

浙江工商大学 2010 年硕士研究生入学考试试卷 (B) 卷

招生专业: 外国语言学及应用语言学/英语语言文学

考试科目: 综合英语 615 总分: 150 分 考试时间: 3 小时

题号	项目	分值
I	Vocabulary	30
II	Cloze	20
III	Proofreading & Error Correction	20
IV	Reading Comprehension: Part 1+Part 2	50
V	Rhetoric: Part 1+Part 2	30

I. Vocabulary ( 每小题 1 分, 共 30 分)

Directions: Choose one word or phrase that correctly completes the sentence. Write the answer on the Answer Sheet.

- Yesterday Tom cut his finger, but he brushed it \_\_\_\_\_ as unimportant and kept working.  
 A. down                      B. up                      C. off                      D. by
- The audience are deeply impressed by the leading character of the feature film that looks \_\_\_\_\_ at social problems.  
 A. accurately              B. obviously              C. deliberately              D. squarely
- The negotiation had reached an \_\_\_\_\_, with both sides refusing to compromise.  
 A. abyss                      B. impasse              C. eclipse                      D. ultimatum
- The \_\_\_\_\_ that she suggested for discussion were based on the most recent medical research.  
 A. amendments              B. occupations              C. contributions              D. expostulations
- As one of the youngest branch managers in the IT company, Mr. Yang is certainly on the \_\_\_\_\_ of a brilliant career.  
 A. threshold              B. margin                      C. track                      D. course
- In the end the little boy went to school without so much a \_\_\_\_\_ of protest.  
 A. whirl                      B. whimper                      C. whim                      D. whistle
- If the freed men had become landowners instead of \_\_\_\_\_ laborers, their descendants would be prosperous today.  
 A. affluent                      B. stingy                      C. impoverished              D. gorgeous
- Yesterday morning when she said she was going to leave him for good, he thought it was only a \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. bliss                      B. bluff                      C. sacrifice                      D. consequence
- Hungry birds in search of \_\_\_\_\_ of food made delicate impressions on the surface of the snow.  
 A. scraps                      B. scrapes                      C. scratches                      D. scents
- The proposal he put forward two days ago has been supported by people on all sides of the political \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. expectation              B. ambition                      C. spectrum                      D. strength
- We tried to drive our horse into the river, but he simple could not \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. trudge                      B. surge                      C. budge                      D. dredge
- The lieutenant general has got such an enormous \_\_\_\_\_ —I've never known anyone so full

