

I. Vocabulary (i). Read the following sentences carefully, and then select the best answer for each of the blanks. (10%)

- (1) Taipower is warning that power _____ may not be far off if the mercury continues to climb.
A. banquet B. rationing C. anecdote D. corridor
- (2) Several legislators demanded that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs budget become _____ on the issue of foreign aid and that measures be worked out to deal with bad debts.
A. eloquent B. flawed C. transparent D. odious
- (3) Taiwan lawmakers yesterday urged their Japanese _____ to endorse an opposition bill aimed at compensating sex slaves during World War II.
A. counterparts B. zone C. versions D. routine
- (4) President Chen Shui-bian's new sedan costs around NT\$4 million after the NT\$2 million import duty paid by normal citizens was _____ in line with presidential custom exemption.
A. rejected B. proclaimed C. installed D. deducted
- (5) The U.S. House of Representatives is _____ on Wednesday to vote on granting permanent normal trade relations status to mainland China, an economics official said yesterday.
A. scheduled B. eliminated C. intruded D. extinguished

I. Vocabulary (ii). From the possible answers provided below the passage, select the item that is semantically the most appropriate answer. (10%)

The local government has announced steps aimed at cutting auto _____ (6) by at least one-third within two years, a response to reports that rising air pollution threatens not only the health of residents but also the economy.

The package of taxes and regulations is designed to reduce reliance on cars and to encourage all vehicles on Hong Kong's _____ (7) roads and streets to convert to cleaner-burning fuels. But its prime target is the 18,000 taxis and 6,000 buses that crowd the main urban centers. The vast majority of them run on low-grade diesel fuels that foul the air with noxious particulates that are twice as _____ (8) here as in New York or London.

"There's no doubt that our vehicles are responsible for much the largest share" of air pollutants in the area, which has been a Special Administrative Region of China since 1997, the deputy secretary for environment and food, Kim Salkeld, said Tuesday. Concern has risen since March, when Hong Kong registered record roadside pollution levels. For that entire month the air pollution index was above 100, the _____ (9) at which people are advised to stay indoors.

Hoteliers and merchants in Hong Kong have begun to worry that pollution might kill its _____ (10) to hold the Asian Games in 2006. A survey of 1,080 recent tourists from Guangdong, Fujian and Shandong provinces in China found that they ranked pollution second only to high prices as their chief dissatisfactions with Hong Kong. ...

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|--------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| (6) A. withdrawals | B. emissions | C. replicas | D. indulgence |
| (7) A. gigantic | B. detrimental | C. invariable | D. congested |
| (8) A. invalid | B. prevalent | C. observant | D. sluggish |
| (9) A. hostility | B. frontier | C. threshold | D. loophole |
| (10) A. bid | B. temperance | C. virtue | D. pension |

II. Grammar. There are ten blanks to be completed in this section. From the possible answers provided below the passages, select the item that is grammatically the most appropriate answer. (20%)

The State Department has substantially increased surveillance around its overseas facilities in (11) _____ aftermath of the 1998 bombings of two U.S. diplomatic posts in Africa, and _____ (12) hundreds of incidents of suspicious activity, officials said here.

But at a hearing Wednesday of the House International Relations Committee, legislators expressed (13) _____ impatience with the pace of security improvements at embassies and consulates around the world.

The department's own inspector-general, Jacquelyn Williams-Bridges, said that work to improve security overseas is far from (14) _____. None of the 42 embassies inspected by her office, she said, "met all security standards."

Congress (15) _____ \$1.5 billion in emergency funds after truck bombs exploded outside U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania on Aug. 7, 1998, killing 224 people and injuring thousands. ...

Since the Africa bombings, the State Department has purchased _____ (16) _____ rented 87 properties around 25 posts, and is investigating, or negotiating for, 31 more at 14 other posts, largely to add to setbacks. The properties range from a gas station to a city street. ...

