

2022年

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2022年9月25日9:00前
保 密

全国大学生英语竞赛

National English Competition for College Students

B类初赛赛卷

(Type B-Preliminary)



主办单位

国际英语外语教师协会中国英语外语教师协会
高等学校大学外语教学研究会

承办单位

英语辅导报社
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2022 年全国大学生英语竞赛初赛题(B 类)

2022 National English Competition for College Students

(Type B – Preliminary)

(Total:150 marks Time:120 minutes)

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, one question will be asked, and you have fifteen seconds to read the four choices marked A, B, C and D, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the answer sheet with a single line through the centre.

1. A. Women footballers must keep improving their skills.

B. People need to consider women's football as a job.

C. Girls should develop the hobby of playing football.

D. Women footballers should be paid decently.

A. For two weeks.

B. For three weeks.

C. For two months.

D. For three months.

3. A. It is important for her to be independent of suppliers.

B. That is the most satisfying part of the process for her.

B A C. Her clients require details of the fishes' origins.

D. Breeding her own fish is less expensive for her.

4.



A.



B.



C.



D.

5. A. He is author of many philosophical works.
 B. He has strong problem-solving abilities.
 D C. He explores his inner self to achieve justice.
 D. He is concerned about his place in the world.

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.

Conversation one

Listen to the conversation. Then read the four choices marked A, B, C and D, and decide which is the best answer according to what you hear. Then mark the corresponding letter on the answer sheet with a single line through the centre.

6. The interviewer says that Roger is the kind of person who _____
 A. is reluctant to try something different X
 B. does not want to spend his money
 C C. enjoys performing before the audience ✓
 D. is happy to reveal the tricks of his trade
7. How did Roger feel initially about what happened ten years ago?
 C A. Outraged. B. Resigned. C. Depressed. D. Disinterested.
8. Roger regards his early days in business as _____.
 B A. frustrating B. demanding C. exciting D. boring
9. What is Roger's attitude towards his future?
 A A. Positive. B. Unconcerned. C. Wait-and-see. D. Pessimistic.
10. Which description best sums up Roger's appraisal of engineers?
 A A. Dedicated workers. B. Ambitious leaders.
 C. Well-balanced realists. D. Creative artists.

Conversation two

Listen to the conversation and complete the sentences with one word for each blank according to what you hear. Then write the answers on the answer sheet.

11. Alan's father originally wanted him to work as a(n) accountant in the family firm.
 12. When the sculpture teacher thought little of Alan's work, Alan's father felt relieved.
 13. Alan got a bit bored later at the art college because it was a five-year course and very restless.
 14. Alan managed to combine his part-time job with his final years of college, which made all the difference.
 15. Harold Morton disagreed with the way Alan was taught driving at college.

Section C (5 marks)

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

16. How long has the heatwave project been conducted in Spain?

- ☒ A. For one year. B. For three years. C. For 40 years. D. For 58 years.

17. What do we learn about the new guidelines released by the US Preventive Services Task Force?

- ☒ A. Taking vitamin supplements can protect people from cancer. 预防
B. They are quite different from the 2014 guidelines. 不同
C. They are based on 84 studies on vitamin supplement taking. 84 例
D. Pregnant women are not advised to take vitamin supplements. 女 X

18. What kind of vehicles can drive on certain roads and sections in Shenzhen without human modes and equipment?

- ☒ A. Fully autonomous vehicles. B. Robot-assisted autonomous vehicles. SZ.
C. Highly autonomous vehicles. D. Conditionally autonomous vehicles. 先 OP
full-A

19. How can Amazon's Alexa mimic the voice of a specific person?

- A. With the help of face recognition technology. B. With the help of a provided recording.
☒ C. By putting in human attributes of empathy and affection. 分. 录.
D. By recording a high-quality voice in a professional studio. 音

20. When might another pandemic be coming according to Bill Gates?

- ☒ A. In the next 5 years. B. In the next 10 years. C. In the next 15 years. D. In the next 20 years.

Section D (10 marks)

In this section, you will hear **two** short passages. The passages will be read only **once**. After each passage, there will be a **one-minute** pause.

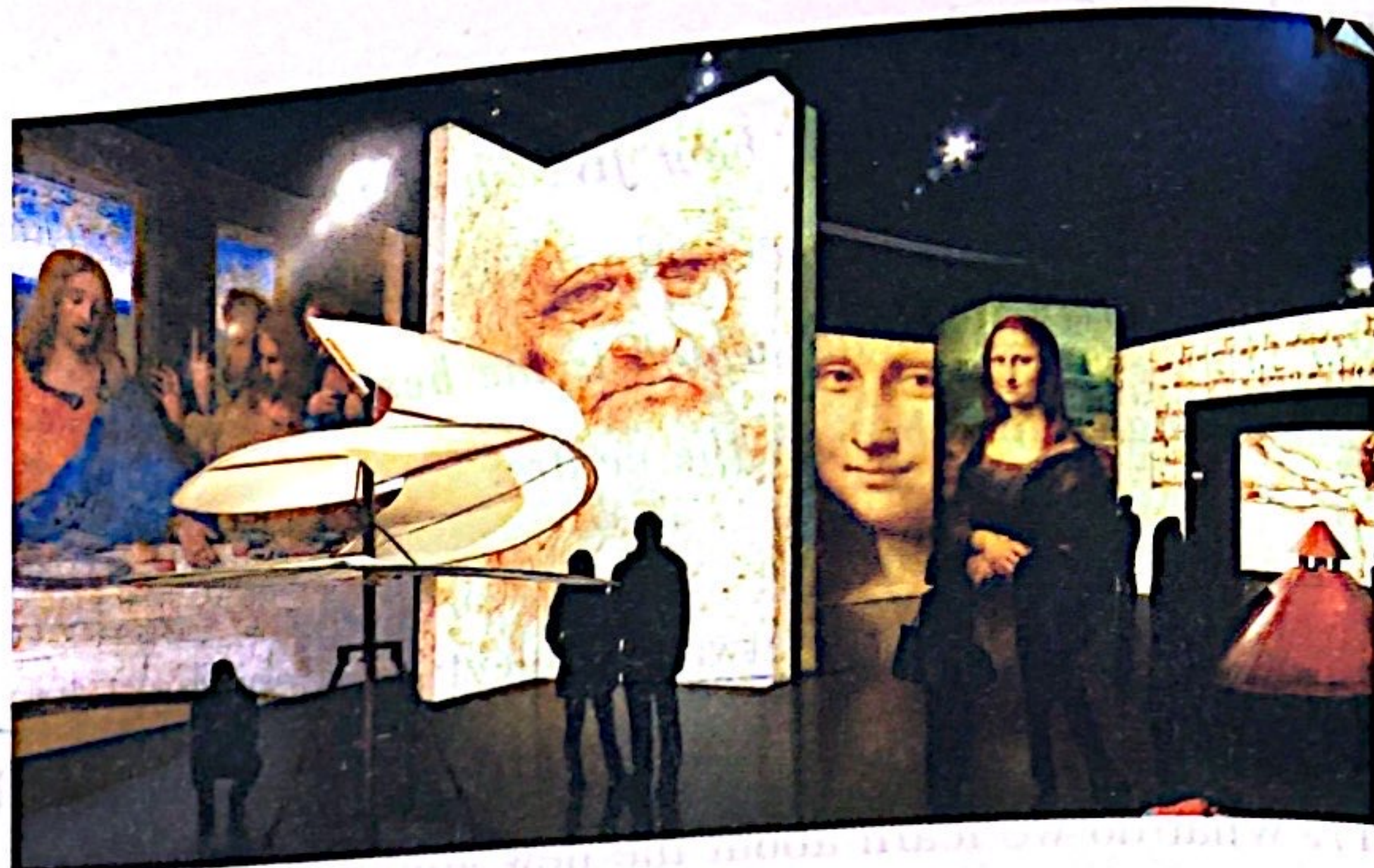
Dictation

Listen to the passage and fill in the blanks with **the exact words or phrases** you hear. Write the answers on the **answer sheet**.