答案写在答题纸上, 写在试卷上无效。

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- of themselves!
- A. humility                      B. ego                      C. illusion                      D. altruism
13. People who have such an addiction are \_\_\_\_\_; i.e., they have a very powerful psychological need that they feel they must satisfy.  
 A. consistent                      B. comprehensive                      C. compulsive                      D. compulsory
14. Jane wondered for a \_\_\_\_\_ moment if Jack would put his arm around her before entering the house.  
 A. stirring                      B. fleeting                      C. bewildering                      D. shocking
15. People who like to wear red dresses are more likely to be talkative and \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. lucrative                      B. introverted                      C. vivacious                      D. perilous
16. You must try to \_\_\_\_\_ all thoughts of revenge from your mind.  
 A. erode                      B. banish                      C. induce                      D. tarnish
17. Slowly, patiently, skillfully, Betty fanned the spark of life that \_\_\_\_\_ in the dying soldier.  
 A. fondled                      B. flickered                      C. flushed                      D. flipped
18. The well-known brand of camera combines \_\_\_\_\_ reliability with unequalled optical performance and speed.  
 A. sample                      B. hidden                      C. rugged                      D. glossy
19. Unlike many of the runners who were obviously nervous, Jack seemed almost \_\_\_\_\_ before the race.  
 A. nonchalant                      B. amiable                      C. hostile                      D. callous
20. Allen will soon find out that real life is seldom as simple as it is \_\_\_\_\_ in commercials.  
 A. depicted                      B. drafted                      C. alleged                      D. permeated
21. According to Alvin Toffler, the present lifetime is quite different from all others because of the \_\_\_\_\_ expansion of the scale and scope of change.  
 A. entertaining                      B. emitting                      C. vibrating                      D. stunning
22. That snake is not poisonous. It's a completely \_\_\_\_\_ little garden snake.  
 A. inoffensive                      B. ingenious                      C. innocuous                      D. incompatible
23. We are not compatible — he likes nearly all the things that \_\_\_\_\_ me.  
 A. repulse                      B. surpass                      C. banish                      D. repatriate
24. It \_\_\_\_\_ me to thank you for all you have done for the association in the last few years.  
 A. falls into                      B. falls to                      C. falls on                      D. falls in with
25. Fierce storms have been \_\_\_\_\_ rescue efforts and there's now little chance of finding more survivors.  
 A. tangling                      B. blundering                      C. hampering                      D. bewildering
26. Current \_\_\_\_\_ trends suggest that there will be fewer school-leavers coming into the workforce in ten years' time.  
 A. ethical                      B. theological                      C. demographic                      D. intercurrent
27. The police were alerted that the murderer might still be in the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. track                      B. circumstances                      C. round                      D. vicinity
28. I told my sister I'd lend her my new shirt if she let me borrow her jacket, but she didn't rise to the \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. bait                      B. mask                      C. obligation                      D. compromise
29. The glade was pear-shaped, roughly a hundred yards long and fifty yards wide, with a \_\_\_\_\_ pool of rain-water in the center of it.

- A. stagnant                      B. blank                      C. random                      D. hollow  
 30. At one time, marriages were always \_\_\_\_\_ by the church, but this is not the case now.  
 A. appreciated                      B. scanned                      C. sanctified                      D. underpinned

**II. Cloze (每小题 1 分, 共 20 分)**

**Directions:** Put your answers on the Answer Sheet.

Before 18, the motto is loud and clear, "I have to get away from my parents." But the words are seldom connected to action.

After 18, we begin Pulling Up Roots in \_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_. College, military service, and short-term travels are all \_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_ vehicles our society provides for the first round trips between family and a base of one's own. In the attempt to separate our view of the world from our family's view, despite vigorous protestations to the \_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_, we cast about for any beliefs we can call our own. And in the \_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_ of testing those beliefs we are often drawn to fads, \_\_\_\_5\_\_\_\_ those most mysterious and inaccessible to our parents.

Whatever \_\_\_\_6\_\_\_\_ memberships we try out in the world, the fear haunts us that we are really \_\_\_\_7\_\_\_\_ who cannot take care of ourselves. We cover that fear with acts of defiance and mimicked \_\_\_\_8\_\_\_\_. For allies to replace our parents, we \_\_\_\_9\_\_\_\_ our contemporaries. They become conspirators. So long as their \_\_\_\_10\_\_\_\_ meshes with our own, they are able to substitute for the sanctuary of the \_\_\_\_11\_\_\_\_. But that doesn't last very long. And the instant they \_\_\_\_12\_\_\_\_ from the shaky ideals of "our group", they are seen as betrayers. \_\_\_\_13\_\_\_\_ to the family are common between the ages of 18 and 22.

Even as one part of us seeks to be an individual, another part \_\_\_\_14\_\_\_\_ to restore the safety and comfort of \_\_\_\_15\_\_\_\_ with another. Thus one of the most popular myths of this passage is: We can piggyback our development by \_\_\_\_16\_\_\_\_ to a Stronger One. But people who marry during this time often prolong financial and emotional \_\_\_\_17\_\_\_\_ to the family and relatives that impede them from becoming \_\_\_\_18\_\_\_\_.

