

中山大学

二〇〇八年攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试试题

科目代码: 874

科目名称: 综合英语

考试时间: 1 月 20 日 下 午

考生须知

全部答案一律写在答题纸上, 答在试题纸上的不得分! 请用蓝、黑色墨水笔或圆珠笔作答。答题要写清题号, 不必抄题。

I. Reading Comprehension (40%)

Passage 1:

"Anyhow, years ago Huysman got interested in the study of identical twins. He did some important work, good research. There are anomalies in twin behavior that have yet to be understood completely. If they are separated at birth and raised separately, there are often similarities in their lives that are hard to understand. For instance, say Carol and Karen are born in New York and Karen is taken a few months later to grow up in California. They both marry a man named George on a June day in the same year at the same time. They both have two sons born at the same time. They have the same illnesses and the same accidents. And so on. This is repeated over and over. They don't know about each other, don't know they are twins. In fact, when twins are raised together this pattern is less likely to occur."

Drew felt at a loss. "There must be some reason. I mean, it isn't just Carol and Karen. It's also the Georges and the people driving the other cars involved with their accidents. Or not clearing snow off their sidewalks, whatever the accidents are. In fact, it's like an infinite regression of what ifs. You know, the what if I hadn't been on that corner at the time you came out, we'd never have met. And so on, back through their entire lives."

- The best meaning for the word 'anomalies' (line 2) as it is used in this context is
 - irregularities.
 - discoveries.
 - illnesses.
 - accidents.
- The author helps the reader understand the meaning of the word 'pattern' (line 9) by doing which of the following things?
 - The author defines the word in the next paragraph.
 - The author gives examples of twins raised together before using the word.
 - The author gives examples of identical twins, who are raised apart but repeatedly act alike.
 - The author says that twins can be raised apart.

3. The best meaning for the word 'regression' (line 4 paragraph 2) as it is used in this context is
- A. forward movement.
 - B. backward movement.
 - C. absence of movement.
 - D. circular movement.
4. The excerpt refers to which two people as identical twins?
- A. Karen and June.
 - B. Karen and Carol.
 - C. Carol and June.
 - D. George and Karen.
5. The excerpt states that when twins are raised together they are more likely to
- A. follow similar patterns.
 - B. marry people with the same names at the same time.
 - C. have two male children.
 - D. follow different patterns.

Passage 2:

When American Movie Classics first appeared on cable television networks in late 1984, people scoffed at the idea. A channel showing old black-and-white movies, around the clock, won't last long, cable programmers predicted.

AMC has proved them very wrong. Its audience for films of the 1930's, 40's and 50's is not only substantial but unusually dedicated, with cable-system operators consistently identifying AMC as one of their viewers' favorite channels.

So successful is AMC that now a serious competitor for that film-loving audience has risen. The rival, Turner Classic Movies, which began almost a year ago, has by all accounts the world's best classic film library. This month alone, in a salute to the Academy Awards, TCM is showing nothing but movies with Oscar winners or Oscar nominees, 24 hours a day, all month – 325 films in all.

But TCM also has a major problem: it beams into only 3 million homes nationwide, mainly those with satellite-dish reception. AMC, by contrast, reaches 54 million households, practically as many as CNN.

Turner has the movies; AMC has the viewers. The question is whether their roles will reverse, once TCM becomes more widely available, because of the difference in how they acquire their movies. AMC owns none of the films it shows, while Turner owns more than 3,300. Adding movies available to each channel through licensing agreements with the studios that own the films, and, in the course of a year, Turner programmers have access to between 4,500 and 5,000 movies, while AMC programmers can choose from 1,000 at most. Many on AMC are repeated, often on the same day.

Still, most of AMC's licensing agreements run to the year 2008, and its executive vice president and general manager, Kate McEnroe, says there are enough movies available now "for several networks." She also argues that quality, not quantity, is the issue. "We cherry-pick the best from all the studios," she said.

