

# 中 山 大 学

## 二〇一〇年攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试试题

科目代码: 622

科目名称: 基础英语

考试时间: 1 月 10 日 上 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 points)

#### Passage 1:

My father was a justice of the peace, and I supposed he possessed the power of life and death over all men and could hang anybody that offended him. This was distinction enough for me as a general thing; but the desire to be a steamboatman kept intruding, nevertheless. I first wanted to be a cabin boy, so that I could come out with a white apron on and shake a tablecloth over the side, where all my old comrades could see me. Later I thought I would rather be the deck hand who stood on the end of the stage plank with a coil of rope in his hand, because he was particularly conspicuous.

But these were only daydreams – too heavenly to be contemplated as real possibilities. By and by one of the boys went away. He was not heard of for a long time. At last he turned up as an apprentice engineer or “striker” on a steamboat. This thing shook the bottom out of all my Sundayschool teachings. That boy had been notoriously worldly and I had been just the reverse – yet he was exalted to this eminence, and I was left in obscurity and misery. There was nothing generous about this fellow in his greatness. He would always manage to have a rusty bolt to scrub while his boat was docked at our town, and he would sit on the inside guard and scrub it, where we could all see him and envy him and loathe him.

He used all sorts of steamboat technicalities in his talk, as if he were so used to them that he forgot common people could not understand them. He would speak of the “labboard” side of a horse in an easy, natural way that would make you wish he was dead. And he was always talking about “St. Looy” like an old citizen. Two or three of the boys had long been persons of consideration among us because they had been to St. Louis once and had a vague general knowledge of its wonders, but the day of their glory was over now. They lapsed into a humble silence, and learned to disappear when the ruthless “cub” engineer approached. This fellow had money, too, and hair oil, and he wore a showy brass watch chain, a leather belt, and used no suspenders. No girl could withstand his charms. He “cut out” every boy in the village. When his boat blew up at last, it diffused a tranquil contentment among us such as we had not known for months. But when he came home the next week, alive, renowned, and appeared in church all battered up and bandaged, a shining hero, stared at and wondered over by everybody, it seemed to us that the

考试完毕，试题和草稿纸随答题纸一起交回。

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partiality of Providence for an undeserving retiler had reached a point where it was open to criticism.

This creature's career could produce but one result, and it speedily followed. Boy after boy managed to get on the river. Four sons of the chief merchant, and two sons of the country judge became pilots, the grandest position of all. But some of us could not get on the river – at least our parents would not let us.

So by and by I ran away. I said I would never come home again till I was a pilot and could return in glory. But somehow I could not manage it. I went meekly aboard a few of the boats that lay packed together like sardines at the long St. Louis wharf, and very humbly inquired for the pilots, but got only a cold shoulder and short words from mates and clerks. I had to make the best of this sort of treatment for the time being, but I had comforting daydreams of a future when I should be a great and honored pilot, with plenty of money, and could kill some of these mates and clerks and pay for them.

1. The author makes the statement that "I supposed he...offended him" (lines 1-2) primarily to suggest \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. the power held by a justice of the peace in a frontier town.
  - B. the naive view that he held of his father's importance.
  - C. the respect in which the townspeople held his father.
  - D. the possibility of miscarriages of justice on the American frontier.
2. The author decides that he would rather become a deck hand than a cabin boy because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. he believes that the work is easier
  - B. he wants to avoid seeing his old friends
  - C. deck hands often go on to become pilots
  - D. the job is more visible to passersby
3. The author most likely mentions his "Sundayschool teachings" (Para. 2) to emphasize \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. the influence of his early education in later life
  - B. his sense of injustice at the engineer's success
  - C. his disillusionment with longstanding religious beliefs
  - D. determination to become an engineer at all costs
4. The author most likely concludes that the engineer is not "generous" (Para. 2) because he \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. has no respect for religious beliefs
  - B. refuses to share his wages with friends
  - C. flaunts his new position in public
  - D. takes a pride in material possessions
5. The author mentions the use of "steamboat technicalities" (Para. 3) in order to emphasize the engineer's \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. expertise after a few months on the job
  - B. fascination for trivial information
  - C. inability to communicate effectively
  - D. desire to appear sophisticated

