

西安外国语学院  
2004 年硕士研究生入学考试  
英语专业：基础英语试题

Part One Basic English

I. Vocabulary and Structure

Section A

Directions: This section consists of 15 incomplete sentences. Each sentence is followed by 4 words or phrases. Select the word or phrase that best fits in with each context and mark your answer by blackening the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet. (15 points)

1. These rules and regulations apply only \_\_\_\_\_ joint ventures and corporations.  
[A] to [B] for  
[C] with [D] about
2. A Foreign Ministry statement said that the French government rejoiced \_\_\_\_\_ the happy outcome to the event.  
[A] for [B] in  
[C] with [D] over
3. Inspectors were appointed to inquire \_\_\_\_\_ the affairs of the company.  
[A] with [B] after  
[C] into [D] about
4. The group does not \_\_\_\_\_ market conditions to improve substantially in the second half of this year.  
[A] aspire [B] expect  
[C] predict [D] estimate
5. If you want to \_\_\_\_\_ your point of view, you need to provide more evidence or support for it.  
[A] deduce [B] increase  
[C] formulate [D] reinforce
6. Different from the other speakers at this conference, I would \_\_\_\_\_ that juvenile delinquency is one of our serious social problems today.  
[A] state [B] explain  
[C] contend [D] assume
7. During the art festival, she quickly \_\_\_\_\_ herself of the opportunity to make friends.  
[A] availed [B] seized  
[C] obtained [D] acquired
8. The financial scandal is yet to unfold, so the official has shown extreme \_\_\_\_\_ to explain their position to the media.  
[A] patience [B] reluctance  
[C] uneasiness [D] willingness

9. The two parties have finally reached a \_\_\_\_\_ on this issue after a series of heated debates in the Parliament.  
 [A] doctrine [B] negotiation  
 [C] hypothesis [D] consensus
10. The company has worked out an \_\_\_\_\_ management training scheme for newly recruited graduates.  
 [A] elaborate [B] abundant  
 [C] inherent [D] optimistic
11. Owing to the development in mass communications, people everywhere are feeling new wants and are being \_\_\_\_\_ to new customs and ideas.  
 [A] adapted [B] subjected  
 [C] exposed [D] tailored
12. Regular reading is believed to broaden the mind and \_\_\_\_\_ the spirit.  
 [A] uplift [B] nurse  
 [C] inflate [D] cherish
13. First-rate companies are highly \_\_\_\_\_ to market signals.  
 [A] interactive [B] competitive  
 [C] pervasive [D] responsive
14. As a result of his academic advancement, Henry will \_\_\_\_\_ a wider range of responsibilities for the research project.  
 [A] take to [B] take on  
 [C] take over [D] take after
15. His colleague \_\_\_\_\_ the description given by the police, so he must be the criminal.  
 [A] answers up [B] answers for  
 [C] answers to [D] answers back

### Section B

Directions: This section consists of fifteen (15) incomplete sentences, each followed by four (4) possible answers. Select the one that best completes each sentence and then mark your answer on the Answer Sheet. (15 points)

16. \_\_\_\_\_ can help but be fascinated by the world into which he is taken by the science fiction.  
 [A] Everybody [B] Anybody  
 [C] Somebody [D] Nobody
17. Culture is defined as \_\_\_\_\_ complex whole which includes belief, art, morals, law, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by \_\_\_\_\_ man as a member of \_\_\_\_\_ society.  
 [A] the; /; the [B] a; the; /  
 [C] the; /; the [D] a; /; /
18. The emphasis on data gathered first-hand, combined with a cross-cultural perspective \_\_\_\_\_ to the analysis of cultures past and present, makes this study a unique and