A stormy passage through the Pulling Up Roots years will probably facilitate the \_\_\_\_19\_\_\_\_ progression of the adult life cycle. If one doesn't have an identity crisis at this point, it will erupt during a later \_\_\_\_20\_\_\_\_, when the penalties may be harder to bear.

- |                    |                 |                |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. sincerity    | B. earnest      | C. pain        | D. fun          |
| 2. A. customary    | B. customs      | C. traffic     | D. formal       |
| 3. A. sameness     | B. contrary     | C. interest    | D. popularity   |
| 4. A. means        | B. silence      | C. enthusiasm  | D. process      |
| 5. A. sadly        | B. ridiculously | C. irrevocably | D. preferably   |
| 6. A. common       | B. terrifying   | C. false       | D. tentative    |
| 7. A. students     | B. pupils       | C. kids        | D. seniors      |
| 8. A. violence     | B. confidence   | C. disturbance | D. principle    |
| 9. A. turn to      | B. give up      | C. meet with   | D. show off     |
| 10. A. prospect    | B. persistence  | C. perspective | D. perseverance |
| 11. A. institution | B. school       | C. family      | D. nursery      |
| 12. A. converge    | B. diverge      | C. divide      | D. devote       |
| 13. A. Revisions   | B. Recurrences  | C. Rebounds    | D. Relocations  |
| 14. A. longs       | B. hates        | C. hesitates   | D. suspects     |
| 15. A. merging     | B. dining       | C. contacting  | D. resuming     |

- |                   |                  |                    |                 |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 16. A. taking     | B. seeing        | C. holding         | D. attaching    |
| 17. A. love       | B. ties          | C. reliance        | D. independence |
| 18. A. immature   | B. innocent      | C. self-sufficient | D. inaccessible |
| 19. A. abnormal   | B. normal        | C. subjective      | D. objective    |
| 20. A. transition | B. preoccupation | C. balance         | D. substitution |

**III. Proofreading and Error Correction ( 每小题 2 分, 共 20 分)**

**Directions:** Each indicated line of the following two passages contains one error. You should proofread the passages to identify the errors. Copy the bracketed numbers and the errors and then give your corrections with a "→" sign on the Answer Sheet in the following way:

e.g. When an art museum want a new exhibit, (1)  
 it buys things in finish form and hangs them on the wall. (2)

(On the Answer Sheet)

(1) want → wants

(2) finish → finished

One major decision which faces the American student ready to begin higher education is the choice of attending a large university or a small college. The large university provides a wide range of specialized departments, as well numerous courses within such (1) \_\_\_\_\_ departments. The small college, therefore, generally provides a (2) \_\_\_\_\_ limited number of courses and specializations but offer a better (3) \_\_\_\_\_ student-faculty ratio, thus permit individualized attention to students. (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Because of its large student body consisting in many people from (5) \_\_\_\_\_ different countries the university exposes its students to many different culture, social and out-of-class programs. On the other (6) \_\_\_\_\_ hand, the smaller, more homogeneous student body of the big college affords greater opportunities in such activities. (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Finally, the university closely approximates the real world and which provides a relaxed, impersonal, and sometimes anonymous (8) \_\_\_\_\_ existence, on the contrast, the intimate atmosphere (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of the small college allows the student four years of structural living in which to expect and preparing for the real world. In making his (10) \_\_\_\_\_ choice among educational institutions the student must, therefore, consider a great many factors.

**IV. Reading Comprehension**

**Part 1 ( 每小题 1.5 分, 共 30 分)**

**Directions:** Read the following four passages carefully, and choose the best answer to each question from the four choices given.

**Passage A**

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 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 easier to produce or buy for resale, the marketers 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 non-acceptance 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, the King Customer rules!

1. 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-centered approach
  - D. a form of persuasive salesmanship
  
2. 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.
  
