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並不得書寫、畫記、作答。

國立清華大學 108 學年度碩士班考試入學試題

系所班組別：音樂學系 甲組

考試科目(代碼)：英文(7304)

—作答注意事項—

1. 請核對答案卷(卡)上之准考證號、科目名稱是否正確。
2. 作答中如有發現試題印刷不清，得舉手請監試人員處理，但不得要求解釋題意。
3. 考生限在答案卷上標記「由此開始作答」區內作答，且不可書寫姓名、准考證號或與作答無關之其他文字或符號。
4. 答案卷用盡不得要求加頁。
5. 答案卷可用任何書寫工具作答，惟為方便閱卷辨識，請儘量使用藍色或黑色書寫；答案卡限用 2B 鉛筆畫記；如畫記不清(含未依範例畫記)致光學閱讀機無法辨識答案者，其後果一律由考生自行負責。
6. 其他應考規則、違規處理及扣分方式，請自行詳閱准考證明上「國立清華大學試場規則及違規處理辦法」，無法因本試題封面作答注意事項中未列明而稱未知悉。

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共_2_頁，第_1_頁 *請在【答案卷】作答

Part 1: Directions (Read the following article and answer the questions using FULL SENTENCES in ENGLISH).

Decades of extreme weather crippled, and ultimately decimated, first the political culture and later the human population of the ancient Maya, according to a new study by an interdisciplinary team of researchers that includes two University of California, Davis, scientists.

The collapse of the Maya is one of the world's most enduring mysteries. Now, for the first time, researchers have combined a precise climatic record of the Maya environment with a precise record of Maya political history to provide a better understanding of the role weather had in the civilization's downfall.

Their findings are published in the Nov. 9, 2012, issue of the journal *Science*.

“Here you had an amazing state-level society that had created calendars, magnificent architecture, works of art, and was engaged in trade throughout Central America,” said UC Davis anthropology professor and co-author Bruce Winterhalder. “They were incredible craftspersons, proficient in agriculture, statesmanship and warfare — and within about 80 years, it fell completely apart.”

To determine what was happening in the sociopolitical realm during each of those years, the study tapped the extensive Maya Hieroglyphic Database Project, run by linguist Martha Macri, a professor of Native American studies and director of the Native American Language Center at UC Davis. Macri, a specialist in Maya hieroglyphs, has been tracking the culture's stone monuments for nearly 30 years.

“Every one of these Maya monuments is political history,” said Macri.

Inscribed on each monument is the date it was erected and dates of significant events, such as a ruler's birthday or accession to power, as well as dates of some deaths, burials and major battles. The researchers noted that the number of monuments carved decreased in the years leading to the collapse.

But the monuments made no mention of ecological events, such as storms, drought or references to crop successes or failures.

For that information, the research team collected a stalagmite from a cave in Belize, less than 1 mile from the Maya site of Uxbenka and about 18 miles from three other important centers. Using oxygen isotope dating in 0.1 millimeter increments along the length of the stalagmite, the scientists uncovered a physical record of rainfall over the past 2,000 years.

Combined, the stalagmite and hieroglyphs allowed the researchers to link precipitation to politics. Periods of high and increasing rainfall coincided with a rise in population and political centers between A.D. 300 and 660. A climate reversal and drying trend

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between A.D. 660 and 1000 triggered political competition, increased warfare, overall sociopolitical instability, and finally, political collapse. This was followed by an extended drought between A.D. 1020 and 1100 that likely corresponded with crop failures, death, famine, migration and, ultimately, the collapse of the Maya population.

“It has long been suspected that weather events can cause a lot of political unrest and subject societies to disease and invasion,” Macri said. “But now it’s clear. There is physical evidence that correlates right along with it. We are dependent on climatological events that are beyond our control.”

Said Winterhalder: “It’s a cautionary tale about how fragile our political structure might be. Are we in danger the same way the Classic Maya were in danger? I don’t know. But I suspect that just before their rapid descent and disappearance, Maya political elites were quite confident about their achievements.”

(Extracted from UC Davis News, 2012)

1: Why did the Maya disappear? Please answer this question based on the finding of this study. Note that you cannot directly copy the whole sentences from this article. (20%)

2: Do you think how ready are we for global warming? Note that you cannot directly copy the whole sentences from this article. (30%)

Part 2. Directions (Read the following article and write an article to answer the question: “Does the Internet Make You Smart or Dumb?” Why or why not? Express your opinions using FULL SENTENCES in ENGLISH.) (50%)

Recently, there are opinions debating whether the Internet makes you smart or dumb.

Some people (such as Clay Shirky, author of the book, “Cognitive Surplus: Creativity and Generosity in a Connected Age”) argue that Internet makes you smarter. They believe that the Internet will eventually make “the good stuff possible”. For example, new norms will be created around the newly abundant and contemporary literature, which will in turn create a new culture.

Some other people (such as Nicholas Carr, author of “The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing to Our Brains”), argue that Internet makes you more stupid. The studies show that people who read text studded with links comprehend less than those who read traditional linear text. People who juggle many tasks are less creative and less productive than those who do one thing at a time.

What do you think?