

國立清華大學 命題紙

95 學年度 人文社會學院台灣研究教師在職進修碩士學位班 語言、人類、台文 組碩士班入學考試

科目 英文 科目代碼 0303、0503、0603 共 5 頁第 1 頁 *請在【答案卷卡】內作答

Part One: Vocabulary 20%

For each sentence below, choose the best answer that completes the sentence.

1. A budget of five dollars a day is totally _____ for a trip round Europe.
A) inadequate B) incapable C) incompatible D) invalid
2. In our highly technological society, the number of jobs for unskilled worker is _____.
A) shrinking B) obscuring C) altering D) constraining
3. The fire has caused great losses, but the factory tried to _____ the consequences by saying that the damage was not as serious as reported.
A) decrease B) subtract C) minimize D) degrade
4. Satellite communications are so up-to-date that even when _____ in the middle of the Pacific, businessmen can contact their offices as if they were next door.
A) gliding B) cruising C) piloting D) patrolling
5. They have always regarded a man of _____ and fairness as a reliable friend.
A) robustness B) temperament C) integrity D) compactness
6. They are _____ investors who always make thorough investigations both on local and international markets.
A) implicit B) conscious C) cautious D) indecisive
7. In addition to the rising birth rate and immigration, the _____ death rate contributed to the population growth.
A) inclining B) increasing C) declining D) descending
8. The town planning commission said that their financial outlook for the next year was optimistic. They expect increased tax _____.
A) efficiency B) revenues C) privileges D) validity
9. The basic causes are unknown, although certain conditions that may lead to cancer have been _____.
A) identified B) guaranteed C) notified D) conveyed
10. Over the past ten years, natural gas production has remained steady, but _____ has risen steadily.
A) dissipation B) disposal C) consumption D) expenditure

Part Two. Reading comprehension. 20%

Passage One

It is hardly necessary for me to cite all the evidence of the depressing state of literacy. These figures from the Department of Education are sufficient: 27 million Americans cannot read at all, and a further 35 million read at a level that is less than sufficient to survive in our society.

But my own worry today is less that of the overwhelming problem of elemental literacy than it is of the slightly more luxurious problem of the decline in the skill even of the middle-class reader, of his unwillingness to afford those spaces of silence, those luxuries of domesticity and time and concentration, that surround the image of the classic act of reading. It has been suggested that almost 80 percent of America's literate, educated teenagers can no longer read without an accompanying noise (music) in the background or a television screen flickering at the corner of their field of perception. We know very little about the brain and how it deals with simultaneous conflicting input, but every common-sense intuition suggests we should be profoundly alarmed. This violation of concentration, silence, solitude goes to the very heart of our notion of literacy; this new form of part-reading, of part-perception against background distraction, renders impossible certain essential acts of apprehension and concentration, let alone that most important tribute any human being can pay to a poem or a piece of prose he or she really loves, which is to learn it by heart. Not by brain, by heart; the expression is vital.

Under these circumstances, the question of what future there is for the arts of reading is a real one. Ahead of us lie technical, psychic, and social transformations probably much more dramatic than those brought about by Gutenberg, the German inventor in printing. The Gutenberg revolution, as we now know it, took a long time; its effects are still being debated. The information revolution will touch every fact of composition, publication, distribution, and reading. No one in the book industry can say with any confidence what will happen to the book as we've known it.

11. The picture of the reading ability of the American people, drawn by the author is _____.
A) rather bleak B) fairly bright C) very impressive D) quite encouraging
12. The author's biggest concern is _____.
A) elementary school children's disinterest in reading classics.
B) the surprisingly low rate of literacy in the U.S.
C) the musical setting American readers require for reading
D) the reading ability and reading behavior of the middle class
13. A major problem with most adolescents who can read is _____.
A) their fondness of music and TV program.
B) their ignorance of various forms of art and literature
C) their lack of attentiveness and basic understanding
D) their inability to focus on conflicting input

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14. The author claims that the best way a reader can show admiration for a piece of prose is _____.
A) to be able to appreciate it and memorize it
B) to analyze the essential features
C) to think it over conscientiously
D) to make a fair appraisal of its artistic value
15. About the future of the arts of reading the author feels
A) upset B) uncertain C) alarmed D) pessimistic

Passage Two

The destruction of our natural resources and contamination of our food supply continue to occur, largely because of the extreme difficulty in affixing legal responsibility on those who continue to treat our environment with reckless abandon. Attempts to prevent pollution by legislation, economic incentive and friendly persuasion have been met by lawsuits, personal and industrial denial and long delays—not only in accepting responsibility, but more importantly, in doing something about it.