3. According to the passage, "to move as much of these goods as possible" means "\_\_\_\_\_".
  - A. to sell the largest possible amount of goods
  - B. to transport goods as efficiently as possible
  - C. to dispose of these goods in large quantities
  - D. to redesign these goods for large-scale production
  
4. 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 tastes are often difficult to please.
  - D. Products must be designed to suit the taste of the consumer.
  
5. In discussion of the marketing concept, the author focuses on \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. its main characteristic
  - B. its social impact
  - C. its possible consequences
  - D. its theoretical basis

**Passage B**

About the time that schools and others quite reasonably became interested in seeing to it that all children, whatever their background, were fairly treated, intelligence testing became unpopular.

Some thought it was unfair to minority children. Through the past few decades such testing has gone out of fashion and many communities have indeed forbidden it.

However, paradoxically, just recently a group of black parents filed a lawsuit in California claiming that the state's ban on IQ testing discriminates against their children by denying them the opportunity to take the test. (They believed, correctly, that IQ tests are a valid method of evaluating children for special education classes.) The judge, therefore, reversed, at least partially, his original decision.

And so the argument goes on and on. Does it benefit or harm children from minority groups to have their intelligence tested? We have always been on the side of permitting, even facilitating, such testing. If a child of any color or group is doing poorly in school it seems to us very important to know whether it is because he or she is of low intelligence, or whether some other factor is the cause.

What school and family can do to improve poor performance is influenced by its cause. It is not discriminative to evaluate either a child's physical condition or his intellectual level.

Unfortunately, intellectual level seems to be a sensitive subject, and what the law allows to do varies from time to time. The same fluctuation back and forth occurs in areas other than intelligence. Thirty years or so ago, for instance, white families were encouraged to adopt black children. It was considered discriminative not to do so.

And then the style changed and this cross-racial adopting became generally unpopular, and social agencies felt that black children should go to black families only. It is hard to say what are the best procedures. But surely good will on the part of all of us is needed.

As to intelligence, in our opinion, the more we know about any child's intellectual level, the better for the child in question.

6. Why did the intelligence test become unpopular in the past few decades?

- A. Its validity was challenged by many communities.
- B. It was considered discriminative against minority children.
- C. It met with strong opposition from the majority of black parents.
- D. It deprived the black children of their rights to a good education.

7. The recent legal action taken by some black parents in California aimed to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. draw public attention to IQ testing
- B. put an end to special education
- C. remove the state's ban on intelligence tests
- D. have their children enter white schools

8. The author believes that intelligence testing \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. may ease racial confrontation in the United States
- B. can encourage black children to keep up with white children
- C. may seriously aggravate racial discrimination in the United States
- D. can help black parents make decisions about their children's education

9. The author's opinion of child adoption seems to be that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. no rules whatsoever can be prescribed
- B. white families should adopt black children
- C. adoption should be based on IQ test results
- D. cross-racial adoption is to be advocated

10. Child adoption is mentioned in the passage to show that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. good will may sometimes complicate racial problems
- B. social surroundings are vital to the healthy growth of children
- C. intelligence testing also applies to non-academic areas
- D. Americans opinion can shift when it comes to sensitive issues

### Passage C

There are desert plants which survive the dry season in the form of inactive seeds. There are also desert insects which survive as inactive *larvae*. In addition, difficult as it is to believe, there are desert fish which can survive through years of drought in the form of inactive eggs. These are the *shrimps* that live in the Mojave Desert, an intensely dry region in the south-west of the United States where shade temperatures of over 50C are often recorded.

The eggs of the Mojave shrimps are the size and have the appearance of grains of sand. When sufficient spring rain falls to form a lake, once every two to five years, these eggs hatch. Then the water is soon filled with millions of tiny shrimps about a millimetre long which feed on tiny plant and animal organisms which also grow in the temporary desert lake. Within a week, the shrimps grow from their original 1 millimetre to a length of about 1.5 centimetres.

