

2008 年硕士研究生入学初试试题

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请将试题做在答题纸上, 在题签上做题无效。

PART I GRAMMAR & VOCABULARY (20%)

Directions: there are 40 incomplete sentences in this part. Beneath each sentence there are four words or phrases marked A, B, C and D. Choose one word or phrase that best completes the sentence. Mark your answers on your answer sheet.

1. Simple _____ the cartoon is, the meaning it conveys is deep and thought-provoking.
A. until B. as C. much D. despite
2. It's reasonable to imagine that prehistoric people _____ a simple life.
A. would have lived B. needed to have lived
C. must have lived D. ought to have lived
3. It is high time the country _____ its political bands that have connected it with its neighboring country.
A. dissolved B. resolved C. scattered D. determined
4. They are given some rights that the Laws of Nature _____ them.
A. confirm B. deserve C. entitle D. discharge
5. The Declaration of Independence says "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created _____."
A. to become equal B. equal C. equally D. being equal
6. Lincoln says in his famous speech that "the government of the people, by the people and for the people shall never _____ from the earth."
A. expire B. inspire C. perish D. repel
7. The girl was _____ in Africa and was born in America.
A. conceived B. pregnant C. educated D. baptized
8. The word "renaissance" was _____ from Latin meaning "rebirth".
A. come B. derived C. originated D. descended
9. They flunked the exam _____ because they failed to prepare for it.
A. extremely B. largely C. trivially D. radically
10. As a proverb goes, "more _____, less speed."
A. haste B. hurry C. promptness D. anxiety
11. The road to the school was flooded yesterday. Let's make a _____.
A. deviation B. digression C. detour D. departure
12. Do you think it is late to _____ on a new career?
A. disembark B. embark C. remark D. assume
13. The baby cried hard because his hand was _____ by the cat.
A. bruised B. scratched C. panted D. blurred
14. Blood _____ slowly down his cheek.
A. trickled B. ticked C. leaked D. simmered

15. The professor paused, as if _____ what he said.
A. emphasize B. to emphasize C. being emphasized D. to be emphasized
16. We rushed to the station, _____ to find that the train had already left.
A. just B. once C. only D. much as
17. _____ John Kennedy put it, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."
A. Which B. As C. While D. What
18. The scientist _____ his success to his diligence and good luck.
A. contributed B. attributed C. distributed D. obliged
19. The child has been _____ by his parents who allow him to do anything he likes.
A. spoiled B. ruined C. destroyed D. blamed
20. John failed his chemistry exam _____ his teacher's assistance.
A. despite of B. regardless of C. for all D. in spite
21. Fortunately, the disabled boy was _____ with some talent for languages.
A. endowed B. entitled C. granted D. admitted
22. They are ordered to be present at the important meeting, _____.
A. rain or shine B. more or less C. sooner or later D. for good
23. It was the last _____ that broke the camel's back.
A. brick B. straw C. candle D. whip
24. I cannot produce a meal at such short _____.
A. report B. schedule C. warning D. notice
25. _____ she arrived home, she set about preparing a meal.
A. Immediately B. Simultaneously C. Presumably D. Efficiently
26. A lady _____ have too many hats.
A. may B. cannot C. should not D. might not
27. The couple promise to stick to each other _____ thick and thin.
A. through B. between C. by means of D. via
28. Rumor _____ that the lady was murdered by her husband.
A. says it B. has it C. spreads D. circulates
29. The doctor prescribed some painkillers for his _____ headache.
A. splitting B. cracking C. leaking D. sinking
30. It's not easy for a layman to _____ the minute difference between the two terminologies.
A. describe B. discern C. locate D. discover
31. You would be _____ a risk to let your child go to school by himself.
A. omitting B. attaching C. affording D. running
32. He is always here; it's _____ you've never met him.
A. unique B. strange C. rare D. peculiar
33. There has been a great increase in retail sales, _____?
A. does there B. isn't there C. hasn't there D. isn't it
34. We'd like to _____ a table for five for dinner this evening.
A. preserve B. retain C. reserve D. sustain
35. Although a teenager, Fred could resist _____ what to do and what not to do.
A. being told B. telling C. to be told D. to tell