- distinctly important social science.
- [A] bringing [B] brought  
[C] being brought [D] to be brought
19. A safety analysis \_\_\_\_\_ the target as a potential danger. Unfortunately, it was never done.
- [A] would identify [B] will identify  
[C] would have identified [D] will have identified
20. For there \_\_\_\_\_ successful communication, there must be attentiveness and involvement in the discussion itself by all present.
- [A] is [B] to be  
[C] will be [D] being
21. Some buildings that were destroyed and heavily damaged in the earthquake last year \_\_\_\_\_ in violation of the city's building code.
- [A] were constructed [B] were being constructed  
[C] had been constructed [D] were to be constructed
22. The strength of a country's economy is bound up with the efficiency of its agriculture and industry, and this \_\_\_\_\_ rests upon the efforts of scientists and technologists.
- [A] in turn [B] by chance  
[C] in addition [D] to some extent
23. Doctors see a connection between increased amounts of leisure time spent \_\_\_\_\_ and the increased number of cases of skin cancer.
- [A] to sunbathe [B] to have sunbathed  
[C] having sunbathed [D] sunbathing
24. We hope the measures to control prices, \_\_\_\_\_ taken by the government, will succeed.
- [A] when [B] as  
[C] since [D] after
25. \_\_\_\_\_ my return, I learned that Professor Smith had been at the museum and would not be back for several hours.
- [A] At [B] On  
[C] With [D] During
26. Our modern civilization must not be thought of as \_\_\_\_\_ in a short period of time.
- [A] being created [B] to have been created  
[C] having been created [D] to be created
27. Had Paul received six more votes in the last election, he \_\_\_\_\_ our chairman now.
- [A] were [B] would be  
[C] must have been [D] would have been
28. Substantial efforts to increase crude oil production must be made if fuel shortages \_\_\_\_\_ avoided.
- [A] can be [B] will be  
[C] are to be [D] have been



29. The semantic differences between the two sentences are so trivial as hardly \_\_\_\_\_.  
 [A] explained [B] to be explained  
 [C] being explained [D] to explain
30. \_\_\_\_\_ to my amazement, he burst out laughing before so many distinguished guests.  
 [A] Much [B] More  
 [C] Too much [D] Much more

## II. Reading Comprehension

Directions: This section consists of 2 reading texts. Each of them is followed by a number of questions or unfinished statements based on its content. After you read each text, select the best answer to each question and mark your answer on the Answer Sheet. (10 points)

### Text A

Plants are subject to attack and infection by a remarkable variety of symbiotic species and have evolved a diverse array of mechanisms to frustrate the potential colonists. These can be divided into pre-formed or passive defense mechanisms and inducible or active systems. Passive plant defense comprises physical and chemical barriers that prevent entry of pathogens, such as bacteria, or render tissues unpalatable or toxic to the invader. The external surfaces of plants, in addition to being covered by an epidermis and a waxy cuticle, often carry spiky hairs known as trichomes, which either prevent feeding by insects or may even puncture and kill insect larvae. Other trichomes are sticky and glandular and effectively trap and immobilize insects.

If the physical barriers of the plant are breached, then pre-formed chemicals may inhibit or kill the intruder and plant tissues contain a diverse array of toxic or potentially toxic substances, such as resins, tannins, glycosides, and alkaloids, many of which are highly effective deterrents to insects that feed on plants. The success of the Colorado beetle in infesting potatoes, for example, seems to be correlated with its high tolerance to alkaloids that normally repel potential pests. Other possible chemical defenses, while not directly toxic to the parasite, may inhibit some essential step in the establishment of a parasitic relationship. For example, glycoproteins in plant cell walls may be inactive enzymes that degrade cell walls. These enzymes are often produced by bacteria or fungi.

Active plant defense mechanisms are comparable to the immune system of vertebrate animals, although the cellular and molecular bases are fundamentally different. Both, however, are triggered in reaction to intrusion, implying that the host has some means of recognizing the presence of a foreign organism. The most dramatic example of an inducible plant defense reaction is the hypersensitive response. In the hypersensitive response, cells undergo rapid necrosis, that is, they become diseased and die after being penetrated by a parasite; the parasite itself subsequently ceases to grow and is therefore restricted to one or a few cells around the entry site. Several theories have been put forward to explain the basis of hypersensitive resistance.