6. According to the author, the initial response to American Movie Classic was
- A. enthusiastic.
 - B. frightened.
 - C. doubtful.
 - D. excited.
7. The author implies that AMC is more successful than TCM because
- A. it broadcasts a better selection of films.
 - B. it reaches a larger number of households.
 - C. TCM doesn't know how to advertise.
 - D. it began broadcasting before TCM.
8. Which of the following is NOT compared by the author?
- A. Number of households broadcast to.
 - B. Movie inventories.
 - C. Leases with studios.
 - D. Quality of movies shown.
9. It can be concluded that if TCM were to increase its broadcasting area
- A. it would take a large number of AMC viewers.
 - B. it would still be less popular than AMC.
 - C. it would lose its present viewers.
 - D. it could only show films with Oscar winners.
10. If AMC were to begin leasing and buying a large selection of films, it could
- A. continue its habit of repeating films on the same day.
 - B. lose its audience to TCM.
 - C. become even tougher competition for TCM.
 - D. decreases the number of households it broadcasts to.

Passage 3

Even before there were people, there were cases of air pollution. Volcanoes erupted, spewing ash and poisonous gases into the atmosphere. There were dust storms. Gases collected over marshes. When people appeared on the scene and began their conquest of nature, they also began to pollute the air. They cleared land, which made possible ever larger dust storms. They built cities, and the horrible smell from their waste filled the air. The Roman author Seneca wrote in A. D. 61 of the "stink, soot and heavy air" of the imperial city. In 1257, the Queen of England was forced to move away from the city of Nottingham because the heavy smoke was unendurable.

The industrial revolution brought even worse air pollution. Coal was burned to power factories and to heat homes. Black powder, smoke, and sulfur dioxide filled the air. The good old days? Not in the factory towns. But there were large rural areas unaffected by air pollution.

With increasing population, the entire world is becoming more urban. It is the huge megalopolises that are most affected by air pollution. But rural areas are not unaffected. In the neighborhoods around smoky factories, there is evidence of increased rates of spontaneous abortion and of poor wool quality in sheep, decreased egg production and high mortality in chickens, and increased food and care required for cattle. The giant Ponderosa pines are dying over a hundred miles from the smog-plagued Los Angeles basin. Orbiting astronauts visually traced drifting blobs of Los Angeles smog as far east as western Colorado. Other astronauts, over 100 kilometers up, were able to see the plumes of smoke from the Four Corners power plant near Farmington, New Mexico. This was the only evidence from that distance that Earth is inhabited.

Traffic police in Tokyo have to wear gas masks and take "oxygen breaks" – breathing occasionally from tanks of oxygen. Smog in Athens at times has forced factory closings and traffic restrictions. Acid rain in Canada is spawned by air pollution in the United States, contributing to strained relationships between the two countries. Sydney, Rome, Tehran, Ankara, Mexico City, and most other major cities in the world have had frightening episodes of air pollution.

11. The passage implies that air pollution
 - A. was originally caused by the industrial revolution.
 - B. affects only urban areas.
 - C. has natural as well as manmade causes.
 - D. seriously affects the nervous systems of both people and animals.

12. The author uses both the Roman author Seneca and the Queen of England (paragraph 1) as evidence that
 - A. civilization has necessarily caused air pollution.
 - B. air pollution wasn't too troublesome in early cities.
 - C. urban air pollution is not just a modern problem.
 - D. recently, the level of air pollution has risen dramatically.

13. The orbiting astronauts are discussed by the author (paragraph 3) in order to
 - A. demonstrate the increased urbanization of modern civilization.
 - B. prove that air pollution is an inevitable consequence of human progress.
 - C. support the claim that pollution has become the defining characteristic of modern society.
 - D. provide evidence that pollution is no longer restricted to urban areas.

14. The last paragraph suggests that air pollution causes all the following EXCEPT
 - A. difficulties in international relations.
 - B. high levels of lung disease.
 - C. otherwise unnecessary closings of business.
 - D. changes in work habits.

