

北 京 科 技 大 学

2012 年硕士学位研究生入学考试试题

试题编号: 211 试题名称: 翻译硕士英语 (共 11 页)

适用专业: 翻译 (专业英语)

说明: 所有答案必须写在答题纸上, 做在试题或草稿纸上无效。

I. Vocabulary and Structure (30 points, 1 point each, 60 minutes)

Directions: Beneath each sentence there are four words or phrases marked A, B, C and D. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence. Write your answers on your answer sheet.

1. He was frustrated because, although he was adept at making lies sound _____, when telling the truth, he lacked the power to make himself believed.
A. convincing B. plausible C. true D. logical
2. The corporation expects only _____ increases in sales next year despite a year long effort to revive its retailing business.
A. modest B. sequential C. unquestionable D. exaggerated
3. The mother said she would _____ her son washing the dishes if he could finish his assignment before supper.
A. let down B. let alone C. let off D. let out
4. My favorite radio song is the one I first heard on a 1923 Edison disc I _____ at a garage sale.
A. trifled with B. scraped through C. stumbled upon D. thirsted for
5. While not _____ with the colorfully obvious forms of life that are found in a tropical rain forest, the desert is host to a surprisingly large number of species.
A. endowed B. teeming C. confronted D. imbued
6. Although I had been invited to the opening ceremony, I was unable to attend _____ such short notice.
A. to B. in C. with D. on
7. The journalist deprecated the efforts of environmental protection to stop deforestation, claiming that they had actually _____ the problem.

- A. initiated B. indicted C. accelerated D. alleviated
8. I think your sister is old enough to know _____ to spend all her money on fancy clothes.
A. other than B. more than C. rather than D. better than
9. The emotional outburst was quite unusual for him; he is typically one of the most _____ individuals you could ever meet.
A. stoic B. demonstrative C. extroverted D. inimical
10. Despite her gregariousness, she seems to have been a woman who cherished her _____ highly.
A. integrity B. privacy C. friendships D. humility
11. To those consumers who are more influenced by style than by performance, the _____ value of the sports car outweighs its functional flaws.
A. pragmatic B. utilitarian C. inexplicable D. aesthetic
12. The defendant's contrite behavior was not an act; he truly felt great _____ for the crime of which he was accused.
A. apprehension B. indigence C. remorse D. bliss
13. The fact that even the most traditional European language has _____ such words as "e-mail" seems to indicate that no language is impervious to foreign influences.
A. originated B. prohibited C. incorporated D. recounted
14. Despite the attempts to depict the stock market as driven by predictable financial principles, many investors believe that the price of any security is _____.
A. valuable B. responsive C. obscure D. capricious
15. A student becomes a thinker only when he or she realizes that most so-called facts are merely _____ claims, each serving its purpose only temporarily.
A. provisional B. authoritative C. dramatic D. pedantic
16. She approached her homework assignments in such a (an) _____ way that it is difficult to believe that she is at the top of her class.
A. diligent B. laggard C. adept D. fanatical
17. Because the team had been eliminated from the playoffs, they played with _____ in their final games, losing by an average of forty points per game.
A. fortitude B. resolution C. vigor D. apathy
18. Those who fear the influence of television deliberately _____ its persuasive power, hoping that they might keep knowledge of its potential to effect social

- change from being widely disseminated.
A. underplay B. promote C. excuse D. laud
19. As the employee's motives were found to be _____, no disciplinary action will be taken against him for the mistake.
A. absurd B. benign C. gratuitous D. improvised
20. To _____ people's hunger for adventures, they came up with many high-tech video games.
A. harmonize B. enhance C. nullify D. appease
21. Theories _____ on the individual suggest that children engage in criminal behavior because they were not sufficiently penalized for previous misdeeds.
A. acting B. centering C. relying D. commenting
22. Once accepted as an incontrovertible truth, the theory that nine planets revolve around our sun is now regarded by astronomers as _____.
A. dubious B. irrefutable C. universal D. conclusive
23. Although based on an actual event, the film lacks verisimilitude: the director shuffles events and _____ documentary truth for dramatic power.
A. embraces B. exaggerates C. substitutes D. sacrifices
24. The _____ of the neighborhood is revealed by subtle practices, like the fact that so many people in the community use the same hand gestures when speaking.
A. adaptability B. diversity C. cohesiveness D. creativity
25. Only if the number of applicants continues to _____ can the admission committee justify offering more scholarships in order to increase the number of applicants.
A. expand B. plummet C. mushroom D. burgeon
26. She writes across generational lines, making the past so _____ that our belief that the present is the true focus of experience is undermined.
A. complex B. vivid C. mysterious D. distant
27. A common argument claims that in folk art, the artist's subordination of technical mastery to intense feeling _____ the direct communication of emotion to the viewer.
A. facilitates B. neutralizes C. implies D. represses
28. I don't understand what you're getting so _____ about. It's really not a problem.
A. worked out B. worked over C. worked up D. worked against

