

# 武汉科技大学

## 二00九年招收硕士研究生入学考试试题

考试科目及代码： 636 专业综合（基础英语占 2/3、语言学占 1/3）

适用专业： 外国语言学及应用语言学

答题内容写在答题纸上，写在试卷或草稿纸上一律无效考完后试题随答题纸交回。

考试时间 3 小时，总分值 150 分。

### Section One ADVANCED ENGLISH

#### I. Explain each of the following cultural terms briefly. (15%)

1. Great Lakes
2. game theory
3. fundamentalism
4. Newsweek
5. the Salvation Army

#### II. Identify the figures of speech used in the following underlined parts of the sentences. (10%)

1. Look at me—a brilliant student, a tremendous intellectual, a man with an assured future. Look at Petey—a knothed, a jitterbug, a guy who'll never know where his next meal is coming from. Can you give me one logical reason why you should go steady with Petey Burch?
2. But it is worth noting along the way that America has been for many years the chief advocate of Admass, America has shown us too many desperately worried executives dropping into early graves, too many exhausted salesmen taking refuge in bars and breaking up their homes, too many workmen suffering from monotony or time-and-motion studies and wondering how the hell they got into these traps.
3. But in Westmoreland they prefer that uremic yellow, and so they have the most loathsome towns and villages ever seen by mortal eye.
4. No one has any idea where the conversation will go as it meanders or leaps and sparkles or just glows.

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5. The two grey squirrels were still there, *gossiping at us* from the tall spruce beside the cottage, and by the end of the summer, they would again be tame enough to take pieces of crust from my hand.

### III. Vocabulary (10%)

For each of the italicized words in the following sentences, there follow four choices. Choose the one that most closely represent the meaning of the italicized word.

- The appearance of Webster's Third New International Dictionary was first regarded as *calamity* of the pure language of English.  
A. disaster      B. scandal      C. deluge      D. deterioration
- British shipping industry was strongly *entrenched* from the oil crisis by the cartel system.  
A. protected      B. developed      C. plummeted      D. quadrupled
- SARS is a highly *contagious* disease and a patient with SARS should be separated alone.  
A. effective      B. influential      C. inflaming      D. infectious
- Nature constantly yields to man in New York: witness those fragile sidewalk tress *gamely* struggling against encroaching cement and petrol fumes.  
A. constantly      B. passively      C. dangerously      D. courageously
- With her it was a deep religious *conviction* that the struggle round her was of the powers of Good and Evil, and that Good was triumphing.  
A. certainty      B. belief      C. courage      D. judgment
- If painters *disdain* Madison Avenue's plush art galleries, Madison Avenue dealers set up shop in the grubby precincts of Soho.  
A. dislike      B. reject      C. scorn      D. refuse
- Princess Mary, alarmed by her father's feverish and sleepless activity after his previous *apathy*, could not bring herself to leave him alone and for the first time in her life ventured to disobey him.  
A. excitement      B. desperation      C. tranquility      D. insensitivity
- But, difficult as the matter looked, Theseus was now growing up to be such a vigorous youth, that, in his own opinion, the time would quickly come when he might hope to get the upper hand of this *ponderous* lump of stone.  
A. rectangular      B. lifeless      C. weighty      D. square
- Every white man there had this thought *stowed* somewhere or other in his mind.  
A. placed      B. reserved      C. hidden      D. preserved
- They had spent some time wandering *desultorily* thus, Tess eating in a half-pleased, half-reluctant state whatever d'Urberville offered her.  
A. harmoniously      B. aimlessly      C. happily      D. purposefully

### IV. Reading Comprehension (55%)

#### Passage One

*The following passage is followed by 5 multiple-choice questions. Read the passage and decide on the best answer. (10%)*

Farmers in the developing world hate price fluctuations. It makes it hard to plan ahead. But most of them have little choice: they sell at the price the market sets. Farmers in Europe, the US and Japan are luckier: they receive massive government subsidies in the form of guaranteed prices or direct handouts. Last month US President Bush signed a new farm bill that gives American farmers \$190 billion over the next 10 years, or \$83 billion more than they had been scheduled to get, and pushes US agricultural support close to crazy European levels. Bush said the step was necessary to “promote farmer independence and preserve the farm way of life for generations”. It is also designed to help the Republican Party win control of the Senate in November’s mid-term elections.

Agricultural production in most poor countries accounts for up to 50% of GDP, compared to only 3% in rich countries. But most farmers in poor countries grow just enough for themselves and their families. Those who try exporting to the West find their goods whacked with huge tariffs or competing against cheaper subsidized goods. In 1999 the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development concluded that for each dollar developing countries receive in aid they lose up to \$14 just because of trade barriers imposed on the export of their manufactured goods. It’s not as if the developing world wants any favours, says Gerald Ssendawula, Uganda’s Minister of Finance. “What we want is for the rich countries to let us compete.”

Agriculture is one of the few areas in which the Third World can compete. Land and labour are cheap, and as farming methods develop, new technologies should improve output. This is no pie-in-the-sky speculation. The biggest success in Kenya’s economy over the past decade has been the boom in exports of cut flowers and vegetables to Europe. But that may all change in 2008, when Kenya will be slightly too rich to qualify for the “least-developed country” status that allows African producers to avoid paying stiff European import duties on selected agricultural products. With trade barriers in place, the horticulture industry in Kenya will shrivel as quickly as a discarded rose. And while agriculture exports remain the great hope for poor countries, reducing trade barriers in other sectors also works: America’s African Growth and Opportunity Act, which cuts duties on exports of everything from handicrafts to shoes, has proved a boon to Africa’s manufacturers. The lesson: the Third World can prosper if the rich world gives it a fair go.