Throughout the time that the shrimps are rapidly maturing, the water in the lake equally rapidly evaporates. Therefore, for the shrimps it is a race against time. By the twelfth day, however, when they are about 3 centimetre long, hundreds of tiny eggs form on the underbodies of the females. Usually by this time, all that remains of the lake is a large, muddy patch of wet soil. On the thirteenth day and the next, during the final hours of their brief lives, the shrimps lay their eggs in the mud. Then, having ensured that their species will survive, the shrimps die as the last of the water evaporates.

If sufficient rain falls the next year to form another lake, the eggs hatch, and once again the shrimps pass rapidly through their cycle of growth, adulthood, egg-laying, and death. Some years there is insufficient rain to form a lake: in this case, the eggs will remain dormant for another year, or even longer if necessary. Very, very occasionally, perhaps twice in a hundred years, sufficient rain falls to form a deep lake that lasts a month or more. In this case, the species passes through two cycles of growth, egg-laying, and death. Thus, on such occasions, the species multiplies considerably, which further ensures its survival.

11. Which of the following is the MOST distinctive feature of Mojave shrimps?

- A. Their lives are brief.
- B. They feed on plant and animal organisms.
- C. Their eggs can survive years of drought.
- D. They lay their eggs in the mud.

12. By saying "for the shrimps it is a race against time" (Para. 3, line 2) the author means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. They have to swim fast to avoid danger in the rapidly evaporating lake  
B. They have to swim fast to catch the animal organisms on which they survive.  
C. They have to multiply as many as possible within thirteen days  
D. They have to complete their life cycle within a short span of time permitted by the environment
13. The passage mainly deals with \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the life span of the Mojave shrimps  
B. the survival of desert shrimps  
C. the importance of water to life  
D. life in the Mojave Desert
14. The word "dormant" (Para. 4, Line 3) most probably means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. inactive      B. strong      C. alert      D. soft
15. It may be inferred from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. appearance and size are most important for life to survive in the desert  
B. a species must be able to multiply quickly in order to survive  
C. for some species one life cycle in a year is enough to survive the desert drought  
D. some species develop a unique life pattern to survive in extremely harsh conditions

#### Passage D

There are around 230 millions guns in America. One in four Americans claims to have been threatened by one. In 1997, handguns were used in 17,566 suicides (60% of the total) and in 12,337 homicides. Since 1962, the number of firearms deaths a year has doubled, although the past two years have shown a slight decline. Falling or not, America's rate of death by guns is extraordinarily high by the standards of the civilized world.

If these deaths were caused by bad hamburgers or defective cars, there would be a public outcry. As it is, the anti-gun lobby finds it hard to make its voice heard. This is because gun ownership in America is considered a right, protected by the second amendment to the constitution. It is no good arguing that the amendment is arcane and restricted to 18 th-century militias. The Supreme Court, in the very few times it has been asked to rule, has found that it covers modern ownership of guns by individuals.

There is also a widespread belief that guns deter criminals and cut crime---especially hidden guns. Some 31 states allow adults (provided they have no criminal record and no history of mental illness) to carry concealed guns almost everywhere. Interestingly, very few people seem to take advantage of that right. The force of the law lies in the fact that they possibly may.

Reliable statistics are hard to come by, but John of Yale University has crunched the country data and concluded that, for each year a concealed-weapon law is in effect, the local murder rate decline by 3% and robberies by 2%. These conclusions are disputed by other academics, but they have certainly prevailed with many politicians.

It is not true to say that America makes no serious effort to curb guns. Thanks to the Brady bill, an uncharacteristically brave effort by the Clinton administration, there are federal background

checks on buyers in gun shops and compulsory waiting periods for purchases. A crime committed with a gun will generally carry a tougher penalty than a crime committed without one, and the latest FBI statistics suggest that this has caused a sharp drop in the use of guns in killing and robberies.