29. The smile on the *Monalisa* has been the source of much _____ among art historians, who continue to interpret her expression in many different ways.
A. assent B. deliberation C. concurrence D. reconciliation
30. The Prime Minister had vetoed the proposal in the past; thus, it came as a surprise to the public when he _____ the same law in his most recent speech.
A. denounced B. initiated C. articulated D. sanctioned

II. Reading Comprehension (40 points, 2 points each. 60 minutes)

Section I

Directions: In this section there are three reading passages followed by multiple-choice questions. Read the passages and then write your answers on your answer sheet.

Passage One

Last week, *The Washington Post* ran a front-page story that said most stay-at-home moms aren't S.U.V. — driving, daily yoga-doing, latte-drinking, upper-middle-class women who choose to leave their high-power careers to answer the call to motherhood. Instead, they are disproportionately low-income, non-college educated, young and Hispanic or foreign-born; in other words, they are women whose horizons are greatly limited and for whom the cost of child care, very often, makes work not a workable choice at all.

These findings, drawn from a new report by the Census Bureau, really ought to lead us to reframe our public conversations about who mothers are and why they do what they do. It should lead us away from all the moralistic bombast about mothers' "choices" and "priorities". It should get us thinking less about choice, in fact, and make us focus more on contingencies — the objective conditions that drive women's lives. And they should propel us to think about the choices that we as a society must make to guarantee that the best possible opportunities are available for all families.

The basic finding of this latest report — that the more choices mothers have, the more likely they are to work — has been known, to anyone who's taken the time to seriously look into the issue. Ever since 2003, when Lisa Belkin's article in *The Times* magazine about highly privileged and ultra-high-achieving moms — "The Opt-Out Revolution" — was generalized by the news media to claim that mothers overall were choosing to leave the work force in droves, researchers have been revisiting the state of mothers' employment and reaching very similar conclusions.

In 2007, the sociologists David Cotter, Paula England and Joan Hermsen looked carefully at four decades of employment data and found that women with choices — those with college educations — were overwhelmingly choosing to stay in the work force. The only women "opting out" in any significant numbers were the very richest — those with husbands earning more than \$125,000 a year — and the very poorest —

those with husbands earning less than \$23, 4000 a year. You might say that the movement of the richest women out of the workforce proves that women will, in the best of all possible worlds, go home. But these women often have husbands who, in order to earn those top salaries, work 70 or 80 hours a week and travel extensively; someone had to be home. Many left high-powered careers that made similar demands on their time.

The alternative narrative — of constricted horizons, not choice — that might have emerged from recent research has never really made it into the mainstream. It just can't, it seems, find a foothold.

"The reason we keep getting this narrative is that there is this deep cultural ambivalence about mothers' employment," England told me this week. "On the one hand, people believe women should have equal opportunities, but on the other hand, we don't envision men taking on more child care and housework and, unlike Europe, we don't seem to be able to envision family-friendly work policies."

Why this matters — and why opening this topic up for discussion is important — is very clear: because our public policy continues to rest upon a fictitious idea, eternally recycled in the media, of mothers' free choices, and not upon the constraints that truly drive their behavior. "If journalism repeatedly frames the wrong problem, then the folks who make public policy may very well deliver the wrong solution," is how E. J. Graff, the associate director and senior researcher at Brandeis University's Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism once put it in the Columbia Journalism Review, "If women are happily choosing to stay home with their babies, that's private decision. But it's a public policy issue if schools, jobs and other American institutions are structured in ways that make it frustratingly difficult, and sometimes impossible, for parents to manage both their jobs and family responsibilities."

