

※ 考生請注意：本試題不可使用計算機。請於答案卷(卡)作答，於本試題紙上作答者，不予計分。

A. Filling the blanks. There will be empty lines beneath the to-be-filled part of each sentence. Please pick the best (or most appropriate) word/phrases. (30 questions, 2 points each, totally 60 points for part A).

1. U.S. stocks _____ with the NASDAQ rising over than one percent as oil prices and benchmark interest rates hit multi-month lows.
(A) sludge
(B) surged
(C) splurged
(D) spurned
2. The gap between corporate earnings reported _____ the nation's accounting standard reached its second highest level of overstatement in the last two years.
(A) along
(B) into
(C) under
(D) above
3. The company's founder had three severely clogged arteries, according to the doctor's _____ results released Wednesday.
(A) auditory
(B) autopsy
(C) occipital
(D) epilepsy
4. Analysts were still trying to decide what to make _____ a combination of weak housing data and solid mortgage-bond related buying.
(A) into
(B) of
(C) up
(D) on
5. Major Japanese companies have grown more optimistic for the first quarter in three but _____ tougher conditions next year because of a slowing US economy.
(A) accepted

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(B) expected

(C) except

(D) exerted

6. The nation's second-largest health insurer said its quarterly profits grew 26.5 percent, as the company benefited _____ recent acquisitions.

(A) with

(B) from

(C) into

(D) along

7. As air conditioners _____ a near-record amount of electricity, the operators of New York City's power grid sent out an alert.

(A) reduced

(B) recycled

(C) devoured

(D) detained

8. Automakers can proceed with a lawsuit _____ to block strict vehicle emission standards that California regulators adopted two years ago.

(A) seek

(B) seeks

(C) seeking

(D) sees

9. Three people involved _____ Tall Order Co.'s efforts to unmask a boardroom leak have been ordered to testify at this week's congressional hearings.

(A) on

(B) to

(C) in

(D) against

10. You are two generations younger than a first cousin of your grandmother, so you and your grandmother's first cousin are first cousin, twice _____.

(A) separated

(B) apart

(C) removed

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(D) alleviated

11. The chief executive officer of the Churl Group hinted that Churl was nearing a deal to _____ Chinese-made automobiles inside the United States.

(A) disintegrate

(B) intuit

(C) balk

(D) distribute

Item 12-16 are from the following paragraph:

Can you imagine flying in a paper airplane? A new material called buckypaper might give everyone the chance. Buckypaper might look like __ (12) __ carbon paper, but scientists believe it can change everything from airplanes to televisions. Buckypaper has great potential. It conducts electricity, and it's perfect for __ (13) __ airplanes from lightning. It also keeps computers and electronics from overheating by dispersing heat. Scientists have stacked and pressed sheet after sheet of buckypaper to make a special material that is 500 times stronger than steel and 10 times lighter. Buckypaper is made from tube-shaped carbon molecules called nanotubes. These special molecules are 50,000 times thinner than a human hair, but despite their small size, there is strength in numbers. The nanotube's rare qualities make the possibilities __ (14) __. Creating light, energy-efficient aircraft and automobiles might be buckypaper's biggest __ (15) __. Some people predict that in the next few years, buckypaper might be the most __ (16) __ material available in the world.

(12) a. overall, b. ample, c. ordinary, d. contemporary

(13) a. shielding, b. deceiving, c. providing, d. involving

(14) a. terminal, b. endless, c. widespread, d. vigorous

(15) a. agony, b. obstacle, c. application, d. opponent

(16) a. sought-after, b. absurd, c. carefree, d. destructive

Item 17-21 are from the following paragraph:

We need to work, but we also need our leisure time. Fortunately, work and play can be combined in a rewarding way. A working holiday is a vacation that divides your time between work and recreation. These special holidays usually last for several months. The most common working holiday usually involves basic __ (17) __ labor, but includes some sightseeing, too. In some places, you can offer a few hours of labor __ (18) __ room and board. Working holidays can help broaden your horizons and give you a lot of freedom. __ (19) __ you might only visit one country, you'll meet people from all over the world and get a taste of different cultures. You'll have time to __ (20) __ the beaten track and

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really explore a country. A working holiday is an opportunity for ___(21)___, and an unforgettable experience that you'll remember for the rest of your life.