A poll in May in the New York Times showed that 62% of men and 78% of women would like stricter gun control. When pressed, most thought there were enough laws on the books; but they wanted them more tightly enforced. This is also the position of the National Rifle Association (NRA), America's most powerful defenders of private firepower.

Gun-control laws used to focus on making guns less easy to get. They now concentrate on making them safer to handle and easier to trace. Either way, these laws are hard to pass. A few relatively liberal states (Maryland, Massachusetts) have placed quite tough restrictions on handguns: those in Massachusetts, introduced in April, bar the sale of any handguns that do not have serial numbers and trigger locks. Most places are far laxer. More than two-thirds of the states require no gun licenses or registration, and 46 set no limit on gun purchases.

At federal level, Mr Clinton's next proposal is to license all new handgun-buyers. Its chances are slim. The gun lobby sticks to its argument that it is people, not guns, who kill people; therefore the people should be locked up, or at least trained to handle guns properly, but the guns should remain unrestricted. Even gun-storage laws are too much to ask. The NRA constantly points out that most handgun-owners are responsible citizens; and, since nearly half of all Americans keep a firearm in their homes, this is undoubtedly true.

In sum, proponents of gun-ownership still keep the upper hand. The NRA, having gone through some lean years, gained 700,000 members in the 15 months to last May. It now has 3.7 million. The more anti-gun the chief executive, the more the pro-gun forces rally to the cause. And no amount of playground or workplace shootings are likely to change that equation.

16. Which of the following may explain the fact that it is difficult to control guns in America?

- A. Owning a gun is looked at as a right.
- B. People who own guns are addictive.
- C. People have made little effort to lobby against guns.
- D. Gun manufacturing is a very lucrative business.

17. According to the passage, which of the following statements is correct?

- A. Many people hide their guns illegally.
- B. Many people carry their guns almost everywhere.
- C. Few people have the right to carry guns.
- D. The fact that people may carry guns deters criminals.

18. The National Rifle Association believes that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. guns should be abolished
- B. there should be no laws prohibiting guns
- C. laws on gun control should be enforced
- D. it is impossible to enforce laws on gun control

19. All of the following statements are true EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. gun-control laws now focus on the quality rather than the quantity of guns
- B. most states do not impose tough restrictions on guns
- C. the federal government's effort to control guns is not likely to succeed
- D. the membership of NRA is diminishing

20. We can conclude from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. gun-ownership is popular with many Americans
- B. the government is encouraging gun-ownership
- C. gun-ownership will soon be abolished
- D. gun-ownership causes more problems than is commonly thought

**Part 2 ( 每小题 4 分, 共 20 分)**

**Directions:** Read the following essay carefully, and explain the meaning of the underlined parts, using your own words as far as possible.

**Ambition**

Perri Klass

In college, my friend Beth was very ambitious, not only for herself but for her friends. She was interested in foreign relations, in travel, in going to law school. "I plan to be secretary of state someday," she would say matter-of-factly. One mutual friend was studying literature, planning to go to graduate school; he would be the chairman of the Yale English department. Another friend was interested in political journalism and would someday edit *Time* magazine. I was a biology major, which was a problem: Beth's best friend from childhood was also studying biology and Beth had already decided *she* would win the Nobel Prize. This was resolved by my interest in writing fiction. I would win *that* Nobel, while her other friend would win for science.

It was a joke; we were all smart-ass college freshmen, pretending the world was ours for the asking. But it was not entirely a joke. We were *smart* college freshmen, and why should we limit our ambitions?

I've always liked ambitious people, and many of my closest friends have had grandiose dreams. I like such people, not because I am desperate to be buddies with a future secretary of state but because I find ambitious people entertaining, interesting to talk to, fun to watch. And, of course, I like such people because I am ambitious myself, and I would rather not feel apologetic about it.