15. The evidence of pollution offered in the passage provides support for which one of the following claims?
- A. If society continues along the same path of development, air pollution will most likely continue to increase.
 - B. If nothing is done to control air pollution, civilization will eventually destroy both itself and its environment.
 - C. Unless society decentralizes its major urban regions, these areas will become uninhabitable.
 - D. If all the major industrialized nations cannot agree to control pollution, none will be able to succeed.

Passage 4

When you first saw a piece of African art, it impressed you as a unit; you did not see it as a collection of shapes or forms. This, of course, means that the shapes and volumes within the sculpture were coordinated so successfully that the viewer was affected emotionally.

It is entirely valid to ask how, from a purely artistic point of view, this unity was achieved. And we must also inquire whether there is a recurrent pattern of rules or a plastic language and vocabulary which is responsible for the powerful communication of emotion which the best African sculpture achieves. If there is such a pattern or rules, are these rules applied consciously or instinctively to obtain so many works of such high artistic quality?

It is obvious from the study of art history that an intense and unified emotional experience, when expressed in art form, gave great unity, coherence, and power to art. But such an integrated feeling was only the inspirational element for the artist, only the starting point of the creative art. The expression of this emotion and its realization in the work could be done only with discipline and thorough knowledge of the craft. And the African sculptor was a highly trained workman. He started his apprenticeship with a master when a child, and he learned the tribal styles and the use of tools and the nature of woods so thoroughly that his carving became what Boas calls "motor action," He carved automatically and instinctively.

The African carver followed his rules without thinking of them; indeed, they never seem to have been formulated in words. But such rules existed, for accident and coincidence cannot explain the common plastic language of African sculpture. There is too great a consistency from one work to another. Yet, although the African, with amazing insight into art, used rules, I am certain that he was not conscious of them. This is the great mystery of such a traditional art: talent, or the ability certain people have, without conscious effort, to follow the rules which later the analyst can discover only from the work of art which has already been created.

*plastic language: language of sculpture

16. Which of the following accounts for the success of African art?
- A. A collection of shapes or forms.
 - B. The emotional experiences of the viewer.
 - C. A set of rules for communicating emotions.
 - D. The unity achieved between shapes and volumes.

17. From the third paragraph we learn that
- A. artistic inspiration comes from intense and unified emotional experience.
 - B. the starting point of art is linked with unity and coherence.
 - C. the artist expresses his emotion with discipline.
 - D. art forms are realized by motor action.
18. Which of the following did NOT lead to "motor action" of the African sculptor?
- A. He followed a master at an early age.
 - B. He recited a set of unified rules.
 - C. He acquired thorough knowledge of the craft.
 - D. He was familiar with the carving materials.
19. The great mystery of African art lies in the fact that
- A. the sculptor combined the rules with the plastic language of sculpture.
 - B. the rules were formulated by accident.
 - C. the sculptor developed great insight into art.
 - D. consistency was achieved without conscious effort.
20. The best title for this passage would be
- A. The Achievements of African Art
 - B. Emotion in African Sculpture
 - C. Unity in African Art
 - D. The Mystery of Traditional Art

II. Correct the mistakes in the following sentences: underline the wrong parts and put the correct ones in the brackets. (10%)

1. In the early twentieth century, new thinking about symbolism and the unconscious were greatly inspired by the writings of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung. ()
2. If he began earlier, he might have succeeded in finishing the extremely complex project before the deadline. ()
3. The board reviewed the courses offered by the college found that the quality of academic programs was generally good but somewhat uneven. ()
4. According to the critics, the MTV awards ceremony was tasteless, according to the audience, it was better than ever. ()
5. Each year, about fifty thousand books are published in Great Britain; that is so many as in the four-times-larger United States. ()
6. The strike cannot be settled until the growers agree to improve health-care benefits and the worker housing. ()
7. One's reaching the first plateau does not guarantee that you will complete the climb to the summit. ()

8. No matter how careful medication is prescribed, it always has the potential of causing serious side effects. ()
9. Brian has learned more about current cinema from A. O. Scott's reviews than any other critic. ()
10. The flier delivered to our door said, "The effect of cell phone use on brain cells cannot be determined until farther research is conducted." ()

III. English Composition. (40%)

Read the following article and write a 400-word essay in English based on its ideas, with emphasis on cultural dialogue, cultural identity and cultural misreading. Marks will be given in consideration of **Content, Organization, Grammar and Appropriateness**. Failure to follow the instruction will result in loss of marks.