6. According to the passage, the glory of having visited St. Louis was over because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the boys' knowledge of St. Louis was much less detailed than the engineer's  
B. St. Louis had changed so much that the boys' stories were no longer accurate  
C. the boys realized that traveling to St. Louis was not a mark of sophistication  
D. the engineer's account revealed that the boys' stories were lies
7. The author's response to the engineer's survival (Para. 3) is one of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. thankfulness for what he believes is God's providence  
B. astonishment at the engineer's miraculous escape  
C. outrage at his rival's undeserved good fortune  
D. sympathy for the extent of the engineer's wounds
8. The major purpose of the passage is to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. sketch the peaceful life of a frontier town  
B. relate the events that led to a boy's first success in life  
C. portray the unsophisticated ambitions of a boy  
D. describe the characteristics of a small-town booster

**Passage 2:**

The ozone layer, the fragile layer of gas surrounding our planet between 7 and 30 miles above the earth's surface, is being rapidly depleted. Seasonally occurring holes have appeared in it over the Poles and, recently, over densely populated temperate regions of the northern hemisphere. The threat is serious because the ozone layer protects the earth from the sun's ultraviolet radiation, which is harmful to all living organisms.

Even though the layer is many miles thick, the atmosphere in it is tenuous and the total amount of ozone, compared with other atmospheric gases, is small. Ozone is highly reactive to chlorine, hydrogen, and nitrogen. Of course chlorine is the most dangerous since it is very stable and long-lived. When chlorine compounds reach the stratosphere, they bond with and destroy ozone molecules, with consequent repercussions for life on Earth.

In 1958, researchers began noticing seasonal variations in the ozone layer above the South Pole. Between June and October the ozone content steadily fell, followed by a sudden increase in November. These fluctuations appeared to result from the natural effects of wind and temperature. But while the low October levels remained constant until 1979, the total ozone content over the Pole was steadily diminishing. In 1985, public opinion was finally aroused by reports of a "hole" in the layer.

The culprits responsible for the hole were identified as compounds known as chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs. CFCs are compounds of chlorine and fluorine. Nonflammable, nontoxic and noncorrosive, they have been widely used in industry since the 1950s, mostly as refrigerants and propellants and in making plastic foam and insulation.

In 1989 CFCs represented a sizable market value at over \$1.5 billion and a labor force of 1.6 million. But with CFCs implicated in ozone depletion, the question arose as to whether we were

willing to risk an increase in cases of skin cancer, eye ailments, even a lowering of the human immune defense system – all effects of further loss of the ozone layer. And not only humans would suffer. So would plant life. Phytoplankton, the first link in the ocean food chain and vital to the survival of most marine species, would not be able to survive near the ocean surface, which is where these organisms grow.

In 1990, 70 countries agreed to stop producing CFCs by the year 2000. In late 1991, however, scientists noticed a depletion of the ozone layer over the Arctic. In 1992 it was announced that the layer was depleting faster than expected and that it was also declining over the northern hemisphere. Scientists believe that natural events are making the problem worse. The Pinatubo volcano in the Philippines, which erupted in June 1991, released 12 million tons of damaging volcanic gases into the atmosphere.

Even if the whole world agreed today to stop all production and use of CFCs, this would not solve the problem. A single chlorine molecule can destroy 10,000-100,000 molecules of ozone. Furthermore, CFCs have a lifespan of 75-400 years and they take ten years to reach the ozone layer. In other words, what we are experiencing today results from CFCs emitted ten years ago.

Researchers are working hard to find substitute products. Some are too dangerous because they are highly flammable; others may prove to be toxic and to contribute to the greenhouse effect – to the process of global warming. Nevertheless, even if there is no denying that atmosphere is in a state of disturbance, nobody can say that the situation will not improve, either in the short or the long term, especially if we ourselves lend a hand.

9. As it is described in the passage, the major function of the ozone layer is closest to that of \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. an emergency evacuation place for a skyscraper
- B. a central information desk at a convention centre
- C. the filtering system for a city water supply
- D. the structural support for a suspension bridge

10. The word *tenuous* (Para. 2) most nearly means \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. hazy
- B. tense
- C. clear
- D. thin

11. The passage implies which of the following about the “seasonal variations in the ozone layer” (Para.3) observed by scientists in 1958?

- A. They were caused by industrial substances other than CFCs.
- B. They created alarm among scientists but not the public.
- C. They were least stable in the months between June and November.
- D. They opened the public’s eyes to the threat of ozone depletion.

