周期是如何运作的。当咖啡被引入市场时，大多数人都不喜欢它，也不喜欢“常规的”，花了几年时间才获得普遍接受（引入阶段）。然而，速溶咖啡一度迅速普及，许多品牌也被引入（快速成长阶段）。过了一段时间，人们对一个品牌产生了依恋，销售趋于平稳（成熟阶段）。当冷冻干燥咖啡被引入时销售额略有下降（衰落阶段）。

产品生命周期对营销人员的重要性在于：产品生命周期的不同阶段需要不同的策略。我们的目标是延长产品寿命，使销售额和利润不会下降。一种策略叫做市场调整。这意味着营销经理需要寻找新的用户和市场板块。例如，你知道吗，今天这么多学生携带的背包最初是为军队设计的？

市场调整还意味着在现有客户中寻找更多的使用率，或寻找不同的市场，如老年人。营销人员可以重新定位产品以吸引新的市场份额。

另一种产品扩展策略称为产品修改。它涉及改变产品质量、功能或风格，以吸引新用户或现有用户的更多使用率。美国汽车制造商正将提高质量作为重新占领世界市场的一种方式。还要注意的是，汽车制造商曾经年复一年地大幅改变款式以防止需求下降。

**Passage 8**

1. D. coffee

2. C. People who took part in Freedman’s research are about 50 to 70 years old.

3. D. are still unable to figure out why coffee is good for us

4. A. both good and bad

5. B. Can Coffee Help You Live Longer?

【参考译文】

似乎每天都有一些关于我们最喜欢的饮料是否对我们有益的新研究。有一天，科学说每天喝一杯红酒会有助于我们延长寿命。但第二天也许就说不会延长寿命。看来记者们对葡萄酒研究很感兴趣，咖啡也是如此。现在，有很多关于咖啡是否有益健康的研究。“结果真的是喜忧参半，”尼尔·弗里德曼承认，他领导了这项咖啡研究，并在最近的一份医学杂志上发表了他的发现。“有证据表明，咖啡可能会增加患某些疾病的风险，同时最近也有证据表明，咖啡也可以预防其他疾病。”

弗里德曼和他的同事进行了迄今为止最大规模的研究，探寻咖啡与健康之间的关系。他们分析了参与研究的40多万名年龄在50岁至71岁之间的美国人的数据。他说：“我们发现喝咖啡的人比不喝咖啡的人的死亡风险略低。”以下是他所说的“适度”的意思：在13年的研究中，那些每天至少喝两到三杯的人死于任何原因的可能性要低10%到15%。当研究人员研究特定的死亡原因时，喝咖啡似乎可以降低死于心脏病、肺病、伤害、事故和感染的风险。

现在，弗里德曼强调，这项研究并不能证明咖啡能让人活得更长。这样的研究永远无法证明因果关系。它真正能做的就是为研究人员指明进一步研究的正确方向。即使咖啡真的对你有好处，科学家也不知道为什么。

**Passage 9**

1. D. four

2. C. Rich pre-school kids have a richer vocabulary than poor kids.

3. D. Two years of pre-kindergarten were better than one.

4. A. Choose

5. B. Pre-school Education

【参考译文】

在美国，被称为幼儿园的上学第一年通常起始于五至六岁。在富裕国家中，起步如此晚是很奇怪的。奥巴马总统认为这是一个经济和社会问题；他的教育部长甚至说这是“道德上的错误”。这一说法得到了一些支持，因为从对词汇的研究中可以清楚地看出，贫困家庭的孩子进入幼儿园的时间远远落后于富裕家庭的孩子——这一劣势通常会持续一生。来自靠福利生活的家庭的孩子在三岁时认识525个单词，而专业人士的孩子则认识1116个。

学前教育有助于缩小这一差距。因此，在上个月的一次演讲中，奥巴马呼吁联邦政府和各州建立伙伴关系，将其扩大到每个美国儿童。后来人们知道，“每个人”指的是那些来自收入超过贫困线200%的家庭——相当于供养一个四口之家的4万7千美元的收入。