31. What does the passage mainly discuss?  
 [A] The success of parasites in resisting plant defense mechanisms.  
 [B] Theories on active plant defense mechanisms.  
 [C] The major functions of plant defense mechanisms.  
 [D] The immune system of animals and the defense mechanisms of plants.
32. The word 'puncture' as underlined in Paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
 [A] pierce [B] pinch  
 [C] surround [D] cover
33. The word 'which' as underlined in Paragraph 2 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.  
 [A] tissues [B] substances  
 [C] barriers [D] insects
34. Which of the following substances does the author mention as not necessarily being toxic to the Colorado beetle?  
 [A] Resins [B] Tannins  
 [C] Glycosides [D] Alkaloids
35. The passage most probably continues with a discussion of theories on \_\_\_\_\_.  
 [A] the basis of passive plant defense  
 [B] the inhibitive effects of chemicals on a parasitic relationship  
 [C] the way in which plants produce toxic chemicals  
 [D] the principles of the hypersensitive response

#### Text B The Unseeing Eye

The old man stood there at a loss, his sunken eyes staring at the man seated behind the table. Raising his hand, he wiped the sweat from his forehead and heavily wrinkled face. He didn't use the traditional kerchief and headband as usual, though he could feel the sweat running down his temple and neck, and he gave no reply to the man seated behind the table who went on asking him, 'Why did you go in opening all the doors of the wards looking for your wife? Why didn't you come directly to Enquires?' The old man kept silent. Why, though, was the man seated behind the table continuing to open one drawer after another? His eyes busy watching him, he said, 'I came here the day before yesterday wanting the hospital and looking for the mother of my children.'

The man seated behind the table muttered irritably, blaming himself for not having ever learned how to ask the right question, how to get a conversation going, and why it was that his question, full of explanations, and sometimes of annoyance, weren't effective. He puffed at his cigarette as he enquired in exasperation, 'What's your wife's name?' The old man at once replied, 'Zeinab Mohamed.' The man seated behind the table began flipping through the pages of the thick ledger; each time he turned over a page there was a loud noise that was heard by everyone in the waiting room. He went on flipping through the pages of his ledger, pursing his lips listlessly, then nervously, as he kept bringing the ledger close to his face until finally he said, 'Your wife came in here the day before yesterday?' The old man in relief at once answered, 'Yes, sir, when her heart came to a stop.' Once



again irritated, the man seated behind the table mumbled to himself, 'Had her heart stopped she wouldn't be here, neither would you'. With his eyes still on the ledger, he said, 'She's in Ward 4, but it's not permitted for you to enter her ward because there are other women there.' Yawning, he called to the nurse leaning against the wall. She came forward, in her hand a paper cup from which she was drinking. Motioning with his head to the man, he said, 'Ward Number 4 - Zeinab Mohamed.' The nurse walked ahead, without raising her mouth from the cup. The old man asked himself how it was that this woman worked in a hospital that was crammed with men, even though she spoke Arabic. Having arrived at the ward, the nurse left him outside after telling him to wait; then, after a while, she came out and said to him, 'There are two women called Zeinab Mohamed. One of them, though, has only one eye. Which one is your wife so that I can call her?'

The old man was thrown into confusion. One eye? How am I to know? He tried to recall what his wife Zeinab looked like, with her long gown and black headdress, the veil, and sometimes the black covering enveloping her face and sometimes removed and lying on her neck. He could picture her as she walked and sat, chewing a morsel and then taking it out of her mouth so as to place it in that of her first-born. Her children. One eye. How am I to know? He could picture her stretched out on the bed, her eyes closed. The old man was thrown into confusion and found himself saying, 'When I call her, she'll know my voice.' The nurse doubted whether he was in fact visiting his wife; however, giving him another glance; she laughed at her suspicions and asked him, 'How long have the two of you been married? Again, he was confused as he said, 'Allah knows best - thirty, forty years...'

