

八十九學年度國立成功大學外文系轉學生招生考試

- I. Choose the most appropriate answer according to the context of each statement. (30%)
1. Despite the size of the audience she remained _____ throughout the performance.
(a) obsessed (b) composed (c) anxious (d) absent-minded
 2. Dad feels quite good now that he has _____ from his annual bout with bronchitis.
(a) recovered (b) escaped (c) regained (d) discovered
 3. Our _____ problems were resolved after we considered two or three alternative time frames.
(a) construction (b) instruction (c) appointment (d) scheduling
 4. The audience was almost indifferent during the first act, but it became warm and responsive after _____.
(a) intersection (b) intermission (c) interaction (d) interjection
 5. Christopher Columbus, whose _____ made him the most famous seafarer in history, did not train as a sailor but as a weaver in his family's wool business.
(a) brave (b) flight (c) voyages (d) safari
 6. Our school's parents and teachers decided against history books which ignore the _____ of minorities.
(a) accomplices (b) aggravate (c) applause (d) accomplishments
 7. The privatization process—particularly the length of time it was taking—became the _____ of intense discussion at the National Development Conference.
(a) subject (b) object (c) inject (d) reject
 8. Political _____ in the United Nations attract all kinds of people besides international delegates.
(a) inventions (b) conventions (c) transportations (d) traditions
 9. Tacos, bagels, and sushi, which were once _____ only in authentic ethnic restaurants, can now be found at fast-food counters everywhere.
(a) reliable (b) attainable (c) available (d) accountable
 10. _____ twenty years ago as labor-saving devices, computerized cash registers are now installed in about 85 percent of all chain stores.
(a) Imported (b) Induced (c) Exported (d) Introduced
 11. The judge for whom the letter bomb was intended had already escaped two previous attempts on her life. Which of the following is TRUE about the sentence?
(a) The judge was dead.
(b) The judge survived.
(c) There were altogether three attempts to kill the judge.
(d) The letter bomb was sent by the judge.
 12. The Impressionist painters tried to present objects not as they are in fact but as they appear to the eye. Which of the following is TRUE about the Impressionist paintings? They _____.
(a) dislike real things in life (b) resemble real objects in life (c) rely on the viewer's perception (d) are the real objects
 13. While scientists seek to unravel the secrets surrounding the great white, a political push is accelerating to protect the sea's top predator, which appears to be declining in numbers due to increasing catches by sport fishermen well as

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commercial interests. Which of the following is TRUE about the great white shark?

- a) There's little to be discovered about the secrets of the top predator of the sea.
 - b) The number of the great white sharks is decreasing because of the accelerating political protection.
 - c) Sport fishermen's catches and commercial interests are the primary reasons for the dwindling great white.
 - d) All of the above.
14. The growing rampancy of crime and the general increase in the cruelty of criminals have provoked a great deal of discussion on ways to reduce crime, and have prompted calls for the public to heighten their level of alertness. Which of the following statements is FALSE?
- a) The crime rate is growing rapidly.
 - b) The general public is discussing possible ways to fight against crime.
 - c) The general public has become indifferent to the increasing crime rate.
 - d) All of the above.
15. Were the fourth nuclear power plant to be canceled halfway through construction, it would unleash a throng of legal battles by contractors, both domestic and foreign, against the government. Which of the following statements is TRUE?
- a) International contractors would file a law suit against the government if the government called a halt to the nuclear power project.
 - b) The fourth nuclear power plant was canceled due to domestic legal battles.
 - c) The construction of the fourth nuclear power plant ignited a throng of legal battles against the government.
 - d) None of the above.

II. Reading Comprehension: Read the following two essays and answer the questions (20%)

You have probably heard people say "John says one thing and means another." As a native speaker, you always need to interpret other people's messages and express your own in ways that make your communicative intent clear. This is not an easy matter, and people often ask for clarification. They frequently ask "Did I understand you to mean...?" In other words, it is quite common to hear what a person says but not understand the message, either because of the way it was organized or the context in which it occurred. Sometimes, we realize that others have misunderstood our meaning, and we may try to correct their interpretation by saying something like "What I meant to say was...."

While we are learning our native language, much parental effort is directed toward teaching us how to express our intentions in a socially acceptable manner and how to interpret the intentions of others. This process begins at a very young age and, for some, continues into adulthood. An example is the often-heard parental instruction: "If you want a cookie, you will have to ask for it politely."

