

2011 年湖南农业大学硕士招生自命题科目试题

科目名称及代码: 基础英语 611

适用专业: 外国语言学及应用语言学

考生注意事项: ①所有答案必须做在答题纸上, 做在试题纸上一律无效。

②按试题顺序答题, 在答题纸上标明题目序号。

I. Paraphrase (20 points, 2 points each)

Write your answer on the answer sheet

- 1 Then as you penetrate deeper into the bazaar, the noise of the entrance fades away, and you come to the muted cloth-market.
- 2 I experienced a twinge of embarrassment at the prospect of meeting the mayor of Hiroshima in my socks.
- 3 Let us redouble our exertions, and strike with united strength while life and power remain.
- 4 The words spat forth with sudden savagery, all pretense of blandness gone.
- 5 Mark twain began digging his way to regional fame as a newspaper reporter and humorist.
- 6 He is here because ignorance and bigotry are rampant.
- 7 She carried on a few bars; then her voice trailed away.
- 8 Every one of them looks on a cigarette as a more or less impossible luxury.
- 9 Even with the most educated and the most literate, the King's English slips and slides in conversation.
- 10 United, there is little we cannot do in a host of cooperative ventures.

II. Vocabulary and Grammar (20 points, 1 point each)

Decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

1. Advance in science more often than not encounters powerful opposition, ___ Darwin's Theory of Evolution.
A. as was the case with B. such as the case of
C. as it did with D. as in the case of
2. I hope they won't have to wait all day long for the mail to arrive, ____?
A. will they B. do they C. don't they D. have they
3. In the wine shops, the wine jars were in place, and on one counter could be seen a stain_____ a customer had thrown down his glass and fled.
A. where B. that C. which D. how
4. You can get anything, so long as you stick to it, and stick to it hard enough and long enough.

- Anything _____.
- A. anyhow B. whatever C. however D. somehow
5. The effect of doubling the width of a beam, _____, is to double the load that can be sustained.
- A. other factors remain constant B. other factors remained constant
C. the other factor being constant D. other factors remaining constant
6. We _____ overestimate the importance of the development of relationship between China and other countries.
- A. may B. needn't C. can't D. shouldn't
7. After what he has done for you, I think you should have given him some support, _____ you disagree with him.
- A. no matter what B. however much C. whatever D. wherever
8. A baby might show fear of an unfamiliar adult, _____ he is likely to smile and reach out to another infant.
- A. if B. whenever C. whereas D. because
9. The house _____ ready today but there has been a builders' strike, so it is still only half finished.
- A. was to be B. was to have been C. were to be D. should be
10. When doing business in the Arab world, do not be surprised if your meeting is interrupted several times by people who come into the room _____, whisper, or speak softly to the person with whom you are talking, and leave.
- A. unannounced B. unannouncing C. unannounce D. to announce
11. Being a pop star can be quite a hard life, with a lot of travelling _____ heavy schedules.
- A. with regard to B. as to C. in relation to D. owing to
12. You have lost a _____ of keys. Report the loss to the police.
- A. series B. chain C. bunch D. group
13. One major _____ of space travel is the radiation that exists beyond Earth's atmosphere.
- A. mystery B. reward C. goal D. hazard
14. After a meal, we _____ the dishes and wash up.
- A. take away B. clear away C. put away D. pick away
15. I really don't know how to _____ the problem.
- A. cope B. deal C. tackle D. dispose
16. They didn't feel the least bit frustrated when they were confronted with _____ difficulties.
- A. grave B. fantastic C. temporary D. implicit
17. We rarely perceive more than a minute _____ of the sights and sounds that fall upon our sense organs; the great majority pass us by .
- A. fiction B. function C. fraction D. friction
18. The father beat the boy in a relentless way as if the child had committed some unforgivable _____.
- A. offence B. hostility C. insult D. mischief
19. These winds fan the flame and _____ the area into a disaster in which everything flammable is

destroyed.

A. translate B. convert C. reduce D. commit

20. If we believe something is good and true we should _____ to it.

A. hold up B. keep on C. hold on D. keep up

III. Fill in each blank with one suitable word (30 points, 2 points each) ; write your answer on the answer sheet

Scientists recently revealed an instinct 1 women intact and unaffected 2 the age of technology. Glancing through glossy art books Lee Salk noticed that four times out 3 five Mary is depicted holding the infant Jesus 4 her left breast. The Madonna sparked off a series 5 experiments and observations to determine 6 which side women hold their babies and why.