36. The novel of the adventures of Huckleberry Finn was written by _____.
 A. Henry James B. Henry Harriet C. Beecher Stower D. Mark Twain
37. The word holiday originally meant holy day; but now the word signifies any day on which we don't have to work. This is an example of _____.
 A. meaning shift B. widening of meaning C. narrowing of meaning D. loss of meaning
38. The capital of Australia is _____.
 A. Sydney B. Melbourne C. Canberra D. Perth
39. Which degree is offered in community colleges in the United States?
 A. Master's degree B. Doctor's degree C. Bachelor's degree D. Associate's degree
40. Valentine's Day, is sweethearts' day, on which people in love with each other express their tender emotions.
 A. February 10th B. February 12th C. February 14th D. February 16th

Part II Reading Comprehension (40%)

Direction: There are 5 passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B) C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and write down the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet.

Passage One

On average, American kids of 3 to 12 spent 29 hours a week in school, eight hours more than they did in 1981. They also did more household work and participated in more of such organized activities as soccer and ballet (芭蕾舞). Involvement in sports, in particular, rose almost 50% from 1981 to 1997. Boys now spend an average of four hours a week playing sports; girls spent half that time. All in all, however, children's leisure time dropped from 40% of the day in 1981 to 25%.

"Children are affected by the same time crunch (危机) that affects their parents," says Sandra Hofferth, who headed the recent study of children's timetable. A chief reason, she says, is that more mothers are working outside the home. (Nevertheless, children in both double-income and "male breadwinner" households spent comparable amounts of time interacting with their parents, 19 hours and 22 hours respectively. In contrast, children spent only 9 hours with their single mothers.)

All work and no play could make for some very messed-up kids. "Play is the most powerful way a child explores the world and learns about himself," says T. Berry Brazelton, professor at Harvard Medical School. Unstructured play encourages independent thinking and allows the young to negotiate their relationships with their peers, but kids of 3 to 12 spent only 12 hours a week engaged in it.

The children sampled spent a quarter of their rapidly decreasing "free time" watching television. But that, believe it or not, was one of the findings parents might regard as good news. If they're spending less time in front of the TV set, however, kids aren't replacing it with reading. Despite efforts to get kids more interested in books, the children spent just over an hour a week reading. Let's face it, who's got the time?

41. By mentioning "the same time crunch" (Line 1, Para. 2) Sandra Hofferth means _____.
 A) children have little time to play with their parents
 B) children are not taken good care of by their working parents

- C) both parents and children suffer from lack of leisure time
- D) both parents and children have trouble managing their time

42. According to the author, the reason given by Sandra Hofferth for the time crunch is _____.

- A) quite convincing
- B) partially true
- C) totally groundless
- D) rather confusing

43. According to the author a child develops better if _____.

- A) he has plenty of time reading and studying
- B) he is left to play with his peers in his own way
- C) he has more time participating in school activities
- D) he is free to interact with his working parents

44. The author is concerned about the fact that American kids _____.

- A) are engaged in more and more structured activities
- B) are increasingly neglected by their working mothers
- C) are spending more and more time watching TV
- D) are involved less and less in household work

Passage Two

It is hard to track the blue whale, the ocean's largest creature, which has almost been killed off by commercial whaling and is now listed as an endangered species. Attaching radio devices to it is difficult, and visual sightings are too unreliable to give real insight into its behavior.

So biologists were delighted early this year when, with the help of the Navy, they were able to track a particular blue whale for 43 days, monitoring its sounds. This was possible because of the Navy's formerly top-secret system of underwater listening devices spanning the oceans.

Tracking whales is but one example of an exciting new world just opening to civilian scientists after the cold war as the Navy starts to share and partly uncover its global network of underwater listening system built over the decades to track the ships of potential enemies.

Earth scientists announced at a news conference recently that they had used the system for closely monitoring a deep-sea volcanic eruption (爆发) for the first time and that they plan similar studies.

Other scientists have proposed to use the network for tracking ocean currents and measuring changes in ocean and global temperatures.

