

## 2015 年全国大学生英语竞赛 A 类初赛试题

### 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 **twenty-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 can be learned about the ice water?

- A. It has already run out.
- B. It is available free of charge.
- C. It is to be delivered at the weekend.
- D. It will be sent on Thursday.

2. Why did the man feel encouraged after the first year at the *New York Times*?

- A. Because he was treated like an intern.
- B. Because he got a promotion to features writer.
- C. Because he was interested in restaurant and food reviews.
- D. Because he had fewer responsibilities than before.

3. How much more was charged for paying the cable TV service late?

- A. \$20.
- B. \$30.
- C. \$15.
- D. \$45.

4. Where does the conversation occur?

- A. In a hotel.
- B. In a hospital.
- C. In a restaurant.
- D. In a workshop.

5. What suggestion does the man give to the woman?

- A. She should buy the new house right away.
- B. She should pay attention to the city auctions' offer.
- C. She should consider buying a new apartment.
- D. She should search the internet to find a cheaper apartment.

#### 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. Which of the following is mentioned with regard to "Needle"?

- A. It is the name of a sword.
- B. Its origin is unknown.
- C. It is a model for practice.
- D. Its use is forbidden.

7. What can be learned about Mycah?

- A. He was a friend of the girl's.
- B. He was born into a cooker's family.
- C. He was hurt badly.
- D. He was killed cruelly.



8.What happened to the girl's sister Sansa?

- A.She was forced to tell a lie.
- B.She was killed by the King.
- C.She was hurt by her sister.
- D.She was skewered by Mycah.

### Conversation Two

9. Why is an interviewee advised to wear a smile in an interview?

- A. Because an interview is a relaxing conversation.
- B. Because it may give both the interviewer and the interviewee a break.
- C. Because it can show the interviewee's confidence and politeness.
- D. Because it can leave the interviewer a good impression.

10. How should an interviewee reply to the question "Why do you want to leave your job?" according to Maggie?

- A. They can state the reasons implicitly.
- B. They can explain what they are looking to get.
- C. They can indicate their desire to get promoted.
- D. They can show their dissatisfaction with the job.

11. What is the advantage of an internship?

- A. It can help you earn more money.
- B. It can enlarge your working circle.
- C. It can impress your future employer.
- D. It can help you gain work experience.

12. How should an interviewee respond to the comment "You' re overqualified."?

- A. By saying they want to contribute rather than be put in charge.
- B. By saying they are grateful for being able to run the show.
- C. By saying they will not mind being paid lower to start with.
- D. By saying they will do their best to meet the employer 's expectations.

13. Which website is mentioned for searching for salary information?

- A. www. market. com.
- B. www. internship. com
- C. www. stars. com.
- D. www. hotjobs. com.

14.Which is a necessary step when searching for salary information on the internet ?

- A.Collecting the information of the company to work for.
- B.Learning how often the company offers a pay raise.
- C.Looking up the job title and getting the job's salary range.
- D.Comparing the salary ranges of different companies.

15.What suggestion is given to the interviewee at the end of the interview ?

- A.They should mention salary in the initial conversation.
- B.They should know the specific working conditions in the company.
- C.They should know whether the job is really suitable for them.
- D.They should negotiate their welfare with the interviewer.



### 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. What can be inferred from the news?

- A. Five Americans have been diagnosed with Ebola at present.
- B. A photographer named Ashoka Mukpo is under medical treatment.
- C. Nurses and doctors working with Ebola patients are exposed to the danger of being infected.
- D. Health ministry and public health authorities are working on new medicine for Ebola.

17. Which of the following statements is TRUE?

- A. More than 130,000 Syrian Kurdish refugees flooded into the Islamic State.
- B. Turkish authorities avoided clash with hundreds of Kurdish protesters.
- C. Many Kurdish protesters want to cross into Syria to defend fellow Kurds.
- D. ISIL released a statement urging Muslims to join in their terrorist attacks.

18. What is the advantage of the new technology being developed by Nur Energy Company?

- A. It is more energy-efficient.
- B. It is less expensive.
- C. It can generate energy even with little light.
- D. It is quite simple to use.

19. What is the score that makes Real Madrid four wins from four in the Champions League?

- A. 1-0.
- B. 2-0
- C. 3-1
- D. 4-1.

20. What is the significance of the new research finding?

- A. It can be used to disintegrate cells.
- B. It can be applied to cancer treatment.
- C. It can be used to produce more robots.
- D. It can contribute to the study of regenerative medicine

### Section D (10 marks)

*In this section, you will hear a short passage. For questions 21-30, complete the notes using **no more than three words** for each blank. The passage will be read only **once**. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.*

#### What is hydroplaning?

It may happen on the following occasions:

- a (21) \_\_\_\_\_ moves too quickly along a wet road;
- a layer of water accumulates (22) \_\_\_\_\_;
- they lift up and lose traction;



the driver (23) \_\_\_\_\_.

### What actions has NASA taken?

They (24) \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of data.

They produced a (25) \_\_\_\_\_.

They published the equation (26) \_\_\_\_\_, along with information about the (27) \_\_\_\_\_

of water depth, (28) \_\_\_\_\_, tire tread, and vehicle weight on hydroplaning risk.

### Safety tips

Use well-treaded, fully (29) \_\_\_\_\_ tires.

Do not slam on the (30) \_\_\_\_\_ if you skid on wet pavement.

### Part II Vocabulary, Grammar&Culture (15 marks)

*There are 15 incomplete sentences in this part. 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&Grammar (10 marks)

31. Buildings are left to decay \_\_\_\_\_ vandals and the weather.

A. at the mercy of      B. for the purpose of      C. in regard to      D. in proportion to

32. "Well done, Cassandra," Crook said. She blushed, but accepted the \_\_\_\_\_ with good grace.