1. What is the significance of the report run by the Census Bureau?
 - A. It changes the images of what mothers are.
 - B. The society should notice the importance of mothers' choices.
 - C. We need talk about what mothers should do rather than the choices they have.
 - D. More attention should be paid to opportunities offered to change women's current lives.
2. The phrase "in droves" in Paragraph 3 means _____.
 - A. under stimulation
 - B. in groups
 - C. driven by conditions
 - D. none of the above
3. The fourth paragraph claims that _____.
 - A. the very richest prefer to opt out for the wealth they own
 - B. demands on time are the only reason for the poorest at home
 - C. financial affluence leads to the women's "opting out"
 - D. family responsibility forces women to stay at home

4. According to the passage, _____ is the root cause of women staying at home.
A. the media B. their own choice C. the public policy D. school structure
5. What is the best title for the passage?
A. The Choice of Non-Working Women
B. The Opt-Out Revolution of Women
C. The Objective Condition of Women
D. Women in Employment Market

Passage Two

You don't have to be Julian Assange, the man behind WikiLeaks, to think that governments have a nasty habit of abusing their powers of secrecy. Or that, whether governments are corrupt and malign or merely negligent and incompetent, then sunlight is often the best disinfectant. One of the jobs of journalism is to make a grubby nuisance of itself by ferreting out the establishment's half-truths and embarrassments. And one of the jobs of the courts is to police the press by protecting whistle-blowers while also punishing libel and treachery.

But the most recent WikiLeaks dump of diplomatic cables has overturned that order in two ways. First by its sheer volume. When you have not just a handful of documents to release, but more than 250,000 emails seemingly touching on every file in the State Department, however dusty, you discredit not just one government official or one policy, but an entire way of going about diplomacy.

It is too soon to know what effect the leak's revelations will have. The newspapers have so far published the e-mails piecemeal, and a lot more are to come. Foreign-policy experts are right when they say they have learned little that is radically new. Revelations about the tireless nightlife of Italy's aging prime minister will surprise no one. Given that hundreds of thousands of people had access to the cables, the sensitive stuff will already be in the hands of many a spy service.

But the experts also miss a larger point: they themselves are part of the elite inner-circle that WikiLeaks wants to break open so that Everyman can judge for himself. Perhaps shattering all those taboos might do some good. The public airing of Arab leaders' fears of an Iranian bomb might shake others' complacency about the issue.

But any gains will come at a high cost. In a world of WikiLeaks, diplomacy would no longer be possible. The secrecy that WikiLeaks despises is vital to all organizations, including government --- and especially in the realm of international relations. Those who pass information to American diplomats, out of self-interest, conviction or goodwill, will be less open now. Some of them, like the Iranian businessman fingered as a friend of America, could face reprisals.

In the past, the rights and wrongs of all this could have been determined by public debate, the passage of some legislation and the courts. Not any longer. The second way in which WikiLeaks has overturned the old order is by being beyond jurisdiction.

America can and will try to use its laws to protect its secrets. But even if it locks up Bradley Manning, the 23-year-old serviceman thought to be behind the leaks, and even if it captures Mr. Assange, the information is out, on a network of computers somewhere in cyberspace.

In any case, there will be the other Mannings and other Assanges. You cannot uninvent the technology for copying a State Department's worth of cables and carting them pretty much anywhere. The only remedy is to manage secrets better. The damage that America's diplomatic service has suffered is partly the result of sloppy practices. It has now tightened access to the e-mails and the scope to copy them. Sensitive information will have to receive a higher classification.

On reading diplomats' dissembling, people may be tempted to sneer. In fact diplomacy's never-ending private conversation ultimately helps see off war and strife. That conversation will continue. Too many people have too much to gain for it to stop. But it will be less rich, less clear and therefore probably less useful. WikiLeaks claims to want to make the world a better place. It will probably do the reverse.