12. The author mentions market and workforce figures related to CFC production in order to point out that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. responsibility for the problems of ozone depletion lies primarily with industry
- B. the disadvantages of CFCs are obvious while the benefits are not
- C. the magnitude of profits from CFCs has turned public opinion against the industry’s practices
- D. while the economic stakes are large, they are overshadowed by the effects of CFCs

13. In Para. 6, the author cites the evidence of changes in the ozone layer over the northern hemisphere to indicate that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the danger of ozone depletion appears to be intensifying  
B. ozone depletion is posing an immediate threat to many marine species  
C. scientists are unsure about the ultimate effects of ozone loss on plants  
D. CFCs are not the primary cause of ozone depletion in such areas
14. Scientists apparently believe which of the following about the "volcanic gases" mentioned in Para. 6?  
A. They are hastening ozone loss at present.  
B. They contribute more to global warming than to ozone loss.  
C. They pose a greater long-term threat than CFCs.  
D. They contain molecules that are less destructive of ozone than CFCs.
15. The author's reference to the long life of chlorine molecules (Para. 7) is meant to show that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. there is more than adequate time to develop a long-term strategy against ozone loss  
B. the positive effects of actions taken against ozone loss will be gradual  
C. the long-term effects of ozone loss on human health may never be known  
D. it is doubtful that normal levels of ozone can ever be reestablished
16. In the final paragraph, the author tries to emphasize that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. researchers are unlikely to find effective substitutes for CFCs  
B. human action can alleviate the decline of the ozone layer  
C. people must learn to live with the damaging effects of industrial pollutants  
D. atmospheric conditions are largely beyond human control

**Passage 3:**

Maman-Nainaine said that when the figs were ripe Babette might go to visit her cousin down on the Bayou-Lafourche where the sugar cane grows. Not that the ripening of the figs had the least thing to do with it, but that is the way Maman-Nainaine was.

It seemed to Babette a very long time to wait; for the leaves upon the trees were tender yet, and the figs were like little hard green marbles.

But warm rains came along and plenty of strong sunshine, and though Maman-Nainaine was as patient as the statue of la Madone, and Babette as restless as a hummingbird, the first thing they both knew it was hot summertime. Every day Babette danced out to where the fig trees were in a long line against the fence. She walked slowly beneath them, carefully peering between the gnarled, spreading branches. But each time she came disconsolate away again. What she saw there finally was something that made her sing and dance the whole long day.

When Maman-Nainaine sat down in her stately way to breakfast the following morning, her muslin cap standing like an aureole about her white, placid face, Babette approached. She bore a

dainty porcelain platter, which she set down before her godmother. It contained a dozen purple figs, fringed around with their rich green leaves.

"Ah," said Maman-Nainaine arching her eyebrows, "how early the figs have ripened this year!"

"Oh," said Babette. "I think they have ripened very late."

"Babette," continued Maman-Nainaine, as she peeled the very plumpest figs with her pointed silver fruit-knives, "you will carry my love to them all down to Bayou-Lafourche. And tell your Tante Frosine I shall look for her at Toussaint – when the chrysanthemums are in bloom."

17. The phrase "but that was the way Maman-Nainaine was" suggests which of the following about Maman-Nainaine?
- A. She was not aware of the seriousness of the situation.
  - B. She was an overtly strict woman.
  - C. Her actions had their own logic.
  - D. She gave out punishment for no reason.
18. All of the following pairs of words illustrate the difference between Maman-Nainaine and Babette EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. "patient" and "restless"
  - B. "ripe" and "bloom"
  - C. "purple" and "green"
  - D. "early" and "late"
19. The word "though" (line 1. Para. 3) implies which of the following in the context of the sentence?
- A. The two women were in disagreement.
  - B. Patience is a virtue when waiting for something.
  - C. Maman-Nainaine's patience was annoying to Babette.
  - D. Their patience and impatience had no effect on nature.
20. The narrative point of view of the passage as a whole is that of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. a third-person objective observer
  - B. a first-person impartial observer
  - C. the protagonist
  - D. a disapproving observer

**II. Correct the mistakes in the following sentences: underline the wrong parts and put the correct ones in the brackets. If there is no error, use a ✓ or write "No error" on the ANSWER SHEET (10 points)**

1. Very convincing was the saleswoman's pitch about the value of the used car that Herbert nearly missed the fallacy in its logic.
2. Barbara Walters distinguished herself as journalist by asking famous people the kinds of questions that other reporters shied away from.