A. compartment      B. compliment      C. competence      D. complacence

33. A referendum in Egypt on a new constitution was \_\_\_\_\_ by 98% of those who voted in a turnout of 38% of those eligible.

A. endorsed      B. ensured      C. allowed      D. alleged

34. In a television interview with a local station \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday, the government official said the protests, which \_\_\_\_\_ more than three weeks, have "gone out of control even for the people who started it, for people who planned it, for people who scripted it".

A. that aired; have been lasted      B. which airing; have been lasted

C. that aired; have lasted      D. which airing; have lasted

35. He is only one of the students in our class who \_\_\_\_\_ the first prize of the National English Competition for College Students.

A. has won      B. have won      C. has combated      D. have combated

36. \_\_\_\_\_ in his office afterwards, Mr. Brown allowed himself to veer fresher off base, \_\_\_\_\_ Wittgenstein, Matthew Arnold and Buddhism as he \_\_\_\_\_ his government philosophy.

A. Interviewing; citing; explained      B. Interviewed; cited; explaining

C. Interviewed; cited; explaining      D. Interviewed; citing; explained

37. In contrast to the muted colors of Elizabeth's wardrobe, Andrew preferred clothes that were \_\_\_\_\_.

A. elegant      B. outlandish      C. extravagant      D. flamboyant



38.The official kin in ancient China gathered the most skilled\_\_\_\_\_and used a strict manufacturing process,\_\_\_\_\_represented the highest level of porcelain making at that time.

A.craftsmen; which

B.bricklayers; who

C.craftsmen: who

D.bricklayers; which

39.**Monica:** Morning

**Mark:** Not a very nice one, is it?

**Monica:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark:** Rain again.

**Monica:** The forecast's good though.

**Mark:** Is it?

**Monica:** Yes. It's supposed to be sunny for the rest of the week.

**Mark:** That's good.I'm sick of rain.

**Monica:** So am I.

A.No.how can we handle this?

B.Yes, it is not so bad.

C.No, what miserable weather !

D.Yes, it makes me annoyed.

40.**Assistant:** Hello. Can I help you ?

**Lucy:** Yes, I hope so. I want to return this dress.

**Assistant:** Oh. Is there something wrong with it ?

**Lucy:** The first time I washed it, the color ran and it shrank.

**Assistant:** Did you follow the washing instructions ?

**Lucy:** Yes, of course I did

**Assistant:** Do you have your receipt?

**Lucy:** Yes.Here it is\_\_\_\_\_

**Assistant:** That's OK. Do you want to exchange it or...

A.I'll call the service desk.

B.I bought it in your Oxford branch last week.

C.I want to exchange this for a new one.

D.I need you to give me a refund.

### Section B Culture (5 marks)

41.It is Christopher Marlowe who brought vitality and grandeur into the\_\_\_\_\_with his "mighty lines", which carry strong emotions.

A.blank verse

B.free verse

C.ragged verse

D.calming verse

42.The First Continental Congress was held in\_\_\_\_\_ in September 1774.

A.Chicago

B.Boston

C.New York

D.Philadelphia



43.The first thirteen states of the US are mainly located on the \_\_\_\_\_seaboard.

- A.eastern                      B.western                      C.northeastern seaboard D.southeastern

44.Which is the oldest bridge in the world?

- A.The London Bridge                      B.The Lu Ding Bridge.  
C.The Zhao Zhou Bridge.                      D.The Story Bridge.

45.*Gulliver's Travels* written by \_\_\_\_\_ is one of the most effective and devastating criticisms and satires of all aspects of the English and European life of the time.

- A.Daniel Defoe                      B.Jonathan Swift                      C.Alexander Pope                      D.John Bunyan

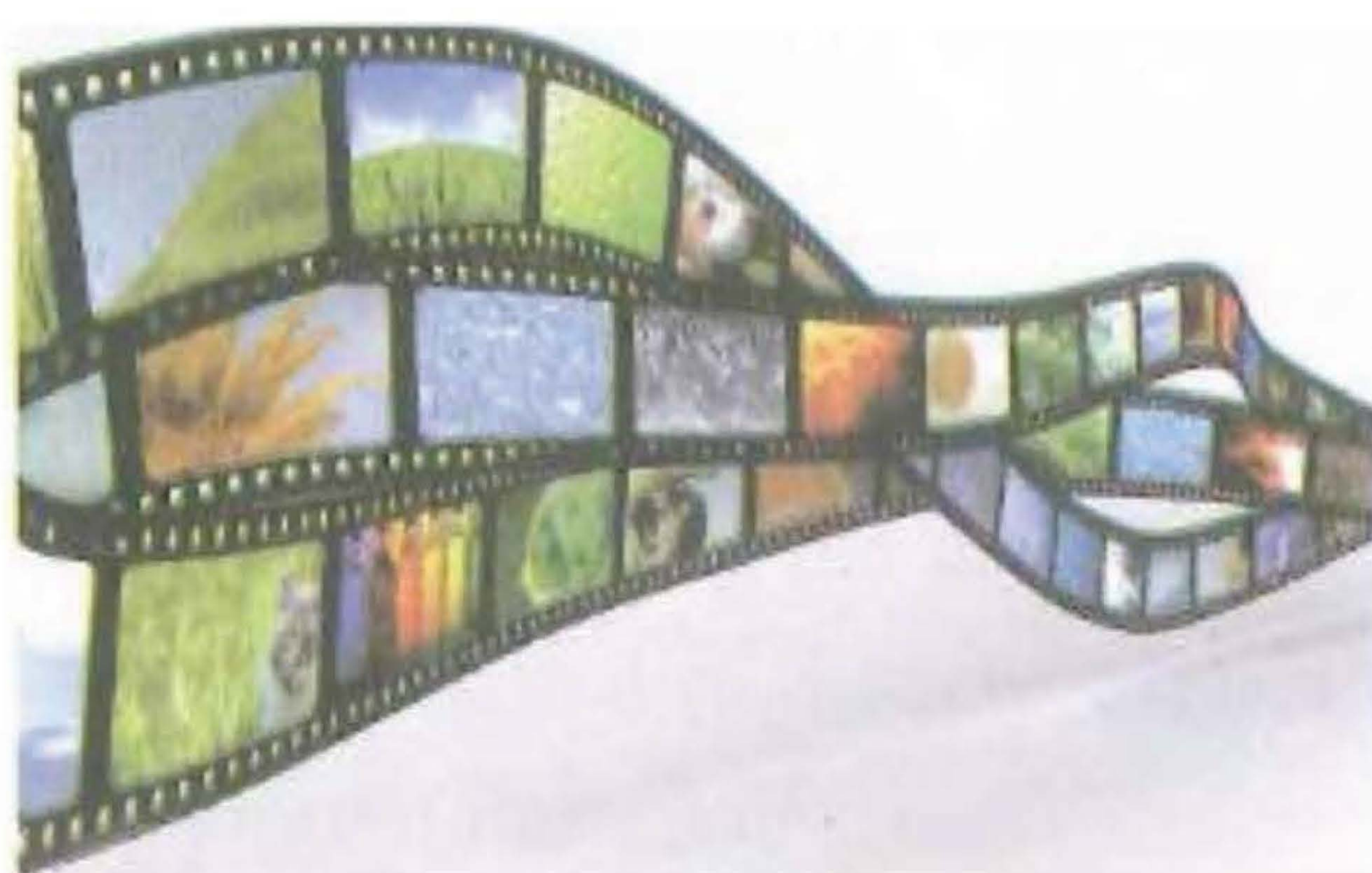
### Part III Cloze (10 marks)