Ambition had gotten bad press. Back in the seventeenth century, Spinoza thought ambition and lust were "nothing but species of madness, although they are not enumerated among diseases." Especially in women, ambition has often been seen as a profoundly dislikable quality; the word "ambitious" linked to a "career woman" suggested that she was ruthless, hard as nails, clawing her way to success on top of the bleeding bodies of her friends.

Then, in the late Seventies and the Eighties, ambition became desirable, as books with titles like *How to Stomp Your Way to Success* became bestsellers. It was still a nasty sort of attribute, but nasty attributes were good because they helped you look out for number one.

But what I mean by ambition is dreaming big dreams, putting no limits on your expectations and your hopes. I don't really like very specific, attainable ambitions, the kind you learn to set in the career-strategy course taught by the author of *How to Stomp Your Way to Success*. I like big ambitions that suggest that the world could open up at any time, with work and luck and

determination. The next book could hit it big. The next research project could lead to something fantastic. The next bright idea could change history.

Of course, eventually you have to stop being a freshman in college. You limit your ambitions and become more realistic, wiser about your potential, your abilities, the number of things your life can hold. Sometimes you get close to something you wanted to do, only to find it looks better from far away. Back when I was a freshman, to tell the truth, I wanted to be Jane Goodall, go into the jungle to study monkeys and learn things no one had ever dreamed of. This ambition was based on an interest in biology and several *National Geographic* television specials; it turned out that wasn't enough of a basis for a life. There were a number of other early ambitions that didn't pan out either. I was not fated to live a wild, adventurous life, to travel alone to all the most exotic parts of the world, to leave behind a string of broken hearts. Oh well, you have to grow up, at least a little.

One of the worst things ambition can do is tell you you're a failure. The world is full of measuring tapes, books and articles to tell you where you should be at your age, after so-and-so many years of doing what you do.

Almost all of us have to deal with the tremendous success of friends (or enemies), with those who somehow started out where we did but are now way in front. My college-alumni magazine arrives every two months without fail, so I can find out who graduated two years *after* I did but is now running a groundbreaking clinic at a major university hospital (and I'm only just finishing my residency!). Who is restoring a fabulous mansion in a highly desirable town by the sea. Who got promoted yet again, due to natural brilliance and industry.

I read an article recently about how one's twenties are the decade for deciding on a career and finishing your training, and the thirties are for consolidating your success and rising within your chosen job (and here I am in my thirties, not even sure what I want to do yet!). With all these external yardsticks, the last thing anyone needs is an internal voice as well, whispering irritably that you were supposed to do it better, get further and that all you've actually accomplished is mush, since you haven't met your own goals.

The world is full of disappointed people. Some of them probably never had much ambition to start with; they sat back and waited for something good and feel cheated because it never happened. Some of them had very set, specific ambitions and, for one reason or another, never got what they wanted. Others got what they wanted but found it wasn't exactly what they'd expected it to be. Disappointed ambition provides fodder for both drama and melodrama: aspiring athletes (who coulda been contenders), aspiring dancers (all they ever needed was the music and the mirror).

The world is also full of people so ambitious, so consumed by drive and overdrive that nothing they pass on the way to success has any value at all. Life becomes one long exercise in delayed gratification; everything you do, you're doing only because it will one day get you where you want to be. Medical training is an excellent example of delayed gratification. You spend years in medical school doing things with no obvious relationship to your future as a doctor, and then you spend years in residency, living life on a miserable schedule, staying up all night and slogging through the day, telling yourself that one day all this will be over. It's what you have to do to become a doctor, but it's a lousy model for life in general. There's nothing wrong with a little delayed gratification every now and then, but a job you do only because of where it will get you — and not because you like it — means a life of muttering to yourself, "Someday this will be

over." This is bad for the disposition.

