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3 最后，奉劝各位托福小主，不要把机经当投机，否则，too young too simple, sometimes naive.





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托福君的写作预测

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独立写作

1. **Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The environmental issue is too complex to be handled by the individual.**

Environmental issues, such as global warming and air pollution, have raised people's awareness of protecting the environment during the past decades. Some people argue that individuals are responsible for handling those issues, whereas others do not believe so. To my understanding, the environmental issues are too complicated for individuals to deal with for the following reasons.

The first step to solve problems related to environment is to establish laws and set up rules that we could refer to. Obviously, individuals do not have the power to achieve this goal, but the governments and politicians have. The governments and politicians are definitely capable of assembling a team of professionals in the field of environment study, then discussing about issues that need to be handled, and finally drafting laws and rules of protecting the environment based on the discussion and scientific research. It

could be seen that the process of establishing systematic laws and principles is extremely complicated, which is impossible for individuals to handle.

The second step to deal with environment issues is to implement laws and principles that set up by the governments and experts. As far as I am concerned, the implementation is large-scale industries' duty rather than individuals'. According to a recent survey, the major sources of various types of pollution are large-scale industries and factories in my home country. If those industries and factories could follow laws and policies to minimize the amount of waste and hazardous materials disposed in rivers and lands, the pollution problem could be solved to a large extent. If they refuse to do so, environmental issues could not be handled no matter how many efforts individuals spend on protecting the environment. Based on the above discussion, large-scale industries and factories should be responsible of implementing laws and policies rather than individuals.

Admittedly, individuals should also participate in protecting our environment. For example, we could purchase recycled products, reduce the emission of CO₂ by taking public transportation tools instead of private cars, and volunteer in eco-friendly organizations, to name a few. However, those efforts could help solve a small portion of environment problems, compared with complex tasks that need to be completed by the governments and large-scale industries.

To sum up, handling environmental issue needs the cooperation of our government and large-scale industries. Though individuals should take part in protecting the environment, they should not be assigned with all complicated tasks.

2. Agree or Disagree: teachers were more appreciated and valued by the society in the past than nowadays.

Nowadays, the whole society is paying more attention to the quality of education. As a result, teachers are usually assigned with more demanding teaching assignments. Some people argue that teachers today are more respected by the public because of their hardworking, whereas others do not believe so. In my opinion, teachers in the past were actually more appreciated and valued for the following reasons.

Admittedly, teachers today are playing a more important role than the past, but it does not mean that they are still appreciated and valued as authority any more. Today's teachers need to follow the schools' policies and teach in accordance with the textbooks. To illustrate, teachers do not have to express their personal opinions and show their charisma in nowadays' classrooms because both students' parents and the schools only need satisfying final grades. This is true especially in primary and middle schools in my home country. It seems that teachers are trained in similar ways and teach uniformed knowledge in school.

Moreover, many professors in college-level education are spending less effort on

classroom teaching but are devoting themselves to scientific research. This is resulted from the universities' policies that the more rewarding professors' scientific research is, the higher reputation professors could gain. Some professors just read the slides on their PowerPoint in class. Even if students negatively evaluate the professors, universities will not consider students' evaluation seriously because the professors' scientific achievements are more associated with the universities' reputation. Gradually, students do not value teachers and professors' work anymore.

In contrast, teachers in the past were regarded as authority in their own fields of research because they did not rely on textbooks and felt free to express their own opinions on political and social issues. Their words and behaviors were not strictly regulated by the governments' policies and were not influenced by parents' expectations. As a result, teachers in the past were more likely to express opinions from creative perspectives and thus looked up to by students.

To sum up, although teachers today are working under great pressure and have to consider many stakeholders' expectations towards the educational quality, they are actually not as appreciated and valued than teachers in the past. However, teachers should not be blamed for this result, and they have to follow not only the schools' policies, otherwise they will lose their jobs.

3. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? In order to attract good students, a university should spend a lot of money funding social activities.

Nowadays, students and parents will consider a variety of factors when choosing which university to apply for, such as the general teaching quality, the facilities on campus, the living condition of students' dormitory, to name a few. Some people argue that in order to attract students of better academic backgrounds, universities should spend a lot of money on funding social activities. I disagree with this statement, and I believe that universities could attract students by spending money on improving their teaching quality and purchasing facilities on campus.

Universities should spend more budgets on improving teaching quality, so as to attract good students. The most critical factor that students of outstanding academic backgrounds would consider when choosing which university to apply for is the quality of education of that university. This is because those students expect to learn more academic knowledge in university-level study, and thus get more prepared for their future work. Therefore, in order to attract this group of students, universities should spend money on providing teaching faculties with professional development opportunities as well as teacher training. In this way, professors as well as other faculty members will become more qualified and professional in their fields, and adopt appropriate methodologies in classrooms. As a result, the general teaching quality in the university will be improved. This would definitely attract and impress more future

students who prefer universities of high-level educational quality.

Moreover, universities should also spend money on purchasing new facilities on campus to attract good students. Both students and their parents would like to choose universities of better learning environment and accommodation conditions, especially outstanding students who have higher expectations on their university life. Therefore, in order to attract those students, universities need to make sure that they are facilitated with comfortable students' dormitories, large playground and gyms, and computers of good quality as well. It is not exaggerated to say that sometimes students are more willing to choose a university with better facilities even if the university is not ranked top.

Admittedly, funding social activities can make universities famous and thus known to students to a certain extent. However, simply by spending money on those activities irrelevant to students' needs and wants, universities cannot attract students in a long run. After all, when deciding which university to apply for, outstanding students tend to consider the teaching quality and facilities in a university far more than how much money the university spend on social activities.

4. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is better for children to work with others as a team than to work on their own.

Working cooperatively has lots of benefits on team members, even for children. Thus, some people believe that it is better to create opportunities for children to work with others than to work on their own. I totally agree with this statement for the following reasons.

To begin with, children could learn how to communicate and negotiate with others through working in groups; the ability of cooperating with others is beneficial for children's future study and work. While working in groups, children will need to persuade others and sometimes make a compromise when they hold different ideas from others. During this process, they could develop their ability of expressing ideas effectively in a convincing way. Also, they will learn the importance of keeping an open mind and giving up their own ideas when in need. This ability of cooperation will be beneficial for both study and work in the future.

Moreover, through working in groups, children will not feel lonely. In my home country, since the implementation of the One Child Policy, most families could only bear one child. Many kids already feel lonely with no brothers and sisters to play with. Working alone all the time is definitely harmful for children's personal development. However, if they could have the opportunity to work together with others, no matter how difficult their task is, they will feel supported by their peers.

In addition, working in groups could cultivate children's critical thinking ability. As we all know, every individual's ideas are limited by their own vision and experience.

Thus when working on one's own, he or she might omit some details or be confined in their own patterns of thinking. On the contrary, working in groups enables children to learn from as well as criticize each other, and therefore to broaden their visions and stimulate critical thinking ability.

Based on the above discussion, for children, working cooperatively with others could benefit them in different ways compared to working alone. Children could develop their communication skills and critical thinking ability without feeling lonely.

5. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Government should offer free Internet access to all citizens. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Smartphones, tablets and other kinds of electronic devices with Internet access have become indispensable in our daily life, thanks to the rapid development of science and technology. Users, the young adults in particular, demand access to Internet anywhere. Moreover, some people even suggest that it is the government's duty to offer free Internet access to all citizens. However, I find this proposal inadvisable.