*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**.*

LOS ANGELES—Investment capital? They're loaded. Film studios? They are promising to build the world's fanciest.

As for movie stars, few are more (46) \_\_\_\_\_ (dazzle) than Li Bingbing, who was an honorable guest here at the annual US-China Film Summit.

But China's ambitious new film (47) \_\_\_\_\_, bus dozens of whom gathered in the Los Angeles area this week for the summit meeting, the American Film Market and other events, are still searching for something that has largely eluded them: a home-made global hit.



"We have 5,000 years of history. We have lots of stories," said Yang Buting, the chairman of the China Film Distribution and Exhibition Association, who spoke on a panel at the gathering on Tuesday.

But Mr. Yang added, "To create movies that are (48) uni\_\_\_\_\_appealing, that is an issue for us."

China's domestic box office is now the world's second-largest, behind the United States, with an expected \$3.5 billion in sales this year. That growing market has been pursued aggressively, and with considerable success, by Hollywood, whose studios—to capture a mainland audience for films like *Iron Man 3* or *Pacific Rim*—have worked with Chinese partners, added Chinese subplots and bent over backward to satisfy China's watchful censors.

But a perhaps tougher struggle confronts Chinese film executives who dream of making (49)\_\_\_\_\_that will be seen not just at home, but also by a measurable number of viewers in the United States and elsewhere.

"We lack international experience, in general," said Yu Dong, the chief executive of China's Bona Film Group which is about 20 percent owned by 21st Century Fox.

Mr. Yu, who spoke over coffee at the Peninsula Hotel in Beverly Hills this week, (50)\_\_\_\_\_ (refer) to a growing group of film companies that are smaller than the giant state-owned China Film Group, but share ambitions to play on the world stage.



"Every producer I've met has told me they want to reach the world audience," said Rob Cain, a film (51)\_\_\_\_\_ (consult) who is working with Chinese companies that hope to crack the global market, despite robust growth at home.

China's domestic box office has recently tilted toward Chinese films rather than foreign imports. But the urge to export movies. Mr. Cain said, has much to do with the Chinese government's promotion of what is often called "soft (52)\_\_\_\_\_"—the ability to project influence through nonmilitary means, including, of course, the film business.

"Styled the "Qingdao Oriental Movie Metropolis," Wanda's proposed development is projected to cost as much as \$8.2 billion, and would match or surpass the capacity of studios in the United States.

But nothing would speak (53) louder\_\_\_\_\_ than a globe-spanning hit. In the United States, the best-selling Chinese-language film to date remains *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, which had about \$128 million in North

American ticket sales after its (54) release\_\_\_\_\_ by Sony Pictures Classics in 2000. Since then, some international blockbusters have had Chinese backers, costars and settings, but they mostly have been Hollywood products with a Chinese veneer.

In a next wave, China's (55)\_\_\_\_\_ (emerge) film companies are proposing to reverse the equation, by finding Chinese stories with global appeal and just enough American content or backing to attract viewers who have grown comfortable with Hollywood-style movies.

#### Part IV Reading Comprehension (35 marks)

*There are four passages in this part. 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.*

A team of scientists has just finished what might literally be described as one of the most breathtaking jobs in the world—surveying and mapping the coral reefs in Southeast Asia's Coral Triangle off the coast of Indonesia's Sulawesi Island.

As part of the Catlin Seaview Survey, teams from the University of Queensland, Indonesia's Sam Ratulangi University and Indonesia's Institute of Sciences spent time underwater over several weeks near the city of Manado to record data and map reefs in what the survey says "could become one of the last refuges on Earth for coral reefs".

The effort was part of a larger project to map the Coral Triangle, which encompasses 647 million hectares of land and sea located within the territories of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste. "Coral Triangle" refers to a roughly triangular shape of waters between the Pacific and Indian oceans.