一些批评家说，在四岁时送孩子上学是行不通的。证据表明情况并非如此。例如，3月20日，新泽西州一

项针对9至11岁儿童的研究公布了新结果。这份报告发现，上过学前教育的弱势儿童有更好的识字、语言、数学和科学技能。且两年的学前教育比一年好。

一些研究还跟踪了早期学习对终身的影响，例如对犯罪率的影响以及可能最终给社会带来负担的其他因素。评论家们特别提到1965年创建的一项名为“赢在起跑线”的政府计划，就为贫困家庭提供包括学校早期教育的一系列服务。

**Passage 10**

1. B. a shade against the sun

2. C. Chinese

3. C. in the Far East in ancient times

4. D. Umbrellas were popular and cheap in ancient times.

5. B. The Role of Umbrella in History.

【参考译文】

对我们来说，下雨时撑一把伞挡水似乎很自然。但实际上，伞并不是为了防雨而发明的。它最初是用作遮阳的。

没有人知道是谁首先发明了它，但是伞在非常古老的时代就被使用了。最早使用它的可能是中国人，早在公元前11世纪。

我们知道伞在古埃及和巴比伦也被用于遮阳。还有一件奇怪的事情与它的使用有关：它成为荣誉和权威的象征。在古代的远东地区，只允许皇室成员或高级官员使用伞。

在欧洲，希腊人首先将伞用作遮阳。在古希腊，伞被广泛使用。但古罗马人被认为是欧洲最早使用伞防雨的人。

在中世纪，伞的使用几乎消失了。16世纪，它再次出现在意大利，而且再次成为权力和权威的象征。

在这段时间里，伞的样式没有太大变化，尽管它们的重量轻了很多。直到二十世纪，女用伞才开始被制成各种颜色。

**Passage 11**

1. B. It admitted that their plan to build another park failed.

2. C. People listen to Disney songs on Radio Disney.

3. C. People will find themselves in the same culture all over—Disney’s culture.

4. D. Some films are not true to the history.

5. B. Disney is the symbol of American culture, though some people don’t like it.

【参考译文】

去年秋天，沃尔特·迪斯尼公司做了一件罕见的事情：它承认在争取弗吉尼亚州建造一个历史主题公园的努力失败了。公园原本打算叫“迪斯尼美国公园”

美国人争着去看迪斯尼拍的电影，然后重看电影录像；他们给孩子念迪斯尼的故事；他们在迪斯尼电视频道上观看迪斯尼节目；他们去迪斯尼乐园和迪斯尼世界游玩，在那里他们住的是迪斯尼酒店，吃的是迪斯尼食品；美国人在迪斯尼商店购买迪斯尼产品，听迪斯尼歌曲唱片。

这一切让有些人感到忧心忡忡。耶鲁大学教授哈罗德·布鲁姆对西方社会的文化史作了一番审视。

“这条路走到最后的结果是再糟糕不过的文化单一性。这太可怕了。”

这一观点在世界各地的大学越来越受到认同。

反对迪斯尼的人（而且为数不少）认为它的电影及其副产品充满性别歧视和种族歧视，是对美国历史和民间传说的简单版、轻松版。

宾州州立大学教授亨利·吉鲁（Henry Giroux）说：“这其中有一种偏袒护短的倾向。”吉鲁认为迪斯尼已经成为美国孩子的主要教育者，他们中的大多数人在学习美国总统亚伯拉罕·林肯那篇具有历史意义的葛底斯堡演讲之前，就能背诵《狮子王》中的每句台词了。

尽管如此，最强烈的反对者也很快指出了迪斯尼具有的诸多价值：轻松愉快、善意风趣、优良的艺术传统，这些都是迪斯尼成功的原因。不管是否存心挑剔，反对迪斯尼公司的人大多也都是迪斯尼的客户。