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|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| (11) A. the | B. a | C. an | D. this |
| (12) A. detects | B. will detect | C. has detected | D. detect |
| (13) A. mounting | B. mount | C. mounts | D. mounted |
| (14) A. completeness | B. completed | C. complete | D. completes |
| (15) A. is allocating | B. allocated | C. allocates | D. will allocate |
| (16) A. and | B. but | C. either | D. or |

Singapore Airlines Ltd. _____ (17) _____ likely to buy up to 16 of the superjumbo jets under development by Europe's Airbus Industrie, sharply raising prospects _____ (18) _____ the giant plane will go into production, Airbus executives said Tuesday.

Airbus said it was negotiating for an "initial purchase" of the A3XX superjumbo jets in a deal (19) _____ at as much as \$3.8 billion.

Earlier this month, Airbus announced that the Middle East carrier Emirates Airlines would buy 12 A3XX jets in the first confirmed order for the aircraft.

A Singapore Airlines spokesman confirmed that the airline was in talks with Airbus to buy the (20) _____ would carry more than 550 passengers, making it the world's largest jetliner, surpassing Boeing Co.'s biggest plane, the 420-seat 747-400. Airbus said Singapore Airlines was discussing 10 firm orders and six options, with delivery starting from late 2005.

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|--------------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| (17) A. is | B. has | C. would | D. have |
| (18) A. which | B. that | C. at which | D. in that |
| (19) A. to value | B. has valued | C. valuable | D. valued |
| (20) A. A3XX, that | B. A3XX which | C. A3XX, which | D. A3XX that |

III. Reading Comprehension. Read the following sentences, paragraphs, or passages carefully, and then select the best answer for each question. (20%)

(21) The student revolt is not only a thorn in the side of the president's newly established government, but it has international implications as well.

Who or what does this revolt affect?

- (A) The students.
- (B) The side of the president's body.
- (C) Only the national government.
- (D) National and international affairs.

(22) I disagreed then as now with many of John Smith's judgments, but always respected him, and this book is a welcome reminder of his big, honest, friendly, stubborn personality.

How does the author of this sentence feel about John Smith?

- (A) He dislikes him but agrees with his ideas.
- (B) He considers him to be a disagreeable person.
- (C) He disagrees with his ideas but respects him.
- (D) He disagreed with him then but agrees with him now.

(23) In order for you to follow the schedule set by the publisher, your paper must be looked over over the weekend, revised, and handed in in its final form on Monday.

What must you do on Saturday and Sunday?

- (A) Meet the publisher.
- (B) Examine your paper.
- (C) Hand in a paper.
- (D) Look over the weekend.

(24) Because the supply of natural gas was plentiful in comparison to other choices like coal and fuel oil, and because it burns cleaner, many people changed their heating systems to natural gas, thereby creating shortages.

Why did people prefer gas?

- (A) It was natural.
- (B) There were no other choices.
- (C) The other fuels were dirtier and less plentiful.
- (D) There is, even today, a plentiful supply of it.

(25) The general then added, "The only reasonable solution to the sort of problems caused by the current unstable political situation is one of diplomacy and economic measures and not the use of military force."

What type of solution does the general support?

- (A) Economic and diplomatic actions.
- (B) Diplomatic and economic actions if military force fails.
- (C) Only diplomatic action.
- (D) Military actions in response to political problems.

Albert Einstein once attributed the creativity of a famous scientist to the fact that he "never went to school, and therefore preserved the rare gift of thinking freely." There is undoubtedly truth in Einstein's observation; many artists and geniuses seem to view their schooling as a disadvantage. But such a truth is not a criticism of schools. It is the function of schools to civilize, not to train explorers. The explorer is always a lonely individual whether his or her pioneering be in art, music, science, or technology. The creative explorer of unmapped lands shares with the genius what William James described as the "faculty of perceiving in an unhabitual way." Insofar as schools teach perceptual patterns they tend to destroy creativity and genius. But if schools could somehow exist solely to cultivate genius, then society would break down. For the social order demands unity and widespread agreement, both traits that are destructive to creativity. There will always be conflict between the demands of society and the impulses of creativity and genius.

(26) Which statement best expresses the main idea of the paragraph?

- (A) Albert Einstein and other geniuses and artists have said that schools limit creativity and genius.
- (B) Schools should be designed to encourage creativity.
- (C) Schools can never satisfy the needs of both geniuses and society as a whole.
- (D) Explorers can be compared to geniuses because both groups look at the world differently from the way most people do.