As one of the world's most crucial breeding grounds for marine biodiversity, it's home to 75 percent of all known coral species, including nearly 600 species of reef-building corals and 3,000 species of reef fish.

The Catlin Seaview Survey says the scale of its undersea mapping project is unprecedented. Located on the  
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island of Sulawesi, Manado is the capital of Indonesia's North Sulawesi province.

### **Coral devastation**

According to experts, about 40 percent of the world's corals have been lost in the last three decades due to climate change and human activities.

Assuming the current rate of decline remains steady, some marine biologists predict that most of the world's remaining coral will disappear by the middle of the century.

The Cathn Seaview Survey got underway in September 2012 on Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Centring on the waters of Southeast Asia, the 2014 campaign commenced in April has also covered areas around Apo Island and Tubbataha Reefs in the Philippines, Komodo and Bali in Indonesia, and East Timor.

Located in the centre of the Coral Triangle, Manado is a crucial section for researchers.

"Regions like Manado in the Coral Triangle could, by the middle of the century, be one of the only places on Earth where coral reefs will exist," says Ove Hoegh-Guldberg, chief scientist of the survey and director of the Global Change Institute at the University of Queensland. "Understanding the structure and function of such reefs is of the utmost importance if we are to underpin their resilience to global change."

"This information is necessary to make informed decisions about how much, and where, governments should invest to ensure the future well-being of our planet," says Stephen Catlin, chief executive of Cathin Group Limited, a Bermuda-based insurance company that sponsors the survey.

### **How coral reef maps are made**

The coral mapping effort employs a Seaview SVII underwater camera, which has a rod and propeller attached to the back to create a sort of photo scooter.

Three digital SLR cameras encased in the SVII's globe-shaped lens capture high resolution, 360 degree images of reefs.

Designed by Cathin Seaview Survey, the camera's new technology helps shorten surveying time of large, shallow water areas from months to days.

To map such a vast area, scientist-divers took photographs while "riding" the camera at an average depth of eight meters while traveling at 4kph (Kilometers per Hour). Thousands of images will eventually be stitched together to create a whole picture of the reef system. The images will be uploaded for viewing on the company's database—the Global Reef Record. Some of the images can be found on Google Maps.

### **Questions 56 to 60**

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

56. A group of scientists are surveying and mapping the coral reefs along the coast of Indonesia's Sulawesi Island, which is described as the most amazing work in the world.
57. The great project to map the Coral Triangle, a triangle area between the Pacific and Indian oceans, encompasses 647 million hectares of land and sea located within the territories of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Timor-Leste, the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.
58. Recent research reveals that most of the world's corals have been missing in the last three decades due to climate change.
59. Knowledge about the structure and function of such reefs paves the way for underlying their resilience to global change, which also decides how much, and where governments should invest to protect the Earth.
60. Thousands of images taken with the Seaview SVII underwater camera, which employs new technology to shorten surveying time of large, shallow water areas from months to days, will be stitched to create a whole picture of the reef system.

### **Section B (10 marks)**

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Read the following passage. 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 Dutch Sinologist has spent more than 50 years studying the country's language, and classic literature.

(61) \_\_\_\_\_ As a child, the vivid descriptions of China in Nobel and Pulitzer Prize-winner Pearl S. Buck's books sparked Idema's interest in the country. He later read classic Chinese literature and spent whole days pouring through works at the National Library of China.

The 70-year-old Dutch Sinologist recalled his half-century-long romance with Chinese culture during a recent visit to Beijing. Idema was the only Sinologist invited this year to participate in the Oriental Culture Research Program, an annual project hosted by the China International Culture Association.

Idema has served as the director of the Chinese Languages and Cultures Department at Leiden University of the Netherlands and was also director of Harvard's Fairbank Center for East Asian Research. (62) \_\_\_\_\_

Idema began learning Mandarin during middle school, because he wanted to learn a language that "has a long history yet is still active today".

"Back then, I knew little about China," says Idema, whose early influences include Dutch Sinologist and author Robert van Gulik.

(63) \_\_\_\_\_ Finding opportunities to practice the language at the school was a huge challenge. "There were actually no Chinese-speaking teachers in our university at the time, and it was also impossible for us to study in China for political reasons," he explains.

"So when I graduated from college, I couldn't even speak a single sentence in Chinese, though I was able to read and write in it fluently.

(64) \_\_\_\_\_ Idema discovered his passion for traditional Chinese plays after a Japanese professor introduced him to some works from the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368). He soon began translating them into Western languages. Idema says it took him some time to really appreciate the poetic lyrics in the plays, which are closely associated with traditional Chinese poetry and have high aesthetic value.

Idema first visited China in 1978. As one of the few Westerners who understood Chinese language and culture, he was invited to work as a guide and interpreter for a tourist delegation. While he recalls the backwardness of China in the late 1970s, Idema says he is impressed with the rapid development of the country over the last few decades. He has visited the country several times to study and teach.

He vividly remembers the "China mania" in the West when the country opened up in the 1980s, and the flood of new materials about ancient Chinese culture that appeared in the West.

(65) \_\_\_\_\_ "There were scholars studying law, religion and society, but not traditional Chinese literature, which was my personal interest," Idema explains. Finding reference books for his research, especially regional publications, used to be a huge challenge, and Idema used to spend a lot of time collecting books and other materials during visits to China.

"With the internet now, it is much more convenient," says Idema. "Traditional Chinese culture is a passion. I have been studying it for 50 years and will continue to do so," says the retired professor.

### Questions 61 to 65

A. Idema later studied Chinese culture at Leiden University.

B. In recent years, he has devoted himself to translating Chinese folk tales and writing about Chinese folk society and folk culture.

C. While many other experts on China focused on the country's economic transformation, Idema continued to study traditional Chinese literature.