**Passage 12**

1. D. The bad smell from the Thames forced all London residents to flee to the countryside.

2. B. It improved water quality in the London stretch of the Thames.

3. C. no commercial fishing in the lower stretches of the river

4. A. The bad smell from the Thames was a major reason that led to the creation of the sewer system.

5. D. The success story of the Thames cleanup sets a good example for polluted rivers elsewhere.

【参考译文】

泰晤士河是伦敦最著名的景观之一。2000年前，罗马人来到这里时，它已在此流淌，至今仍然是这座城市生活的中心。

在维多利亚时代的污水系统建立之前，泰晤士河是一个非常肮脏的工业废水和人类废物的倾倒场。1858年夏天，泰晤士河散发出的气味非常难闻，使得许多伦敦的富裕居民都逃到了农村。国会议员们在厚重的窗帘后面工作，试图阻挡难闻的气味。

著名的污水管道减轻了泰晤士河伦敦段的臭味，也减少了城市霍乱的爆发，但它们并没有解决污染的问题，污染的情况只是被转移到了河的下游。

直到20世纪60年代，对泰晤士河的治理才真正开始。大规模扩建污水处理厂，设立新法律禁止把工业化学废物排入河流，公众的环境意识也在上升，伦敦居民已经不能再对一条有毒的河流坐视不管。

到1974年，鲑鱼在一个多世纪以后开始重返泰晤士河，另外一些鱼种也回来了，在泰晤士河河口处，居然还出现了海马。鸟类和植物也伴随着鱼来了，甚至偶尔还有海豹出现。随着水质的提高，数百种物种重新出现在河流及其周边。漫步在河边，现在可以看到苍鹭甚至还有翠鸟。

伦敦的河流系统从毒汤到充满活力的生态系统的巨大转变为世界上其他污染水域的治理树立了杰出的榜样。几十年前，泰晤士河是世界上污染最严重的河流之一。如今，它已成为城市环境中可持续发展的完美典范。泰晤士河的治理表明，任何河流，无论污染多么严重，都是可以治理的。

**Passage 13**

1. B. usually had fast food and soft drinks

2. C. she likes to live a healthy life

3. A. They could not lose weight even if they decided to do so.

4. D. “You’d be prettier if you weren’t that fat”

5. B. she needn’t worry about the problem of being overweight

【参考译文】

在大学时期的照片里我很瘦。那时我全职工作，全职上学，抽烟，吃快餐，喝软饮料。我看上去一脸病态、情绪低落、身体很差。

根据医学标准，我现在的体重已经超标到危险的程度，但我的生活状况比以往任何时候都好。我积极锻炼，注意饮食，并不是为了减肥，而是因为我热爱生活。医生说我很健康，这比保持苗条更重要。

人们从孩童时代就开始歧视肥胖者。这类态度导致了肥胖者在生活各方面收到歧视，包括经济方面。事实上，一项研究表明，肥胖的白人女性比苗条的白人女性收入低24%。

人们常常为歧视肥胖者找借口，认为肥胖是自己选择的。选择？在这样一个对体重高度敏感的文化中谁愿意选择做胖子呢？社会上对于肥胖存在种种错误观点：所有肥胖者都有饮食、感情或精神问题；如果他们真想减肥，是可以做到的。

然而，事实上，有些人天生肥胖。人的体型是一个科学问题，而不应该成为评价一个人性格的依据。疾病控制中心报告表明，78%的美国女性正在努力减肥，但成功率却出奇的低——其中95%的人在2到5年内又恢复到她们原来的体重。

常常有人对我说“你有一张漂亮的脸。”我却对此不以为然，因为我知道他们的潜台词：“如果你能再瘦点，会更漂亮。”其实美是别人教给的概念，而且美的文化标准也在不断变化。

在后来的生活中，我欣喜地了解到，不同文化的审美标准是不同的。

**Passage 14**

1. B. the job market is very competitive

2. A. the author didn’t know before that a person should treat looking for a job like job itself

3. C. good appearances

4. D. To know important people in your profession.

5. B. Your drive to do things well.

【参考译文】

要得到理想的工作需要动力、精力和准备。尽管你可以胜任许多职位，但现在对于好工作的竞争非常激烈。因为具备同样资格的求职者可能有十几个甚至更多。因此，你必须让可能成为你老板的人相信你就是他一直在寻找的那个特别的人选。