It seems that only when government decides it can afford tax incentives or production sacrifices is there any initiative for change. Where is industry's and our recognition that protecting mankind's great treasure is the single most important responsibility? If ever there will be time for environmental health professionals to come to the frontlines and provide leadership to solve environmental problems, that time is now.

We are being asked, and, in fact, the public is demanding that we take positive action. It is our responsibility as professionals in environmental health to make the difference. Yes, the ecologists, the environmental activists and conservationists serve to communicate, stimulate thinking and promote behavioral change. However, it is those of us who are paid to make the decisions to develop, improve and enforce environmental standards, I submit, who must lead the change.

We must recognize that environmental health issues do not stop at city limits, county lines, state or even federal boundaries. We can no longer afford to be tunnel-visioned in our approach. We must visualize issues from every perspective to make the objective decisions. We must express our views to prevent media distortion and public confusion.

I believe we have a three-part mission for the present. First, we must continue to press for improvements in the quality of life that people can make for themselves. Second, we must investigate

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and understand the link between environment and health. Third, we must be able to communicate technical information in a form that citizens can understand. If we can accomplish these three goals in this decade, maybe we can finally stop environment degradation, and not merely hold it back. We will then be able to spend pollution dollars truly on prevention rather than on bandages.

16. We can infer from the first two paragraphs that the industrialists disregard environmental protection chiefly because _____.
A) they are unaware of the consequence of what they are doing
B) they are reluctant to sacrifice their own economic interests
C) they have not yet come for them to put due emphasis on it
D) it is difficult for them to take effective measures
17. The main task now facing ecologists, environmental activists and conservationists is _____.
A) to prevent pollution by legislation, economic incentives and persuasion
B) to arouse public awareness of the importance of environmental protection
C) to take radical measures to control environmental pollution
D) to improve the quality of life by enforcing environmental standards
18. The word "tunnel-visioned" (Line 2, Para.4) most probably means _____.
A) narrow-minded
B) blind to the facts
C) short-sighted
D) able to see only one aspect
19. Which of the following, according to the author, should play the leading role in the solution of environmental problems?
A) Legislation and government intervention.
B) The industry's understanding and support.
C) The efforts of environmental health professionals.
D) The cooperation of ecologists, environmental activists and conservationists.
20. Which of the following is true according to the last paragraph?
A) Efforts should be exerted on pollution prevention instead of on remedial measures.
B) More money should be spent in order to stop pollution.
C) Ordinary citizens have no access to technical information on pollution.
D) Environmental degradation will be stopped by the end of this decade.

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Part Three Translation 60%

1. Far from gaining from insulation, art depends for its vitality on the ability of people to reach beyond their own societies. The greatest cultural movements—most obviously the Renaissance and the Enlightenment—involved the promiscuous mixing of cultures. From Sparta to Singapore, most cultural deserts have been produced by officials trying to preserve their cultures from corruption at the hands of aliens.
2. Oppressive acts against women, including physical abuse, rape and economic control, are prevalent in all poor regions of the world, irrespective of race and religion. Most Muslim countries—former colonies exploited by the West—are plagued with overpopulation, underdevelopment and illiteracy. Poverty and ignorance are the primary culprits of economic and social injustice suffered by women.
3. 近來台灣社會瀰漫著一股不確定的氛圍。時時充滿了變數，生命不可測、未來不確定。令人格外憂心的是，這好像也不是台灣獨有的現象；似乎整個世界都在變局當中。美國的九一一更加深了這種印象。如果連在和平時期全世界最繁華的都會裡的標竿商業大樓都會在幾小時內化為烏有，還有什麼事不可能發生？（摘錄自「光華雜誌」91年9月）
4. 此刻的台灣，民粹當道，價值已告失去，於是講粗話代表親切草根，如同吃檳榔才代表鄉土基層。這種價值觀的顛倒與錯亂，已使得台灣政治人物的粗鄙語言當道，並開始上行下效。當今台灣社會的粗鄙化與暴力傾向正在升高，這和粗鄙語言當道脫不了干係。（摘錄自南方朔「語言之鑰」）