6. Which of the following statements can NOT be learned from the first paragraph?
 - A. Few people think governments tend to abuse their powers of secrecy.
 - B. Ordinary people generally approve of the transparency in the media.
 - C. The journalism has the responsibility to make known the hidden truth.
 - D. The judicature has the duty to maintain the security of the press.
7. According to the passage, which is NOT the viewpoint of the author?
 - A. WikiLeaks has released much more information than imagined.
 - B. WikiLeaks has overstepped jurisdiction.
 - C. WikiLeaks has changed the practice of diplomacy in the world.
 - D. WikiLeaks has ushered in a new era in the press.
8. Why did the author say in Paragraph 3 that "Italy's aging prime minister will surprise no one"?
 - A. No one is interested in leaders' affairs.
 - B. There have been too many such revelations.
 - C. People have already known the stuff.
 - D. No one believes in the truth of this revelation.
9. What is the way to prevent the leak of top secrets?
 - A. To ban WikiLeaks.
 - B. To raise the safety of secrets.
 - C. To change the working environment and practice.
 - D. To remind governments of the threat from WikiLeaks.
10. What is the author's attitude towards WikiLeaks?
 - A. Positive
 - B. Disapproval
 - C. Objective
 - D. Cynical

Passage Three

To many developers of technologies that affect public health or the environment, “risk communication” means persuading the public that the potential risks of such technologies are small and should be ignored. Those who communicate risks in this way seem to believe that lay people do not understand the actual nature of technological risk, and they can cite studies asserting that although people apparently ignore mundane hazards that pose significant danger, they get upset about exotic hazards that pose little chance of death or injury. Because some risk communicators take this persuasive stance, many lay people see “risk communication” as a euphemism for brainwashing done by experts.

Since, however, the goal of risk communication should be to enable people to make informed decisions about technological risks, a clear understanding about how the public perceives risk is needed. Lay people’s definitions of “risk” are more likely to reflect subjective ethical concerns than are experts’ definitions. Lay people, for example, tend to perceive a small risk to children as more significant than a large risk to consenting adults who benefit from the risk-cheating technology. However, if asked to rank hazards by the number of annual fatalities, without reference to ethical judgments, lay people provide quite reasonable estimates, demonstrating that they have substantial knowledge about many risks. Although some studies claim to demonstrate that lay people have inappropriate concerns about exotic hazards, these studies often use questionable methods, such as asking lay people to rank risks that are hard to compare. In contrast, a recent study showed that when lay people were given the necessary facts and time, they understood the specific risks of electromagnetic fields produced by high-voltage power transmission well enough to make informed decisions.

Risk communication should therefore be based on the principle that people process new information in the context of their existing beliefs. If people know nothing about a topic, they will find messages about that topic incomprehensible. If they have erroneous beliefs, they are likely to misconstrue the messages. Thus, communicators need to know the nature and extent of recipients’ knowledge and beliefs in order to design messages that will not be dismissed or misinterpreted. This need was demonstrated in a research project concerning the public’s level of knowledge about risks posed by the presence of radon in the home. Researchers used open-ended interviews and questionnaires to determine what information should be included in their brochure on radon. Subjects who read the researchers’ brochure performed significantly better in understanding radon risks than did a control group who read a brochure that was written using a different approach by a government agency. Thus, careful preparation can help risk communicators to produce balanced material that tells people what they need to know to make decisions about technological risks.

11. Which of the following best expresses the main point of the passage?

- A. Risk communicators are addressing the proliferation of complex technologies that have increasing impact on public health and safety.

- B. Risk communicators should assess lay people's understanding of technologies to give them the information they need to make reasonable decisions.
- C. Experts who want to communicate to the public about the possible risks of complex technologies must simplify the message to make it understandable.
- D. Lay people can be unduly influenced by subjective concerns when making decisions about technological risks.
12. The author of the passage would be most likely to agree that the primary purpose of risk communication should be to _____.
A. explain rather than to persuade
B. promote rather than to justify
C. influence experts rather than to influence lay people
D. allay people's fears about mundane hazards rather than exotic hazards
13. According to the passage, when risk communicators attempt to communicate with lay people who have mistaken ideas about a particular technology, the latter probably _____.
A. only partially revise their ideas on the basis of the new information
B. ignore any communication about a technology they consider potentially dangerous
C. interpret the communication differently than the risk communicator had intended
D. misunderstand the new information and distort it when communicating to other lay people
14. It can be inferred that the author of the passage would be more likely than the risk communicators discussed in the first paragraph to emphasize _____.
A. lay people's tendency to become alarmed about technologies they find strange
B. lay people's tendency to compare risks experts would not think comparable
C. the need for lay people to adopt scientists' advice about technological risk
D. the impact of lay people's value systems on their perceptions of risk
15. According to the passage, which one of the following about risk communication do many lay people believe?
A. It focuses excessively on mundane hazards.
B. It is a tool used to manipulate the public.
C. It is a major cause of inaccuracies in public knowledge about science.
D. It most often functions to help people make informed decisions.