- (17). a. external, b. manual, c. mental, d. physical
(18). a. in favor of, b. at the sight of, c. in exchange for, d. along with
(19). a. Unless, b. While, c. Since, d. Although
(20). a. get off, b. pop up, c. come across, d. take in
(21). a. partnership, b. milestone, c. adventure, d. interference

Item 22-24 are from the following paragraph:

Computer giant WTC reshuffled the leadership of its board of directors amid the scandal that surrounded its investigation of internal leaks to the media; ___22___, the company's troubles are far from over. Texas' attorney general warned for the first time that company insiders are likely to face criminal ___23___. "We currently have evidence to ___24___ people both within WTC as well as contractors on the outside," Attorney General Bill Williams said.

22. (A) indeed
(B) and
(C) but
(D) however
23. (A) charging
(B) charges
(C) charged
(D) charge
24. (A) indict
(B) incite
(C) inspire
(D) ignite

Item 25-27 are from the following paragraph:

Wall Street rallied for a third straight session Tuesday, ___25___ the Dow Jones industrials up more than 100 points after Goldman Group Inc. ___26___ results that beat expectations and investors grew more confident that the continuing drop in crude oil prices would boost consumer spending. After seven days of oil price declines, investors pushed shares of consumer-oriented stocks higher. Companies such as General Corp., home improvement chain Home Inc. and Best Co. all showed strong ___27___.

25. (A) slowing

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- (B) halting
- (C) propelling
- (D) shutting

26. (A) report
- (B) reports
 - (C) reporting
 - (D) reported

27. (A) gains
- (B) stain
 - (C) strain
 - (D) stuns

Item 28-30 are from the following paragraph:

The discovery by John Mather and George Smoot of "cosmic ripples," __28__ won the two Americans the Nobel Prize in physics, was __29__ in 1992 by scientist Stephen Hawking as "the greatest discovery of the century, if not of all time." __30__ most physicists do not go that far, they are universal in their praise of the experiment, in which the pair and their team designed a satellite and used it to find proof of the Big Bang theory of the universe's origins.

28. (A) that
- (B) who
 - (C) which
 - (D) whose

29. (A) lauded
- (B) loaded
 - (C) landed
 - (D) limbered

30. (A) Even
- (B) While
 - (C) When
 - (D) With

B. Reading comprehension: There will be 4 short articles and 5 questions after each article. Please identify the choice best answers the question (20 questions, 2 points each, totally 40 points for part B).

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Many people dream of hitting the jackpot in the lottery and becoming a millionaire. The chances of this are very slim, although it does occur. However, if it does happen to you, there are some things you should be aware of. In many countries, if you do win a big fortune in the lottery, you may be forced to part with nearly half of it. In the US, the government takes 40% of lottery winnings from the winners. On top of that, many places don't actually give you your money in its entirety, but instead it is transferred to you over a period of 25 years. Not only are there complications with receiving your cash prize, winning the lottery could affect your life in many different ways - not all of them being positive. Many winners get too excited, quit their jobs, and quickly spend away all their winnings, leaving them with nothing. About one third of multimillion dollar winners in the U.S. are bankrupt within a few years of winning the lottery because they don't know how to manage their money. People in your life may also start to treat you differently if you became wealthy. Perhaps they would ask you for loans or to pay for their debts. You would then have to decide how to handle such awkward situations. Some lottery winners of large cash sums have difficulties in forming new relationships. They constantly worry that new friends are with them due to an awareness of their wealth. Though winning it big definitely has its advantages, it's true that money doesn't equal happiness. A study compared the happiness levels of lottery winners and victims of physical injury. Researchers found that immediately, lottery winners were happier after winning and victims were sadder after being injured. However, after about eight weeks, everyone's happiness levels returned to where they were before the events. If you want to be happy, you should probably focus more on yourself and your loved ones rather than buying more lottery tickets.

31. Which of the following is NOT mentioned about winning the lottery?
- (A) some countries (like US) take some portion of the money from the winners.
 - (B) some of the winners are not paid at all at once
 - (C) most winners suffer from a mild depression after winning
 - (D) some people have difficult relationships after winning the lottery
32. what does 'on top of' mean in this passage?
- (A) in addition to
 - (B) according to
 - (C) except for
 - (D) in front of
33. Which is not mentioned in the passage?
- (A) Government involvement in the lottery system
 - (B) negative aspects after winning a large sum of money
 - (C) changes in relations after winning in lottery players

(D) ways to make the transitions to being wealthy after winning the lottery

34. which of the following could be a concern for lottery winners?

