

全国大学生英语竞赛 A 类考试 2014 年决赛试题

Part I Listening Comprehension (30 marks)

Section A (5 marks)

*In this section, you will hear **five** short conversations. Each conversation will be read only **once**. At the end of each conversation, there will be a **fifteen-second** pause. During the pause, read the question and the four choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **answer sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

1. What does the man say about the park Isla Beata?

- A. It's convenient to get to.
- B. It's famous for the world's smallest lizard.
- C. It provides natural protection for the Jaragua lizard.
- D. It's situated in the center of the city.

2. What do we learn from the conversation?

- A. Landfill is now the main approach to waste disposal.
- B. The man's factory has begun to burn its waste.
- C. Burning waste will do more harm to the environment.
- D. The government is going to stop the use of landfill.

3. How has the company been affected by the change?

- A. Lots of its factories have stopped running.
- B. Many workers have been forced to retire early.
- C. It is going to close down soon.
- D. Very few workers will be forced to resign.

4. Which one is correct if the woman takes out an extended warranty?

- A. The product will come with a full six-year warranty.
- B. She can change the product to a newer model during the extended warranty.
- C. No natural damage to any part is covered for free in four years.
- D. Labour is for free only in the first two years and replacement for parts is free for 4 years.

5. What's the outcome for Anita Lee to get a loan from Lania Foods?

- A. It helped Anita's company to expand its business abroad.
- B. Anita's company suffered a great loss.
- C. Anita's company earned a lot of money and started to invest into Lania.
- D. Anita's company saved a great deal of money because Lania offered funds with lower interests.

Section B (10 marks)

*In this section, you will hear **two** long conversations. Each conversation will be read only **once**. At the end of each conversation, there will be a **one-minute** pause. During the pause, read the questions and the four choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **answer sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

Conversation One

6. What was Mr Jones's response to the public about the delay in opening the new bridge?
- A. He gave the public a definite opening date.
 - B. He asked the public to wait for the committee's investigation result.
 - C. He said the committee has found the solution to the delay.
 - D. He promised to report it to the local authority.
7. Who should take the responsibility for the delay according to Mr Jones?
- A. The government.
 - B. The local authority.
 - C. The builder of the bridge.
 - D. He didn't mention it.
8. Which one below is true about the ferry service according to the dialogue?
- A. It'll be resumed because of the government's intervention.
 - B. It'll be increased due to the pressure from the public.
 - C. Whether it'll be increased depends on the report of the committee.
 - D. It'll not be resumed and people have to wait for the opening of the bridge.

Conversation Two

9. What consideration has Mrs Higgins mentioned for a bus timetable to be made?
- A. The residents' need.
 - B. The total number of buses.
 - C. Rush hour traffic.
 - D. The difference among local districts.
10. What is the main reason for the lack of an accurate timetable according to Mr Gardner?
- A. Unexpected incidents.
 - B. Lack of money.
 - C. Heavy traffic.
 - D. Weather conditions.
11. What should be the bus company's reaction to a demonstration according to Mrs Higgins?
- A. Adjusting the timetable
 - B. Providing extra buses.
 - C. Informing the passengers.
 - D. Changing the bus route.
12. What has the bus company done to keep the buses clean?
- A. Doing cleaning twice a day.
 - B. Providing litter bins on them.
 - C. Forbidding eating and drinking on board.
 - D. Putting up signs against littering.
13. What is the host's suggestion at the end of the conversation?
- A. The bus company provide a new timetable as soon as possible.
 - B. Passengers keep the bus clean.
 - C. Fare increases be controlled.
 - D. The bus company and passengers exchange ideas occasionally.
14. How many complaints has Mrs Higgins made?
- A. Three.
 - B. Four.
 - C. Five.
 - D. Six.

15. Which one below is correct?

- A. Taking a bus is still much cheaper than travelling by taxi.
- B. Mrs Higgins has never taken a bus which is on time.
- C. The bus company makes a big profit and cares little about its service.
- D. Mrs Higgins is optimistic about the improvement of the bus service.

Section C (5 marks)

*In this section, you will hear **five** short news items. After each item, which will be read only **once**, there will be a **fifteen-second** pause. During the pause, read the question and the **four** choices marked A, B and C, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **answer sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

16. Which one below is correct?

- A. Birth rates in the US are soaring up in recent years.
- B. Birth rates have reached the lowest point in the US.
- C. Teenage pregnancies have gone down to historic lows in the US.
- D. The report shows the birth rates in the US in the past 10 years.