36. What does the title of the passage suggest?
- [A] The old man had very poor vision.
  - [B] The old man's wife had an eye problem.
  - [C] The old man failed to see what he should have seen.
  - [D] The old man's wife was not easy to recognize.
37. Which of the following can be inferred about the old man seated behind the table?
- [A] He showed much tolerance to the old man.
  - [B] He often put on airs before people of lower status.
  - [C] He refused to respond to the old man's enquiries.
  - [D] He seemed to lose his patience too easily.
38. The word 'muttered' in Line 1, Paragraph 2 means \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] complained
  - [B] denoted
  - [C] groaned
  - [D] refuted
39. Which of the following words best describes the old man's mood when he could not answer the nurse's questions?
- [A] Surprised
  - [B] Puzzled
  - [C] Irritated
  - [D] Reserved
40. Which of the following may least reveal the old man's Arabian identity?
- [A] His religious belief
  - [B] His attitude toward the nurse
  - [C] His memories of his spouse
  - [D] His kerchief and headband



### III. Cloze Test

Directions: Fill in each of the numbered blanks in the following text with one word that is appropriate to context. Write down all your answers in the space provided on the Answer Sheet. (10 points)

In the United States, there is a belief that people are rewarded for working, producing and achieving. Many people 41 that there is equality of opportunity that 42 anyone to become successful. This belief is illustrated by stories written by 43 19<sup>th</sup>-century American novelist, Horatio Alger, who wrote about the American Dream. In his stories he described poor people 44 became rich because of their hard work, honesty and luck. The stories reinforced the 45 that all individuals, no matter how poor, were 46 of becoming wealthy as long as they were 47 and virtuous. 48 many Americans, Horatio Alger's rags-to-riches stories do not 49 the reality of opportunity. Many poor immigrants who came to the United States in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries were able to 50 on the social and economic scales. Today, 51, the poor generally do not rise to the middle and upper classes. The American Dream is now described 52 a myth.

There are some people, however, who do succeed in 53 their economic and social levels. 'Upward mobility' and 'climbing the ladder' are terms that 54 to one's advancement in work. Many employees have a succession of jobs 55 constitute a career. Some businesses, organizations and government agencies provide employees with the 56 to progress to higher positions. Promotions and increased responsibility generally 57 higher salaries.

Rewards for achievement in work are personal as well as financial. There is increased job satisfaction 58 employees have the opportunity to develop creative and intellectual skills. Gaining 59 from fellow workers, supervisors and managers gives one a 60 of importance and identity in society.

## Part Two Linguistics

### I. Short-answer questions. (10 points)

1. Explain why most linguistic studies are synchronic than diachronic.
2. What is meant by displacement as one of the design features of human language?
3. What is the basic test used for determining phonemes in a language?
4. One characteristic of inflectional morphemes is its productivity. Use an example to give explanations for it.
5. What prescriptive rules for the 'proper' use of English are not obeyed in the following sentences?
  - a) He wanted to simply borrow your car for an hour.
  - b) That's the man I gave my umbrella to.