- (A) paying off all their debts
- (B) knowing who their true friends are
- (C) deciding how to spend all that money
- (D) trying to hide the money from the government

35. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?

- (A) The best way to buy friends
- (B) How to pay off all your debts
- (C) Winning the lottery: the dream come true?
- (D) Paying taxes: difficulties and considerations

If you have ever been to Hawaii on vacation, chances are you have seen or even taken part in a luau. In short, a luau is a Hawaiian feast, where a vast selection of dishes is freshly prepared to the delight of those attending. Usually included on the menu is poi, which is similar to taro soup. To make poi, Hawaiians first cook the taro root. Once it is cooked, they pound it and slowly add water to form a paste. It is the staple of Hawaiian cuisine, much like rice in Asian cuisines, and is eaten with many other foods. Poi is often eaten with the hands and is sometimes fermented, giving it a slight sour taste. Roasted pig is also usually served at luaus and is cooked in a large underground oven, called a kalua, heated by extremely hot rocks. Traditionally, the kalua is lined with large banana leaves before a salted pig is placed in. The pig is then covered with more banana leaves and soil, then left to cook all day. This method of cooking takes a long time but gives pork a unique Hawaiian flavor. This entree is not for the faint of heart or vegetarians, of course! Quite a few fish and seafood dishes round out the menu, and no luau, or party for that matter, would be complete without beer. In fact, the concepts of luau and party are often blended in Hawaii, where you can find graduation luaus and birthday luaus. Of equal importance to food at a luau is the entertainment, which most commonly comes in the form of Hawaiian music and hula. This is a dance form accompanied by chant or song that was developed by the Polynesians who settled in Hawaii. These days, there are still traditional hulas danced for tribal chiefs, but the modern hula performed during luaus often has various Western influences. For example, modern hula dances are joined with music from guitars, like small ukuleles, and beats from basses. More traditional hula dances don't use any musical instruments. With so many things to see and eat, you're bound to have a good time at a luau.

36. The passage is mainly about _____.

- (A) an unusual Hawaiian scenic spot
- (B) a unique Hawaiian holiday tradition

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(C) a special Hawaiian feast and ritual

(D) Hawaiian locals

37. You can enjoy eating the following EXCEPT _____ at a Hawaiian luau.

(A) taro soup

(B) roasted pig

(C) fish

(D) kalua

38. What is NOT true about the passage?

(A) No beer is allowed at a luau.

(B) A luau is a mixture of food, music, and dance.

(C) Luaus are a common part of life in Hawaii.

(D) Traditional hulas are danced mainly for tribal chiefs.

39. How is the meat at a luau usually cooked?

(A) Over a large, open bonfire.

(B) In an oven in the modern kitchen of a resort.

(C) Boiled in a giant pot with some soup.

(D) In an underground oven filled with burning hot rocks.

40. The phrase 'round out' could best be replaced by _____.

(A) comprise

(B) complete

(C) fulfill

(D) develop

Rapid eye movement behavior disorder (RBD) is a sleep disorder that was first described in 1986. People who suffer from this disorder can unexpectedly get up, walk around, punch or kick, and even act out parts of their dreams, all while still asleep. Therefore, RBD differs somewhat from sleepwalking, which occurs during the non-dream stage of sleep. As anxiety is thought to increase the instance of RBD episodes, experts advise that sufferers not fall asleep watching TV. One RBD sufferer, the comedian Mike Birbiglia, did just that while watching a news program about the war in Iraq. He dreamed that somehow he had become the target of a guided missile. Still asleep, he jumped out of his second-floor window, which happened to be closed at the time. He escaped with minor injuries and recognized just how serious and dangerous his disorder was. To those who have RBD like Birbiglia, doctors recommend medication, and have advised them to sleep in sleeping bags

zipped all the way up. On top of that, they should wear special mittens to bed so they can't open the zipper on the sleeping bag. This should help prevent them from acting out the events in their dreams and hopefully get a good night's sleep.

41. This passage deals mainly with _____.

- (A) the differences between RBD and sleepwalking
- (B) facts and precautions concerning a specific behavioral disorder
- (C) the types of medication used to treat RBD sufferers
- (D) celebrities who suffer from RBD

42. What is NOT a true characteristic of both RBD and sleepwalking?

- (A) RBD and sleepwalking are both sleep disorders
- (B) Sufferers of either can unexpectedly get up and walk around
- (C) Both occur during the non-dream stage of sleep
- (D) Both occur while sufferers are asleep

43. RBD sufferers are advised NOT to _____.

- (A) go to bed late
- (B) go to bed with the windows open
- (C) fall asleep watching TV
- (D) fall asleep with music on

44. Why did Mike Birbiglia jump out of his window?

- (A) He was severely depressed.
- (B) He was having a dream.
- (C) He was just sleepwalking.
- (D) He was running from someone.