我很惊讶地认识到，你必须把找工作当成一种工作。如果你把同样的精力投入到找工作上，那么就会更快地找到工作。

有一种方法可以让你在不危及当前职位的情况下去谋取一份新的工作：那就是参加与你的专长相关的专业社团活动，并在其中积极表现。这样有助于认识更多的人，比如认识你想去的公司的老总们，而这些人平时你是遇不到的。

另一个重大挑战是面试—这是至关重要的。

心理学家在研究求职面试后发现，面试包括两个主要部分。我把第一部分称为“30秒关卡”，因为研究表明，大多数雇主都会在面试的头30秒内判断应聘者是否合适。

一进入面试现场，要记住保持镇静，面带微笑，握手有力，同时直视面试官的眼睛。

此外，几乎所有的面试者都会提出以下三个问题。示范性问题如下：

这么说，你有兴趣在我们实验室当一名助手—对吗？

不能简单地回答“是”。回答要简洁，但永远不要苍白地只回答“是”或“不是”。

你为什么想要这份工作？

谈谈你自己好吗？

面试官并非想了解你的整个生活历程。他想了解的是能证明你性格、能力和动力的事实。

就这些！有了上述指导，你一定能得到你想要的工作。

**Passage 15**

1. B. Because we are just doing our own jobs, but not helping others who need help in society.

2. C. she loves peaceful life and she likes helping those who are in trouble

3. A. Because she believes that home is where they start to spread love.

4. B. Because he lacks genuine care and love from society.

5. D.We should pray for the poor every day.

【参考译文】

我相信我们不是真正的社会工作者。在人们眼里，我们可能在做社会工作，但我们其实是世界中心的沉思者。因为我们二十四小时都在触摸基督的身体。我认为在家庭里，我们不需要以摧毁为目的的炸弹和枪支。而是带着平静，只是相聚一起，彼此相爱，把那份平静、欢乐和彼此存在的力量带进家庭。这样，我们将能够战胜世界上所有的邪恶。

我将用获得的和平奖努力为许多无家可归的人建立一个家。因为我相信爱起始于家庭，如果我们能为穷人创造一个家，我想会有越来越多的爱传播开来。通过这种理解的爱，我们将能够给穷人带去宁静和好消息。我们首先关注的穷人应该是我们自己的家庭内和国家内的，然后是全世界的。姐妹们，要做到这一点，我们的生活必须与祈祷交织在一起。他们需要与基督交织在一起，才能理解、分享。与基督交织在一起是为了能够理解，能够分享。因为今天有太多的痛苦……当我从街上接收一个饱受饥饿的人时，给他一盘饭，一片面包，我满足了他，消除了他的饥饿。但是被排斥在外、不受欢迎、不被爱的人会感到恐惧，这个人便被社会抛弃——那种贫困充满伤害，令人难以忍受。因此，让我们一直微笑相见吧，因为微笑是爱的开始，一旦我们开始彼此相爱，我们就会自然而然地想为他人做点什么。

**Passage 16**

1. C. Because household incomes were mainly brought by the man.

2. D. all of the above

3. B. A woman takes the place of a man to become the mainstay of the family.

4. D. Since the male and female roles have greatly changed, their traditional relationship in a family has broken down.

5.A. the equality between men and women

【参考译文】

在传统婚姻中，男人工作是为了挣钱养家。

大多数男人在办公室、工厂或其他离家不远的地方工作。因为男人挣钱，所以他支付账单和用于购买食物、衣服、房子和其他家庭需求的费用。男人决定大部分事情。他是一家之主。

传统婚姻中，女性很少外出工作。她呆在家里照顾孩子和丈夫，做饭，打扫房屋，洗衣服，做其他家务。她在家庭中的工作非常重要。

近年来，许多夫妻继续保持着这种传统关系。男人工作挣钱养家。女性呆在家里抚养孩子，看护房屋。

现在，男女角色有两个重要区别。一是男性和女性都有更多的选择。他们可以选择结婚或单身。可以选择工作或呆在家里。男性和女性都可以选择适合自己的角色。

男性和女性之间的第二个区别是，在婚姻中，共同做出许多决定和承担责任。丈夫和妻子可以选择是否要孩子。妇女可以呆在家里照顾孩子，也可以去工作。现在，男人和女人在婚姻中共同决定这些事情。现在许多已婚人士都共同做决定和承担家庭责任。