17. What can be inferred from the news?

- A. US government has absolute trust in Baucus.
- B. The pick may enable the White House to take more control of the US-China relationship.
- C. Baucus is incompetent in the position.
- D. Baucus is predicted to be stronger in ability than his predecessors.

18. Why does BBC Trust support Radio I's decision to cut down the song Ding Dong?

- A. It is highly political and anti-society.
- B. It has given rise to many complaints among the British people.
- C. Its surprise chart entry has caused anti-Thatcher feelings.
- D. It is too old and it has been broadcasted over and over again.

19. What's the main idea of the news?

- A. The retirement saving schemes have benefited millions of UK workers.
- B. The retirement saving schemes will be reformed.
- C. The retirement saving schemes have just got started.
- D. The retirement saving schemes are being questioned.

20. What is the public's reaction to the air pollution?

- A. They are angry at its serious impact.
- B. They have become used to it.
- C. They are afraid it may cause serious disease.
- D. They behave rationally and quietly.

Section D (10 marks)

In this section, you will hear a short passage. For questions 21—30, complete the notes using **three words or fewer** for each blank. The passage will be read only **once**. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.

US University(21)_____Exams:

A. SAT

- A combination of high school grades and SAT scores is believed to be (22)_____of freshmen's success.
- It is mainly for students along the (23)_____coasts.
- Established in 1926, and the first test being a nine-subject (24)_____.
- Designed by the Educational Testing Service to select (25)_____.

B. ACT

- (26)_____exists between ACT scores and freshman grades.
- Mainly for students throughout the Southeast, Midwest, and (27)_____of the US while the majority of US's colleges and universities accepting scores (28)_____.
- Designed by (29)_____at the University of Iowa in 1959 to place students in the (30)_____.

Part II Vocabulary, Grammar & Cultures (15 marks)

There are 15 incomplete sentences in this section. For each blank there are **four** choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **answer sheet** with a single line through the centre.

Section A Vocabulary and Grammar (10 marks)

31. Three men were feared dead last night after a helicopter_____off course into an oil platform and ditched into the North Sea.
- A. veered B. instigated C. falsified D. exchanged
32. Despite almost universal_____of the vital importance of women's literacy, education remains a dream for far too many women in far too many countries around the world.
- A. identification B. confession C. compliment D. acknowledgement
33. Still, to have captured such_____in another language is a major accomplishment. Rabassa attributes his success, paradoxically, to his lifelong devotion to English and its literature.
- A. efficacy B. vibrancy C. obviousness D. brute
34. Some very rare drawings have been recovered for this exhibition through_____research work in museums and libraries.
- A. plain B. minor C. assiduous D. flexible
35. The government insists that individuals would still be responsible for_____for their own long-term care.
- A. footing the bill B. topping the bill C. taking a rain check D. running a check
36. Employer-sponsored programs are unlikely to be paid entirely—or even partly—by employers._____, employee-pay-all plans are the most likely scenario, _____the rising employer costs for the employer-paid benefit plans already in effect.
- A. Neither;provided B. Yet;providing C. Hardly;giving D. Rather;given

37.The first step in planning a marketing strategy for a new product is to analyze the_____sales figures for competitive products.

- A.plunge in B.reordering of C.breakdown of D.lapse in

38.More schools_____let pupils sit in judgement on classmates_____bullying to curb Britain's classroom violence.

- A.are concerned to; blaming for B.are poised to; accused of
C.are crusading to; relied on D.are opposing to; carrying out

39.**Dave:** It's important to understand that it's not too late._____and think that you have no chance of success.

Paul: It's still not too late? All my hopes were dashed by the announcement.

Dave: You need to remain alert, especially in a crisis.

- A.Don't go to the wall without hesitation B.You must not simply throw in the towel at this stage
C.Never put your back into it immediately D.There may be a dramatic change in no time

40.**Laura:** What's the most unusual restaurant you've ever been to?

Dan: Oh, a really extraordinary place called Jurassic Nosh._____. It looked like the last place on earth where you were likely to get a good meal. Disgusting animal skulls and untanned hides were draped on the wall.

Laura: What about the food? Was it as unusual as the surroundings?