45. According to the passage, what can sufferers of RBD do to protect themselves?

- (A) Always sleep on the floor instead of in a high bed.
- (B) Wear a motorcycle helmet and warm gloves.
- (C) Lock their bedroom door before sleeping.
- (D) Stay tightly wrapped up while asleep.

The Six Best Tips From 'On Writing Well' (Excerpt from Medium.com, 14 May 2015).

My favorite writer on writing died. William Zinsser, author of "On Writing Well" died yesterday. He was 92 years old. Was his book any good? I don't know. It sold 1.5 million copies. His students and readers are practically every non-fiction writer I look up to.

Stephen Dubner, who wrote FREAKONOMICS, first recommended him to me. I've always hated books like Strunk & White's Elements of Style but I was looking for a good book on writing nonfiction and Stephen recommended Zinsser's book. Other great books that have been recommended to me by authors: "On Writing" by Stephen King, Zen and "the Art of Writing" by Ray Bradbury, and "Bird by Bird" by Anne Lamott, although both Tucker Max and Claudia Azula Altucher violently disagree with me on the last one. I happen to love the book and stand by it.

What did Zinsser say? Why did everyone love and buy and emulate the principles in his book. You decide. Here is some of his top advice:

GET RID OF CLUTTER "Look for the clutter in your writing and prune it ruthlessly. Be grateful for everything you can throw away. Re-examine each sentence you put on paper. Is every word doing new work? Can any thought be expressed with more economy? Is anything pompous or pretentious or faddish? Are you hanging on to something useless just because you think it's beautiful? Simplify, simplify."

WRITE FOR YOURSELF, NOT OTHERS "You are writing primarily to please yourself, and if you go about it with enjoyment you will also entertain the readers who are worth writing for."

STUDY THE GREATS—BUT ALSO YOUR CONTEMPORARIES "Writing is learned by imitation. If anyone asked me how I learned to write, I'd say I learned by reading the men and women who were doing the kind of writing I wanted to do and trying to figure out how they did it."

THINK OF WRITING AS A PROCESS, NOT A PRODUCT Many authors "know what they want to write, but instead of writing they say 'Well, my main problem is figuring out how to find an agent and get it published. I tell them, 'The main problem is that you need to write the damn thing.'"

READ EVERYTHING YOU WRITE OUT LOUD FOR RHYTHM AND SOUND "Good writers of prose must be part poet, always listening to what they write."

HAVE CONFIDENCE IN YOURSELF AS A WRITER "I go around giving my students permission to be who they are, and there aren't enough people doing that," he said. "You learn to write by believing in who you are."

Every day I try to do every one of those suggestions. Like anything, sometimes it works for me and sometimes it doesn't. Even though I followed these rules for years I still lost money on almost every book I wrote. You can write beautifully and still never get published...never get paid. But I finally figured out the "rules" for profitably self-publishing and I write about them elsewhere (it's one of the most popular blog posts I've ever written).

46. According to the text, which of the following book is without consensus among the author and his friends?
- (A) The Elements of Style;
 - (B) On Writing;
 - (C) Bird by Bird;
 - (D) The Art of Writing
47. This blog post is intended to
- (A) summarize the key points of one famous English writing guidebook
 - (B) criticize the common problems facing some famous writers
 - (C) complain the worthlessness of writing guides
 - (D) emphasize the classic and criticize the modern writing guides
48. In point 1, the word 'clutter', is closest in meaning to
- (A) clumsiness
 - (B) burden
 - (C) mediocrity
 - (D) crowdedness
49. The 4th point, "think of writing as a process, not a product", contradicts with which of the following?
- (A) Do not write just because of some external request
 - (B) Enjoy the writing from beginning to the end
 - (C) Never get tired of repeated revising and/or rewriting
 - (D) Hash out an output and never bother to revise it
50. Which of the following mismatches the reflections author made in this blog?
- (A) He did not like many of the key points William Zinsser made.
 - (B) Despite of following all of William's suggestions, he did not get rich most of the time.
 - (C) He likes to extract the excerpts from famous writers' ideas and personal experiences
 - (D) Everybody could have his/her favorite writer's guide