**Passage 17**

1. D. drinking water from the Nile

2. C. Three.

3. A. on the land near the Nile

4. D. carrying crops or oil

5. B. the flooding of the Nile had a devastating impact on the Egyptians

【参考译文】

想象一下用图片而不是文字给朋友写便条。想象一下，养一只猴子当宠物，或者剃光头只留一个侧边发辫。如果你生活在古埃及，就可能会做这样的一些事情。

埃及是非洲东北部的一个国家。这里大部分是沙漠——又热又干。然而，世界上最长的河流尼罗河横穿整个埃及。河流沿岸是肥沃的绿色土地。从空中看，尼罗河就像一条被沙漠环绕的长蛇状绿色曲线。

在古代，尼罗河每年7月至9月泛滥。洪水把淤泥，一种微小的土壤和岩石的混合物，扩散到河流周围的土地上。水和泥沙使旱地变成良田。

如今，大多数埃及人仍然生活在尼罗河沿岸或附近。许多船只仍然沿河航行。但现在有些是挤满了游客的游轮。其他是装载农作物或石油的货船。也可以看到又长又窄的三桅小帆船。这些很久以前就被使用的船现在仍在使用。

埃及大部分是沙漠。只有尼罗河附近的土地可以用来耕种。随着时间的推移，越来越多的人选择住在这里。但这里没有足够的农田为所有这些人提供食物。为了创造更多的农田，1902年在阿斯旺修建了一座水坝。农民们用大坝的水灌溉土地。在干旱期，他们也能种植更多的作物。

第二座水坝阿斯旺大坝于1971年启用。现在尼罗河不再泛滥。水坝阻止水流过陆地。这座大坝还在埃及和苏丹边界上建造了纳赛尔湖。纳赛尔湖的水可以全年用来灌溉荒漠。

**Passage 18**

1. B. People’s shyness made them care too much about their appearance and actions.

2. A. a good quality

3. B. unreal

4. C. Shyness can block our chances for a rich life

5. B. should understand themselves in the right way

【参考译文】

害羞是由于在众人面前感觉不自在而引发的。害羞的人容易焦虑，自我意识强，他们过分在意自己的外表和行为。他们头脑里常有这样不安的想法：我给别人留下了怎样的印象？别人喜欢我吗？我是否听起来很蠢？我穿的衣服难看吗？

显而易见，这些不适的感觉对人有负面影响。一个人的自我认识体现在他／她的言行举止上，这些行为影响着他人对此作出的反映。总体来说，人们对自身的看法深刻影响到他们生活的方方面面。

害羞的人往往自信不足，常常被动，易受他人影响。他们需要有相信自己的心态，认识到自己所做的是正确的。害羞的人对批评意见比较敏感。他们觉得这证实了他们的自卑感。他们也发现，像这样的陈述很难让人满意：“你说那些是为了让我高兴，其实我知道我没那么好。”很明显，虽然自我意识是种健康的品质，但过度自我意识是有害的。

害羞能够消除或至少减轻吗？当然。只要人们坚定耐心地培养自信就可克服害羞。由于羞怯与缺乏自尊相伴而生，因此人们在接受自己的优点的同时也要接受自己的弱点，这一点很重要。