D. For Wilt Idema, books are the best guides in life.



E.He has studied ancient Chinese plays, novels and literature, and has authored or translated a number of influential books published in English and other languages.

F.Idema usually chooses less-known subjects for his research and tries to get firsthand materials

G.Idema continued his academic pursuits in Japan, where he became familiar with the similarities between the Japanese and Chinese languages.

### Section C (10 marks)

Questions 66 to 70 are based on the following passage.

#### **New research points to a biological role in criminality.**

The tattoo on the excon's beefy arm reads: Born to raise hell. Much as it may defy the science of the past, which blamed crime on the social influences such as poverty and bad parenting, the outlaw may be onto something. Though no one would deny that upbringing and environment play important parts in the making of a criminal, scientists increasingly suspect that biology also plays a significant role.



Poverty and family problems, sex-role expectations, community standards—all may predispose individuals toward crime. But many researchers now believe that the reason one individual commits a crime and another person doesn't may have as much to do with neurological differences as it does with differences in upbringing or environment. After all, says Dr. James Q. Wilson, a professor of management and public policy at UCLA, "it's hard to find any form of behavior that doesn't have some biological component."

After evaluating recent research on violence, a special panel gathered by the National Research Council (NRC) in Washington published a lengthy report last fall noting that "even if two individuals could be exposed to identical experiences, their potentials for violent behavior would differ because their nervous systems process information differently".

First and most obvious among the clues that biology plays a role in criminal behaviors is the simple fact that throughout history, crime has occurred in all cultures. One element in the universality of crime is the human capacity for aggression. Nobel prizewinning ethnologist Konrad Lorenz, author of *On Aggression*, argued that just as people have an instinct for eating and drinking, nature evolved in them the impulse for aggression. Though Lorenz thought it was peculiar to people and rats, aggression has now been observed in every vertebrate species studied. In people, only a fine line separates aggression from violence—defined by researchers as behavior intended to inflict harm on others. "Criminals are, on the whole, angry people," says Harvard psychologist Richard Herrnstein. "That is well substantiated."

Another simple fact pointing to a biological basis for criminality is that in all societies, about 90% of violent criminals are men—many of them young. The great majority of other crimes are also committed by men. Among animals too, the male is almost always more aggressive. This fact suggests that certain hormones, particularly androgens, which characterize maleness, may help tip the balance from obeying to breaking the law.

While there's no such thing as a "crime gene", or indeed any single determinant that leads a person to break the law, each child is born with a particular temperament, or characteristic pattern of psychological response. As Wilson notes, "One is shy, the other bold; one sleeps through the night, the other is always awake; one is curious and exploratory, the other passive. These observations are about differences that cannot be explained wholly or even largely by environment."



Linking an individual's temperament to criminality is, of course, a much more contentious matter. To search for the roots of violence, the members of the NRC panel asked several key questions. Why do some children show patterns of unusually aggressive behavior—hitting, kicking, biting peers or parents, or being cruel to animals—at an early age? Why do only a small percentage of those children commit violent crimes as adults? The panel concluded: "Research strongly suggests that violence arises from interactions among individuals' psychological development, their neurological and hormonal differences, and social processes." There is no basis, the researchers added, for giving one of these elements more weight than another.

Nonetheless, two camps have emerged to debate whether criminality is influenced more by nature (biology) or nurture (environment). And this is no mere ivory tower question. Public interest mounts with the statistics: Some 35 million offenses against people or households, 20% of them violent, are reported in the US every year.

Research that may help resolve this nature-nurture question focuses mostly on three areas: biochemical imbalances, genetic factors and physical damage such as head injury around time of birth. Some studies suggest a link between behaviors—particularly the violent sort—and birth-related trauma, premature birth or low birth weight. Similarly, a woman's use of alcohol, cocaine, tobacco or other drugs during pregnancy also appears, in some instances, to damage fetal development in a way that is related to later criminality. On a more positive note, however, one recent study concluded that when children who'd had a traumatic birth grew up in a stable family environment, they were no likelier than anyone else to develop into criminals.