Leonardo da Vinci was perhaps the greatest multitasker of all time, a genius who could work (21) concurrently as a painter, sculptor, inventor, engineer, and architect.

During his career as an artist, Leonardo received numerous commissions from some of the wealthiest and most powerful people in Italy. Yet his artworks represent just a fraction of what he wanted to achieve. The pages of his notebooks are filled with scientific sketches and notes on a (22) seemingly range of topics. However, only a few of Leonardo's original artworks survive, and very few practical examples of his designs. Most of these are kept in museums and, until recently, (23) deny to wider international audience.

Recently, a traveling exhibition, *Da Vinci—The Genius*, has opened Leonardo's life to the world. The show features reproductions of Leonardo's most famous paintings—from detailed early drafts to finished works—and a range of (24) full scale models, including preliminary designs for a glider, a parachute, and a submarine. These have all been carefully constructed using the detailed sketches in



Leonardo's notebooks. The exhibition also includes a section (25) devoted to French engineer Pascal Cotte's analysis of the *Mona Lisa*, which reveals the sophisticated ideas implicit in Leonardo's most famous works of art.

Summary

Listen to the passage and complete the notes using **not more than three words** for each blank according to what you hear. Write the answers on the **answer sheet**.

ROMAN TABLETS

- ▲ An Ancient Roman "tablet" was about the (26) wooden of a typical modern envelope.
- ▲ At the site of a Roman fort, archaeologists discovered about (27) 2000 tablets.
- ▲ Professor Mike Brady, a(n) (28) leading figure in computer vision, says that the project of reading the tablets is very challenging.
- ▲ For some time, scientists' attempt to study the original texts has proved (29) fruitless.
- ▲ If original messages become readable by enhancing images on the computer, which means a whole new source of historical information will be (30) served decoded.

Part II Vocabulary & Grammar (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.

31. I was sitting in a train looking out of the window, when my mind suddenly _____ back to that amazing trip we made to Spain.

A. returned

B. flashed

C. stirred

D. associated

32. The current global recession pales into insignificance _____ with past wars and plagues.

A. when compared

B. compare

C. while comparing

D. comparing

33. At the time, players were allowed, but not required, to wear helmets, and most players chose to go helmet-less, _____ the risk of severe head trauma.
A A. despite B. instead of C. nevertheless D. because of
34. The witness _____ everyone that he hadn't had anything to do with the crime.
C A. revealed B. argued C. convinced D. insisted
35. When you are interviewing someone, it is obviously necessary to ask questions relevant to their job experience, but discussing someone's other _____ is also useful.
A A. deeds B. accomplishments C. compliments D. holdings
36. Within the US government, the sector that manages federal land and territories along with natural resources and energy conservation is the Department of the _____.
C A. Agriculture B. Defense C. Homeland Security D. Interior
37. The new education system shows that it is possible to carry _____ very extensive readjustments with a view to making a system more flexible and adapted to individualized learning.
B A. off B. through C. over D. away
38. When an editor writes their opinion about an event or idea, the column is called a(n) _____.
B A. review B. editorial C. document D. issue
39. I honestly can't tell one twin from the other as they are just like two _____ in a pod.
D A. buds B. seeds C. grains D. peas
40. You should read not only newspapers but also novels so that you can see examples of _____ language.
A A. idiomatic B. pure C. symbolic D. genuine
41. On social occasions, she always gives herself airs and graces, which means she always _____.
C A. applies a lot of makeup B. moves around like a cloud
 C. behaves like she is important D. gives herself plenty of time
42. _____ is applied in the sentence "Ursula kicked the bucket last year."
B A. Simile **明** B. Analogy C. Hyperbole **夸张** D. Euphemism
43. "Eurasia", "taikonaut", "smog" and "sitcom" are examples of _____ in English lexicology.
D A. acronym B. conversion C. clipping D. blending
44. —Excuse me, I've never been to this cafe before, and I was wondering if there's anything in particular you'd recommend.
C —
 A. What a pleasant surprise! I've never seen you come to any of our recent events before.
 B. This is also my first time here. I just moved to the city, and I was hoping to ~~X~~meet some new people.
 C. All the coffee is quite good, but I think the cold-brewed coffee is especially worth trying.
 D. This coffee shop is so personal and cozy. Next time I come, remind me to bring my camera.
45. —So, what do you like to do in your free time?
 —I'm a huge movie buff. I have a soft spot for action movies and go to film festivals every chance I get. I plan to major in cinematography.
 —I totally ~~get~~ the appeal! I'm into photography myself, so I really appreciate the elements of visual composition.

—I have a friend who's into photography, too. You should meet her so you can compare notes. In fact, she told me she was coming tonight. _____
B Sure, it's always great to meet people with similar interests.

A. You two already know each other?

B. Do you want me to introduce you?

C. Are you both in the photography club in our school?

D. Do you want to see the exhibition of Chinese ceramics?

Part III Cloze (10 marks)

Read the following passage and fill in each blank with **one** 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**.

Technology is making it easier to write and learn Chinese

Few languages are so associated with their written form as is Chinese. The mere mention of the language (46) comes to mind an elaborate, beautiful and—to outsiders—mysterious script.

