

Par One: Vocabulary—Choose the one answer that best completes each sentence (20%)

1. The living room is so _____ with furniture that it's hard to move about.
A. cluttered B. sparkling C. scattered D. overwhelming
2. Written at least 100 years ago, the handwriting faded and became _____.
A. infinite B. illegible C. infectious D. degraded
3. A good deal of the _____ for his achievement in this field must go to his supervisor, Professor Lee.
A. credit B. respect C. fame D. result
4. The patient is not in good condition, so do not _____ your visit.
A. inherent B. prolong C. tolerate D. obey
5. If you want to go to the concert, you'll have to make a _____, or there will be no tickets.
A. compliment B. booking C. reservation D. contribution
6. Some bloggers seem to enjoy fame and want to be celebrities, but many others want to keep their _____.
A. improvisation B. anonymity C. discourse D. barrages
7. The school authority was quite responsible as it first took a (an) _____ in trying to solve the problem.
A. initiative B. ethnicity C. revival D. dissemination
8. The 2012 Summer Olympics will take place in London, the city that could _____ all the athletes from the world.
A. concede B. regulate C. accommodate D. appeal
9. Most college students do not believe that exercise is one good way to _____ stress; they would rather have some energy drinks when they feel stressed out.
A. impede B. digest C. stamina D. alleviate
10. It is inappropriate, or unethical, if book publishing companies do not _____ the information authors write.
A. manipulate B. optimize C. concoct D. scrutinize

Part Two: Sentence Structures and Written Expressions (20%)

11. Professor Lin advanced the theory _____ always made money.
A. who that had money B. that those who had money
C. that those people D. those who that money has
12. Why do Mexican immigrants in Los Angeles tend to have more children _____ in Mexico City?
A. than the impoverished peasants living B. living in the impoverished peasants
C. that impoverished peasants have D. the impoverished peasants used to have
13. There are over eighty of the pyramids scattered along tile banks of the Nile, _____ from the true pyramids.
A. because all are very different B. but some of which are quite different
C. and some of them are different D. even though it is very different

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14. Having seen the movie adapted from a Japanese novel, _____.
- A. it was very eager for him to read the novel B. the novel was read by him very eagerly
C. eagerly reading the novel interested him D. he was eager to read the novel
15. Do you have any idea _____ in his present profession?
- A. how many years has your partner been working
B. how long your partner has been working
C. your partner has been working for how long
D. how has your partner been working many years
16. There is no doubt that all parents set their priorities _____ to be crucial to their children.
- A. according to what do they believe B. according to what they believe
C. due to they believe D. due to that they believe
17. I would have been on time if I _____; I promise, next time, I won't be late.
- A. hadn't had an accident B. left home earlier
C. could have got up earlier D. didn't get stuck in traffic jam
18. One of the most controversial issues people do care about _____.
- A. that is euthanasia B. are global warming and gay marriage
C. has a lot to do with human rights D. have been argued for decades
19. For the past five decades, India's best and the brightest have been attracted to the glamour of the West, _____, growing numbers of Europeans and North Americans seem to be enchanted by India.
- A. however now B. but today C. in other words D. for example
20. Facebook was designated to emphasize privacy and intimacy, _____ other users at your school and those in networks you join can see your home page.
- A. only if B. as long as C. and only D. and even if

Part Three: Cloze (30%)

For questions 21-25, read the passage and choose ONE best answer to fill in each blank.

Retrieved from <http://www.greenpeace.org/international/en/>

Many old electronic goods gather dust in storage waiting to be reused, recycled or thrown away. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that as much as three quarters of the computers sold in the US are stockpiled in garages and closets. ___(21)___, they end up in landfills or incinerators or, ___(22)___, are exported to Asia. According to the US EPA, more than 4.6 million tonnes of e-waste ended up in US landfills in 2000. Toxic chemicals in electronics products can leach into the land over time or ___(23)___ into the atmosphere, ___(24)___ nearby communities and the environment. In many European countries, regulations have been introduced to prevent electronic waste being dumped in landfills ___(25)___ its hazardous content. However, the practice still continues in many countries. In Hong Kong for example, it is estimated that 10-20 percent of discarded computers go to landfill.

21. A. Be thrown away B. To throw away C. When thrown away D. Throwing away
22. A. therefore B. as a result C. more recently D. on the other hand
23. A. are released B. is carried C. is released D. are littered
24. A. coordinating B. impacting C. modifying D. addicting
25. A. full of B. for the reason C. with D. due to

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For questions 26-30, read the passage and choose ONE best answer to fill in each blank.
Retrieved from http://www.ncu.edu.tw/en/about_en.html

For years, National Central University has endeavored to pursue the quality teaching. We encourage our students to cultivate the appreciation for art and science __ (26) __ their specialties. With this liberal spirit on campus, __ (27) __ from other universities in Taiwan as a "great university". For example, our Humanities Center—first ever founded in Asia—has strengthened teachers' research competence, which reflects consequently on the teaching. And it can also be seen in the fields of natural and applied sciences. Our several world-class research centers are leading the way __ (28) __ breakthroughs in today's world. As global citizens, to develop __ (29) __ environment is the school's forever educating goal. We continue to work hard on education, research, and administration to pursue the most human blessing. With the creed of "sincerity and simplicity" in mind, we'll carry on the solid work on teaching and research, __ (30) __ one of the world's best universities in the future.