Dan: In fact, it wasn't at all appetizing to look at. But it was extremely tasty when I got over the shock of the way it looked.

- A.The post will easily catch customers' eye.
B.The cuisine it provides is far fancier than you could imagine.
C.It is strongly recommended by my gourmet friend.
D.My first impression of the place was a bit off-putting.

Section B Cultures (5 marks)

41.Which band was John Lennon in before he died?

- A.Coldpaly B.The Rolling Stone C.Keane D.The Beatles

42.The highest mountain in the U.S.is_____.

- A.Mount Zion B.Mckinley C.Ben Nevis D.Mount Rushmore

43._____is the first writer in America to win the Nobel Prize in literature.

- A.Eugene O'Neill B.Saul Bellow C.Ernest Hemingway D.Sinclair Lewis

44.The Romans led by Jules Caesar launched their first invasion on Britain in_____.

- A.200 B.C. B.55 B.C. C.55 A.D. D.410 A.D.

45.The British flag, the Union Jack, combines the flags of_____.

- A.St George's Cross and St Patrick's Cross

B.St George's Cross and St Andrew's Cross

C.St George's Cross, St Patrick's Cross and St Andrew's Cross

D.St Patrick's Cross, St Andrew's Cross and the Dragon of Cadwallader

Part III Cloze (10 marks)

Read the following passage and fill in each blank with **one** word. Choose the correct word in one of the following **three** ways: according to the context, by using the correct form of the given word, or by using the given letter (s) of the word. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.

No one had ever believed him, that one summer evening he had wandered on to the docks, under the legs of the biggest crane, and climbed the steel ladder, up, up, and up into the swaying heights of the counterweights and control house.

The view over the city had been inspiring—the smoking derelict docklands, with miles of kingfisher—waled warehouses; the sun-tinted towers of distant churches; the cars, like insects, creeping one after the other along the expressway. Clinging (46)_____ the drifting girders, he felt like the most successful man in the (47) w_____.

He crawled, monkey-fashion, along the steel lacework of the jib until he crouched, hundreds of feet up, above the wrinkling khaki river. A flock of sunstruck pigeons whirled in harmony around the control house roof.

It was so perfect that he knew he could do it. He stood up, balancing against the breeze, feeling on (48)_____ of the world. Slowly he raised his hands above his head, (49) c_____ glance upwards into the icy sky, then, just before he lost his balance, he chose to rise on tiptoe and launch himself into a taut dive. He tipped off the jib and began to tilt through the sunset.

The sound which came from him was an involuntary shriek of pure joy—he cared neither if he lived (50)_____ if he died. His body, pointed like a shuttle, wove a slow circle through the air, hurling ever downwards to the peaky grey surface. By chance, his dive had him angled perfectly to enter the water with a splashless “glup” at some dangerously high velocity.

The shock of the water stopping his flight, and of the vicious cold, (51)_____ (prevent) him from realizing immediately that he was still alive. His clothing dragged in the dark water and he started to fight his way upward to the dull light above. Disbelieving and (52) _____ (stun), he gasped as he broke the surface, returning to an almost unchanged peachy evening.

The impetus of his dive still with him, he floundered in his shoes and jacket to the nearest quayside ladder and clambered up the vertical green wall. Once on the quay, he squeezed the edges of his jacket and emptied his shoes. He looked up to the monstrous structure towering above him and (53)_____ (scarce) believed that he'd actually dived from yon threadlike piece of lattice-work. Yet he was certainly soaking and he remembered the exhilaration of his descent. He looked (54) a_____ to see if there had been any witnesses to his dive. The docks remained silent and deserted as rust-coloured sunlight flooded the area.

Consequently, when he told anyone he'd dived off the biggest of the dockland cranes into the Clyde, and just for (5)f_____, no one believed him.

Part IV Reading Comprehension (35 marks)

Read the following passages. Each passage is followed by several questions. Respond to the questions using information from the passage. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.

Section A (5 marks)

Questions 56 to 60 are based on the following passage.