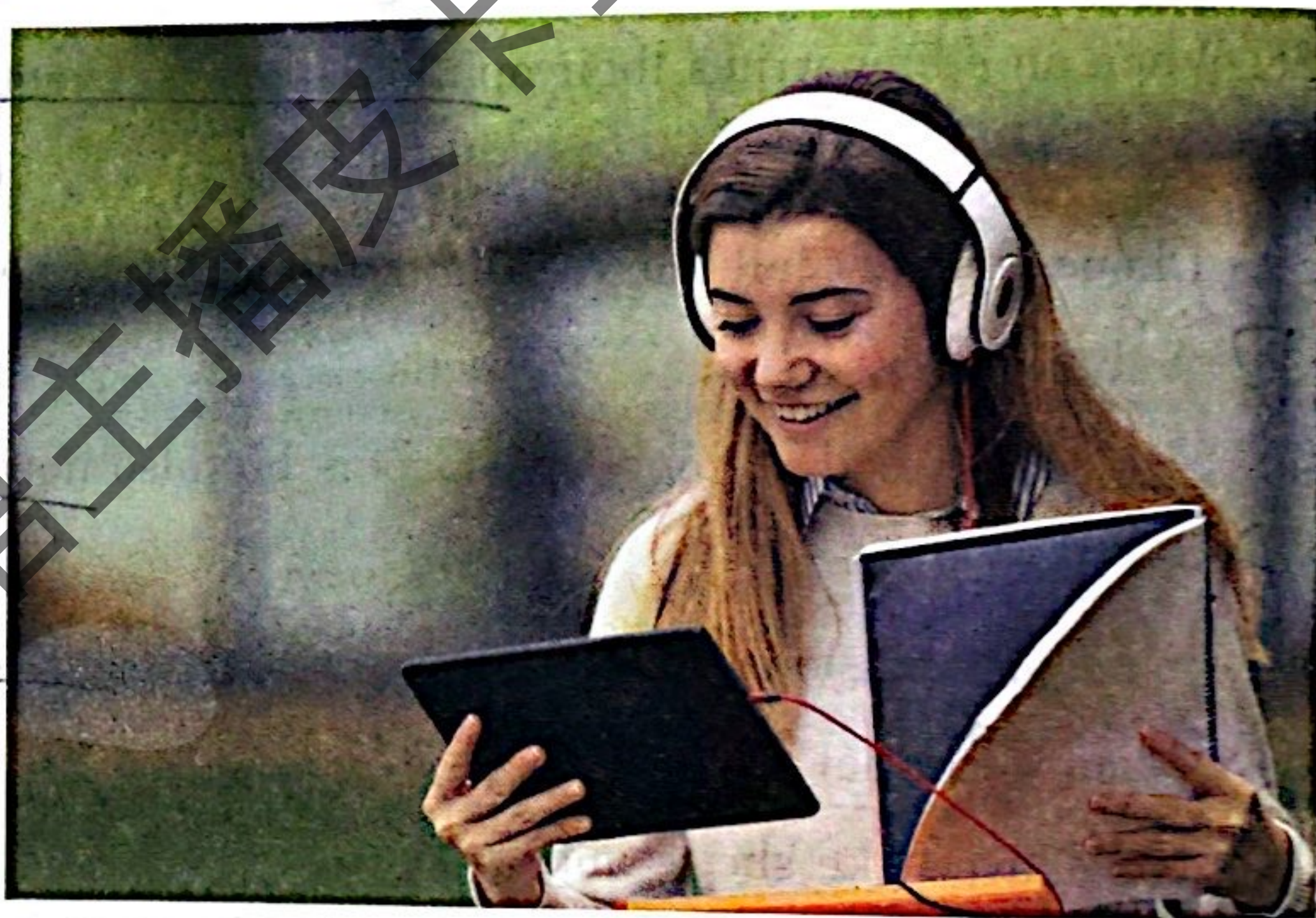
Without doubt, though, it is hard. Opinions vary on how many characters a user must know, but around 1,000 are needed for minimal function; 6,000–8,000 is a common estimate for an educated person. Characters are usually assembled from smaller pieces, one of (47) them might give a clue to the meaning and another to its pronunciation. But that is not always so, and in any case, which piece goes where is not fixed.

Learning to write Chinese has always been tough. As if that were not enough, for centuries the few people who could relied on its literary, classical form, (48) equipment to the use of Latin in medieval Europe. In the guise of poetry and proverbs, it is still in use today. skillless.

Regular use of *pinyin* was once a rarity for most Chinese, but these days it is common: it is all but essential for day-to-day interaction with computers. People use it to write on keyboards and smartphones, entering the spelling and choosing the right character from a menu of homophones. Other systems employ the keys to combine the pieces of a Chinese character. For the (49) skillfullest non, this method is faster, but it is much trickier to learn.

International use of Chinese has not grown at anything like the pace of China's economy and global clout. The difficulty of learning the written language is (50) doubtful (doubt) one reason why. The difficulties of using it on a computer are (51) an odd. It is hard to imagine two foreigners writing to each other in Chinese as many do in English.

That might one day change, as technology finally becomes more of a help (52) than a hindrance. Today, artificial intelligence has made inputting characters easier. Like those familiar from autocorrect and



predictive text in other languages, new systems can guess which Chinese character a user wants, not just from overall frequency (53) but from surrounding words. People who hand-write on their touchscreens have seen much-improved recognition of their intentions. And speech-to-text software has advanced for every language, (54) meaning (mean) that fewer users even need to touch a keyboard to "write" Chinese.

More and more Chinese struggle to hand-write rare characters from memory, a "character amnesia" that worries traditionalists. But in every other way, technology, long (55) with obstacle, is at last a boon. Learning how to read and write Chinese will still be hard. Yet with a tutor and memory-aid in every pocket, you no longer need the prodigious memory of a scholar—a blessing for foreign learners as well as natives. Though unlikely to displace English, Chinese may begin to have a global role more commensurate with China's own.

Part IV Reading Comprehension (30 marks)

There are **three** 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 (10 marks)

Questions 56 to 60 are based on the following passage.



Human beings have been altering habitats—sometimes deliberately and sometimes accidentally—at least since the end of the last Ice Age. Now, though, that change is happening on a grand scale. The plough and the chainsaw bear much of the blame, but global warming is a growing factor, too. Fortunately, the human ingenuity that is destroying nature can also be brought to bear

on trying to save it

(56) D Consider a scheme to reintroduce, by gene-editing Asian elephants, something resembling a mammoth to Siberia. Their feeding habits could restore the grassland habitat that was around before mammoths were exterminated, increasing the sunlight reflected into space and helping keep carbon compounds trapped in the soil. But other projects have a bigger chance of making an impact quickly. One example involves coral reefs.

(57) F They exist on vast scales: half a trillion corals line the Pacific from Indonesia to French Polynesia, roughly the same as the number of trees that fill the Amazon. They are equally important havens of biodiversity. Rainforests cover 18% of the land's surface and offer a home to more than half its vertebrate species. Reefs occupy 0.1% of the oceans and host a quarter of marine species.

(58) C Without the protection which reefs afford from crashing waves, low-lying islands such as the Maldives would have flooded long ago, and a billion people would lose food or income. One team of economists has estimated that coral's global ecosystem services are worth up to \$10 trillion a year.

Reefs are, however, under threat from rising sea temperatures. Heat causes the algae with which corals are symbiotic, and on which they depend for food and colour to generate toxins that lead to those algae's expulsion. This is known as "bleaching", and can cause a coral's death.

(59) B Their ideas include identifying naturally heat-resistant corals and moving them around the world; crossbreeding such corals to create strains that are yet-more heat-resistant; employing genetic editing to add heat resistance artificially; transplanting heat-resistant versions of the symbiotic algae; and even tinkering with the corals' "microbiomes"—the bacteria and other micro-organisms with which they co-exist—to see if that will help.

(60) G Without carbon mitigation and decline in local, coral-killing pollution, even resistant corals will not survive the century. Sceptics doubt humanity will get its act together in time to make much difference. Few of these techniques are ready for deployment in the wild. Some, such as gene editing, are so controversial that it is doubtful they will be approved any time soon. Scale is also an issue. Compared with the task at hand, existing restoration projects are a metaphorical drop in the ocean.

But there are grounds for optimism. Carbon targets are being set and maritime pollution is being dealt with. Countries that share responsibilities for reefs are starting to act together, even in the diplomatic doldrums around the Red Sea. Scientific workarounds can also be found. The application of probiotics can be automated. Natural currents can be harnessed to facilitate mass breeding. Sites of the greatest ecological and economical importance can be identified.

Questions 56 to 60

Choose from the sentences A—G the one which best fits each gap of 56—60. There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use.