This is what makes Bush’s decision to increase farm subsidies last month all the more depressing. Poor countries have long suspected that the rich world urges trades liberalization only so it can wangle its way into new markets. Such suspicions caused the Seattle trade talks to break down three years ago. But last November members of the World Trade Organization, meeting in Doha, Qatar, finally agreed to a new round of talks designed to open up global trade in agriculture and textiles. Rich countries assured poor countries that their concerns were finally being addressed. Bush’s handout last month makes a lie of America’s commitment to those talks and his personal devotion to free trade.

1. By comparison, farmers \_\_\_\_\_ receive more government subsidies than others.

- A. in the developing world
  - B. in Japan
  - C. in Europe
  - D. in America
2. In addition to the economic considerations, there is a \_\_\_\_\_ motive behind Bush's signing of the new farm bill.
- A. partisan
  - B. social
  - C. financial
  - D. cultural
3. Kenya is cited as an example to show that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. poor countries' economy will continue to prosper
  - B. poor countries should not rely only on agriculture
  - C. poor countries should fight to reduce trade tariffs
  - D. poor countries should be given fair treatment
4. The message the writer attempts to convey throughout the passage is that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. poor countries should be given equal opportunities in trade
  - B. the "least-developed country" status benefits agricultural countries
  - C. poor countries should remove their suspicions about trade liberalization
  - D. farmers in poor countries should also receive the benefit of subsidies
5. The writer's attitude toward new farm subsidies in the US is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. favourable
  - B. ambiguous
  - C. critical
  - D. reserved

#### Passage Two

If science itself can take on some of the characteristics of a mythology, it is also true that science, being part of the culture produced by human beings, cannot remain immune from other cultural and ideological influences.(1) Science may be influenced by myths prevalent at a given time and place, and its practitioners respond in their research and theories to the interests and desires of the ruling groups in society. According to proponents of what has come to be known as the strong programme in the sociology of science, scientific knowledge itself (or, more properly, what is called scientific knowledge at any given time) can and should be given a naturalistic explanation in terms of events and pressures external to science itself.

There can be no doubt that scientists, individually and collectively, can be influenced by extra-scientific forces, including non-scientific myths. We have already drawn attention to Kepler's Pythagorean background and hopes. Newton was strongly influenced in his thought not only by his voluminous researches into biblical apocrypha, but also by the hope that his natural philosophy (or



physics) would impress on people the necessity for a divine intelligence to impart to material particles their initial order and motion.(2) He also saw the existence of God as necessary to sustain the notions of absolute space and time. It is also commonly stated that both the theory of evolution and quantum physics are to be seen as products of the societies in which they developed, devil-take-the-hindmost *laissez-faire* capitalism and the uncertain, crisis-ridden Weimar Republic, respectively. And no doubt some psycho-historians will say that Einstein's status as a displaced person might have made him more open to relativistic speculation than had he been a confident person in a settled milieu. (3) though I suppose others might give precisely the same fact and his subsequent problems in Germany as an explanation of his hostility to indeterminism and the principle of uncertainty.

There can be no doubt that scientific ideas come from many sources, scientific and extra-scientific. In view of this, it would be surprising if one could not sometimes discern *zeitgeistliche* aspects to scientific theorizing. Only a naïve Baconian inductivist, intent on cleansing science of all elements of presupposition, would be inclined to deny the impact of non-scientific influences on scientific thought.(4) Clearly some of these influences will come from currents of thought prevalent at a given time and place (although influential scientists might be seen as reacting to their time as much as conforming to it.) None of this should dispose us to rush into a denial of the distinction between the context of discovery and the context of justification. (5)

In the first place, even in the process of formulating his theory, a scientist will be tempering his non-scientific inspiration.(6) The theory he proposes will qualify as properly scientific only because it is an answer to an existing scientific problem and is cast in a recognizably scientific form. Kepler might have believed in number as the essence of the universe, but unlike most numerological speculation, his theory was scientific and assessed as such because it addressed the already existing scientific problem of the motions of the planets and did so in a way which took into account and appeared to explain the relevant observational data. Equally to say that some form of belief in the survival of the fittest was dear to the heart of every Victorian capitalist does nothing to explain the nature of Darwin's scientific achievement in writing *The Origin of Species*.(7) Darwin's work was taken seriously as biology, and continues to be taken seriously in a period with a quite different ethos, because of its fruitfulness and success in dealing with masses of biological data at various levels, and it clearly would not have had the biological impact it did had Darwin himself not addressed himself in his work to the specifically biological issue of speciation and amassed a wealth of relevant data. (8)

Then, secondly, even where a theory has been cast in a scientifically acceptable form, its success or failure scientifically is not directly related to its conformity or otherwise to the non-scientific spirit of the age.(9) Not only do we have the example of a theory like Darwin's whose success and scientific viability persists through changes of age, but there are notable examples of theories being rejected despite their conformity to the spirit of the age.(10) The rise of capitalism may well have been an environment friendly to the atomistic and individualistic world-view of Cartesian mechanics, but even while the new economic system was conquering new fields, scientists were compelled to temper the extreme individualism of Cartesianism with the

more holistic and communitarian concepts of action at a distance, and even of the inter-relatedness and inter-dependence of the whole universe.

1. *Paraphrase the underlined sentences in the article. (30%)*
2. *Write a summary of the passage in Chinese. (Word Limit: 160 words ) (15%)*

## **SECTION TWO LINGUISTICS (40%)**

### **I. Define the following terms briefly: (20%)**

1. back-formation
2. assimilation
3. synecdoche
4. computational linguistics
5. rhyme

### **II. What are the problems of immediate constituent analysis or IC analysis? (20%)**

## **Section Three Language Teaching (20%)**

**Currently, what is the general understanding of the role of grammar in language learning?**