First of all, the fact that we can no longer part with Internet does not necessarily mean the government should provide free access to all citizens. More often than not, we can easily obtain free Internet access from other sources. It is not unusual to find free Wi-Fi spots or cable network set up by commercial purveyors such as office buildings, shopping malls and restaurants. It is certainly not necessary for the government to cover these places. Also, many telecommunication companies offer packages which already cover the Internet cost. Naturally, users of these services will not ask for any governmental support. Besides, it seems that the older generation are not as addicted to Internet as the younger one, so in communities full of senior citizens, the demand for free Internet access from the government is also not urgent.

Even if the government wants to offer free Internet access, doing so would cost too much. Internet access, either wireless or wired, would require immense investment, if the government wish to cover the whole population. Some countries, such as Russia, China and the USA, cover a huge area of land, with people living in remote areas far away from the cities. It would certainly cost much to build base stations or set up cables to all these areas so as to enable the residents there to enjoy free Internet access. The billions of dollars could have been more wisely-used in other sectors that are more vital to the country. Also, building the facilities is only the first step, and there will always be the continuous maintenance to the facilities, and that will never be offset by the fee charged from the users.

Finally, users may be disappointed to find that their benefits are impaired because the increased cost will be passed on to them in the form of tax. In this way, what they have longed—to save money—will fail to be met, if not completely reversed. As we all know, the government budget comes from various taxes collected from all citizens.

Normally, people can choose the type of Internet access in accordance with their own income level. However, if the government should be left to impose higher taxes, the low-income group will find it most unsatisfactory and even unfair since the added tax may even exceed the expense on Internet access. Similarly, the users who cannot receive stable signal or speed may also complain about the situation and feel cheated. To avoid dissatisfaction of these people, the government should think twice before taking the initiative.

In conclusion, despite the indispensability of the Internet, the government does not have to provide all its citizens with free access to the Internet, considering the lack of need, the high cost and the potential complaint the general public.

6. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: some people think that the most important quality in choosing the leader of a school organization or club is honesty.

In today's schools and universities, student organizations are playing more and more important role in students' campus life. When choosing a leader in student organization, some people believe that the most important quality is honesty. However, the most important quality for a student leader, I believe, is to provide his or her team members with opportunities to express their opinions. If necessary, a leader should change his or her opinions as well.

Admittedly, being honest could benefit student organizations' work because the team members tend to trust the leader, which could result in a strong leadership and smooth teamwork. However, compared to honesty, a leader's willingness to accept others' opinions and to change when they make wrong decisions are much more important for the following reasons.

First of all, a student leader's primary task is to stimulate and motivate his or her peer to come up with creative ideas, which benefit teamwork to a large extent. In student organizations, most tasks require teamwork where everyone in the team needs to contribute. The role of a leader is to stimulate all his or her team members to express their opinions rather than to become a dictator who make every decision on his or her own. In order to motivate the team members, a leader should not only create an atmosphere that everyone could feel free to speak up but also respect the thoughts of his or her peers.

Moreover, it happens that sometimes the leader's decision could be wrong and will exert negative influence on the team's work. As everyone knows, no one is perfect and people do make mistakes. If a leader hold strong opinions that might result in setbacks, and he or she refuses to change, the whole team's project will be affected by his or her dictation. As a result, the team members will become reluctant to contribute to the team and might even quit the current job for a better one. On the contrary, if the leader is humble enough to change their opinions and listen to others' suggestions, the team could avoid future loss.

As I have read from an article published online, "decision making is when the leader gives up ownership and control of a decision and allows the group to vote". This is not only true in business and politics but also in student organizations. A student leader should encourage his or her colleagues to actively participate in the decision-making

process, and should change their opinions when it is necessary, which are more important than being honest.

- 7. A high school has decided that all students must take a class in which they learn a practical skill. School administrators are trying to decide whether to hold a class in cooking, managing personal finances or auto repair. Which do you think the school should require students to take? Why?**

In my home country, the curricula in high schools are extremely intense for students. Many high school students are under great pressure at school, and they might feel stressed out if one more required course is added to the busy schedule. However, if they have to choose one course to take, I believe that a cooking class is better than a personal financial management class or auto repair class, because a cooking class could benefit students in different ways.

To begin with, a cooking class could provide students with opportunities to relax and escape from intense academic study for a while. In a cooking class, students neither need to read lots of materials nor to solve complicated mathematic problems. What they need to do is to follow the chef's instructions and learn how to serve delicious dishes. Moreover, students could cooperate and communicate with each other during the process of cooking. By working cooperatively with their peers, students could learn more about their classmates and thus become friends with each other, which is almost impossible in classrooms where students are forbidden to discuss in my home country. Thus, a cooking class could help students relax in a pleasant atmosphere.

Another advantage of cooking class is that the skill of cooking could benefit students in a long run. In the future, some high students might choose to enter colleges or universities in their home country, whereas others will choose to study abroad. It is possible that many of them will relocate to a new city and live in apartments with roommates. If those students have learned how to cook during high school, they could cook by themselves, and treat their friends with delicious dishes when they have time. In this way, the students could save a lot of money because they do not have to eat outside in restaurants that are usually more expensive than cooking at home. Moreover, the students' friends would appreciate a lot being invited to their places and served with mouthwatering dishes. Hence, a cooking class could benefit students even after their graduation.

Compared with a cooking class, a personal financial management course would be too boring because students still need to sit in classrooms and complete difficult tasks. As for an auto-repair course, students might find it dangerous because they need to use tools that they are not familiar with to repair cars. Furthermore, in order to open an auto-repair course, high schools need to spend a lot of money purchasing vehicles and equipment. I am afraid that the administration offices in high schools are not fond of this idea.

Based on the above discussion, a cooking class could benefit students in that they could relieve the pressure from academic learning, and could utilize the skill of cooking in the future.

- 8. The most important goal of education is to teach people how to educate themselves.**

Nothing is more important than education to an individual's development which has

traditionally played an important role in passing of knowledge. But today this purpose seems to be thrown away and the modern one tends to be helping students be better employed. Most people would agree that the latter should be the main goal of education. In my opinion, this is important but what is the most important one is to help students to educate themselves.

Living in such highly competitive world, individuals only armed with knowledge may fail to be competent. This is mainly because what we can get from school is, after all, limited, no matter how long we have been educated. This fact can well explain why American high schools today ask their students to spend much time learning how to use resource materials, libraries, statistics and computers but not just learn academic courses such as mathematics or history. Americans believe that if children are taught to reason well and to research well, they will be able to find whatever facts they need and therefore become more competent.

Receiving education is filled in the whole process of one's life, rather than a part of time. That is to say, the graduation from school does not mean the ending of education. Instead, we are supposed and sometimes forced to learn more throughout the whole life. Once we enter the workplace, we should learn skills about how to get along well with colleagues, how to better accomplish the task arranged by superiors and how to balance work and life. After we become parents, we need try to adapt to this new role as soon as possible and also we need to learn how to take care of a baby day and night. Even when we get old, we still have to keep on studying the best way to spend plenty of leisure time. All of these can hardly be gained from school education.