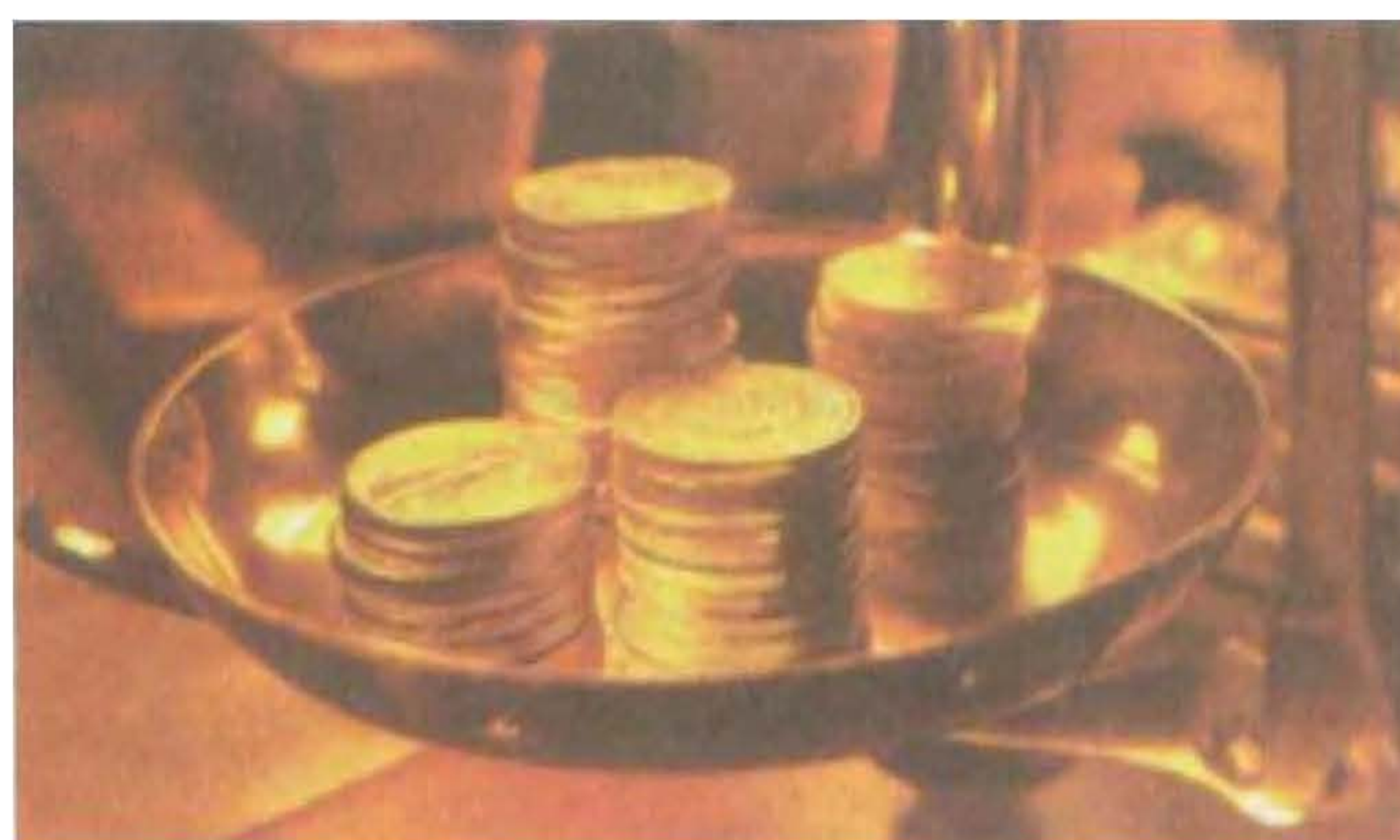
### Questions 66 to 70

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

66. According to the passage, what makes a person commit a crime besides factors like upbringing and environment?
67. Why do some researchers believe that biology has an effect on criminality?
68. What do criminals have in common according to biological experts?
69. How to explain "One is shy, the other bold; one sleeps through the night, the other is always awake; one is curious and exploratory, the other passive..."?
70. What is the focus of research on the nature-nurture question?

### Section D (10 marks)

*Questions 71 to 75 are based on the following passage.*



Given their role in the 2008 meltdown, and their subsequent branding as toxic sludge, it is not surprising that "securitized" financial products have had a quiet few years. Yet the transformation of mortgages, credit-card debt and other recurring cash flows into new marketable securities is enjoying something of resurgence. Once apparently destined for the financial history books, the alphabet soup of ABSS (asset backed securities), MBSS (their mortgage version), CLOs (collateralized loan obligations) and others had a bumper year in 2013. More growth is expected next year.

Not everybody is thrilled. Some observers argue that the risks securitization poses are too grave. But its revival should be welcomed, for it is probably essential to continued economic recovery, particularly in Europe.

**Use carefully**



In its simplest form, securitization is straightforward and beneficial. For example, a carmaker expecting lots of monthly payments from customers who have taken out financing can get investors to fund its business more cheaply by selling them its claim to those payments. A bank on the receiving end of mortgage repayments or credit-card receivables can do something similar: bundle the loans up and sell them, or use them as collateral to get funding, which it can then use to issue more loans. This boosts both credit and growth.

Used recklessly, though, securitization can be dangerous. It fuelled the catastrophic boom in American subprime mortgages. Some banks, aware that home loans would be sliced, diced, repackaged and sold on, gave up even cursory checks on their borrowers' creditworthiness. Investors piled in blindly, snapping up supposedly safe "tranches" of bundled-up debt that proved to be anything but. The boom turned to bust and bail-outs.

Yet structured finance cannot bear sole responsibility for the crisis. It was more the conduit for irrational financial exuberance than its cause. Lax lending standards in boom times predate the emergence of securitization (in the 1970s) by several centuries at least. Most structured products performed well through the crisis, with the notable exception of those related to American residential mortgages. Default in Europe remained low despite the recession.

And although there are still risks, securitization should be safer in the future than in the past because of new, post-crisis regulations to reduce the danger of excesses. The principle that the party creating a new security needs to retain some exposure to the underlying credit (the "skin in the game" rule) should help ensure that underwriting standards do not get too slack. That will hamper the desirable transferring of risks but, given recent history, it is probably prudent to put a little sand in the gears.

Europe stands to benefit most from securitization's return. Lenders across Europe are under pressure to improve the ratio of capital they hold to loans made. One way of doing this is to stop extending credit, which is, unfortunately, what many banks have done. If they instead slimmed themselves through securitization, by bundling and repackaging loans and selling them to outside investors such as insurance firms or asset managers, they could lend more money to credit-starved companies. That would have the added benefit of spreading risk away from wobbly banks.

Securitization certainly has a black mark against it, but it is far too useful to be banished for good. Almost all financial innovations, from the humble mortgage to the joint-stock company, have had to re-establish their reputation after a bust at some point in their history. Society benefited from their eventual rehabilitation—as it most probably will from the revival of securitization.

### Questions 71 to 75

*Complete the summary below with information from the passage, using **no more than three words** for each blank.*

Securitization regains public attention along with the transformation of mortgages, credit-card debt and other recurring cash flows into new marketable securities. However, some researchers adopt a conservative attitude towards its (71) \_\_\_\_\_, which poses great risks on economy. But securitization is still supported for its potential promotion of (72) \_\_\_\_\_. In its simplest form, securitization is straightforward and beneficial. It boosts both credit and growth. If used recklessly, securitization can be dangerous. For example, it has brought about a harmful effect on American subprime mortgages.