Eysenck's research strategy begins by dividing the elements of personality into various units that can be arranged hierarchically. The basic structure in this scheme is the specific response level, which consists of specific behaviors. For example, if we watch a man spend the afternoon talking and laughing with friends, we would be observing a specific response. If this man spends many afternoons each week having a good time with friends, we have evidence for the second level in Eysenck's model, a habitual response. But it is likely that this man doesn't

limit himself to socializing just in the afternoon and just with these friends. Suppose this man also devotes a large part of his weekends and quite a few evenings to his social life. If you watch long enough, you might find that he lives for social gatherings, discussion groups, parties, and so on. You might conclude, in Eysenck's terms, that this person exhibits the trait of sociability. Finally, Eysenck argues that traits such as sociability are part of a still larger dimension of personality. That is, people who are sociable also tend to be impulsive, active, lively, and excitable. All these traits combine to form the supertrait Eysenck calls extraversion.

How many of these supertraits are there? Originally, Eysenck's factor analytic research yielded evidence for two basic dimensions that could subsume all other traits: extraversion- introversion and neuroticism. Because the dimensions are independent of one another, people who score on the extraversion end of the first dimension can score either high or low on the second dimension. Further, someone who scores high on extraversion and low on neuroticism possesses different traits than does a person who scores high on both extraversion and neuroticism.

Where do you suppose you fall in this model? If you are the prototypic extravert, then Eysenck describes you as "outgoing, impulsive and uninhibited, having many social contacts and frequently taking part in group activities". An introvert is "a quiet, retiring sort of person, introspective, fond of books rather than people". Of course most people fall somewhere between these two extremes, but each of us is perhaps a little more of one than the other.

Eysenck argues that extraverts and introverts differ not only in terms of behavior but also in their physiological makeup. Eysenck originally maintained that extraverts and introverts have different levels of cerebral cortex arousal when in a nonstimulating, resting state. Although it may sound backward at first, he proposed that extraverts generally have a lower level of cortical arousal than do introverts. Extraverts seek out highly arousing social behavior because their cortical arousal is well below their desired level when doing nothing. In a sense, highly extraverted people are simply trying to avoid unpleasant boredom. Their problem is feeding their need for stimulation. Introverts have the opposite problem. They typically operate at an above-optimal cortical arousal level. These people select solitude and nonstimulating environments in an effort to keep their already high arousal level from becoming too aversive.

Unfortunately, a great deal of research has failed to uncover the different levels of base-rate cortical arousal proposed by Eysenck. For example, introverts and extraverts show no differences in brain -wave activity when at rest or when asleep. But this does not mean that Eysenck's original theorizing was entirely off base. Rather, there is ample evidence that introverts are more sensitive to stimulation than extraverts are. Introverts are even more responsive than extraverts when exposed to chemical stimulants, such as caffeine or nicotine.

Consequently, many researchers now describe extraverts and introverts in terms of their different sensitivity to stimulation, rather than the different base rate of cortical activity Eysenck proposed. However, the effect is essentially the same. Because of physiological differences, introverts are more quickly overwhelmed by the stimulation of a crowded social gathering, whereas extraverts are likely to find the same gathering rather pleasant.

Questions 56 to 60

Mark each statement as either true (T) or false (F) according to the passage.

- 56. There are five units in Eysenck's research on personality, which can be arranged hierarchically.
- 57. According to Eysenck, an extravert tends to be impulsive and gets excited easily.
- 58. Eysenck believes if one is highly extravert, he or she shows little sign of neuroticism.
- 59. Eysenck's study on the difference of extraverts' and introverts' cortical arousal hasn't been justified by other researchers yet.
- 60. The physiological differences between introverts and extraverts are believed existing by few researchers nowadays.

Section B (10 marks)

Questions 61 to 65 are based on the following passage.



We're in the midst of a global interconnection that is expected to have consequences at least as profound. What would happen if all the information stored on the world's computers were accessible via the Internet to anyone?

Ask Dr. Denise Nagel, executive director of the National Coalition for Patient Rights, about medical privacy. "Small-scale privacy atrocities take place every day. The technology is getting ahead of our ethics," says Nagel.

(61) ____ Then, even more than today, the citizenry instinctively loathed the computer and its injunctions against folding, spindling, and mutilating. The public rebelled, and Congress took up the question of how much the government and private companies should be permitted to know about us.

(62) ____ The first Fair Credit Reporting Act, passed in 1970, overhauled what had once been a secret, unregulated industry with no provisions for due process. The new law gave consumers the right to know what was in their credit files and to demand corrections. Other financial and health privacy acts followed, although to this day no federal law protects the confidentiality of medical records.