随 俗

(原载《羊城晚报》2000年12月25日、2001年1月8日)

英国的交通靠左行，英国人接吻也习惯左颊先上。第二次世界大战期间，美国军队开到英国本土。美军小伙子与英国姑娘接吻时却习惯右颊先上。为了避免撞鼻子，美军司令部下令士兵要入乡随俗，接吻时左颊先上。可是，撞鼻子事件仍然发生，原来英国妇女团体也叫姑娘们在接吻时改为美国式的右颊先上，以示友好。这桩趣事在柏杨先生的一篇随笔里有记载。

然而，随俗不一定非要入乡。其实，大多数情况下我们还是见人随俗。比如在中国的飞机场迎接西方客人，如果来的是异性，而接机者了解西方习俗，就会很自然地上前礼节性地拥抱一下对方，并且友好地贴贴脸。中国这个“乡”里异性之间不轻易有身体接触的“俗”在这时已经被忽略了。我在异邦也有过见人随俗的经历。记得在离开剑桥回国前夕，我的导师请我吃饭，饭后沿着剑河散步。他忽然停下来，在河边的柳树上折了一根嫩枝，默默地交到我手里。这位熟悉中国古典诗词，曾为《玉台新咏》英译本写过评论文章的英国诗人，按照中国古代文人赠柳送别的习俗，为我送行呢。那是1990年春天的一个黄昏，剑河边的垂柳正绽出点点鹅黄……

大体来看，入乡随俗或见人随俗反映了人们对异质文化的了解和尊重。但是有时随俗也有别的目的。圣诞节的产生和变化就是一个很好的例子。

人们总以为圣诞节真的是耶稣的诞辰，其实不然。就连耶稣是哪一年出生的也没有准确的答案。大约相当于公元6世纪的时候，一位名叫第奥尼修斯·埃兹吉亚沃斯(Dionysius Exiguus)的古罗马修士提出以耶稣诞生的那一年为纪元1年的基督教历法代替当时使用的由罗马皇帝戴克里先(Diocletian, 243? -316?)制定的历法。他根据《圣经·路加福音》所载，判定耶稣在30岁上开始传道，而为耶稣施洗礼的约翰在耶稣之前就开始传道，据记载时间是在奥古斯都大帝的女婿提比略皇帝(Diberius)在位第15年，相当于公元29年。所谓公元1年就是第奥尼修斯·埃兹吉亚沃斯按这些资料大约推断出来的，其实非常不准确。后来有学者根据《圣经·马太福音》的记载，即耶稣大概在希律大帝(Herod I the Great)逝世的时候出生，考证出希律大帝是在公元前4年逝世，耶稣应该在此之前不久出生，可能是公元前5、6或者7年。这样一来也就是说我们目前使用的公历的第一年并非耶稣出生的年份。

至于耶稣是在哪一天出生的，也没有确实的记载，所谓圣诞节则是在公元 440 年才由教会随俗而定。12 月 25 日这一天是当年的冬至。原先不信上帝的人们一向把这一天视为节日，有各种庆祝活动。英国甚至在 1752 年改用格里高里历法之前一直以 12 月 25 日为新年第一天。所谓圣诞装饰则来自古罗马人每年 12 月过农神节 (Saturn) 时装饰庙宇的习俗。圣诞老人则是民间传说中的儿童保护神，与基督教教义无关。出于宣传基督教的目的，教会把一个本来是世俗的节日改变为宗教的节日。