To sum up, only by learning how to educate oneself, one can learn more and become more competent, which is the most important goal of education. Learning is a lifelong process and we should never allow ourselves to become complacent or indifferent to the idea that there is always more to learn.

9. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: People should not spend a lot of time on communicating by technologies, such as through social media or with text messages.

The younger generation are perhaps the tech-savviest in history, spending several hours on their smartphones, laptops and tablets, exchanging messages and updating on their social media accounts. Some have even abandoned the face-to-face communication and opted for a virtual social life. In my opinion, people should limit their time spent on these technological devices.

Admittedly, modern technologies allow us to lead a more efficient and colorful life. With a smartphone or a tablet, we can reach out to our friends or complete strangers regardless of geographical barriers. Via several touches on the screen, an appointment can be made, and the whereabouts of the celebrities can be known. The outside world has never been so close to us. It is no wonder that some would sacrifice hours of time which should have been used to work or study for an indulgence in the virtual world, giving out and receiving likes, reading and making comments. However, things would never be that simple. As the technology creeps into our life, we are more or less becoming the slaves of them.

Too much exposure to the virtual world affects our communication in real life. One look at the way a person chats online or texts on the phone and we can realize how different it is from our daily talks. Communication online involves no changes in intonation or facial expression, and certainly does not follow strictly the grammatical rules. Instead, emoji and memes have been created as a substitution for facial expression. Also, acronyms and abbreviations have been employed to squeeze space for more contents in the 140-character limit. When these people return to real life, they find it impossible to read long articles, or to compose proper essays, or even, to talk at ease with others outside their own circle of friends.

Moreover, social network fails to achieve what it has claimed to be. Rather than cheering us up, it makes us more depressed. Normally, a girl spends hours doing make-ups, takes hundreds of selfies, picks several good ones, and retouches them for dozens of times, before posting the best-looking one on her social media accounts. Then comes the anxious waiting for likes and comments from her friends, which, if not enough, will certainly dampen her mood for a whole day. Also, rather than keeping us well-informed, social network makes us more arrogant and biased. We do not agree to disagree—we simply aim for a good quarrel with those holding a different view. We do not look for voices from the other party—we simply turn a blind eye to them and stick to what we believe to be true.

In conclusion, long time exposure to modern technologies, and social media and text messages in particular, will more or less have a negative effect on our social life and mental health, so it seems we have to limit our time spent on these technologies.

- 10. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is difficult to be teachers who are not only popular with students but also can improve their studying efficiency. Use specific reasons and examples or details to support your answer.**

Score 5:

At present, a teacher is required not only to know how to teach, but also to be favorable for his students. Although some people believe educators may have difficulties in achieving this, I personally believe that these two are not mutually exclusive.

In the first place, a teacher who has gained popularity among students must have a personal quality such as being patient to tolerate the students who have made some mistakes, showing enthusiasm in class, being humorous. The most important is to love students and to love the course of teaching. As long as he has the innate love for his profession, he may have enormous zest for his students, and become a teacher favored by students. In addition, teachers like this can easily motivate students' learning interest, thereby promoting working efficiency. That is to say, they are so trustworthy that they can guide and supervise the learners' study efficiently.

Secondly, only a teacher who has the teaching faculty can help students develop effective and efficient study skill. In order to have this capability, a teacher should acquire enough knowledge. On the one hand, he should acquire the wide knowledge of philosophy, psychology, education (how to teach), culture, history, geography, etc. On the other hand, he must master much deeper theories in his research field. For example, an English teacher should possess the necessary skills of listening, speaking, reading, writing

and translating, among which speaking is of paramount importance. In addition, a good English teacher may have the means to activate his class and give students the opportunities to practice English. Only in this way students can use English and improve their communicative competence. Undoubtedly, these teachers who have succeeded in improving academic performance are favorable for students.

To sum up, based on the reasons I list above, I would regard teachers would achieve the required goals since the former is the foundation of the latter and without the latter, the former cannot be permanent.

11. Do you agree that people will feel happier if they have fewer possessions?

Money-worshipping is often condemned and frowned upon. Some people even attribute all the dissatisfaction in our life to the pursuit of personal possessions. They believe that with fewer possessions, people would live a much happier life. However, real life abounds with examples where people do not feel happier or enjoy more emotional well-being when they have fewer personal possessions.

People who are extremely poor will certainly feel unhappy if they are deprived of part of their possessions. These people can barely survive with their current properties and belongings, so if they lose any, they can hardly sustain their own lives. The Syrian refugees can be a typical example. These refugees, when abandoning their home, took little with them. What they have taken with them are normally personal belongings and passports. Should they lose any of them, their life for the following days would be miserable. They might starve if they cannot get food, or they might be denied entrance to the refugee camp if they cannot prove their identity. They would be far from happy when they lose some of their personal belongings.

Similarly, common people will also feel unhappy, if not uneasy when they find their property shrink. Common people, including the working class and the middle class, may seem to lead a comfortable life with a stable income. However, their seemingly comfortable life is often one step away from bankruptcy if the stock market experiences a downturn, or if a family member is diagnosed with a deadly disease. For example, the plunge in the stock market in China last year has caused a decrease in property for millions of stockholders. Many suffered from constant anxiety, others from insomnia. Never can we find any claiming to be happy or satisfactory with a shrunk property. Also, countless times have we read news about medical treatment consuming all the deposits of an average family, leaving them depressed and miserable.

The only exception is probably the billionaires, who are most likely to remain unaffected when facing a reduction in property. The reason is that these people have various assets and businesses, so if one slumps, there are always others on the rise. Their personal possessions are embodied in figures on the bank account, which, if dwindles, tends to creep back some days later. In the meantime, they might even fail to notice the difference. For example, after having donated more than 30 billion dollars to charity, Bill Gates remains the richest person in the world for 18 years in a row. Of course he claims to be happy since his donation helps to improve the life of those in need. However, others, whose possessions reduce only because of financial fluctuation, simply do not care too much.

In conclusion, only those with real assets and business may remain untouched by a shrink in possessions, others, including the average people and the underprivileged, will feel less happy about the loss of possessions.

12. Some students prefer to have their final grades determined by numerous small assignments, whereas others prefer to have their final grades determined by only a few large assignments. Which do you prefer and why?

I prefer to have my final grade determined by numerous small assignments rather than one or two large assignments. That way, procrastination is less likely because I'm sharply focused on the frequent due dates. I also tend to learn more throughout the semester and each assignment is less stressful because they aren't worth a huge percentage of my total grade.

Procrastination can be a big problem for some students, myself included. When there are only a few large assignments in a class, there can be several weeks in a row where we aren't required to turn in any work. The assumption is that we are studying or writing at home in the meantime. However, I know that this can sometimes lead to procrastination on my part. I take advantage of the situation and think I can take a few days to relax before getting to work. But more and more time goes by and suddenly I am scrambling to complete the assignment before the due date. Turning in smaller assignments more frequently prevents this scenario. The structure doesn't allow me to fall behind because something is always due in the near future.

These frequent assignments also assure that we students are learning more throughout the semester. For example, if each small assignment covers one chapter from the textbook, then my classmates and I will read each assigned chapter because we must. A test or new assignment is always around the corner to check our work. But such specific studying isn't really necessary if we don't even turn anything in until midway through the semester. Certain chapters might get skimmed or even skipped out of perceived unimportance. Maybe we save time, but we are receiving less information overall, which isn't good.