Because this training is such an integral part of our early language learning, we come to believe that there is certainly only one right way to send and receive messages. Right means that we learn to evaluate messages according to our own rules of interpretation. We may act very negatively when messages come in forms we don't understand or expect.

1. What does "This" in line 4 refer to? It refers to _____. a) interpret other people's messages b) express your own messages in clear ways c) both d) neither
2. Why does a person sometimes fail to understand others' message? It's because _____. a) the message is disorganized b) the situation is unclear c) both (a) and (b) d) neither (a) or (b)
3. According to this article, our parents usually taught us _____ when we started to learn our native language. a) what to express b) how to express and interpret things appropriately c) both (a) and (b) d) neither (a) or (b)
4. How do we evaluate a message? We evaluate it based on _____. a) the only right rule of interpretation b) our rule of interpretation c) other's rule of interpretation d) the law of our country
5. Why do we act negatively toward messages that come in forms we don't understand? It's because _____. a) we are following the rule of interpretation taught to us b) we are following the right rule of interpretation c) others don't understand our rule d) all of the above

Words that Camouflage

Experts at camouflage are those in advertising. Advertisers obviously want to emphasize the virtues of their products and detract from their faults. To do this, they use carefully chosen words designed to mislead the unwary customer. These expressions are called "weasel words," which the dictionary defines as "used in order to evade or retreat from a direct or forthright statement or position." For example, the advertiser wants you to think that using his product will require no work or trouble. He cannot state that the product will be trouble free because there is usually no such guarantee. Instead, he suggests it by using the expression "virtually," as in this product is "virtually trouble free." The careless listener will ignore the qualifier "virtually" and imagine that the product is no trouble at all.

Just as "weasel words" are used to engender favorable impressions, so are euphemisms. A euphemism is defined as "the substitution of an agreeable or inoffensive expression for one that may offend or suggest something unpleasant." We often use euphemisms when our intentions are good. For instance, it is difficult to accept that someone we love has died, so people use all kinds of euphemisms for death, such as "She passed away," "He's gone to meet his maker," or "She is no longer with us." However, euphemisms can also be used to camouflage objectionable actions or debatable issues.

A final example of language that conveys unintended impressions is sexist language. Sexist language refers to expressions that demean females or sometimes males in some way. For instance, when someone refers to a grown woman as a "girl," the implications is that she is still a child. Therefore, instead of an employer saying, "I'll have my girl type that," what should be said is "I'll have my assistant type that."

We must always be careful to choose the words that convey what we really mean. If we do not want to give offense, then we should always be on guard against sexist

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(as well as racist) language. If we do not want to be misled by advertisements, we must keep our ears open for weasel words. Finally, when we use a euphemism, we should be aware that we are trying to make an idea more acceptable. At times this may be preferable, but let's not forget that euphemisms can camouflage reality. After all, "coloring the truth" is still lying.

1. According to this article, if we call a trash man a "sanitation engineer", it is an example of a) weasel words b) euphemism c) sexist language d) racist language
2. Nowadays we use "flight attendant" instead of "stewardess" to address those who work on board airplane, we are trying not to use a) weasel words b) euphemism c) sexist language d) racist language
3. During a sale a car dealer may advertise reductions of "up to 25 percent." The expression "up to" is a perfect example of a) weasel words b) euphemism c) sexist language d) racist language
4. When psychologists kill an animal they have experimented with, they prefer to use the term "sacrifice" the animal. In this case, the word "sacrifice" is an example of a) weasel words b) euphemism c) sexist language d) racist language
5. Which of the following words has a similar meaning to the word "camouflage"? a) intend b) retreat c) reflect d) deceive

III. Translate the following sentences into Chinese or English: (25%)

1. From the time I entered my teens, a battle of wills commenced. Mom furiously tried to force feed me all that was important to her—religion, feminism, a mistrust of men. I furiously resisted, flinging it all back in her face, like a toddler, splattering back the mashed carrots. (5%)
2. It's always agonizing to watch two adversaries drift toward total warfare: They keep negotiating and blustering and secretly hoping for a way out—and then one day it's too late, and they're locked in a battle that's likely to leave everyone worse off. (6%)
3. 政權的和平移轉一向被視為民主的精髓。(4%)
4. 根據環保局的報導，長期曝露於戴奧辛(dioxin)而導致癌症的機會，較先前所預估的大。(5%)
5. 陳水扁政府所面對的重大挑戰之一，是能否對正在興建的核四廠問題，作一審慎的決定。(5%)

IV. Short Essay: Write a short essay no longer than 300 words comparing and contrasting writing in English and writing in Chinese. (25%)