The public and private sectors took two very different approaches. Congress passed legislation requiring that the government tell citizens what records it keeps on them while insisting that the information itself not be released unless required by law. The private sector responded by letting each industry—credit-card companies, banking, insurance, marketing, advertising—create its own guidelines.

(63) ____ In the old days, information stored in government databases was relatively inaccessible. Now, however, with PCs on every desktop linked to office networks and then to the Internet, data that were once carefully hidden may be only a few keystrokes away.

Kevin Kelly, executive editor of *Wired* magazine, says: "We think that privacy is about information, but it's not—it's about relationships." There was no privacy in the traditional village or small town; everyone knew everyone else's secrets. And that was comfortable. "What's gone out of whack is we don't know who knows about us anymore. Privacy has become asymmetrical."

(64) ____ And not surprisingly, he and others points out that what technology has taken, technology can restore. The idea is to allow computer users to decide how much information they want to reveal while limiting their exposure to intrusive marketing techniques. Website entrepreneurs learn about their customers' tastes without intruding on their privacy.

(65) ____ Many office electronic-mail systems warn users that the employer reserves the right to monitor their e-mail. "Technology has outpaced law," says Marc Rotenberg, director of the Washington-based Electronic Privacy Information Center. Rotenberg advocates protecting the privacy of e-mail by encrypting it with secret codes so powerful that even the National Security Agency's supercomputers would have a hard time cracking it. Such codes are legal within the United States but cannot be used abroad—where terrorists might use them to protect their secrets—without violating U.S. export laws.

Rotenberg thinks we need a new government agency—a privacy agency—to sort out the issues. "We need new legal protections," he says, "to enforce the privacy act, and to act on behalf of privacy interests." *Wired's*

Kelly disagrees. "A federal privacy agency would be disastrous! The answer to the whole privacy question is more knowledge," he says. "More knowledge about who's watching you. More knowledge about the information that flows between us."

Questions 61 to 65

Choose from the sentences A—G the one which best fits each gap of 61—65. There are **two extra** sentences which you do not need to use.

- A. But worse things may already be happening.
- B. Our culture is undergoing a kind of mass identity crisis, trying to hang on to a sense of privacy and intimacy in a global village of tens of millions.
- C. The result was a flurry of new legislation that clarified and defined consumer and citizen rights.
- D. That approach worked—to a point, when mainframes started giving way to desktop computers.
- E. Many online consumers, however, are skittish about leaving any footprints in cyberspace.
- F. It all started in the 1950s, when the US government began entering records on big mainframe computers, using nine-digit identification numbers as data points.
- G. The trick, says Kelly, is to restore that balance.

Section C (10 marks)

Questions 66 to 70 are based on the following passage.

Laughter is a fundamental part of everyday life. It is so common that we forget how strange—and important—it is. Indeed, laughter is a “speaking in tongues” in which we’re moved by an unconscious response to social and linguistic cues. Stripped of its variation and nuance, laughter is a regular series of short vowel-like syllables usually transcribed as “ha-a”, “ho-ho” or “hee-hee”. These syllables are part of the universal human vocabulary, produced and recognized by people of all cultures.

Given the universality of the sound, our ignorance about the purpose and meaning of laughter is remarkable. We somehow laugh at just the right times, without consciously knowing why we do it. Most people think of laughter as a simple response to comedy, or a cathartic mood-lifter. Instead, after ten years of research on this little-studied topic, I concluded that laughter is primarily a social vocalization that binds people together.

Students in my classes confirmed the social nature of laughter by recording the circumstances of their laughter in diaries. After excluding the effects of media, the fact was striking: Laughter was thirty times more frequent in social than solitary situation and it's a signal we send to others and it virtually disappears when we lack an audience.

As anyone who has ever laughed at the sight of someone doubled over can attest, laughter is contagious. Because our laughter is under minimal conscious control, it is spontaneous and relatively uncensored. Contagious laughter is a compelling display of Homo sapiens, a social mammal. It strips away our outer layer of culture and challenges the hypothesis that we are in full control of our behavior. From these synchronized vocal outbursts come insights into the neurological roots of human social behavior and speech.

The irresistibility of others' laughter has its roots in the neurological mechanism of laugh detection. The fact that laughter is contagious raises the intriguing possibility that humans have an auditory laugh detector — a neural circuit in the brain that responds exclusively to laughter. Once triggered, the laugh detector activates a laugh generator, a neural circuit that causes us in turn to produce laughter. Furthermore, laughter is not randomly speech. There is evidence of “the punctuation effect”, the tendency to laugh almost exclusively at phrase breaks in speech. The pattern requires that speech has priority over laughter.