The speed of sound in water is roughly one mile a second — slower than through land but faster than through air. What is most important, different layers of ocean water can act as channels for sounds, focusing them in the same way a stethoscope (听诊器) does when it carries faint noises from a patient's chest to a doctor's ear. This focusing is the main reason that even relatively weak sounds in the ocean, especially low-frequency ones, can often travel thousands of miles.

45. The passage is chiefly about _____.
A) an effort to protect an endangered marine species
B) the civilian use of a military detection system
C) the exposure of a U.S. Navy top-secret weapon
D) a new way to look into the behavior of blue whales
46. The underwater listening system was originally designed _____.
A) to trace and locate enemy vessels
B) to monitor deep-sea volcanic eruptions
C) to study the movement of ocean currents
D) to replace the global radio communications network
47. The deep-sea listening system makes use of _____.
A) the sophisticated technology of focusing sounds under water
B) the capability of sound to travel at high speed
C) the unique property of layers of ocean water in transmitting sound
D) low-frequency sounds traveling across different layers of water
48. It can be inferred from the passage that _____.
A) new radio devices should be developed for tracking the endangered blue whales
B) blue whales are no longer endangered with the use of the new listening system
C) opinions differ as to whether civilian scientists should be allowed to use military technology
D) military technology has great potential in civilian use

Passage Three

Unfortunately sale results over the last year have failed to come up to our expectations. A number of factors have been responsible, but basically it is the result of too many companies chasing the microcomputer market which is not expanding as fast as it once was.

Looking at the past year in detail, it must be admitted that the sales have declined considerably over the period. Our market share for wholesales has dropped from 21% to only 10%. The lack of good distributor in Asian has meant that our sales of the Obec series have collapsed despite the huge jump in the microcomputer market there during the past year. Our dominance of that part of market has been lost to Strong, but once we find a new distributor we should come back strongly.

Retail sales in general have been a problem. There has been a tendency for the big high street stores to concentrate on high volume turnover of a few fairly well-known makers. When they stopped promotion of Obec 1500, sales slumped by 50%. We are negotiating a fresh marketing deal for the new Obec 1600. Once this is settled we expect a gradual rise in sales, which will be followed by a big TV advertising campaign at the appropriate time. What we are facing now is that we have been able to push the Obec 1500 as much as we would have liked because of insufficient advertising.

Most of our advertising budget went on the promotion of Obec Extra before last Christmas. Unfortunately we have failed consistently to find the proper marketing strategy for the Extra, which has not been sold to either the leisure or the business market.

The serious business market has performed worse than any other in the period under review. The main factor was the introduction of the new Legend 586 Plus, when sales reduced over a period of several months. With this background it is natural that sales of the Obec 1000 and 2000 have gone into a slide. They showed a slight upturn just after the introduction of 586 Plus, only to crash again a few weeks later.

49. What purpose does the passage possibly serve?

- A) A company introduction to its employees.
- B) A market analysis for a specific industry to inform a client.
- C) An annual report of a company to direct its future decision.
- D) A marketing strategy proposal for discussion.

50. How many computer models are mentioned in this passage?

- A) Four
- B) Five
- C) Six
- D) Seven

51. Which of the following is NOT a measure suggested by the author to win back the market?

- A) Find a new local distributor in Asian.
- B) Launch a big TV advertising campaign for Obec 1600.
- C) Try to find the proper marketing strategy for the Extra.
- D) Introduce new products in the Asian market.

52. According to this passage, what is the major reason for its retail sales to drop?

- A) There are too many other products.
- B) Fewer and fewer people are interested in their products.
- C) There are major problems with their products.
- D) High-street stores neglected the promotion of their products.

Passage Four

Ask most people how they define the American Dream and chances are they'll say, "Success." The dream of individual opportunity has been home in American since Europeans discovered a "new world" in the Western Hemisphere. Early immigrants like Hector St. Jean de Crevecoeur praised highly the freedom and opportunity to be found in this new land. His glowing descriptions of a classless society where anyone could attain success through honesty and hard work fired the imaginations of many European readers: in *Letters from an American Farmer* (1782) he wrote, "We are all excited at the spirit of an industry which is unfettered (无拘无束的) and unrestrained, because each person works for himself ... We have no princes, for whom we toil (千苦力活), starve, and bleed: we are the most perfect society now existing in the world." The promise of a land where "the rewards of a man's industry follow with equal steps the progress of his labor" drew poor immigrants from Europe and fueled national expansion into the western territories.