A. As temperatures continue to rise, research groups around the world are coming up with plans of action. C ↓

B. And corals are useful to people, too. 也

C. When entire ecosystems are facing destruction, the cost of doing nothing is too great to bear. 生 半

D. Some interventions to save ecosystems are mind-boggling long shots. 干预

E. The assisted evolution of corals does not meet with universal enthusiasm. 进化 X

F. These are the rainforests of the ocean. 雨林

G. This mix of natural activity and human intervention could serve as a blueprint for other ecosystems. 可以

Section B (10 marks)

Questions 61 to 65 are based on the following passage.

For a fascinating tale about creativity, look at a cleaning product called the Swiffer and how it came about, urges writer Jonah Lehrer. In the story of the Swiffer, he argues, we have the key elements in producing breakthrough ideas: frustration, moments of insight and sheer hard work. The story starts with a

multinational company which had invented products for keeping homes spotless, but couldn't come up with better ways to clean floors, so it hired designers to watch how people cleaned. Frustrated after hundreds of hours of observation, they one day noticed a woman do with a paper towel what people do all the time: wipe something up and throw it away. An idea popped into lead designer Harry West's head: the solution to their problem was a floor mop with a disposable cleaning surface. Mountains of prototypes and years of teamwork later, they unveiled the *Swiffer*, which quickly became a commercial success.

-Eureka!



Lehrer, the author of *Imagine*, a new book that seeks to explain how creativity works, says this study of the imagination started from a desire to understand what happens in the brain at the moment of sudden insight. "But the book definitely spiraled out of control," Lehrer says. "When you talk to creative people, they'll tell you about the 'eureka' moment, which can be used when people suddenly find the solution to a difficult problem and want to celebrate, but when you press them they also talk about the hard work that comes afterwards, so I realised I needed to write about that, too. And then I realised I couldn't just look at creativity from the perspective of the brain, because it's also about the culture and context, about the group and the team and the way we collaborate."

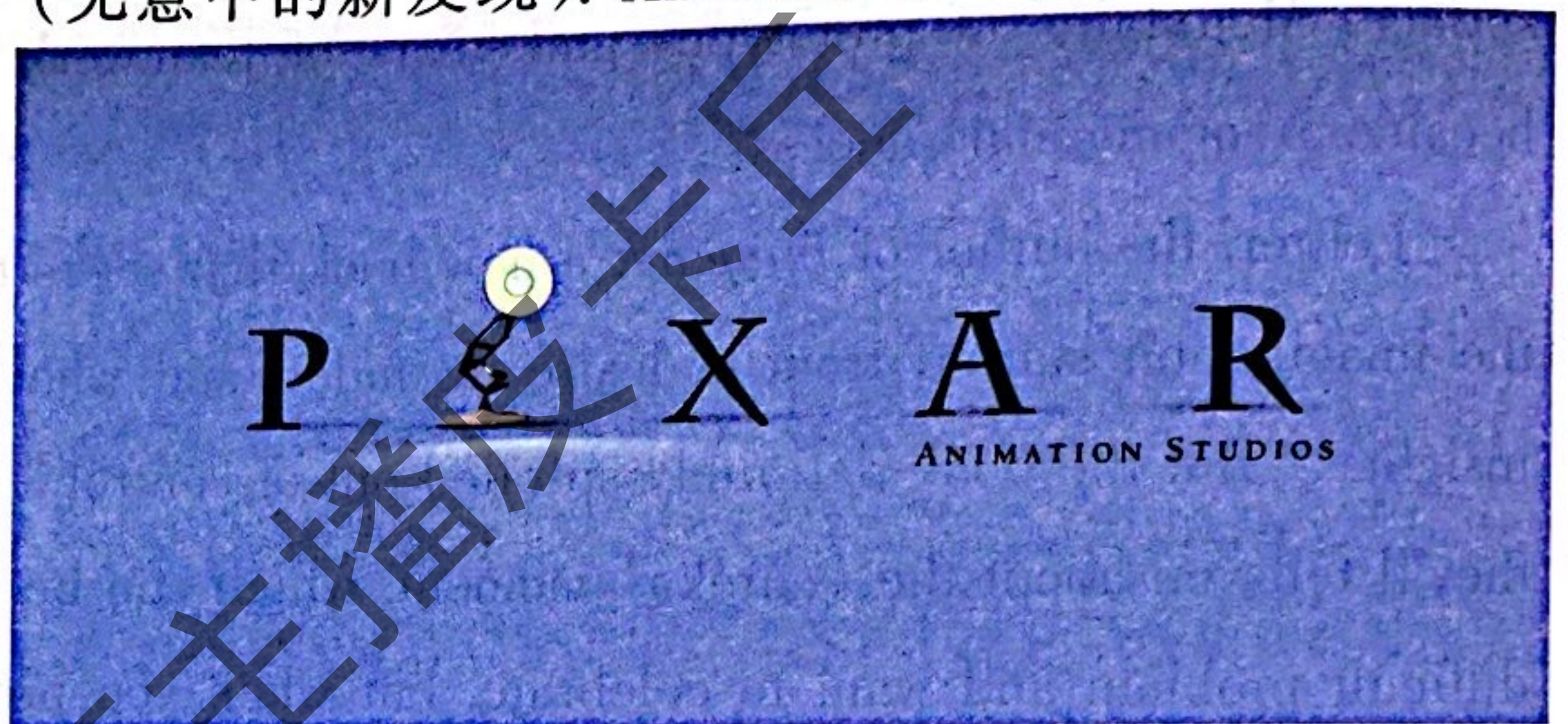
When it comes to the mysterious process by which inspiration comes into your head as if from nowhere, Lehrer says modern neuroscience has produced a "first draft" explanation of what is happening in the brain. He writes of how burnt-out American singer Bob Dylan decided to walk away from his musical career in 1965 and escape to a cabin in the woods, only to be overcome by a desire to write. Apparently "Like a Rolling Stone" suddenly flowed from his pen. "It's like a ghost is writing a song," Dylan has reportedly said. "It gives you the song and it goes away." But it's no ghost, according to Lehrer.

Instead, the right hemisphere of the brain is assembling connections between past influences and making something entirely new. Neuroscientists have roughly charted this process by mapping the brains of people doing word puzzles solved by making sense of remotely connecting information. For instance, subjects are given three words—such as "age", "mile" and "sand"—and asked to come up with a single word that can precede or follow each of them to form a compound word. (It happens to be "stone".) Using brain-imaging equipment, researchers discovered that when people get the answer in an apparent flash of insight, a small fold of tissue called the anterior superior temporal gyrus suddenly lights up just beforehand. This stays silent when the word puzzle is solved through careful analysis. Lehrer says that this area of the brain lights up only after we've hit the wall on a problem. Then the brain starts hunting through the "filing cabinets of the right hemisphere" to make the connections that produce the right answer.

Studies have demonstrated it's possible to predict a moment of insight up to eight seconds before it

arrives. The predictive signal is a steady rhythm of alpha waves emanating from the brain's right hemisphere, which are closely associated with relaxing activities. "When our minds are at ease—when those alpha waves are rippling through the brain—we're more likely to direct the spotlight of attention towards that stream of remote associations emanating from the right hemisphere," Lehrer writes. "In contrast, when we are diligently focused, our attention tends to be towards the details of the problems we are trying to solve." In other words, then we are less likely to make those vital associations. So, heading out for a walk and lying down are important phases of the creative process, and smart companies know this. Some now have a policy of encouraging staff to take time out during the day and spend time on things that at first glance are unproductive (like playing a PC game), but day-dreaming has been shown to be positively correlated with problem-solving. However, to be more imaginative, says Lehrer, it's also crucial to collaborate with people from a wide range of backgrounds because if colleagues are too socially intimate, creativity is stifled.