Section II

Directions: Read the following passage and then answer in COMPLETE SENTENCES the questions which follow the passage. Write your answers in the

Passage Four

If you want to see what it takes to set up an entirely new financial center (and what is best avoided), head for Dubai. This tiny, sun-baked patch of sand in the midst of a war-torn and isolated region started with few advantages other than a long tradition as a hub for Middle Eastern trade routes.

But over the past few years Dubai had built a new financial center from nothing. Dozens of the world's leading financial institutions have opened offices in its new financial district, hoping to grab a portion of the \$2 trillion-plus investment from the Gulf. Some say there is more hype than business, but few big firms are willing to risk missing out.

Dealmaking in Dubai centers around The Gate, a cube-shaped structure at the heart of the Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC). A brainchild of the ruling al-Maktoum family, the DIFC is a tax-free zone for wholesale financial services. Firms licensed for it are not approved to serve the local financial market. The DIFC aims to become the leading wholesale financial centre in the Gulf, offering one-stop shopping for everything from stocks to sukuk bonds, investment banking and insurance. In August the Dubai bourse made a bid for a big stake in OMX, a Scandinavian exchange operator that also sells trading technology to many of the world's exchanges.

Dubai may have generated the biggest splash thus far, but much of the Gulf region has seen a surge of activity in recent years. Record flows of petrodollars have enabled governments in the area to spend billions on infrastructure projects and development. Personal wealth too is growing rapidly.

Qatar, Bahrain and Abu Dhabi also have big aspirations for their financial hubs, though they keep a lower profile than Dubai. They, too, are trying to learn from more established financial centers what they must do to achieve the magic mix of transparent regulation, good infrastructure and low or no taxes. Some of the fiercest competition between them is for talent. Most English-speaking professionals have to be imported.

Each of the Gulf hubs, though, has its own distinct characteristics. Abu Dhabi is trying to present itself as a more cultured, less congested alternative to neighboring Dubai, and is building a huge Guggenheim museum. Energy-rich Qatar is an important hub for infrastructure finance, with ambitions to develop further business in wealth management, private equity, retail banking and insurance. Bahrain is well established in Islamic banking, but it is facing new competition from London, Kuala Lumpur and other hubs that have caught on to Islamic finance. "If you've got one string to your bow and suddenly someone takes it away, you're in trouble," says Stuart Pearce of the Qatar Financial Center about Bahrain.

Saudi Arabia, by far the biggest economy in the Gulf, is creating a cluster of its own economic zones, including King Abdullah City, which is aimed at foreign investors seeking a presence in the country. Trying to cut down on the number of

“Suitcase bankers” who fly in from nearby centers rather than live in the country, the Saudis now require firms working with them to have local business licences. Yet the bulk of the region’s money is still flowing to established financial centre in Europe, America and other parts of Asia.

The financial hubs there offer lessons for aspiring centers in other parts of the developing world. Building the confidence of financial markets takes more than new skyscrapers, tax breaks and incentives. The DIFC, for instance, initially suffered from suspicions of government meddling and from a high turnover among senior executives. Trading on its stockmarket remains thin, and the government seems unwilling to float its most successful companies there. Making the desert bloom was never easy.

Questions:

16. What does the “surge of activity in the Gulf region” in Paragraph 4 refer to?
17. What is the purpose of discussing countries as Qatar and Bahrain in Paragraph 5 and 6?
18. What is the implication of Stuart Pearce’s comment in Paragraph 6?
19. Whom does “suitcase bankers” in Paragraph 7 refer to?
20. What is the main idea of the passage and what is the author’s attitude towards the issue under discussion?

III. Writing (30 points. 60 minutes)

Weibo, micro-blog or the Chinese Twitter, ranking as the most powerful media outlet in China, has experienced its boom in the last few years, with a dramatic increase of its registration and popularity. Millions of Chinese people, from governmental officials to celebrities, rush to launch their *Weibo*, sharing their lives with other people online.

Write a composition of about 400 words about this phenomenon and your opinion about it.