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|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 26. A. except for | B. in addition to | C. to obtain | D. in order to retain |
| 27. A. it is different | B. being different | C. we differ ourselves | D. we compare |
| 28. A. and making | B. as to make | C. so it makes | D. for their making |
| 29. A. consecutive | B. incredible | C. continuous | D. sustainable |
| 30. A. aiming to become | B. eventually to be | C. to aim | D. being |

Part Four: Reading Comprehension (30%)

For questions 31-33, read the following passages.

Retrieved from <http://www.spiegel.de/international/spiegel/0,1518,448747,00.html>

European traffic planners are dreaming of streets free of rules and directives. They want drivers and pedestrians to interact in a free and humane way, as brethren -- by means of friendly gestures, nods of the head and eye contact, without the harassment of prohibitions, restrictions and warning signs.

A project implemented by the European Union is currently seeing seven cities and regions clear-cutting their forest of traffic signs. Ejby, in Denmark, is participating in the experiment, as are Ipswich in England and the Belgian town of Ostende.

The **utopia** has already become a reality in Makkinga, in the Dutch province of Western Frisia. A sign by the entrance to the small town (population 1,000) reads "Verkeersbordvrij" -- "free of traffic signs." Cars bumble unhurriedly over precision-trimmed granite cobblestones. Stop signs and direction signs are nowhere to be seen. There are neither parking meters nor stopping restrictions. There aren't even any lines painted on the streets.

"The many rules strip us of the most important thing: the ability to be considerate. We're losing our capacity for socially responsible behavior," says Dutch traffic guru Hans Monderman, one of the project's co-founders. "The greater the number of prescriptions, the more people's sense of personal responsibility dwindles."

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35. Many are skeptical about the issue of breastfeeding due to the fact that _____.
- A. most people do not know about attachment parenting
B. social services workers do not encourage breastfeeding
C. *The Baby Book* was published 20 years ago
D. the cover photo showing breastfeeding is a slim and pretty woman

36. What is the synonym for the word "ludicrous"?
- A. ridiculous B. funny C. superfluous D. credulous

For Questions 37-40, read the following passages retrieved from

http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/sep2009/tc20090914_969227.htm

Web technology is poised to shake universities, the way it rocked newspapers and the music industry—with convenient, cheaper alternatives. Scott McNealy, former CEO of Sun Microsystems (JAVA), made it clear that possibilities in open-source education go far beyond textbooks. Before long, he claimed, the whole bloated, expensive, lecture-based higher education system will face the first challenge to its very existence: open-source, online higher education that costs a fraction of four years at Harvard—but is good enough for employers who want a college graduate. "Universities will be forced to decide what they are. You know, are they going to be football teams with libraries attached?" McNealy asked. "That's what a lot of them are now."

The idea of some kind of open-source, online, low-cost revolution in education has become a lit fuse, sparking and crackling its way toward an explosion. Here and there, in places ranging from Silicon Valley to Indonesia, a few bold universities and entrepreneurs are taking pokes at the concept. Start-ups such as StraighterLine and Knewton are offering online courses for college credit for hundreds of dollars, compared with thousands of dollars at most universities. Peer2Peer University is gathering buzz as an online, self-organizing, social networking approach to higher education.

"The economics of traditional schooling are so out of whack that there is an opening for new players," says Fred Fransen, executive director of the Center for Excellence in Higher Education, which helps donors more effectively give money to universities. From that perch, Fransen sees the typical university business model as prone to attack.

The vulnerability sensed by McNealy, Fransen, and others has a lot to do with a concept I've been writing about the past few years—the fidelity swap. In our everyday lives we constantly make trade-offs between fidelity and convenience. Fidelity is the total experience of something. At a rock concert, for instance, it's not just the quality of the sound—which often isn't as good as listening to music on a good stereo—but everything else, too, such as the show's ambience and the bragging rights that come with having seen the band live. Convenience is how easy or hard it is to get what you want. That includes whether it's readily available, whether it's easy to do or use, and how much it costs. If something is less expensive, it's naturally more convenient because it's easier for more people to get it. As it turns out, the most successful products and services tend to be either high in fidelity or high in convenience—one or the other, but not both. In fact, products attempting to be both typically end up with a confused brand.

37. In the first paragraph, which of the following is mentioned by the author?
- A. The internet-sourced higher education has replaced the traditional education system.
B. The lecture-based higher education is on the way down in the recent years.
C. Universities might have to consider their future in view of the possibilities in open-source education.
D. Universities need more football teams and libraries.

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38. Which of the following is true according to the article?
- A. The open-source higher education is usually more expensive than the standard ones.
 - B. One usually spends less when applying an online higher education program in comparison to a normal four-year education at college.
 - C. It is almost the same for the spending of both options.
 - D. The author strongly wishes to encourage people to take the open-source higher education.
39. **The fidelity swap** can mean or refer to the following EXCEPT _____.
- A. trade-offs between vis-à-vis contacts in business and online transactions
 - B. The higher education today should consider the future challenges the new form of education may have brought to us
 - C. Fidelity and convenience are always opposed to each other in the experiences of everyday decision making
 - D. The modern high-tech stereo can reproduce the original sound of any music, so all we need is a TV set and excellent stereo machine instead of going to the real concert.
40. The word **ambience** in the last paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.
- A. atmosphere
 - B. place
 - C. character
 - D. grandeur

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