Creativity, it seems, thrives on *serendipity* (无意中的新发现). American entrepreneur Steve Jobs believed so. Lehrer describes how at Pixar Animation, Jobs designed the entire workplace to maximise the chance of strangers bumping into each other, striking up conversations and learning from one another. He also points to a study of 766 business graduates who had gone on to own their own companies. Those with the greatest diversity of acquaintances enjoyed far more success. Lehrer says he has taken all this on board, and despite his inherent shyness, when he's sitting next to strangers on a plane or at a conference, forces himself to initiate conversations. As for predictions that the rise of the Internet would make the need for shared working space obsolete, Lehrer says research shows the opposite has occurred; when people meet face-to-face, the level of creativity increases. This is why the kind of place we live in is so important to innovation. According to theoretical physicist Geoffrey West, when corporate institutions get bigger, they often become less receptive to change. Cities, however, allow our ingenuity to grow by pulling huge numbers of different people together, who then exchange ideas. Working from the comfort of our homes may be convenient, but it seems we need the company of others to achieve our finest "eureka" moments.



Questions 61 to 65

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

61. Which company designed the product *the Swiffer*?
62. Who does Lehrer cite to illustrate how ideas seem spontaneous?
63. What is said to be the function of the right hemisphere of the brain?
64. Why do some companies require their employees to take a break during their working hours?
65. What kind of place is conducive to innovation according to Geoffrey West?

Section C (10 marks)

Questions 66 to 70 are based on the following passage.

For the next ten years, various aspects of society could be going through enormous change as Virtual Reality (VR) technology moves towards fully operational and interactive implementation of its potential. To what extent VR establishes itself as an integral part of our lives, and how quickly it is likely to move from niche technology to common usage throughout society, is currently under discussion. However, many experts are of the opinion that VR may well have become sufficiently developed for it to form an essential



part of life by 2030 (if not sooner). Over 40 million people currently own VR headsets, and this figure is expected to double over the next three years. By 2025, we may well have reached the point at which almost 200 million users own a VR viewing device, the Head Mounted Display (HMD), more commonly known as a VR headset.

The ultimate aim of these headsets is to generate a 360-degree, 3D virtual world, enabling the viewer to enjoy what they are watching without the physical limits of a TV, computer or cinema screen. There are ~~two LCD displays~~, one for each eye, which display images being sent by the computer or some such device (via an HDMI cable) or on the screen of a smartphone inserted into the front of the headset. Lenses, set inside the HMD between the user's eyes and the LCD displays, are necessary to counteract the natural differences between what one human eye and the other simultaneously see.

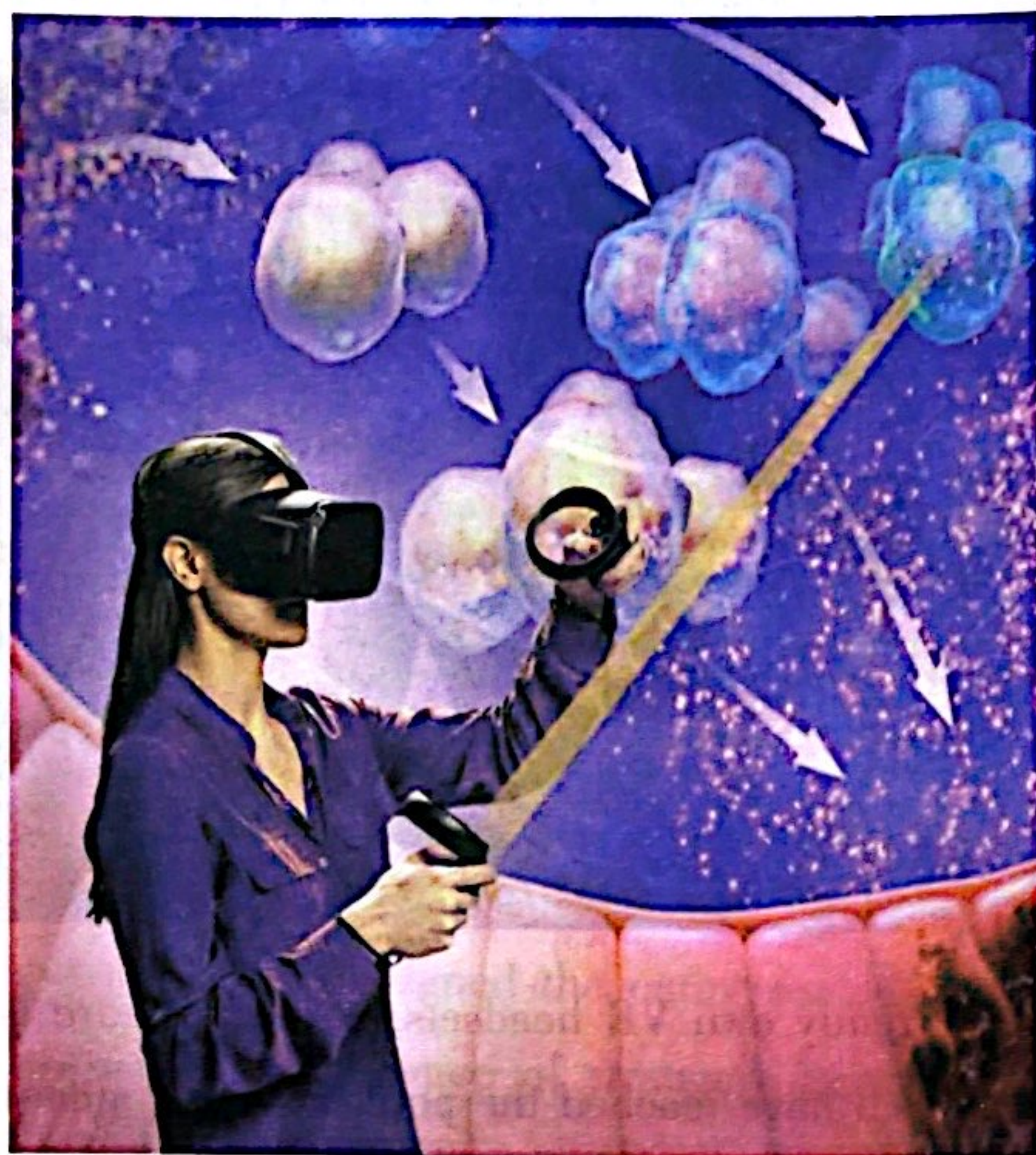
These lenses enable two 2D images of the display to be viewed, thus creating a tailored picture for each eye. These combine to create the illusion of "real life" in 3D. The HMD also uses "head tracking", a system that follows the principle of aircraft flight, tracking three measurements known as pitch, yaw and roll (or movement along the x, y and z axes). It means that when the user tilts their head up, down, or to the side, VR follows these motions and allows them to "see" all around them.

With such technology in place, one of the most notable sectors in which VR is likely to have far-reaching effects will be the games industry. In this field, traditional games are in development even now with far greater scope for creativity than ever before. Role Playing Games (RPGs), in which a gamer plays the part of a character from a first-person viewpoint, moving through an entirely imagined, graphically rendered world, are nothing new. However, VR games designers will be able to add to this existing appeal by enabling the user to look all around themselves at a fully immersive world, one in which the flow of the narrative can more easily be controlled by the gamer, rather than the creator.