Although there is still disagreement on securitization, it should be safer in the future than in the past due to the (73) \_\_\_\_\_ of the danger of excesses under the control of new regulations. It is far too useful to be (74) \_\_\_\_\_

for good. Almost all financial innovations, from the humble mortgage to the joint-stock company, have had to re-establish their reputation after a bust at some point in their history. (75) \_\_\_\_\_ benefited from their eventual rehabilitation—as it most probably will from the revival of securitization.

### Part V Translation (15 marks)

#### Section A (5 marks)

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

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76.Tourism helps people to develop a variety of skills. As a service sector with cross-cutting impact on agriculture, construction or handicrafts, tourism creates millions of jobs and business opportunities. Its capacity to lift people from poverty, promote gender equity and help protect the environment has made it a vital tool for achieving positive change in communities across the world. Harnessing tourism's benefits will be critical to achieving the sustainable development goals and implementing the post-2015 development agenda.

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.小草有一种一般人看不见的生命力，只要生命存在，这种力就要显现。（so long as...）

78.他们用很多因素来评估一个国家，如工作满意度、经济发展、国民健康、财富和教育水平，以及气候、战争、政局稳定性等。（range from...）

79.越来越多的研究表明，体育活动对我们的心理健康有很大的影响。（reveal）

80.注重细节很有好处，但也有可能使你错失更重要的东西。（focus on）

81.他一度看似是个合适的首相人选。（likely）

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 <del>where</del> near her home.                                      | <u>where</u> |

Many languages of the world use the word "computer", or something close to it.

But in one particular country, it is legal to call a computer "a computer". In France, 82. \_\_\_\_\_  
a computer must be called "un ordinateur". In fact, if there is ever a French equivalent 83. \_\_\_\_\_  
the English word is forbidden.

In 1994, the French government passed *La Loi Toubon* (the *Toubon Law*),  
make the use of French compulsory in education, the media, and business. 84. \_\_\_\_\_

This means commercial advertisements and public announcements should be  
made in French. The *Toubon Law* has effected many aspects of French life. 85. \_\_\_\_\_

From restaurant menu to product labeling all advertising of goods and services 86. \_\_\_\_\_

in France must be presented in French or at least including a French translation. 87. \_\_\_\_\_

The reason for the law is simple: the French are very proud of their language



and do not want "Franglais" —a mixture of French and English—to ruin it.

Recently, the internet has provided oppositions to the *Toubon Law*. Although 88. \_\_\_\_\_  
the law does not apply for non-commercial communication, web pages, or 89. \_\_\_\_\_  
publications from individuals, French supporters of the law have tried to  
prosecute certain websites that contain English. They say there has no reason why 90. \_\_\_\_\_  
the internet should escape the law's reach. But they have come up against the  
reality of the internet being predominately English-language medium. It is said 91. \_\_\_\_\_  
that English is the lingua franca of the internet, and anyone who tries to block that  
will only slow their own growth.

## Part VII IO Test (5 marks)

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

92. Change one letter only from each word to find a familiar phrase:

**OUT OF IRE**

93. What number should come next in these sequences?

1, 2, 5, 10, 17, \_\_\_\_\_

100, 90, 81, 73, 66, \_\_\_\_\_

94. Implausible though it seems, three students named Andrew, Colin and Brian have a rota of household chores for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. If Andrew's task is on Tuesday, but is not the ironing, and the dusting is carried out later in the week than Brian's gardening, what does each do and on which day?

95. Complete each of these sentences with two words that sound alike, but are spelled differently.

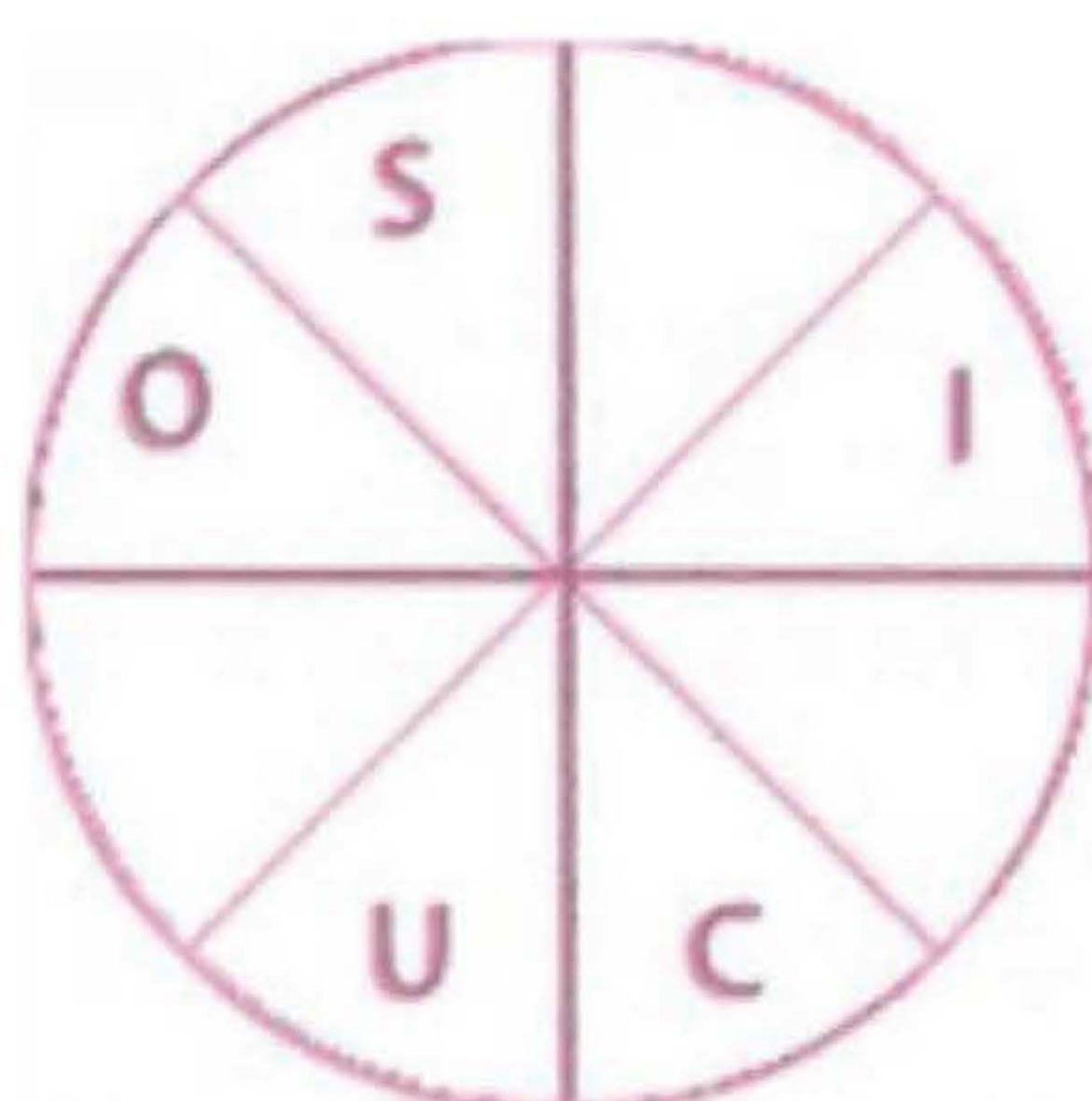
The thief was \_\_\_\_\_ and tried in \_\_\_\_\_.