Pain reduction is one of laughter's promising applications. Rosemary Cogan, Ph.D., a professor of psychology at Texas Tech University, found that subjects who laughed at a funny video or underwent a relaxation procedure tolerated more discomfort than other subjects. Humor may help soften intense pain and it may also help us cope with stress. In a study by Michelle Newman, Ph.D., an assistant professor of psychology at Pennsylvania State University, subjects viewed a film about three grisly accidents and had to narrate it either in a humorous or serious style. Those who used the humorous tone had the lowest negative effect and tension. However, a problem with these studies is that none of them separate the effects of laughter from those of humor. None allow for the possibility that presumed effects of laughter or humor may come from the playful setting associated with these behaviors. And none evaluate the uniqueness of laughter by contrasting it with other vocalizations such as shouting.

Rigorous proof that we can reduce stress and pain through laughter remains an unrealized but reasonable prospect. While we wait for definitive evidence, it can't hurt—and it's certainly enjoyable—to laugh.

Questions 66 to 70

Answer the following questions with the information given in the passage.

66. What does the author believe is the nature of laughter?
67. What surprising fact did the study reveal about the circumstances in which people laugh?
68. What fact does the passage reveal about laughter and speech?
69. What further studies are needed on laughter and pain reduction?
70. What does the passage mainly talk about?

Section D (10 marks)

Questions 71 to 75 are based on the following passage.



The 1990s set a record for disasters worldwide. During the decade, more than \$608 billion in economic losses were chalked to natural catastrophes, an amount greater than during the previous four decades combined.

Around the planet, a growing share of the devastation triggered by natural disasters stems from ecologically destructive practices and from putting people in harm's way. Many ecosystems have been worn down to the point where they are no longer resilient or able to withstand natural disturbances, setting the stage for "unnatural disasters"—those made more frequent or more severe due to human actions. By degrading forests, engineering rivers, filling in wetlands, and destabilizing the climate, we are unraveling the strands of a complex ecological safety net.

The enormous expansion of the human population and the built-up environment in the 20th and 21st centuries means that more people and economic activities are vulnerable. The migration of people to cities and coasts increases our vulnerability to the full array of natural hazards. The explosive growth of shantytowns in the cities of the developing world puts untold numbers of people at risk. These human-exacerbated disasters often take their heaviest toll on those who can least afford it—the poor.

To date, much of the response to disasters has focused on improving weather predictions before the events

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and providing cleanup and humanitarian relief afterward, both of which have helped save many lives. Yet, much more can be done. Mitigation measures are far more effective when integrated into sustainable development efforts.

Meanwhile, nature provides many valuable services to curb natural disasters. Healthy and resilient ecosystems are shock absorbers that protect against coastal storms and sponges that soak up floodwaters, for instance. In order to stem the ever-rising social and economic costs of disasters, we need to focus on how to mitigate them by understanding our culpability, taking steps to reduce our vulnerability.

There is an important distinction between natural and unnatural disasters. Just as not every natural disturbance is a disaster, not every disaster is completely natural. We have altered many natural systems so dramatically that their ability to bounce back from disturbance has been greatly diminished. Deforestation damages watersheds, contributes to climate change, and raises the risk of fires. Destruction of coastal areas eliminates nature's shock absorbers for coastal storms. Such human made changes end up making naturally vulnerable areas even more vulnerable to extreme weather events.

Droughts, and the famines that often follow, may be the most widely understood examples of unnatural disasters. They are triggered partly by global climate variability and partly by resource mismanagement such as deforestation, overgrazing, and the over-tapping of rivers and wells for irrigation.

In contrast to human-made unnatural disasters that should be prevented, considerable effort is spent trying to stop natural disturbances that are actually beneficial. Our usual approach to natural disturbances is to try to prevent them using methods that all too often exacerbate them. In the United States, for instance, fire suppression has long been the policy, even in fire-dependent forest and grass land ecosystems. The result has been the buildup of debris that fuels very hot fires capable of destroying these ecosystems, as well as the homes that are increasingly built there. The record-setting expense of fires and fire suppression in the United States—nearly \$1.4 billion in federal agency costs in 2000—is a telling reminder of the consequences of such wrongheaded policies.