Despite this, games designers currently appear to be more attracted to the untapped potential of new approaches to their end product. For example, games may become less about employing motor skills, such as swift reflexes or hand-eye coordination. Instead, the aim may be to enjoy the experience of a VR world in a more unhurried way, with traditional game mechanics (e.g. accumulating points, moving through a

series of levels) running alongside as a secondary concern.

Other fields are similarly going to find their landscapes greatly altered. Educators, for one, will be presented with a vast array of new opportunities through which to pass on knowledge. Within the next five to ten years, teachers may become able to move completely away from the course book or flat screen—even the classroom itself—and into an immersive world of instruction and learning. By way of example, history students could be taken into the epicentre of the world's greatest battles and conflicts, experiencing and understanding the machinations of victory first-hand. Medical students may be provided with the opportunity to travel through the human body as if they were themselves the size of a blood cell, building their comprehension of how veins and arteries, or nerve systems, are interconnected. Music students will be able to watch a VR orchestra perform their new composition in a venue of their choice, whether that be the local concert hall or even the Sydney Opera House.



Current HMDs do not allow for any dialogue to take place between the user and the simulated people they encounter in the VR world. However, this is unlikely to be the case forever; a student of Mandarin should one day be able to “walk” the streets of Beijing, conversing with the local native-speakers, and practising the regional pronunciation. Similarly, the concept of travel may have undergone a profound transformation. Parts of the world currently inaccessible to most people, whether because the expense of flying is too great or because those places are too remote to be easily reached, will become open to visitors in the form of exact VR replicas of the original cities, rainforests, beaches and so on. Not only is this bound to please avid travellers, it could also appease the concerned environmentalist; the number of commercial flights operating each day might well decrease as people opt for VR vacations.

Despite its potential to change life as we know it today, it is also possible that VR will ultimately fail to catch on, and HMDs will be consigned to history in the same way as were CDs, MiniDisc players and Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs). After all, even the technology that today seems improbable will at some point become outdated. If this does indeed occur, the most likely cause of its failure will be that the vast majority of computers and consoles available for the home market lack the required processing power. One potentially disastrous side effect of underpowered hardware is that latency issues—when what the viewer sees on the display fails to catch up with the movement of their head—can cause motion sickness in the HMD wearer. Even the most devoted VR enthusiast may be unwilling to accept this as the consequence of their interest in new technologies.

Questions 66 to 70

Complete the summary on Page 13 with the information from the passage, using not more than three words for each blank.

There is some debate as to whether VR will ever become something used in a mainstream way, rather than predominantly in niche areas of technology. On the one hand, experts say it is conceivable that by 2030, HMDs ⁽⁶⁶⁾ ~~will be~~ essential part of our everyday lives. The influences and effects of VR technology will be far-reaching. This will be most noticeable in one particular field—Video Games. Since ⁽⁶⁷⁾ ~~games~~ gamers are increasingly able to use their creativity in new ways, the conventional mechanics and concerns of game playing may become ⁽⁶⁸⁾ ~~more unhurried~~ more unhurried furthermore, differing approaches to travel may mean that fewer flights are taken, as people “virtually” visit the destinations of their choice. This development is likely to please environmentalists ⁽⁶⁹⁾ ~~and~~ and avid travellers. On the other hand, it is also possible that they will go the same way as other outmoded technologies, such as CDs or PDAs. This is because most home consoles and computers are incapable of coping with the VR software. Thus, even enthusiastic users are unlikely to endure the resultant physical side-effects ⁽⁷⁰⁾ ~~in new technologies~~ in new technologies

Part V Translation (15 marks)

Section A (5 marks)

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

71. You are probably familiar with leap years, but have you ever heard of a leap second? Like leap years, leap seconds are added to the calendar to make up for the fact that the rotation of the Earth isn't exactly the same from year to year. However, unlike the extra day found in every fourth February, a convention that is hundreds of years old, the leap second is a relatively new feature of the calendar. Leap seconds only started in 1972, and since then 27 leap seconds have been added to the clock. The extra time is tacked on to June 30 or December 31. As for why these additional moments are so irregular, that's because tides, earthquakes, and climate change can all affect the Earth's rotation and throw off the timing by mere *milliseconds* (毫秒).

Section B (10 marks)

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

72. 《红楼梦》(*The Dream of Red Mansions*) 作为中国文学宝库中的文化瑰宝, 是中华优秀传统文化的集大成作品。清朝时期, 曹雪芹在北京生活和创作这部小说, 几百年来一直流传着很多关于曹雪芹和《红楼梦》的传说。

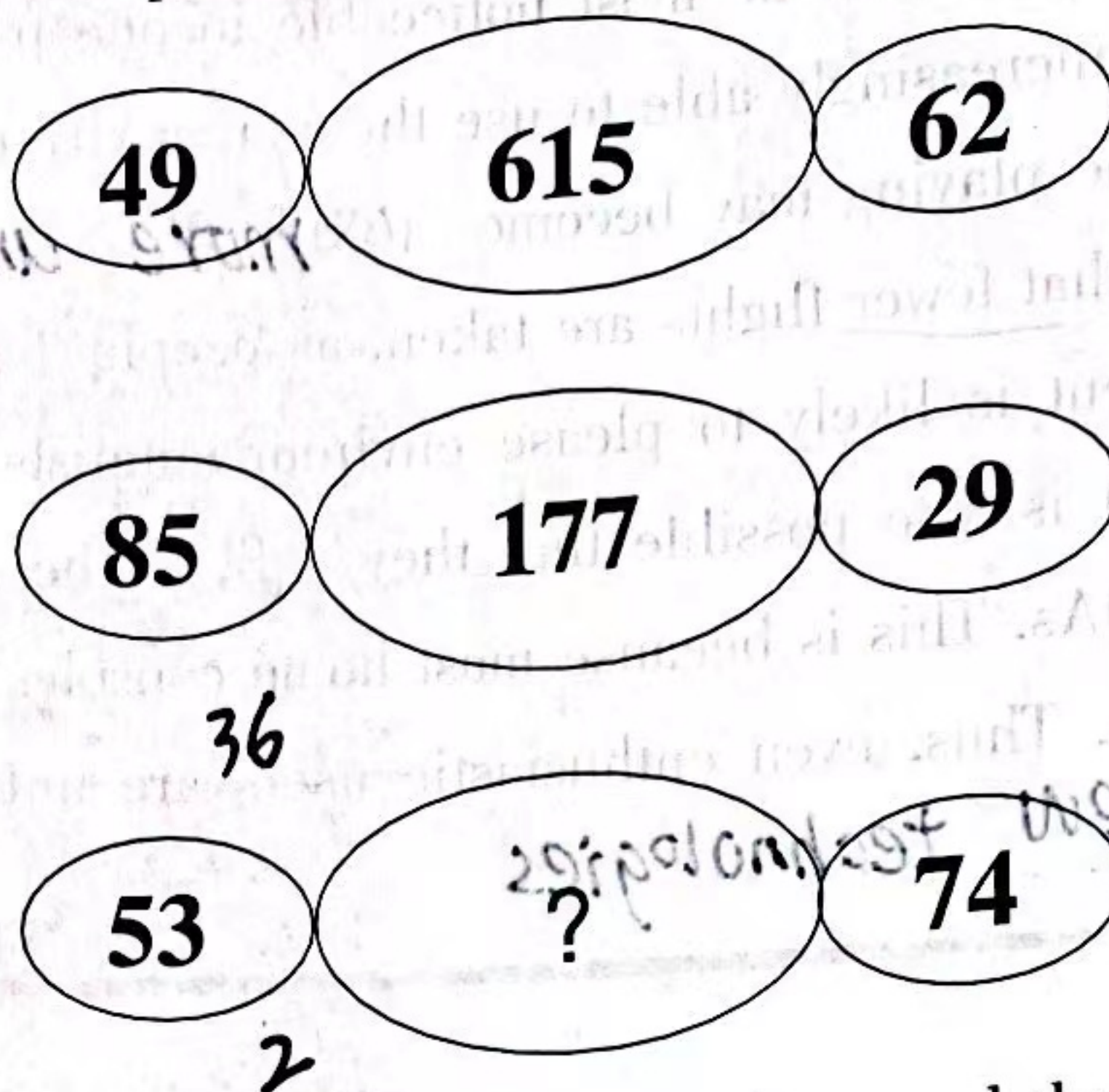
舞剧《曹雪芹》不仅呈现了《红楼梦》的大美, 还带领我们走进曹雪芹的人生, 走进他的情感, 走进他的精神世界。我们从舞剧中可以领略到中华传统文化的影响力和生命力。