Finally, having only a few large assignments can be tremendously stressful. I'm always well aware that doing poorly on an essay could result in me failing the entire class if the essay is worth a large percentage of my overall grade. This can have a nearly paralyzing effect on my work because the pressure is just too much. Nothing I do seems good enough when the assignment is that important. Having several smaller assignments is much more pleasant because I know it isn't the end of the world if something goes wrong with one of them. My grade won't be affected too terribly. I'm then more confident and at ease in my work.

That is why I much prefer having my grade determined by several small assignments instead of a few large assignments. I'm not allowed to procrastinate, I engage more with the subject matter over the course of the semester, and I'm not overwhelmed with stress because of massively important assignments.

13. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? All school teachers should be required to take courses every five years to update their knowledge.

Every subject is constantly developing with the forefront being renewed on a yearly basis, so it is believed that teachers should update their knowledge accordingly. However, asking the teachers to take courses every five years would be inadvisable, since it would be unnecessary for teachers at certain levels of education.

To begin with, it would clearly be quite unnecessary for the primary school teachers, since they only offer basic knowledge, which seldom changes in five years. For example, the basic calculation principles have never changed since they were invented; the basic grammatical rules have also remained almost the same for centuries. Teachers of these subjects obviously do not need to update their knowledge of the subject they are teaching every five years. Besides, subjects such as music and PE are all the more stable, with almost no requirement on new knowledge.

A first sight, it would seem necessary for university professors as they usually have to keep themselves informed of the forefront of their own fields of study. However, the fact is that professors and lecturers attend conferences or seminars, and read newly-published academic articles themselves so as to keep up with the latest development of their field. Taking courses would only waste their time and impair the academic freedom. These teachers would spontaneously seek out information about their field regularly, so it would be unwise to force them to take courses at too long an interval.

In fact, among teachers of different levels of education, only middle school teachers might find it necessary to take such courses. This is because the syllabus and test forms may change regularly and if they are not familiar with the modifications, they may fail to enhance the academic performance of their students. For example, middle school teachers should be fully aware of the reform in SAT writing and teach the students the new skills required; otherwise, their students might be wrongly instructed and score too low in the test, failing to get enrolled in top-notch universities. More often than not, the changes in the syllabus and test forms are subtle but complicated, so assembling the teachers and giving them instructions would lead to a most satisfactory result. In this way, the education bureau can make sure that every teacher understands the changes and that they can teach students more effectively.

In conclusion, although teachers do have to update their knowledge, it is not necessary to require teachers of all levels to take courses every five years.

14. Do you agree or disagree with the statement: Governments have done enough to educate the people the importance of a balanced lifestyle and healthy eating?

A balanced lifestyle and healthy eating are essential things for a government to develop and advance that they are so deeply relevant for a great nation to be. In my country, I think my government is not doing enough to educate its citizens to keep a balanced lifestyle and to eat healthily.

Firstly, the government emphasizes more on the development of economy than a sound lifestyle. To be more concise, it always makes attempts to boost the growth of economy trying to prove that my country is a great one and people living on this land are happy and content. However, economy progression is not a sound indicator to this regard due to the fact that people are expected to work harder and to sacrifice their spare time in order to fulfill the

anticipation of the company and the government. A balanced life means people do not just work for their career or jobs, but also for their pleasures, for their hobbies and for their family. In the society, conversely, people are educated to use all their time to work diligently at the expense of anything in their life. A so unbalanced lifestyle it is that people are under pressure, such as construction workers needing to finish building projects as fast as possible so that they can earn more money; students trying to ace the test so that they can earn more time for their tests by sacrificing the time of exercising and spending time with their friends and family. Hardly do they take a rest to lead a balanced life because they are not educated to do so for a better living.

Secondly, the government tends to ignore the fast development of unhealthy chain store. The food industry has a tremendous influence on the issue of healthy eating. However, it is so powerful that this great empire spends millions of dollars on advertisement, medium, movies or even on schools, for they are sponsors of certain school activities. So, most of the people are not educated well enough to eat a diet that is beneficial and wholesome to their physical condition. What they are “educated” instead is to eat in a fancy place and get their meals as fast as possible as in chain fast-food restaurants. As we all know that fruits, vegetables and water are essential elements for a healthy eating habit, yet the government seldom educates us to consume those things in our daily life; instead, unhealthy chain stores are taking the hand of the government in educating us what seems right to eat due to the ignorance of the rampant development of ill-nourished food industry.

Admittedly, some people may still think our government has done its role of educating citizens to eat healthy and keep a balanced life. For instance, in the school, students are taught what nutrients are vital to our physical condition and some of the governmental organizations, taking Healthy and Sanitary Department for example. It is holding some activities to teach citizens what to eat to keep in a good shape and live healthily. However, to me, this is not enough. Greasy food and sugary beverages are still sold in the school due to its high profits. Salty food, high carbohydrate diets and fried products are not a rare sight when people go to supermarkets or when they turn on the TV or read the magazines.

In conclusion, even though my government is trying its best to educate people to eat right in some aspects, this is not sufficient and not effectual. The government is still trying to focus more on the development of economy and people are still bombarded with the advertisements of the food industry, so people eat by the “trend,” rather than by the “nutrition facts” from food. Hence, I think my government is not educating their people enough concerning a balanced life and a healthy eating concept.

15. The opinions of celebrities, such as entertainers and athletes, are more important to the younger people than they are to the older people.

Talk shows and news programs often broadcast opinions of celebrities, be it from entertainers or athletes. Their voices can be heard everywhere and people would sometimes listen. As with anything new or fashionable, opinions and viewpoints made by these famous people clearly means more to the younger generation than to the older people.

First, the younger generation may refer to the opinions of celebrities when making purchasing decisions. It is not uncommon these days for entertainers or athletes to

endorse for a product. As the spokesmen for a certain brand, these celebrities would openly support the product. As a result, those young people who are fascinated with their idols may deem the product as impeccable and choose to buy these products so as to share the same style. However, older people have already formed their own habit and may be loyal to their own favorite brands, so they seldom listen to the recommendations from these spokesmen or beauty ambassadors.

Second, the social life of the young people always involve the celebrities. When a teenager or a young adult show little knowledge about the celebrities, he or she would be considered weirdos or outsiders, thus being rejected by the average social circle. For example, one would seem obsolete these days in China if he or she knows nothing about the catchphrase “prehistoric power”. Immediately after Fu Yuanhui, a Chinese swimmer, uttered these words, the phrase went viral on the social media along with her exaggerated facial expression. The younger generation soon created various memes and incorporated the catchphrase into their daily conversation. However, the older generation seemed unaffected by this. They did not share the memes with their friends, nor did they quote her words.

Finally, opinions of celebrities may even influence the career aspiration of the younger generation. These days, young people are much more likely to see themselves as potential sports stars or entertainers. After all, the prevalence of these figures in the mass media may convey the impression that such positions are plentiful. If a singer or a basketball player boasts his or her success and career, millions of the young would follow the track, competing in talent shows, or sweating on the basketball court. The older people, however, are much more sensible when hearing these things, either because they have already chosen a career or because they are aware of the cruelty of life. In conclusion, words from famous people can exert a great influence on purchasing decisions, social life and career aspiration of the younger generation, while for the older and more mature generation, the influence is minimal.

16. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: Children are benefited in important ways by taking care of pet.

Nowadays, more and more families are keeping pets and treating them as family members. It is not difficult to imagine how much happiness our puppies and kittens have been sharing with us. In fact, the happiness is not the only treasure that pets brought to people, especially for those who have children. This is because children could learn and benefit a lot from keeping a pet in various important ways.

First, taking care of a pet, children will learn the difficulties that their parents have been through while bringing them up. In order to keep their pets healthy and happy, children need to feed and drink them on time, to shower them regularly, to spend time playing with them every day, and to look after them when they are sick. It seems that, to a certain extent, those responsibilities are similar to those of parents' when taking care of their own children. Because of those similarities, children could have opportunities to “perform” parenting roles and thus learn how hard it is to be their pets' “parents”. Once

children are aware of the difficulties of being a father or mother, they will become grateful for everything that their parents have done for them, and love their families more than ever.

Second, children will not feel lonely if they keep pets. In today's families, especially families in big cities, more and more parents choose to have only one child. It is very likely that a child feel lonely if his or her parents are busy with their works. Admittedly, children from different families could get together and play with each other when parents are not at home. However, very few parents would allow their children to do so, because they are reluctant to take the risk that some troublemakers among those kids will accidentally hurt their children. In this case, keeping a pet, such as a loyal puppy or a cute kitten, seems to be a better choice. I remember that when I was little, I had a kitten named Orange. Though Orange seemed to be indifferent to everything happening in this world, he would always love to stick to me when my parents went to work. We spent a lot of time together, reading books, watching cartoons, and drawing pictures. With Orange, I never felt lonely.

Therefore, I think, it is not an exaggeration to say that keeping a pet could benefit kids in important ways, such as teaching children how difficult it is to be "parents". Moreover, children will not feel lonely with their pets around, sharing each sweet moment together.

17. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: people now are more interested in improving the neighborhood (the area that they live) than in the past.

There is an old saying in Chinese that our neighbors could offer us greater help than our relatives when we are in trouble. This saying shows that neighbors have been playing an indispensable part of people's life in China. Nowadays, some people still believe that the majority of us are interested in improving the neighborhood. However, in my opinion, people today neither have the time nor the willingness to maintain their relationship with neighbors.

To begin with, people today have intensive schedule of study or work, thus they have little time to spend on improving the neighborhood. For workers who need to financially support their families, they need to complete demanding assignments during workdays; sometimes they even need to work overload and overtime. Therefore, workers will be exhausted after five days of working, and might simply relax at home during the weekends. In terms of students, they usually do not hang out with friends as students in the past did, because they need to write numerous papers in order to earn credits and prepare for the college entrance exam. This phenomenon is especially true in Asian where students' academic performance is referred to as the standard of good students or bad students. In this sense, students do not have time to play with their peers, let alone maintain relationship with neighbors.

Moreover, even if people have the spare time to do something, they prefer to develop their own interests or travel with friends rather than improving the neighborhood.

With the development of the society and modern technology, people could enjoy different types of entertainments, such as playing online games, traveling, shopping, to name a few. Those activities occupy most of people's leisure time today; on the contrary, entertainment activities were very limited in the past, and people then did not have too many choices to kill time except for visiting their neighbors. Based on the above discussion, it could be seen that people today are less interested in improving the neighborhood.

To sum up, because of the busy life and the pervasion of various types of entertainment activities, people today lack the time and the willingness to maintain their relationship with neighbors.

18. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? In order for a business to succeed, it must put more money in advertising.

In order to gain profits and occupy a larger portion of market, companies have developed many ways to increase their market share, including spending money on advertising. Some people believe that a company cannot achieve success unless they invest more money on advertising. However, the effectiveness and influence of an advertisement does not solely depend on how much money was put in it; also, there are several circumstances that a business should cut down its budgets on advertising and invest more on other projects.

To begin with, low-cost advertisements could be attractive enough for customers and help companies to occupy a large portion of the market. For instance, there are advertisements of Coca-Cola everywhere around the world, and Coca-Cola seems to be the most competitive brand among companies selling beverages. Coca-Cola's advertisements are perceived as more interesting and attractive than the ones of Pepsi and other companies of the same kind. It is the idea and content of Coca-Cola's advertisement matter instead of how much money being put into the advertisement. A simple cartoon with fancy ideas which come from ordinary people instead of a celebrity designer may have greater influence than scenes that got shot on famous spots with post-processing.

Moreover, some small companies in lack of the money to create widespread advertisements need to invest on other things first such as the quality of their products and marketing. When it comes to shops that sell cookies, for example, they should improve the flavors of their products first. Then, letting customers taste their free samples may be a better strategy than those posters on walls for advertising. In addition, sometimes companies suffering from crisis should put more money on human resources and adjusting the configuration of different departments within the companies. Unless they have solved the crisis, they have no reason to emphasize too much on advertising.

Based on the above discussions, a company has many choices other than investing more on advertising to make a business to be successful. Admittedly, advertising

investment is so important that it is often a decisive factor to the success of a company; however, it is not always the predominant factor.

19. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? We should state our honest opinions even though other people may disagree with them.

Nowadays, most projects at school or in workplaces are completed by group work. When we work as members in a team, it is common that everyone in this team needs to present his or her opinions. Some people believe that it is better not to state our honest opinions sometimes so that our team members will not consider us as aggressive. However, to my understanding, always stating our honest opinions could benefit our teamwork in different ways.

For students, making our ideas known to classmates or group members is one of the most important steps when doing an assignment. It is true that the majority of our team members might hold different opinions from us. However, there is no guarantee that the majority is always correct about everything. It happens that the minority's opinions are more advisable than what most people believe. Moreover, if everyone has the opportunity to state their honest opinion, the team could create an atmosphere that all team members could feel free to express their ideas, which will simulate the students' critical thinking ability. When one student expresses his or her opinion that is different from others', all group members will discuss about it together, thus to analyze whether it is correct or not, providing evidence to support their standpoints. This process of discussion will definitely lead to critical thinking. Therefore, I believe that students should state their honest opinions even when their classmates disagree with them.

In workplaces, many people refuse to state their opinion honestly in order not to offend their colleagues and supervisors. As far as I am concerned, if we express our opinions in appropriate and polite ways, others will not feel uncomfortable even if they disagree with us. On the contrary, our co-workers and supervisors will tend to consider us as honest person, and thus will be more willing to cooperate with us.

Admittedly, in certain cultures, it is impolite to always express opinions in a straightforward and honest way. Based on what I have learned about Japanese culture, the local people will keep silent and avoid stating honest opinion if they believe that others hold the opposite opinion. If someone speaks up in this situation, he or she will be perceived as a person who "does not read the atmosphere", which means that the speaker fails to taking others' feelings into consideration.

Although people from different cultures have different conventions in terms of how to express ideas different from others, I still prefer to make our voices be heard. This is because that our society is advancing when everyone feels free to discuss and interact with each other. Only in this way our discussions and daily work could elicit innovative ideas, which might be different from what the majority believes.

20. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Nowadays, it is much easier to achieve success with help from one's family than what is like before. Use specific reasons and examples or details to support your answer.

In order to succeed in this competitive society, people have to ask for help of others, particularly your family members, in terms of financial stability and career potential. I personally believe that with the assistance of family, people can be successful smoothly now. In this essay, my purpose is to elaborate on this opinion, and I will offer two arguments to support my case.

To begin with, freedom from the pressure of money, or rather the lack of it, can contribute to one's confidence in the financial credibility. For instance, those young people from well-to-do families may become aware that rarely do they have to achieve success the hard way. In contrast, most of their peers from families that are short of money must depend largely on their own to succeed economically. Truly, stories have repeatedly been told about persons starting from scratches to prosperity; nevertheless, these examples are exceptions that prove the rule. Actually, it is hard to achieve success without counting on help from the family in such a society where money can make the mare go.

Secondly, there is no secret that being successful in life is often associated with one's recommendable educational background. This implies your reliance on your family to pay for your college education in the hope of having a rewarding career. It is the same today as it was in the past that higher education is usually available to those who can afford the high tuition fee, even though the effort is worthwhile. Education being concerned with the financial background, parents who can afford it are anxious to send their children to get career preparation either because they went to university or they did not. This goes to illustrate the importance of a financially support from family. On the other hand, although young people with low-income parents might as well make efforts to work hard so as to make a good preparation, lack of money hinder their improvement.

In conclusion, in order to achieve economic and career success, the need to benefit from help provided by family members is more obvious than before. Without such help, the road to success seems often under construction. For those young people who can make use of the financial advantage, there appears to be always a short cut to success.

21. It is better to watch serious movies than to watch movies that can amuse or entertain people.

Mass media, such as movies and TV programs, have become an indispensable part of our life because of its huge information capacity. Movies, for example, could be classified into different types. Some are informational, providing insights concerning social or political issues, whereas others are funny and amusing. It is argued that people should watch more serious movies than the amusing ones. However, I disagree with this viewpoint for the following reasons.

To begin with, watching movies that are comedies could help people relax. Nowadays, students and employees are under great pressures in their daily life. Students, for

example, need to compete with their peers in college entrance exam. It is common that high school students in my home countries usually need to study until eleven p.m. at night, working on numerous assignments and questions. Some students even suffer from depression because of intense learning schedules. On the other hand, employees are assigned with demanding tasks at work, and have to work overload to finish all their works. My friend Nancy works as a programmer in a game company, and she sometimes need to stay up at night writing codes for new games. She always complains that her life lacks entertainment and rest. For both students and employees, watching serious movies about social and political issues might make them feel even more tired. On the contrary, funny and amusing movies could bring laughter to their life and thus help them relax in leisure time.

Moreover, the themes of movies that are comedies tend to be positive, which could help people maintain a positive mental status. Maintaining a positive mental status could benefit people in their daily life, not only for students but also workers. In contrast, some serious movies are usually about the dark side of the society, such as scandals, wars, and disasters as well. Although people could learn more about the problems and difficulties in this world through watching serious movies, they will maintain a negative mindset exposed to those problems for a long time. Therefore, in order to keep mentally healthy, people should definitely watch some funny and amusing movies rather than watching serious movies all the time.

Based on the above discussion, watching movies that assume and entertain people could benefit people in different ways, such as to help us relax and to maintain a positive mental status.

22. Your community has a piece of land and is considering introducing a business to this land. Which business would you prefer? 1. A shopping mall 2. A performing art center 3. A hotel.

Without a doubt, the business I would prefer is a shopping mall if my community happens to have a piece of vacant land. The benefits of introducing a shopping mall are bound to outweigh a performing art center as well as a hotel.

To begin with, people living in the community would live a more convenient and colorful life. Shopping plays a pivotal role in every family. If there is a shopping mall within walking distance, it will be a fantastic for everybody. They don't have to spend half an hour or even an hour on the way to the nearest shopping mall. It is definitely a great place for kids who are eager to buy toys and for girls who are crazy about shopping, since there are a wide range of products in the shopping mall. Basically, people could buy whatever they want to satisfy their needs. It is also a fantastic place for young people to have a date. A Shopping mall usually have a cinema and a certain number of restaurants. After shopping, they could watch a romantic movie and enjoy a fancy meal.

In addition, it is more profitable to build a shopping mall than a performing art center and a hotel. Everyone is in need of buying things. Buildings a shopping mall is

going to profit. On the contrary, a performing art center could not be used frequently. There are enough art events to be held. What's worse, not so many people in China are interested in arts. Some of them are not able to afford a ticket of a concert or even that of an art gallery. And it takes much money to maintain this art center in case those audio and visual equipment are broken. As for hotels, it is totally unnecessary, for the number of hotels in the city is more than enough. A number of factors will be taken into consideration when it comes to choosing a hotel, such as price, location, facilities and service.

In sum, it is a better idea to introduce a shopping mall in a community, since people in the neighborhood could enjoy a more convenient and colorful life. Besides, it is more profitable to build a shopping mall.

23. Some people think that giving students time during a class to discuss ideas with each other is a good way to help students learn; others think giving students time for discussion is ineffective or a waste of time. Which idea do you agree with, and why?"

As is known to all, the education in China is exam-oriented. Everything students learn in class is for passing the exams. There are few open topics for students to discuss in Chinese class. It is believed by both Chinese teachers and students that discussion in class is an ineffective way to learn. I totally agree with it.

To begin with, Chinese students have got used to the way they are educated. Most students are required to listen carefully to the teachers and take as many note as possible in the class from primary school to senior high school. It will be too much to ask for students to accept class discussion within a short period of time. It is possible that students might not know what to say in the first place. When topics were given in class, it would be possible that the whole class would be silent. It is not only a waste of time, but also embarrassing.

In addition, the effectiveness of class discussion depends on the students' personality. Unlike students from western countries like the United States, Chinese students are introverted who are reluctant to express their ideas in front of their fellow classmates. Some students might be afraid of speaking in public. They are worried if they do something wrong, it will be quite humiliating. Some students are just not interested in sharing although they have plenty of amazing ideas in mind.

Moreover, in order to conduct successful class discussion, the teacher plays the most crucial role. It is quite tough for the teacher to supervise the process. He is supposed to be capable of dealing with various challenges. He has to know how to start the topic when the whole class remains silent. Also he has to know how to engage as many students as possible. He has to know what to do when the discussion is absolutely off the topic.

In sum, class discussion might be an effective teaching method in other countries. However, it is not the case in China. It takes time for Chinese students to get familiar with it. It might be good when students become more extraverted. The qualification of the teacher matters the most in carrying out a successful class discussion.

24. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Technology designed to make our life simpler actually makes our life more complicated.

It cannot be denied that technology enables people to live a better and more convenient life today. People have been enjoying high-tech products such as smart phones, car navigation system, and laptops, to name a few. However, it does not mean that those high-tech tools make our life easier now than in the past. In fact, technology makes our life far more complicated today as illustrated in the following parts.