(27) According to the paragraph, which of the following statements is correct?

- (A) Society demands some qualities which might be destructive to creativity.
- (B) School is completely bad for geniuses and creative people.
- (C) Einstein believed that his success had nothing to do with his school education.
- (D) Schools should exist only to cultivate genius.

Some years ago, in informal experiments, students were asked to pass messages over the telephone. The person answering the phone (the same person throughout) varied his behavior so that in half the calls he gave greetings and minimal responses, and in the other half he claimed that he was a telephone answering device, and asked for the message to be recorded. The subjects in the second group, who did not get normal feedback, produced long-winded, awkward language with much pausing. The first group did not get any more actual help with their task, but for them the reassurance that there was a human being at the other end of the telephone enabled them to talk naturally.

Feedback is an important component of theories of learning. The learner needs to be told or shown how he is learning, to receive a judgment from a teacher on his performance. It allows early correction, stops bad habits forming, and allows particular difficulties to be isolated. So we can expect it to be a major factor in teacher talk. In a lot of informal conversation, feedback has to be inferred from aspects of the phrasing, pronunciation, and intonation of the next utterance, but there are some utterances which are devoted explicitly to making remarks about what has gone before. We shall call these 'follow-up utterances'.

Follow-ups are immensely important in teaching. They allow the teacher to shape the material being taught, to select, edit, and evaluate. The teacher's pronouncements in follow-up utterances are often canonical - a series of authoritative statements about the subject matter that can be relied upon. They can also be in the nature of a summary, reviewing perhaps several contributions to the discourse and drawing a conclusion by putting them all together.

A speaker who is allowed and even expected to make extended follow-ups has to be one in a rather privileged position, because it confers much authority on the pronouncements. Teachers are in this position, but students are not, and even in quite informal classrooms, it would be difficult for a student to follow up without giving offence. Consider the following fanciful example:

Student: Miss, who were the Jacobites?

Teacher: They were Scotsmen who supported the Stuart family who claimed that they were the rightful kings of Britain.

Student: Yes, good. They were supporters of the Stuart Pretenders to the throne.

But if the teacher and the student are reversed, and a student's name substituted for 'Miss', the example sounds much more plausible. Its oddity lies in the highly unexpected follow-up of the student. In some classrooms, a student might say 'Thanks' or 'I see' as follow-up when the teacher answers his question, but follow-ups are usually reserved to the teacher, and certainly any that border on evaluation.

- (28) According to the preceding text, which of the following statements is correct?
- (A) Negative judgments from a teacher may be harmful to classroom learning.
 - (B) Positive judgments from a teacher help isolated learners.
 - (C) Explicit remarks are devoted to fruitful learning.
 - (D) Follow-ups bear the marks of classroom interaction.
- (29) According to the preceding text, which of the following statements is correct?
- (A) Feedbacks affect what follows in conversation.
 - (B) Feedbacks must be interesting in order to be effective.
 - (C) Only minimal greetings and responses can be effective.
 - (D) Responses produced by a telephone answering device are not feedbacks.
- (30) According to the preceding text, which of the following statements is NOT mentioned?
- (A) Teachers often enjoy a higher position in the classroom.
 - (B) Some students from a privileged background make extensive remarks.
 - (C) It can be impolite for a student to make an elaborate comment on his/her teacher's response.
 - (D) Some minimal feedbacks from students are expected in the classroom.

IV. Translation. Translate the following two passages into Chinese. (20%)

Passage A (10%)

Rising materialism doesn't guarantee personal fulfillment or cure social ills. The greatest social inequalities today are more spiritual than economic. What qualities some people have in excess, others lack entirely. These include self-discipline, a sense of purpose and a feeling of community. But these qualities cannot be acquired in the market or easily transferred by government programs. They are instilled mainly by family.

Passage B (10%)

What I wish for all students is some release from the clammy grip of the future. I wish them a chance to savor each segment of their education as an experience in itself and not as a grim preparation for the next step. I wish them the right to experiment, to trip and fall, to learn that defeat is as instructive as victory and is not the end of the world. My wish, of course, is naïve.

V. Composition. Write a 200-word composition about an event from your freshman year that taught you an important lesson. (20%)