Our national mythology (神化) is full of illustration the American success story. There's

Benjamin Franklin, the very model of the self-educated, self-made man, who rose from modest origins to become a well-known scientist, philosopher, and statesman. In the nineteenth century, Horatio Alger, a writer of fiction for young boys, became American's best-selling author with rags-to-riches tales. The notion of success haunts us: we spend million every year reading about the rich and famous, learning how to "make a fortune in real estate with no money down," and "dressing for success." The myth of success has even invaded our personal relationships: today it's as important to be "successful" in marriage or parenthoods as it is to come out on top in business. But dreams easily turn into nightmares. Every American who hopes to "make it" also knows the fear of failure, because the myth of success inevitably implies comparison between the haves and the have-nots, the stars and the anonymous crowd. Under pressure of the myth, we become indulged in status symbols: we try to live in the "right" neighborhoods, wear the "right" clothes, and eat the "right" foods. These symbols of distinction assure us and others that we believe strongly in the fundamental equality of all, yet strive as hard as we can to separate ourselves from our fellow citizens.

53. What is the essence of the American Dream according to Crevecoeur?

- A) People are free to develop their power of imagination.
- B) People who are honest and work hard can succeed.
- C) People are free from exploitation and oppression.
- D) People can fully enjoy individual freedom.

54. By saying "the rewards of a man's industry follow with equal steps the progress of his labor" (Line 10, Para. 1), the author means _____.

- A) the more diligent one is, the bigger his returns
- B) laborious work ensures the growth of an industry
- C) a man's business should be developed step by step
- D) a company's success depends on its employees' hard work

55. The characters described in Horatio Alger's novels are people who _____.

- A) succeed in real estate investment
- B) earned enormous fortunes by chances
- C) became wealthy after starting life very poor
- D) became famous despite their modest origins

56. It can be inferred from the last sentence of the second paragraph that _____.

- A) business success often contributes to a successful marriage
- B) Americans wish to succeed in every aspect of life
- C) good personal relationships lead to business success
- D) successful business people provide good care for their children

Passage Five

The ideal companion machine-the computer- would not only look, feel, and sound friendly but would also be programmed to behave in a pleasant manner. Those qualities that make interaction comfortable, and yet the machine would remain slightly unpredictable and therefore

interesting. In its first encounter it might be somewhat hesitant, but as it came to know the user it would progress to a more relaxed and intimate style. The machine would not be a passive participant but would add its own suggestions, information, and opinions; it would sometimes take the initiative in developing or changing the topic and would have a personality of its own.

Friendships are not made in a day, and the computer would be more acceptable as a friend if it imitated the gradual changes that occur when one person is getting to know another. At an appropriate time it might also express the kind of affection that stimulates attachment and intimacy. The whole process would be accomplished in a subtle way to avoid giving an impression of over-familiarity that would be likely to produce irritation. After experiencing a wealth of powerful, well-timed friendship indicators, the user would be very likely to accept the computer as far more than a machine and might well come to regard it as a friend.

An artificial relationship of this type would provide many of the benefits that could continue from previous discussions. It would have a familiarity with the user's life as revealed in earlier contact, and it would be understanding and good-humored. The computer's own personality would be lively and impressive, and it would develop in response to that of the user. With features such as these, the machine might indeed become a very attractive social partner.

57. Which of the following is not a feature of the ideal companion machine?

- A) Active in communication
- B) Attractive in personality.
- C) Enjoyable in performance
- D) Unpredictable in behavior

58. The computer would develop friendships with humans in a (n) _____ way.

- A) quick
- B) unpredictable
- C) productive
- D) inconspicuous.

59. Which of the following aspects is not mentioned when the passage discusses the benefits of artificial relationships?

- A) Being able to pick up an interesting conversation.
- B) Being sensitive to earlier contact.
- C) Being ready to learn about the person's life
- D) Having a pleasant and adaptable personality.

60. Throughout the passage, the author is _____ in his attitude toward the computer

- A) favorable
- B) critical
- C) vague
- D) hesitant