High-tech tools can save lots of labor work, but sometimes they are not as “smart” as we expect. I would like to use car navigation system as an example. In the past, people could only refer to printed maps to find ways to their destinations. Nowadays, car navigation system can automatically find the right path for us. It seems that car navigation system is far more convenient than printed maps. However, in order to install the system, we need to download the digital maps before ahead and make sure that our destinations are recognizable. If the system fails to recognize the destination, it sometimes does not stop navigating, but lead us to somewhere else. Once I was driving from California to a Native American Reservation in Arizona, the car navigation failed to find the right path and led me to a small town that I had never heard of. Fortunately, I found a gas station and the employees there showed me the correct way. My own experience shows that high-tech products might not be always as reliable as we expect.

Another example of how technology has made our life more complicated is online shopping. Nowadays, more and more people choose to shop clothes online, so to save time and efforts. Admittedly, shopping online is convenient to some extent compared with going to a shopping mall, because we could stay at home and check out with several clicks. All we need to do then is to wait until our new clothes are delivered to us. However, many people had terrible shopping experience in that the colors and designs of those clothes are not exactly the same as they are described online. Moreover, the size might not fit us, which is not expected either. In this case, we need to follow a complicated returning process, completing forms needed for returning and going to the local express service to send the clothes back. The process of returning is extremely daunting, which usually takes a long time for us to get our money back.

Based on the above discussion, it could be concluded that sometimes technology is not as convenient as we expect. Should we just refuse to use high-tech products? I do not think so. I believe that modern technology is still developing, and it will definitely make our life more and more comfortable and convenient in the future.

25. The government should give priority to improving healthcare than to solving environmental problems. Do you agree or disagree?

Many people have been complaining that the health care system in my home country needs to be improved. Thus they believe that it is the government’s top priority to build more hospitals, to purchase advanced equipment, as well as to provide patients with more medical subsidies. However, to my understanding, the government should focus more on handling

environmental issues in that it is closely related to our living environment. Besides, some environmental problems are also causes of certain diseases.

To begin with, environmental problems such as pollution has become the cause of certain diseases, which means that only by solving those problems could help prevent people from getting sick. For example, in big cities, air pollution resulted from gas emission could probably cause asthma or even lung cancer. According to a recent survey, the particles of PM 2.5, one type of air pollution today, contain harmful substance, and could stay for a long time in the air. Once people breathe those particles in, the substance will definitely harm our physical health. In this sense, solving air pollution problem is the best way to prevent people from those diseases. Otherwise, no matter how many hospitals are built and how innovative the facilities in hospitals are, people still cannot stay away from diseases. Therefore, before improving health care system, it is better for the government to handle environmental issues in the first place.

Moreover, solving environmental problems could help improving our living condition in general. Based on my own experience, when living in a pleasant environment, I could maintain a positive mental status. Being positive could benefit us both physically and mentally. On the contrary, if the pollution problems are not solved and the endangered animals are still skilled constantly, it is not difficult to imagine that the earth will become a place that is no longer suitable for people to live in. If we do not give a country's priority to solving environmental problems from now on, we will regret for today's choice sooner or later.

Based on the above discussion, I strongly advocate that the government considers handling environmental issues as its top priority rather than improving health care system. This is because that improving our living condition and reducing different types of pollution could benefit human beings in a long run.

26. Do you agree or disagree with the statement: Governments have done enough to educate the people the importance of a balanced lifestyle and healthy eating.

Score 5:

Do you have a healthy lifestyle? Before answering this question, we should first identify what is the standards of a healthy lifestyle. To enjoy a healthy lifestyle, a person should practice behaviors that could lead to positive outcomes, like enough sleeping, balanced eating, proper exercising, little stress, harmonious relationship and so on. Considering these standards, however, we might say few of the public are leading a healthy lifestyle and in my opinion, this is mostly because governments have not tried their best to educate people about healthy lifestyle and balanced diet.

Admittedly, there are some efforts made already by government spreading the importance of health. However, these are only few and rarely generate impacts on public healthy lifestyle. A common phenomenon in modern society is that due to poor awareness aroused, increasing number of people, especially in large cities, work overtime, drink

excessively and stay up late. At the same time, due to limited fund from government, sports facilities in community can only meet needs of a small number of residents, thus leading to lack of physical exercise in general. As a result, more people even the young are found to be in sub-health condition. This worrying trend indicates that government needs to do more to educate people the significance of a healthy lifestyle.

Similarly, the endeavor that government has made in educating the importance of balanced eating is far from enough, especially that in food safety supervision. This in my country is particularly evident since there are variety of food safety incidents reported in China. For example, the Sanlu Milk Powder scandal which revealed that the powder added Melamine in order to increase the protein content of the milk can perfectly show the lack of supervision of food safety. Although since then Chinese government have carried out some policies to improve food hygiene, ironically, increasing number of Chinese people nowadays prefer to pay more for oversea products but have little confidence in domestic ones. If government had done enough to improve food safety, then there would be little possibility for the trend to appear.

To sum up, I disagree with the statement that the government has done enough in educating people the significance of healthy lifestyle and balanced eating due to the facts that more people are suffering from health problem and less confidence is shown to local food safety.

27. Some people say that students should study many lessons during a semester, but others say that it is better for students to just take three or four lessons. Which do you think is better?

Nowadays, schools are offering students a large range of courses, from traditional literacy to recently created courses, such as foreign language studies, financial management, and risk management, to name a few. Some people believe that students should choose as many courses as they could, whereas others argue that taking three or four courses one semester is enough. To my understanding, it is more appropriate to take three or four courses a semester.

Taking three or four courses one semester could enable students to develop their own interests and build their social network during leisure time, so that students will become more versatile and outgoing in the future. Generally speaking, it is not extremely difficult for students to complete assignments of three or four courses a semester. Therefore, most of the students could have sufficient time to participate in some beneficial activities, such as volunteering in the community, hanging out with friends, or working out at the gym, among others. Those activities, unlike study, enable students to do things that they like and to communicate with people who share the same interests with them. During this process, students will enjoy developing their own interests and build their social network, which will definitely benefit them in the future.

Moreover, choosing three or four courses instead of too many courses per semester could help students relax and maintain a positive attitude towards life. According to a recent

survey, more and more children today are suffering from depression because they are forced to study extremely hard. In order to avoid this type of mental disease, students should not spend too many efforts on academic study. In this sense, by taking three or four courses a semester, students could have time to play and relax during their leisure time, so to relieve the stress caused by academic requirements.

Admittedly, taking many courses a semester, students might have the opportunity to learn more knowledge, including useful skills and practices that are beneficial to students' future. However, once students become tired and feel stressful, they will become less motivated in learning, which will negatively influence their academic performance in all classes as a result.

Based on the above discussion, it is obvious that students should not sign up too many courses a semester. Taking three or four courses is more appropriate and beneficial from the perspectives of developing students' interests and keeping a positive mental status.

28. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People care more about public recognition than about money. Even if no money is given, public recognition can still make people work harder.

Score 5:

Nowadays, many employees are struggling with their works, squashing into the subway every morning to workplaces and working on overwhelming assignments every day. It is obvious that their hardworking should be rewarded. Some people argue that public recognition as reward is enough to drive people to work harder, and people do not really care about money. As far as I am concerned, I do not believe so.

Admittedly, public recognition could drive employees to work harder to a certain extent, because people need others' appreciation and encouragement towards their works. However, public recognition could motivate employees only for a short time. In a long run, people need money to support their living and to entertain during vacations so as to relax and get prepared for future work. If people are paid with little money, they could neither support their living nor afford entertainment. Even if those people's works are highly appreciated by others, those complements and appreciations cannot be transformed into money and support people's life. Therefore, it is inconclusive to assume that people care more public recognition than about money.