我们每个人都是独一无二的、有价值的个体，对自己的个人方式感兴趣。我们越了解自己，就越容易充分发挥自己的潜力。让我们不要让羞怯阻碍我们丰富而充实的生活。

**Passage 19**

1. B. almost two hundred years ago

2. D. they have memories

3. A. The data has to be turned into an electronic code of small on-off signals.

4. D. never expected the internet could be so popular

5. C. what we should do is to change peoples behaviour

【参考译文】

当今，计算机是一个巨大而快速发展的技术领域。更小、功能更强和更人性化的设备几乎天天被研发出来。

英国发明家查尔斯·巴贝奇有时被称为计算机之父。1823年，他研制了一台可以计算并可以打印计算结果的机器，这在当时是十分先进的。遗憾的是这台机器十分复杂，他没能制造完成这台机器。直到一百年后，人们仍在尝试造出效率更高的计算机器。这些计算机器大到占满整个房间，重达数吨。然而由于没有存储器，这些庞然大物并非真正意义上的计算机。

现代计算机使用复杂的数据存储系统来处理信息，既可以是计算机存储器，也可以是存储在磁盘和CD上的数据。数据可以是文字、数据、图像，也可能是三者的合成物。现代计算机存储器可以存储比一屋子文件盒更多的数据，因为它们使用微小的电流。并将数千条电路紧密地放在微小的“芯片”中。

在计算机读出数据前，数据被转换成带有微型脉冲或信号的电子码，这些信号由“芯片”内微型开关进行转换。

互联网先驱文顿·瑟夫博士被称为互联网之父。无论何时，他总是乐意回答他所遇到的人们就互联网提出的任何问题。20年前，瑟夫和罗伯特·卡恩创立了互联网。之后互联网得以迅速发展。1983年大约有5万名互联网用户，现在这个数字已达3.6亿。当被问及是否曾想过互联网会如此普及时，瑟夫博士回答说这一数字令人始料不及。

他指出保密是当今网络面临的主要问题之一，我们无法避免电子信函不被别人偷窥和监控，“电话系统会发生此类事情，电子信函也会发生此类事情。一些工具可以用来防范偷窥和监控，但问题是掌握这些工具并非易事。”他还指出因特网中出现的垃圾邮件和如色情内容等不受欢迎的东西令人烦恼，但阻止起来却很难。

他说： “从技术上讲很难阻止这些东西，但互联网是人的一面镜子，如果我们不喜欢镜子里看到的东西，就不要触摸这面镜子。”

**Passage 20**

1. D. It is the on-line government that people can log onto for information and services.

2. B. pay their bills with just a click on the mouse

3. D. all of the above

4. C. The government concept is not very well received by many.

5. C. make their work more efficient

【参考译文】

你想表达对油价的抱怨、对噪音污染的担忧或对交通堵塞的建议吗？你想仅通过点击鼠标就可以谈谈填报所得税、企业注册或投票吗？所有这些都将在不久的将来在北京、上海和广州等大城市实现，因为中国将通过一系列IT项目进入未来。

当这种能够提供大量政府信息、政策和服务的网站开始启动时，这些大城市的居民和企业将能够访问其电子政务。官员们说，很快，商业登记、纳税和水、气、电账单等功能将触手可及。

他们说，新网站将提供廉洁、透明和高效的管理。上海人民政府信息办公室负责电子政务的一位高层官员透露：“明年将开放一个含有上海所有政府机构的大型网站，人们可以进入其中一个网址就可以办理公务。”在最近的一次采访中，这位高层官员说城市管理会为这个项目提供专项资金。

上海在去年一月份启动在线政务，到目前为止约有55个政府机构建立了自己的网站，为公众提供信息和服务。然而这些工作远远没有达到预期的效果。信息更新不够及时，服务范围有限。市民与机构不能互动。这个项目还有大量的工作要做。

“传统思想很难改变。许多人还不能接受电子政务的概念，世界各国的政府正面临着这个挑战，” 托德·拉姆齐说，他是IBM负责全球电子政务产业的总经理。然而，电子政务是全球发展趋势的一部分。

在世界范围内，像美国、日本这样的发达国家以及印度尼西亚和新加坡这样的新兴市场都采用了电子政务项目提高他们的工作效率。