- II. Select from the lettered choices the one which best completes the statement or answers the question in the following items. (10 points)
- When linguists investigate the meaning of words in a language, they are normally interested in characterizing the \_\_\_\_\_ meaning of a word.  
A. associative  
B. conceptual  
C. connotative  
D. stylistic
  - What phonological rule is illustrated by pronouncing the vowel sound of, for example, 'hand' with a nasalized articulation?  
A. vowel merger  
B. sequential  
C. assimilation  
D. elision
  - What meaning change is illustrated by the process of changing from 'holy day' to 'holiday'?  
A. compounding  
B. narrowing  
C. simplifying  
D. broadening
  - The main concern of \_\_\_\_\_ is to investigate the distribution of forms in a language.  
A. structure analysis  
B. prescriptive approach  
C. descriptive approach  
D. generative grammar
  - An indirect speech act is described as a syntactic form used to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. perform a function  
B. provide information  
C. ask a question  
D. make a statement
  - The underlined word in the sentence 'Mr. Smith used to drink the whole bottle when he came home after work.' is classified as \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. polysemy  
B. metonymy  
C. hyponymy  
D. synonymy
  - Which of the following structures can not be changed via the Particle Movement transformation?  
A. John put his shirt off.  
B. He put down his glass.  
C. They jumped in the pool.  
D. They expressed clearly their ideas.
  - In the sentence 'Well, to be quite honest, I don't think she will help you', which maxim does the speaker seem to be particularly careful about?  
A. quality  
B. quantity  
C. relevance  
D. manner
  - When a noun phrase designates an entity as the person who has a feeling, a perception or a state, it fills the semantic role of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. agent  
B. source  
C. experiencer  
D. theme
  - You may find, in English, a number of expressions such as chit-chat, and criss-cross which never seem to occur in the reverse order. The phonetic description of the regular



pattern in these expressions can be described as moving from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ vowels.

A. low, back; high, front

B. high, back; low, front

C. low, front; high, back

D. high, front; low, back

### III. Essay questions. (10 points)

[此题目，报考外国语言学及应用语言学(050211)的考生必答，报考英语语言文学的考生不答。]

1. Why is the fact that human language is *productive* one of its most distinctive properties? In answering this question, consider both your ability to create sentences you have never seen or heard before and also your ability to understand such sentences.
2. Comment on language science, or linguistics, as a field of study. In what ways does this foster our knowledge of language?

## Part Three English and American Literatures

### I. Select the one that best completes the statement. (15 points)

1. "In Essence, it is a historical period in which the European humanist thinkers and scholars made attempt to get rid of those old feudalism ideas in medieval Europe, to introduce new ideas that expressed the interests of the rising bourgeoisie, and to recover the purity of the early church from the corruption of the Roman Catholic Churches." The historical period referred to in the above passage is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Romanticism B. Realism C. Renaissance D. Enlightenment
2. Shakespeare's tragedies include all the following except \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. *Hamlet* and *King Lear* B. *Antony and Cleopatra* and *Macbeth*  
C. *Coriolanus* and *Othello* D. *The Twelfth Night* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
3. The inductive reasoning is attributed to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Aristotle B. Bacon C. Darwin D. Einstein
4. In English literature, Neoclassicism emphasizes the importance of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. order, wit and instruction B. full expression of personal feelings  
C. ordinary language D. common life as subject
5. In the eighteenth-century English literature, \_\_\_\_\_ is possibly the greatest playwright.  
A. Christopher Marlowe B. Ben Jonson  
C. Richard Brinsley Sheridan D. George Bernard Shaw
6. Henry Fielding has been regarded, by some, as "Father of the English Novel" for his contribution to the establishment of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the modern novel.  
A. style B. theme C. form D. characterization
7. In his poem "Tyger, Tyger," John Keats expresses his perception of the "fearful symmetry" of the big cat. The phrase "fearful symmetry" suggests \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the tiger's two eyes which are dazzlingly bright and symmetrically set  
B. the poet's fear of the predator