First he determined that modern mothers still tend to hold their baby 7 the left. Of 255 right-handed mothers, 83% held the baby 8 the left. As a control, women were watched emerging 9 supermarkets carrying baby-sized packages; the bundles were held 10 no side preference.

Then, dental patients were given a large rubber ball 11 hold during treatment. The majority clutched the ball to their left side, even when it interfered 12 the dentist's activities. This suggested that 13 times of stress objects are held against the left side.

14 that point an apparently contradictory phenomenon was observed. A large number of mothers 15 brought their premature babies to a follow-up clinic were seen to hold their babies against their right side.

IV. Reading (40 points, 2 points each)

Read the following passages and answer the multiple-choice questions; decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Passage 1

Giving weathermen a view of hurricanes, typhoons, and bigger-scale cloud formations from an observation post some 200 to 1500 miles high—that's the job of our first earth satellite that "sees".

The two-eyed orbiter, officially called the "cloud cover satellite," has been nicknamed the Weatherbird by its designers. It was predicted that the Weatherbird, during its batteries' life of about two weeks, would permit the most accurate weather forecasts ever made, for clouds are the telltale signs of great air movements that make the weather.

A pioneering kind of television satellite, the Weatherbird itself serves as a TV camera, taking

advantage of its own motions to scan the earth in TV style.

A photocell in each telescopic eye peers at a small area of the earth and gauges its brightness. Meanwhile, the “moon” spins, once a second, sweeping the eye over a curved strip of the earth. The eye scans adjacent strips (with a slight overlap) as the “moon” orbits, building up a TV picture that is taped, radioed to earth, taped again, and finally transmitted to film for viewing.

What results from each orbit is a photograph of the vast belt of cloudspotted earth, roughly 12500 miles long—the world’s sunlit half—and up to some 2500 miles wide at the maximum range of coverage. Successive orbits picture most of the world. Under ideal conditions, Weatherbird’s eyes are sharp enough to distinguish a natural feature only six miles square, smaller than the islands of Nan-tucket, St. Helena, or Balpan.

1. The job of our first earth satellite that is able to see is to _____.
A. give weathermen a world-wide view of weather conditions
B. disperse hurricanes
C. make rain
D. spy on the Russians
2. The satellite is officially named _____.
A. the two-eyed orbiter
B. television satellite
C. Weatherbird
D. the cloud cover satellite
3. The artificial moon spins at the rate of _____.
A. once per second
B. 100 times per second
C. once per hour
D. 60 times per hour
4. The possible help to people given by the Weatherbird is _____.
A. to decide whether people live on other planets
B. to know more about astrology
C. not only to predict weather but also to control it
D. to observe flying saucers

Passage 2

To understand the marketing concept, it is only necessary to understand the difference between marketing and selling. Not too many years ago, most industries concentrated primarily on the efficient production of goods, and then relied on “persuasive salesmanship” to move as much of these goods as possible. Such production and selling focuses on the needs of the seller to produce goods and then convert them into money.

Marketing, on the other hand, focuses on the wants of consumers. It begins with first analyzing the preferences and demands of consumers and then producing goods that will satisfy them. This eye-on-the-consumer approach is known as the marketing concept, which simply means that instead of trying to sell whatever is easiest to produce or buy for resale, the makers and dealers first endeavor to find out what the consumer wants to buy and then go about making it available for purchase.

This concept does not imply that business is benevolent or that consumer satisfaction is given priority over profit in a company. There are always two sides to every business transaction—the

firm and the customer—and each must be satisfied before trade occurs. Successful merchants and producers, however, recognize that the surest route to profit is through understanding and catering to customers. A striking example of the importance of catering to the consumer presented itself in mid-1985, when Coca Cola changed the flavor of its drink. The nonacceptance of the new flavor by a significant portion of the public brought about a prompt restoration of the Classic Coke, which was then marketed alongside the new. King Customer ruled!