In the future, climate change is expected to bring about rising sea levels and increased rainfall and cyclone activity. Unless something is done soon, countries will become even more vulnerable, with possibly twenty percent of the nation's land area becoming submerged. It doesn't help that large expanses of stabilizing mangroves have been removed from shores in recent years to make way for shrimp ponds, exposing the coast to additional inundation.

Questions 71 to 75

Complete the summary below with information from the passage, using **three words or fewer** for each blank.

The increase of natural disasters has alarmed human beings in recent decades. As for the reasons, unnatural disasters due to human actions take up a certain proportion. Concerning the (71)___ to disasters, the improvement of weather predictions, the offer of humanitarian relief, and most importantly, (72)___ are especially suggested. Valuable services provided by nature should be protected to (73)___, (74)___, such as deforestation and destruction of coastal areas lead to unnatural disasters. In the meantime, beneficial natural disturbances are stopped guided by (75)___.

Part V Translation (15 marks)

Section A (5 marks)

Translate the following paragraph into Chinese. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.

76. My own favorite country, perhaps because I knew it as a boy, is that of the Yorkshire Dales. For variety of landscape, these Dales cannot be matched on this island or anywhere else. A day's walk among them will give you almost everything fit to be seen on this earth. Within a few hours, you have enjoyed the green valleys, with their rivers, fine old bridges, pleasant villages, hanging woods, smooth fields; and then the moorland slopes, with their rushing streams, stone walks, salty winds, white farmhouse; and then the lonely heights, which seem to be miles above the ordinary world, and moorland tracks as remote, it seems, as trails in Mongolia. Yet less than an hour in a fast motor will bring you to the middle of a manufacturing town.

Section B (10 marks)

Translate the following sentences into English by using the hints given in brackets. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.

77. 谚语是富于智慧的通俗话语，它使人们的言谈增色。（brighten）
78. 很多人仍然错误地认为可以用同样的方法治愈症状完全不同的感冒。（mistakenly）
79. 不论大小、强弱、贫富，所有国家都一律平等，都有权参与国际事务并发挥作用。（be entitled to）
80. 非洲在国际社会的帮助下，着力兴办教育、培养人才，努力解决艾滋病等社会问题。（spare no effort）
81. 大约两亿年前，南极洲曾生长着茂密的树木和雨林类植物。（forest with）

Part VI Error Correction (10 marks)

Proofread the passage as required: Each indicated line contains **a maximum of one** error. Correct the passage in the following way: for a right line, put the sign “√” in the corresponding blank; for a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank; for a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with the sign “^” and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank; for an unnecessary word, cross the unnecessary word with the sign “\” and put the word with the sign in the blank. Write the answers on the **answer sheet**.

For example:	
One of my favorite writers <u>are</u> Charlotte Bronte. She was born in the early	<u>is</u>
nineteenth century when women had far fewer opportunities ^ they have now.	<u>than</u>
She lived in a small village in Yorkshire and she took great pleasure in walking	<u>√</u>
on the moors where near her home.	<u>where</u>

Most people manage to return from their holidays with a couple of amusing anecdotes.

Not many will admit they've had a bad time. But very few holiday-makers return with 82. _____
at least a private grievance or two. Leave aside genuine matters of complaint— 83. _____
over-booking airlines, shoddy hotels, tacky resorts—most people who suffer bad 84. _____
holidays have only themselves to blame. You shouldn't fall into the trap of obliging
yourself to pursue all sorts of activities which at home you would firmly avoid.

Why, for instance, does the philistine who never sets feet in a British museum 85. _____
explicably feel compelled to visit a succession of Romanesque churches instead of 86. _____
more honestly enjoying a lazy day on the beach? How come the 40-fag-a-day
sedentary lifestyler suddenly feels fit enough to handle a hiking, cross-country 87. _____
skiing or scuba-diving holiday?

An early American travel brochure once advertised a Caribbean holiday by
telling prospectively clients that they would visit eight islands in 10 days and "fly 88. _____
real low over four others". Over-ambitious schedules are another common cause of
disappointment. Never lose sight of geographical realities. Such holidays are every
a bit as daft as they sound, but not as uncommon as you might think. In recent 89. _____

years travel companies have succeeded in selling us the idea that the further we go, the best our holiday will be. Do not be seduced. Why travel halfway round globe when all you really want from your summer holiday can be had close by?