As you grow up, your ambitions may come into conflict. Most prominently nowadays, we have to hear about Women Torn Between Family and Career, about women who make it to the top only to realize they left their ovaries behind. Part of growing up, of course, is realizing that there is only so much room in one life, whether you are male or female. You can do one thing whole-heartedly and single-mindedly and give up some other things. Or you can be greedy and grab for something new without wanting to give up what you already have. This leads to a chaotic and crowded life in which you are always late, always overdue, always behind, but rarely bored. Even so, you have to come to terms with limitations; you cannot crowd your life with occupations and then expect to do each one as well as you might if it were all you had to do. I realize this when I race out of the hospital, offending a senior doctor who had offered to explain something to me, only to arrive late at the day-care center, annoying the people who have been taking care of my daughter.

People consumed by ambition, living with ambition, get to be a little humorless, a little one-sided. On the other hand, people who completely abrogate their ambition aren't all fun and games either. I've met a certain number of women whose ambitions are no longer for themselves at all; their lives are now dedicated to their offspring. I hope my children grow up to be nice people, smart people, people who use good grammar; and I hope they grow up to find things they love to do, and do well. But my ambitions are still for *me*.

Of course, I try to be mature about it all. I don't assign my friends Nobel Prizes or top government posts. I don't pretend that there is room in my life for any and every kind of ambition I can imagine. Instead, I say piously that all I want are three things: I want to write as well as I can, I want to have a family and I want to be a good pediatrician. And then, of course, a voice inside whispers... to write a bestseller, to have ten children, to do stunning medical research. Fame and fortune, it whispers, fame and fortune. Even though I'm not a college freshman anymore, I'm glad to find that little voice still there, whispering sweet nothings in my ear.

**Explaining:**

1. It was a joke; we were all smart-ass college freshmen, pretending the world was ours for the asking.
2. Back in the seventeenth century, Spinoza thought ambition and lust were "nothing but species of madness, although they are not enumerated among diseases."
3. Almost all of us have to deal with the tremendous success of friends (or enemies), with those who somehow started out where we did but are now way in front.
4. With all these external yardsticks, the last thing anyone needs is an internal voice as well, whispering irritably that you were supposed to do it better, get further and that all you've actually accomplished is mush, since you haven't met your own goals.
5. The world is also full of people so ambitious, so consumed by drive and overdrive that nothing they pass on the way to success has any value at all.

**V. Rhetoric (每小题 2 分, 共 30 分)**

**Part I**

**Directions:** Define the following terms. Put your answers on the Answer Sheet.

1. metaphor

2. irony
3. personification
4. alliteration
5. understatement

**Part 2**

**Directions:** *The following sentences contain certain figures of speech. Try to identify them.*

1. Judicious praise is to children what the sun is to flowers.  
 A. alliteration            B. personification            C. analogy
2. Greece was the cradle of Western culture.  
 A. metaphor            B. pun            C. simile
3. For she was beautiful --- her beauty made  
 The bright world dim, and everything beside  
 Seemed like the fleeting image of a shade.  
 A. understatement            B. metonymy            C. hyperbole
4. I finally figured out how government works. The Senate gets the bill from the House, the  
 President gets the bill from the Senate, and we get the bill for everything.  
 A. rhyme            B. pun            C. assonance
5. US trade policy is often viewed as inconsistent, incoherent and incomprehensible to the  
 countries of the origin. (C. Michael Aho)  
 A. consonance            B. assonance            C. alliteration
6. In fact, it appears that the teachers of English teach English so poorly largely because they  
 teach grammar so well. (W. Johnson)  
 A. paradox            B. repetition            C. synecdoche
7. The handsome houses on the street to the college were not fully awake, but they looked very  
 friendly. (Lionel Trilling)  
 A. onomatopoeia            B. personification            C. euphemism
8. The pen is stronger than the sword.  
 A. metonymy            B. antithesis            C. parallelism
9. Paul did something, and the police ... well, now he's staying at the correctional center.  
 A. oxymoron            B. euphemism            C. allegory
10. This child who is so curious about music is going to be a Beethoven, I dare say.  
 A. contrast            B. synecdoche            C. antithesis