5. The marketing concept discussed in the passage is, in essence, _____
- A. the practice of turning goods into money
 - B. making goods available for purchase
 - C. the customer-centred approach
 - D. a form of persuasive salesmanship
6. What was the main concern of industrialists before the marketing concept was widely accepted?
- A. The needs of the market.
 - B. The efficiency of production.
 - C. The satisfaction of the user.
 - D. The preferences of the dealer.
7. What does the restoration of the Classic Coke best illustrate?
- A. Traditional goods have a stronger appeal to the majority of people.
 - B. It takes time for a new product to be accepted by the public.
 - C. Consumers with conservative tasters are often difficult to please.
 - D. Products must be designed to suit the taste of the consumer.
8. In discussing the marketing concept, the author focuses on _____.
- A. its main characteristic
 - B. its social impact
 - C. its possible consequence
 - D. its theoretical basis

Passage 3

Video recorders and photocopiers, even ticket machines on the railways, often seem unnecessarily difficult to use. Last December I bought myself a video cassette recorder (VCR) described as “simple to use”. In the first three weeks I failed repeatedly to program the machine to record from the TV, and after months of practice I still made mistakes. I am not alone. According to a survey last year by Ferguson, the British manufacturer, more than one in four VCR owners never use the timer on their machines to record a programme: they don’t use it because they’ve found it far too hard to operate.

So why do manufacturers keep on designing and producing VCRs that are awkward to use if the problems are so obvious? First, the problems we notice are not obvious to technically minded designers with years of experience and trained to understand how appliances work. Secondly, designers tend to add one or two features at a time to each model, whereas you or I face all a machine’s features at once. Thirdly, although finding problems in finished product is easy, it is too late by then to do anything about the design. Finally, if manufacturers can get away with selling products that are difficult to use, it is not worth the effort of any one of them to make improvements.

Some manufacturers say they concentrate on providing a wide range of features rather than on making the machines easy to use. But that gives rise to the question, "Why can't you have features that are easy to use?" The answer is you can.

Good design practice is a mixture of specific procedures and general principles. For a start, designers should build an original model of the machine and try it out on typical members of the public--not on colleagues in the development laboratory. Simple public trials would quickly reveal many design mistakes. In an ideal world, there would be some ways of controlling quality such as that the VCR must be redesigned repeatedly until, say, 90 percent of users can work 90 percent of the features correctly 90 percent of the time.

9. The author had trouble operating his VCR because_____.

- A. he had neglected the importance of using the timer
- B. the machine had far more technical features than necessary
- C. he had set about using it without proper training
- D. its operation was far more difficult than the designer intended it to be

10. According to the author, manufacturers_____.

- A. should add more useful features to their machines
- B. often fail to make their products easy to use
- C. should make their appliances as attractive as possible
- D. often fail to provide proper training in the use of their products

11. It seems that manufacturers will remain reluctant to make improvements unless_____.

- A. they can do so at a very low cost
- B. they find their machines hard to operate
- C. they have difficulty selling their products
- D. they receive a lot of complaints about their machines

12. According to the passage, before a VCR is sold on the market, its original model should be tried out_____.

- A. among ordinary consumers who are not technically minded
- B. among people who are technically minded
- C. among experienced technicians and potential users
- D. among people who are in charge of public relations

Passage 4

Elizabeth was fortunate to be born in the lull flush of Renaissance enthusiasm for education. Women had always been educated of course, for had not St. Paul said that women were men's equals in the possession of a soul? But to the old idea that they should be trained in Christian manners and thought was now added a new purpose: to quicken the spirit and train them in the craft and eloquence of the classical authors of Greece and Rome. Critics were not wanting, morbidly obsessed with the weaknesses of the sex -- its love of novelty and inborn tendency to vice -- to think women dangerous enough without adding to their subtlety add forwardness; but they were not able to stem the tide.

Henry VII's mother was one of the first to indicate the new trend. She knew enough French to translate "The Mirror of God for the Sinful Soul" and was the patron of Caxton, the first English printer, and a liberal benefactor to the universities. Sir Thomas More's daughters studied Greek, Latin, philosophy, Astronomy, physic, Arithmetic, Logic, Rhetoric and Music. In his household women were treated as men's equals in conversation and wit, and scholars boasted of them in letters to friends abroad.

The movement was strengthened from abroad by Catherine of Aragon, Henry VIII's Spanish Queen. In the Spain of her childhood ladies were the friends of scholars Vives, one of the most refreshing figures in the history of education, to write a plan of studies for the education of her daughter Mary.

This was the heritage into which the sharp-witted Elizabeth entered. At six years old, it was said, she was preciously intelligent and had as much gravity as if she had been forty. Little is known of her education until her tenth year, when she became the pupil of the Cambridge humanists, Roger Ascham and William Grindall, but she was already learning French and Italian and must have been well grounded in Latin. Ascham helped her to form that beautiful Italian hand she wrote on all special occasions and with him she spent the morning on Greek, first the New Testament and then the classical authors, translating them first into English and then back into the original. The afternoons were given over to Latin, and she also studied Protestant theology, kept up her French and Italian and later learned Spanish. When she was sixteen Ascham wrote: "Her mind has no womanly weakness, her perseverance is equal to that of a man, and her memory long keeps what it quickly picks up." Though it is easy to be cynical about the reputed accomplishments of the great, Elizabeth was notoriously quick and intelligent and had a real love of learning. Even as queen she did not abandon her studies.