We \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of cows mooing.

\_\_\_\_\_ stirred the cauldron?

Nobody \_\_\_\_\_ what she poked her \_\_\_\_\_ into.

96. Fill in the blanks to complete the word, clockwise or anti-clockwise.



## Part VIII Writing (30 marks)

### I (10 marks)

The chart below shows the Average Price of Food in 50 cities, November 21-30, 2014 in China.

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**Average Price of Food in 50 Cities, November 21-30, 2014**

| Items            | Specification Level  | Units | Current Price<br>(yuan) | Price Change over<br>Previous Period (yuan) | ± Rate(%) |
|------------------|----------------------|-------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Rice             | Japonica Rice        | Kg    | 6.01                    | 0.00                                        | 0.0       |
| Flour            | Strong Flour         | Kg    | 5.64                    | 0.01                                        | 0.2       |
| Flour            | Standard Wheat       | Kg    | 4.58                    | 0.01                                        | 0.2       |
| Soy Products     | Bean Curd            | Kg    | 4.51                    | 0.00                                        | 0.0       |
| Peanut Oil       | Pressing             | Liter | 27.02                   | -0.02                                       | -0.1      |
| Soya Bean Oil    | 5Lin Barrel Bulk     | Liter | 10.21                   | -0.11                                       | -1.1      |
| Rape seed Oil    | Grade I in Bulk      | Liter | 13.58                   | -0.07                                       | 0.5       |
| Pork             | Rump                 | Kg    | 24.93                   | -0.04                                       | -0.2      |
| Pork             | Belly Meat           | Kg    | 24.99                   | -0.01                                       | 0.0       |
| Beef             | Leg                  | Kg    | 67.08                   | -0.05                                       | -0.1      |
| Mutton           | Leg                  | Kg    | 65.07                   | -0.19                                       | -0.3      |
| Chickens         | Frozen Fresh Chicken | Kg    | 20.75                   | -0.06                                       | -0.3      |
| Chickens         | Fresh Eggs in Bulk   | Kg    | 21.22                   | -0.04                                       | -0.2      |
| Ducks            |                      | Kg    | 17.81                   | -0.04                                       | -0.2      |
| Eggs             |                      | Kg    | 11.81                   | -0.09                                       | -0.8      |
| Live Carps       |                      | Kg    | 14.76                   | -0.02                                       | -0.1      |
| Live Grass Carp  |                      | Kg    | 16.28                   | -0.02                                       | -0.1      |
| Hair tails       |                      | Kg    | 30.94                   | 0.08                                        | 0.3       |
| Chinese Cabbages |                      | Kg    | 2.27                    | -0.08                                       | -3.4      |
| Rapes            |                      | Kg    | 5.00                    | 0.06                                        | 1.2       |
| Celeries         |                      | Kg    | 5.17                    | 0.03                                        | 0.6       |
| Cucumbers        |                      | Kg    | 6.63                    | 0.59                                        | 9.8       |
| Tomatoes         |                      | Kg    | 5.47                    | 0.18                                        | 3.4       |
| Kidney Beans     |                      | Kg    | 9.39                    | 0.57                                        | 6.5       |
| Potatoes         |                      | Kg    | 3.78                    | 0.05                                        | 1.3       |
| Apples           | Fuji Apple           | Kg    | 13.12                   | 0.00                                        | 0.0       |
| Bananas          | Domestic Products    | Kg    | 7.51                    | -0.26                                       | -3.4      |

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

**II** (20 marks)



*Write on the following topic.*

**Some people in the technology industry, including the late Steve Jobs, have argued that we are now in a "post-PC" era. According to this view, the PC is no longer the centre of the computing world. Instead, it is taking a back seat to a wide range of new mobile-computing devices which will dominate the future. These include tablet computers and smartphones. Combined shipments of the two devices are forecast to exceed those of PCs for the first time this year.**

*Do you agree or disagree with the proposed new draft? Write an essay of **no less than 160 words** to express your view or the **answer sheet**.*