Part VII IQ Test (5 marks)

There are **five** IQ Test questions in this part. Write your answers on the **answer sheet**.

92. Which is the odd one out?

organ, glean, elate, horse, eager, groan, angle, shore, owned, agree, endow

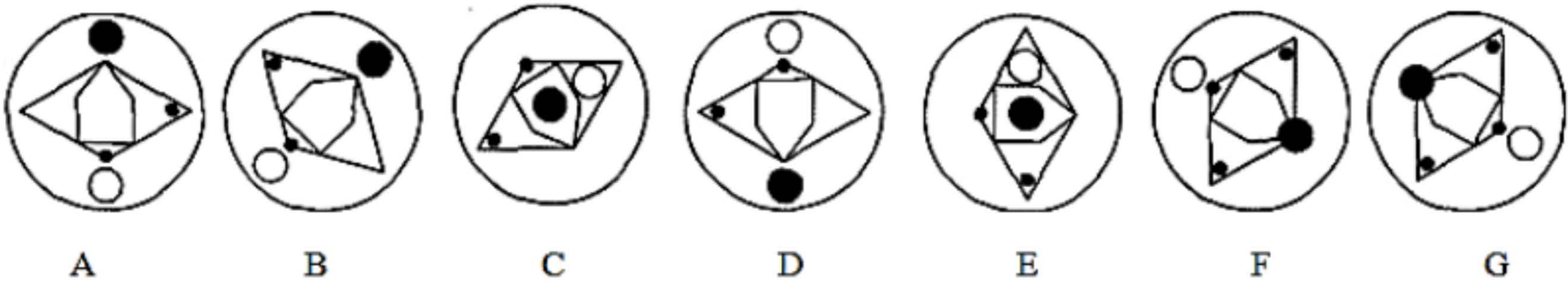
93. What well-known proverb is opposite in meaning to the one below?

Beware of Greeks bearing gifts.

94. Spiral clockwise round the perimeter to spell out a nine-letter word, which must finish in the centre square. The word commences at one of the corner squares. You must provide the missing letters.

	N	
B	E	A
A	C	N

95. Which of these is the odd one out?



96. What number should replace the question mark?

4		12
	64	
8		4

3		9
	216	
3		12

20		9
	?	
6		2

Part VIII Writing (30 marks)

I (10 marks)

	Base	FLEXIBLE WORKING HOURS					
		Has not tried and has no plans to try	Has tried	Plans to try within next five years	Plans to enlarge the programme*	Plans to maintain the programme at its present level*	Dropped the programme or has plans to drop it*
Germany	90	20.0%	67.8%	5.6%	14.8%	83.6%	1.6%
Italy	86	32.6%	50.0%	17.4%	18.6%	76.7%	4.7%
Belgium	107	29.0%	56.1%	14.0%	10.0%	85.0%	3.3%
France	62	17.7%	74.2%	8.1%	39.1%	60.9%	0%
Spain	70	38.6%	48.6%	10.0%	2.9%	88.2%	8.8%
Sweden	95	14.7%	68.3%	13.7%	12.7%	88.7%	0%
Netherlands	86	19.8%	68.6%	11.6%	8.5%	84.7%	3.4%
UK	125	33.6%	45.6%	12.8%	14.0%	71.9%	14.0%
Denmark	83	20.5%	60.2%	15.7%	24.0%	76.0%	0%
Switzerland	92	15.2%	68.5%	10.9%	14.3%	84.1%	1.6%

* Calculated as a percentage of those firms that have tried flexible working hours.
Totals add up to less than 100% because those who did not answer have been omitted.

A programme considering providing workers with flexible working hours is introduced to many countries. And the diagram below shows statistics on different countries' attitude towards the programme.

Writer a report of **no less than 100 words** describing the information shown above on the **answer sheet**.

II (20 marks)

Write about the following topic.

The Beijing Municipal Commission of Education pronounced that the scores for subjects like English and Chinese in Beijing's Gaokao will change as of 2016. The overall score of English will drop from 150 to 100, while the total points for Chinese will rise from 150 to 180. It aims to promote the learning of native language and reduce students' workload.

What's your opinion on this policy? Write your article of **no less than 160 words** in an appropriate style on the **answer sheet**.