3. Because the ancient Egyptians defined the hour as one-twelfth of the time from dawn to dusk, its length varied during the course of the year.
4. Moira forced herself to eat every morsel on her plate; although she found the food practically inedible, she wanted to avoid protesting her kind hosts.
5. Because of her conservative views, the professor frequently found herself defending traditional values and the status quo in arguments with her more radical students.
6. Although the whale shark is found in equatorial waters around the world, it is rarely encountered by divers in spite of its low numbers and solitary nature.
7. The British social philosopher Thomas Malthus predicted that population growth would eventually surpass world food production, resulting massive famine and political unrest.
8. In the early nineteenth century, some British agricultural workers felt that newly invented farm machinery risked their jobs, and they displayed their fear of technology by smashing machines.
9. The famous movie star regarded her mountain cabin as a haven; she felt safe there from the annoying intrusions of reporters and photographers.
10. The features of Noh, the oldest form of Japanese drama, are highly prescribed; verse sections must be sung, and the vocal style in the prose passages has to base on the chanting of specific Buddhist prayers.

### III. English composition (40 points)

Read the following quote and write an argumentation of about 400 words on the true reader.

**"Ignorant of the daily news, though versed in the catalogues of the second hand booksellers, in whose dark premises he spends the hours of sunlight ... the true reader is essentially young ... he is open minded and communicative, to whom reading is more of the nature of brisk exercise in the open air than of sheltered study; he trudges the high road."**  
by Virginia Woolf, British writer

In the first part of your writing you should introduce your argument, and in the second part you should support your argument with appropriate details. In the final part, you should bring what you have written to a natural conclusion or summary.

Marks will be awarded for **Content, Organization, Grammar, and Appropriateness**. Failure to follow the instruction will result in a loss of marks.

### IV. Translation

1. Translate the following passage into Chinese. Write your translation on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)

Although art historians have spent decades demystifying van Gogh's legend, they have done little to diminish his vast popularity. Auction prices still soar, visitors still overpopulate van Gogh exhibitions, and *The Starry Night* remains \*ubiquitous on dormitory and kitchen walls. So complete is van Gogh's global \*apotheosis that Japanese tourists now make pilgrimages to

Auvers to sprinkle their relatives' ashes on his grave. What accounts for the endless appeal of the van Gogh myth? It has at least two deep and powerful sources. At the most primitive level, it provides a satisfying and nearly universal revenge fantasy disguised as the story of heroic sacrifice to art. Anyone who has ever felt isolated and unappreciated can identify with van Gogh and hope not only for a spectacular redemption but also to put critics and doubting relatives to shame. At the same time, the myth offers an alluringly simplistic conception of great art as the product, not of particular historical circumstances and the artists' painstaking calculations, but of the naïve and spontaneous outpourings of a mad, holy fool.

\*ubiquitous: existing or found everywhere

\*apotheosis: the raising of a person to the highest possible honour and glory

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

接读朋友的来信，尤其是远自海外犹带着异国风云的航空信，如果无须回信的话，确是人生一大快事。回信，是读信之乐的一大代价。久不回信，屡不回信，接信之乐必然就相对减少，以至于无，这时，友情便暂告中断了，直到有一天在赎罪的心情下，你毅然回起信来。蹉跎了这么久，接信之乐早变成欠信之苦，我便是这么一位累犯的罪人，交游千百，几乎每一位朋友都数得出我的前科来的。英国诗人奥登曾说，他常常搁下重要的信件不回，躲在家里看他的侦探小说。王尔德有一次对韩黎说：“我认得不少人，满怀光明的远景来到伦敦，但是几个月后就整个崩溃了，因为他们有回信的习惯。”显然王尔德认为，要过好日子，就得戒除回信的恶习。可见怕回信的人，原不止我一个。

**1. Give short answers to the following questions. Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)**

- 1) What was the big event in 1850s in Australian history?
- 2) Please give the names of the two important figures in New Zealand's colonial history.
- 3) What is the central symbol of Canadian literature according to Margaret Atwood?
- 4) Describe the belief of the transcendentalists in American history. Who are the main representatives of transcendentalism?

**2. Answer the following question. Write your answer on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)**

What are the features of service industries in modern Britain?