- C. the analogy of the hammer and the anvil  
D. the harmony of the two opposite aspects of God's creation
8. "What is his name?"  
"Bingley."  
"Is he married or single?"  
"Oh! Single, my dear, to be sure! A single man of large fortune; four or five thousand a year. What are a fine thing for our girls!"  
The above dialogue must be taken from \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*      B. Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights*  
C. John Galsworthy's *The Forsyte Saga*      D. George Eliot's *Middlemarch*
9. "In the novel, James Joyce intends to present a microcosm of the whole human life by providing an instance of how a single event contains all the events of its kind, and how history is recapitulated in the happenings of one day." James Joyce's novel referred to in the passage must be \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*      B. *Ulysses*  
C. *Finnegans Wake*      D. *Dubliners*
10. The American novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne is known for his "black vision." The term "black vision" refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Hawthorne's observation that every man faces a black wall  
B. Hawthorne's belief that all men are sinners  
C. that Hawthorne employed a dream vision to tell his story  
D. that Puritans of Hawthorne's time usually wore black clothes
11. Ezra Pound was the leading spokesman of a 20th-century literary movement known as \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Symbolism      B. Imagism      C. Naturalism      D. Expressionism
12. "He is the last of the romantic heroes, whose energy and sense of commitment takes him in search of his personal Grail; his failure magnifies to a great extent the end of the American Dream." The character referred to in the passage is most likely the protagonist of \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*      B. Dreiser's *An American Tragedy*  
C. Hemingway's *For Whom the Bell Tolls*      D. Twain's *Huckleberry Finn*
13. My long two-pointed ladder's sticking through a tree  
Toward heaven still,  
And there's a barrel that I didn't fill  
Beside it, and there may be two or three  
Apples I didn't pick upon some bough.  
But I am done with apple-picking now.  
(Robert Frost, "After Apple-Picking")  
The image of a ladder sticking through a tree toward heaven may suggest that
- A. the speaker is still on the ladder, picking apples.  
B. the speaker forgot to remove the ladder after the apple-picking.



- ☐ C. the speaker will make another attempt after a short rest.  
☒ D. the speaker still desires to get more but is not able because of physical weariness.

14. Almost all Faulkner's heroes turned out to be tragic because

- A. all lived in the declining American South.  
 B. none of them was conditioned by the civilization and social institutions.

☒ C. all were prisoners of the past.

☐ D. none were successful in their attempt to explain the inexplicable.

15. Yank, the protagonist of Eugene O'Neill's play *The Hairy Ape*, talked to the gorilla and set it free because \_\_\_\_\_.

A. he was mad, mistaking a beast for a human

☒ B. he was told by the white young lady that he was like a beast and he wanted to see how closely he resembled the gorilla

C. he was caged with the gorilla after he insulted an aristocratic stroller

D. he could feel the kinship only with the beast

II. Read the following lines and then answer the questions. (5 points)

A vile conceit in pompous words expressed  
 Is like a clown in regal purple dressed;  
 For different styles with different subjects sort,  
 As several garbs with country, town, and court.

Alexander Pope, "An Essay on Criticism"

1. Paraphrase the last two lines.

2. What is Pope's idea about the relationship between the language and the subject of a literary work?

III. Discuss BRIEFLY the ways realist writers attempt to reach their goal of "truthful treatment of life." You can use any literary work to illustrate your discussion. (10 points)

[此题目，报考英语语言文学(050201)的考生必答，报考外国语言学及应用语言学的考生不答。]

## Part Four British and American Studies

I. Complete the following sentences. (20 points)

- \_\_\_\_\_ might be regarded as a supplementary means to deal with cases not covered by Common Law.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is the royal residence in London, facing St. James' Park.
- The Chartist Movement was from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.
- The Parliament that existed for only 3 weeks was known in history as the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Henry VIII was King of England during the \_\_\_\_\_ period.
- What people call the \_\_\_\_\_ sector is comprised of small or unincorporated businesses.



7. On April 30, 1789, Washington swore into office in the nation's capital \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Jefferson Davis was the president of \_\_\_\_\_.
9. In 1919, Congress passed the Prohibition Law to forbid the making and selling of \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The purpose of the "Lend-Lease" policy was to \_\_\_\_\_.

**II. Define the following words. (20 points)**

1. Protestants
2. Renaissance
3. French and Indian War
4. Lexington
5. Watergate Affair

**III. Essay Question. (10 points)**

What were the frontier values? And how were they shaped?