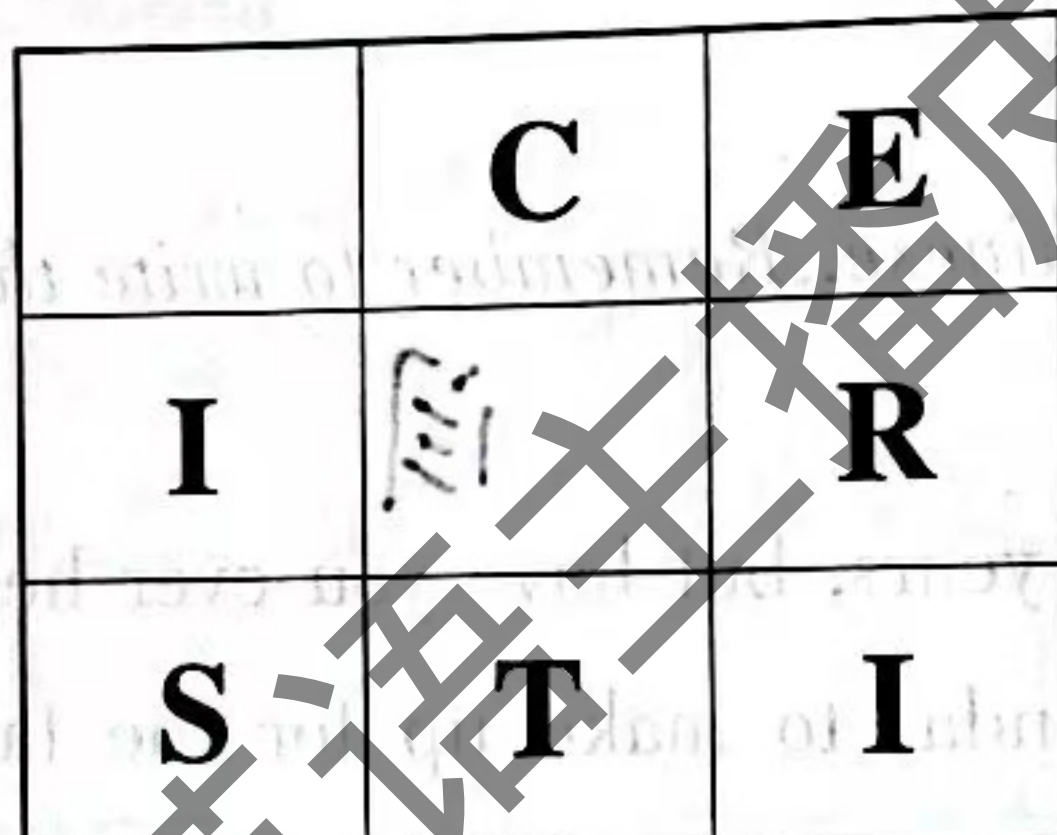
Part VI IQ Test (10 marks)

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

73. What number should replace the question mark?

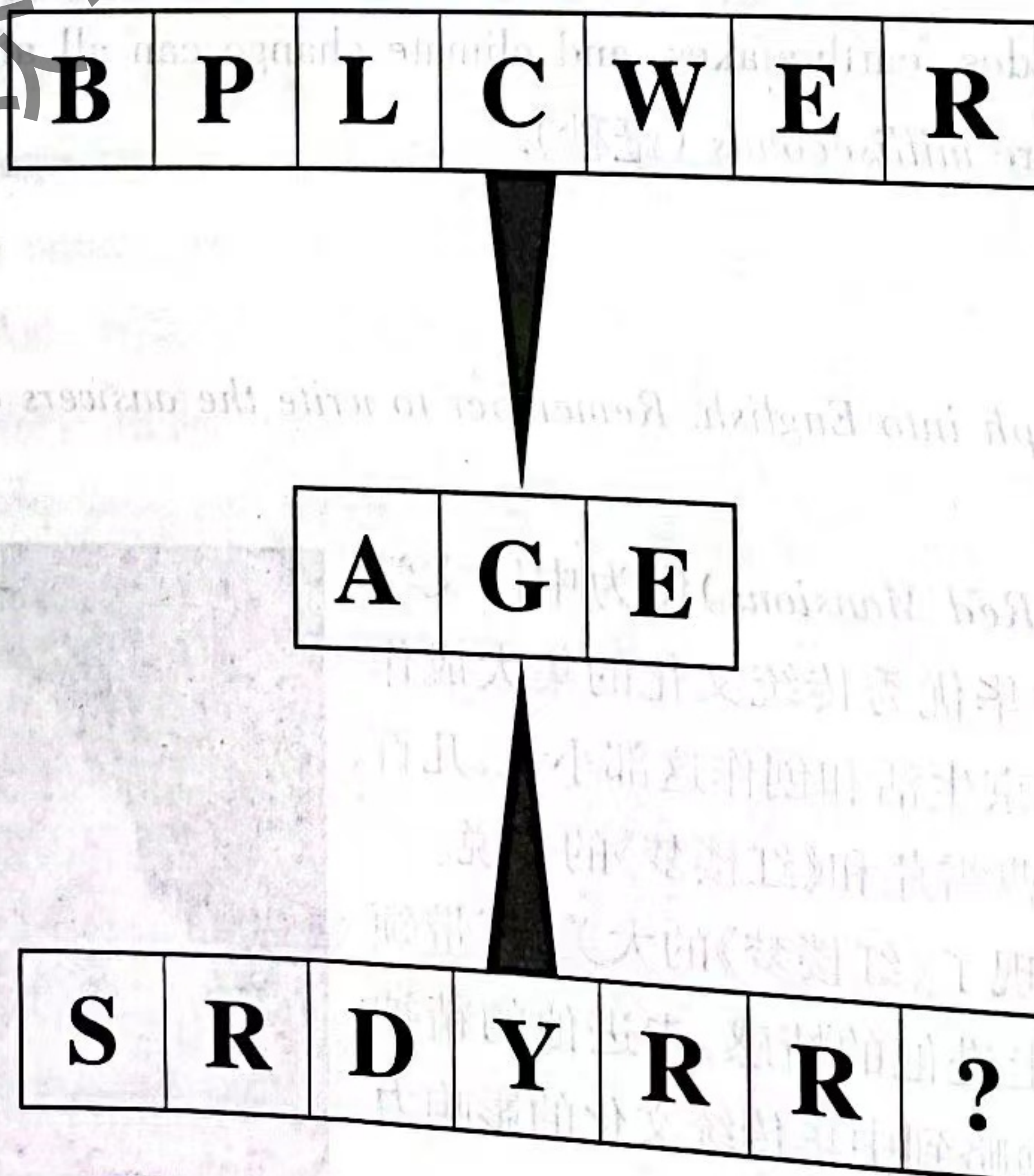


74. Start at one of the four corner letters and spiral clockwise round the perimeter, finishing at the centre letter to spell out a nine-letter word.