此后，这个节日的宗教色彩逐渐浓厚。圣诞节要摆圣诞树就与基督教圣徒的事迹有关了。传说在公元 8 世纪有一位圣徒波尼非斯 (St. Boniface) 在德国传教，遇见一群不信上帝的人以男童作为祭品供奉一棵老橡树，波尼非斯救下了小男孩，砍倒橡树，说服了这帮异教徒皈依上帝，并指示他们以枞树为基督圣婴的象征。这件事情刚好发生在 12 月，于是圣诞节的装饰中又多了圣诞树。

当圣诞节作为宗教节日逐渐成为习俗的同时，人们又用自己的温情去随这个俗，使圣诞节变得世俗化。这一天被看作是阖家团圆的日子。小孩子们盼望着一觉醒来床头会有塞了礼物的袜子。1846 年英国出现第一张商业性的圣诞卡，上面画着一家人围在一起，兴高采烈地喝酒。此后，圣诞节前互送贺卡成为时尚。

商人也把圣诞节看作一个赚钱的好时机，之前一、两个月就广为宣传，圣诞大减价和圣诞购物热潮随之兴起。现在连东方国家的商人也随这个俗，为圣诞节忙乎起来，其心思恐怕只在商机。随俗的背后有许多奥妙呢！

7. Translation

Translate the following passage into Chinese. Write your translation on the ANSWER SHEET.

(10%)

The difficulties of knowing the contemporary are well known. Knowledge, it is often claimed, can only be gained and enjoyed about what is in some sense over and done with. The claim to know the contemporary is therefore often seen as a kind of conceptual violence, a fixing of the fluid and formless energies of the urgently (but tenuously) present *now* into a knowable and speakable form, by fundamental and irrevocable acts of critical choosing. This formulation rests upon the inherent division between experience and knowledge, a belief that, when we experience life, we can only partially understand it, and when we try to understand life, we are no longer really experiencing it. According to this model, knowledge is always doomed to arrive too late on the scene of experience.

B. Translate the following passage into English. Write your translation on the ANSWER SHEET.**(20%)**

中国古代有个寓言，叫做“愚公移山”。说的是古代有一位老人，住在华北，名叫北山愚公。他的家门南面有两座大山挡住他家的出路，一座叫做太行山，一座叫做王屋山。愚公下决心率领他的儿子们要用锄头挖去这两座大山。有个老头子名叫智叟的看了发笑，说是你们这样干未免太愚蠢了，你们父子数人要挖掉这样两座大山是完全不可能的。愚公回答说：我死了以后有我的儿子，儿子死了，又有孙子，子子孙孙是没有穷尽的。这两座山虽然很高，却是不会再增高了，挖一点就会少一点，为什么挖不平呢？愚公批驳了智叟的错误思想，毫不动摇，每天挖山不止。

V.**1. Choose the correct answer from each of the following. (10%)**

The most famous of the English Crusaders was the Norman king,

- _____ .
- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| A. Richard Lion-Heart | C. King Arthur |
| B. King John | D. Alfred the Great |

Shakespeare lived in the period of _____ .

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| A. the Middle Ages | C. the Elizabethan age |
| B. the Victorian age | D. the Industrial Revolution |

Which of the following is not a New England state?

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| A. Connecticut | C. New Hampshire |
| B. New York State | D. Vermont |

Which of the following is home of the great American gods: Ford, General Motors and Chrysler?

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| A. Chicago, Illinois | C. Detroit, Illinois |
| B. Chicago, Michigan | D. Detroit, Michigan |

Which of the following was not a true description of southern blacks' situation after the Civil War?

- | |
|---|
| A. They were provided separate but equal facilities and services. |
| B. They were second-class citizen. |
| C. They were terrorized by the Ku Klux Klan. |
| D. Their freedom was restricted by "black codes". |

2. Answer the following question. (10%)

How did the blacks suffer in American history? What is the current situation?