13. Women's education in the Middle Ages was intended to make them into good Christians, but in the Renaissance the idea was to

- A. make them superior to men in religion and intellectual matters.
- B. make them less religious and more rationed and intellectual.
- C. make up for their weaknesses of character and brain.
- D. develop both their religious and their intellectual capacities

14. Some people were against the new education for women because

- A. they thought women clever and educated enough already.
- B. they were afraid of clever women and thought they would be badly-behaved.
- C. women thought they would get bored with education and want to enjoy themselves.
- D. women were afraid they would not benefit from a good education.

15. Henry VII's mother, the Lady Margaret

- A. was a famous teacher of French and gave money to the universities.
- B. gave money to the universities to help the printer, Caxton.
- C. helped Caxton so that he would publish the book she had written.
- D. was a cultivated and generous woman.

16. The author thinks that although rich and famous people are often said to be cleverer than

they really are

- A. Elizabeth almost certainly did not deserve this praise.
- B. there is other evidence that Elizabeth was extremely clever.
- C. Elizabeth was not well-known for her hand-writing.
- D. there is other evidence that Elizabeth was famous and cynical.

Passage 5

Much of the American anxiety about old age is a flight from the reality of death. One of the striking qualities of the American character is the unwillingness to face either the fact or meaning of death. In the more somber tradition of American literature -- from Hawthorne and Melville and Poe to Faulkner and Hemingway -- one finds a tragic depth that belies the surface thinness of the ordinary American death attitudes. By an effort of the imagination, the great writers faced problems which the culture in action is reluctant to face -- the fact of death, its mystery, and its place in the back-and-forth shuttling of the eternal recurrence. The unblinking confrontation of death in Greek times the elaborate theological patterns woven around it in the Middle Ages, the ritual celebration of it in the rich, peasant cultures of Latin and Slavic Europe and in primitive cultures; these are difficult to find in American life.

Whether through fear of the emotional depths, or because of a drying up of the sluices of religious intensity, the American avoids dwelling on death or even coming to terms with it; he finds it morbid and recoils from it, surrounding it with word avoidance (Americans never die; they "pass away") and various taboos of speech and practice. A "funeral parlor" is decorated to look like a ban; everything in a funeral ceremony is done in hushed tones, as if it were something furtive, to be concealed from the world; there is so much emphasis on being dignified that the ceremony often loses its quality of dignity. In some of the primitive cultures, there is difficulty in understanding the causes of death; it seems puzzling and even unintelligible. Living in a scientific culture, Americans bare a ready enough explanation of how it comes, yet they show little capacity to come to terms with the fact of death itself and with the grief that accompanies it. "We jubilate over birth and dance at weddings," writes Margaret Mead, "but more and more hustle the death off the scene without ceremony, without an opportunity for young and old to realize that death is as much a fact of Life as is birth." And, one may add, even in its hurry and brevity, the last stage of an Americans life -- the last occasion of this relation to his society -- is as standardized as the rest.

17. Unwillingness to face death is a

- A. characteristic of only segments of American society.
- B. quality found in all civilizations.
- C. quality inherited from our Latin ancestors.
- D. striking quality of the American character.

18. In the novels of Hawthorne and Melville, one will find

- A. ordinary American death attitudes.
- B. a willingness to accept death as a fact of life.
- C. a superficial attitude toward death.

- D. the foundation of modern American beliefs about death.
19. In the author's opinion, Americans refuse to dwell on the idea of death
- A. out of fear of the emotional depths.
 - B. because they no longer are intensely religious.
 - C. because they are materialists.
 - D. either A or B
20. Margaret Mead suggests that
- A. we should not rejoice at a birth.
 - B. we should cry at a birth and rejoice at a funeral.
 - C. a wedding should be solemn affair.
 - D. death should be accepted in the same spirit as marriage and birth.

V. Writing (40 points)

Honesty is the best policy

Write an essay of about 500 words presenting your viewpoint.

In the first part of your writing you should state clearly your main argument and in the second part you should support your argument with appropriate details. In the last part you should bring what you have written to a natural conclusion or a summary. Marks will be awarded for content, organization, grammar and appropriacy. Failure to follow the instructions may result in a loss of marks.