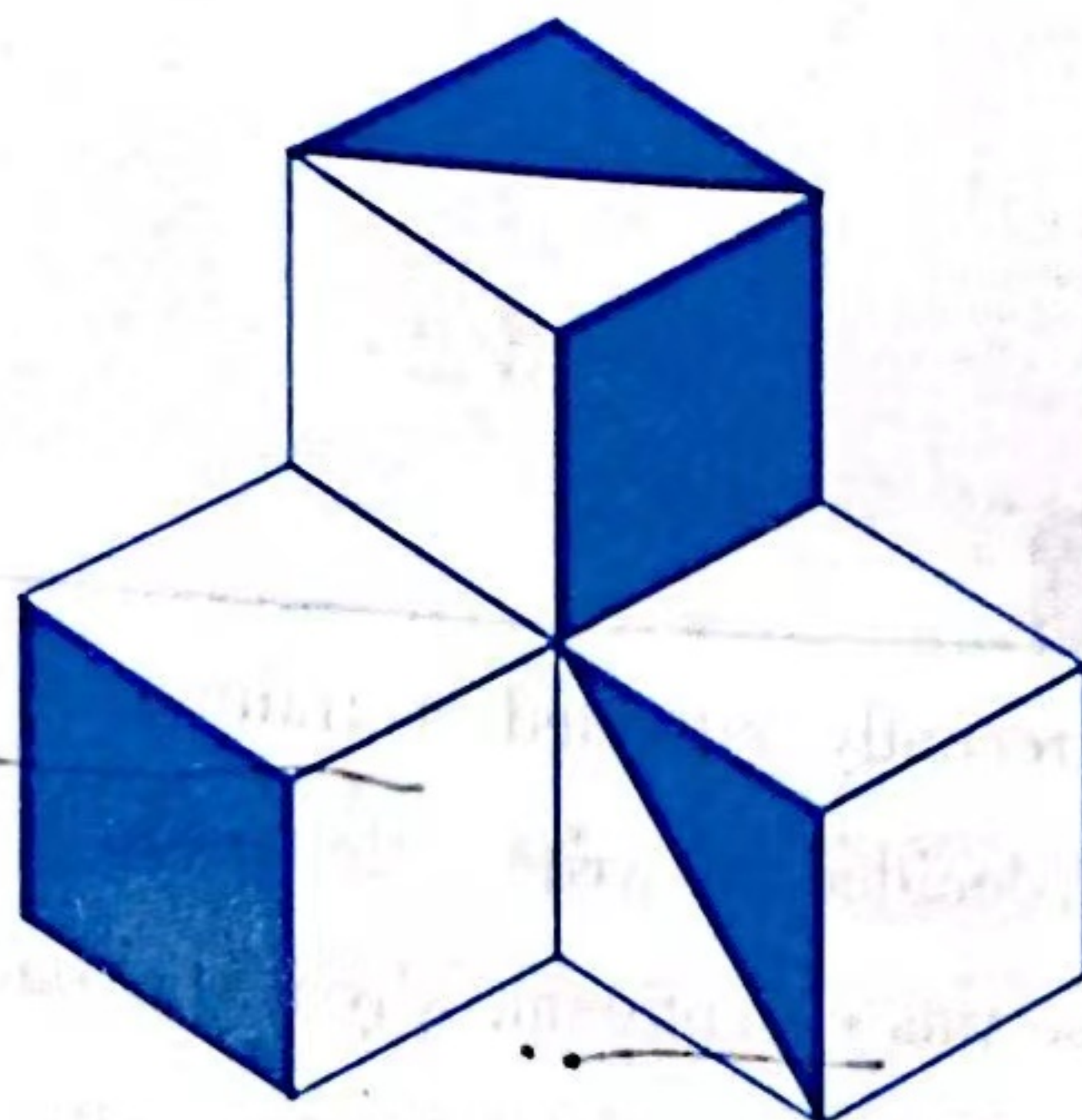


75. If five men can build a house in 21 days, how long will it take seven men to build the house, assuming all men work at the same rate?

76. What letter should replace the question mark?



77. What percentage of the visible figure is shaded? Please write your answer with a fraction.



3

12

$\frac{3}{10}$

$\frac{3}{9}$

Part VII Error Correction (10 marks)

There are 10 errors altogether in the following passage. The errors are: missing words, unnecessary words and wrong words. Please correct them as follows: for a missing word, mark its position with the symbol “^” and write it; for an unnecessary word, cross it out with the symbol “\”; for a wrong word, underline it and write the correct word. An example of how to correct the error is provided below. Write the answers on the answer sheet.

For example:

One of my favorite writers are Charlotte Brontë. She was born in the early nineteenth century when women had far fewer opportunities ^ they have now. She lived in a small village in Yorkshire and she took great pleasure in walking on the moors ~~where~~ near her home.

As inflation puts beef and pork out of the reach of many people, poultry's lower cost is making them the world's No. 1 protein source. Demand is increasing such rapidly that producers can't keep up, causing shortages to emerge. so it with

Because chickens grow so quickly, poultry is more climate-friendly than beef, which is increasingly criticized for the massive greenhouse gas emissions generating by raising cattle. Some restaurants and companies are turning into poultry to help with green goals. Bakery-cafe chain Panera Bread Co. recently started advertising Cool Food Meals, an environmental friendly menu of entrees featuring chicken developed by the nonprofit World Resources Institute. It's a part of the company's efforts to remove much carbon from the air than it emits by 2050. Food service giant Aramark has also signed on to develop and sell foods with smaller carbon footprint. The push for lower-carbon meals at big companies, chains, universities, and even governments resulted in a 16% decline in emissions per plate so far, according to the World Resources Institute, that created the program in 2019. “Consumers do not have to compromise taste for being a climate-responsible,” says Panera Chief Executive Officer Niren Chaudhary. “Animal proteins, in the right ratio and the right balance, are and can be cool,” he says.

Part VIII Writing (30 marks)

Section A (10 marks)

Suppose you are Li Ming. You recently attended a training course which was exceptionally good. Now you have decided to write a letter directly to the course leader, Mr Smith. Say why the course was exceptional, why it was particularly suitable for you and how you are benefiting from it now. Write your letter in **at least 120 words** on the *answer sheet*.



Section B (20 marks)

Write about the following topic:

Some people say children no longer need to develop handwriting skills. Others believe that handwriting is still important.

Discuss both these views and give your opinion. Give reasons for your answer and include some relevant examples from your own knowledge and experience. Write the essay in **at least 160 words** on the *answer sheet*.