Further, money rewards do not always take the form of cash or salary. To my understanding, better health care, comfortable working environment as well as other forms of material rewards all belongs to money rewards. Smart managers in a company will provide hard working employees with better health care opportunities and better facilities and equipment. All those types of material rewards could help workers develop a sense of belonging, thus they will become more willing to contribute to the company's development. On the contrary, public recognition cannot benefit employees in the same

way as money rewards. It is less possible that employees consider themselves as an indispensable part of the company if they are just spiritually respected and appreciated by others. In this sense, people are not satisfied with public recognition without complementary money reward, let alone to work harder in a company.

To sum up, there is not enough evidence that people prefer public recognition than money as reward of hard work. In order to support living and to develop a sense of belonging in a company, it is necessary to provide employees with more material rewards which could drive them to work harder in a long run.

29. In an economic crisis, which area should the government reduce its spending? Art, scientific research or parks and public gardens.

Score 5:

Usually, during an economic crisis, the government should cut the budget on certain social services or programs. If a choice has to be made, I believe that the government should reduce its spending on art, compared with scientific research or park and public gardens for the following reasons.

To begin with, among the three choices, namely art, scientific research, and public parks or gardens, art is least associated with people's daily life. Indeed, many people today enjoy themselves in concert and galleries, and art does play an indispensable part in their life. However, this does not mean that people's quality of life will be dramatically affected if the government cut budget on art and provide less financial support on artists. In fact, this will not directly influence people's life at least in a short time period because people seldom need to satisfy their aesthetic needs every day.

On the contrary, people from all age groups today have recognized the importance of maintaining a healthy life styles, thus they do exercises or simply take a walk in parks or public gardens almost every day, so as to avoid obesity and a sedentary life style. For example, in Beijing, many of my friends prefer to run at the Olympic Forest Park after work or school. They even compete with each other on how many miles they run every day. If the government stops funding parks and public gardens, people will definitely become less satisfied with their life. Therefore, it is unwise for the government to cut budget on parks and public gardens.

In addition, it is also inappropriate for the government to reduce funding on scientific research. On one hand, there are too many researchers and scientists working on projects that are closely related to agriculture, industries, as well as our living environment. On the other hand, some military projects are continuing to protect our homeland security. Apparently, the money spent on those projects should not be reduced because it might negatively influence not only on people's quality of life but also the stability and security of our country.

Based on the above discussion, compared with reducing money on scientific research,

parks, and public gardens, it is better to cut budget on art. However, no matter reducing the money on supporting which public service, this must not be a long-term practice because eventually it might lead to the unemployment of certain group of workers, which would be a serious problem for the government to solve.

30. Most of the parents at sometimes find disapproval of the ways teachers are teaching their children. It's not suggested for the parents to express their disapproval to the teachers. Do you agree?

Score 5:

Today, more and more parents are willing to get involved in their children's education. They participate in teacher-parents conferencing, monitor their children's learning process, and go to campus tour with their children, to name a few. Sometimes, parents find disapproval of the methods that teachers use in classrooms. In this situation, should they express their opinions to the teachers? I do not believe so.

To begin with, I don't think that most parents have the knowledge of which types of teaching methods are appropriate in different types of classrooms. When deciding how to group students and how to adopt various types of activities, teachers need to take a lot of factors into consideration, such as the number of students in one classroom, students' learning styles, and student's motivation, among other factors. This decision-making process is extremely complex, and parents who are not professionals in the field of education might just focus on their subjective feelings towards the teachers' ways of teaching. Obviously, those feelings are not reliable in many cases. Therefore, it is inappropriate for parents to express their disapproval to the teachers.

Moreover, the majority of parents only care about their own children's learning outcome. When they feel that a teacher's ways of teaching are not satisfied, it is often the case that their own children are not performing well in that teachers' class. In this situation, teachers should not change their teaching styles and classroom activities just because one or two children's parents suggest so, especially in a classroom where there are more than thirty students. In this type of classrooms, some students are highly motivated whereas others might not. Also, students might prefer different styles of learning. It is almost impossible for teachers to find out ways of teaching that are suitable for all students in the classroom. Therefore, it is of no use that parents express their disapproval of teachers' methods if their children are not one of the majority students. In this case, parents should try to help their children adjust to the teachers' ways of teaching, instead of blaming the teachers.

Admittedly, parents, as one of the stakeholders in education, should be involved in the process of curriculum design, because their expectations on their children are always intertwined with children's needs and wants. However, most parents are not professionals in the field of education, and teachers should not change their teaching

methods just because a small portion of parents believes so.

In a word, it is better for parents not to express disapproval of teachers' ways of teaching when they find that their children's learning outcome is not satisfying. They should try to learn their children's difficulties in learning and encourage their children to adjust to the teachers' teaching methods.

31. Do you agree or disagree? People now are more interested in improving the neighborhood than in the past.

There is an old saying in Chinese that our neighbors could offer us greater help than our relatives do when we are in trouble. This proverb shows that neighbors have been playing an indispensable part of people's life in China. Nowadays, some people still believe that the majority of us are interested in improving the neighborhood. However, in my opinion, people today neither have the time nor the willingness to maintain their relationship with neighbors.

To begin with, people today have intensive schedule of study or work, thus they have little time to spend on improving the neighborhood. For workers who need to financially support their families, they need to complete demanding assignments during workdays; sometimes they even need to work overload and overtime. Therefore, workers will be exhausted after five days of working, and might simply relax at home during the weekends. In terms of students, they usually do not hang out with friends as students in the past did, because they need to write numerous papers in order to earn credits and prepare for the college entrance exam. This phenomenon is especially true in Asian countries where students' academic performance is referred to as the standard of good students or bad students. In this sense, students do not have time to play with their peers, let alone maintain relationship with neighbors.

Moreover, even if people have the spare time to do something, they prefer to develop their own interests or travel with friends rather than improving the neighborhood. With the development of the society and modern technology, people could enjoy different types of entertainments, such as playing online games, traveling, shopping, to name a few. Those activities occupy most of people's leisure time today; on the contrary, entertainment activities were very limited in the past, and people then did not have too many choices to kill time except for visiting their neighbors. Based on the above discussion, it could be seen that people today are less interested in improving the neighborhood.

To sum up, because of the busy life and the pervasion of various types of entertainment activities, people today lack the time and the willingness to maintain their relationship with neighbors.

32. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is more important for the government to spend money on new buildings than to preserve historic or traditional buildings and homes.

In today's big cities, many governments prefer to invest new buildings because more and more people tend to work and live in big cities and thus need a place to stay. It seems

that spending money on new buildings could benefit a large group of people. However, to my understanding, it is more important for the governments to encourage and fund the preservation of traditional and historic buildings for the following reasons.

Traditional buildings depict a city's history, culture, as well as traditions, thus they should be protected though preservation and restoration might cost a large amount of money. Traditional and historical buildings represent the aesthetic value of a certain time period, reflecting the architects' design and the choice of color of that time. It is not exaggerated to say that many traditional buildings are telling stories of an era. The stories, together with the styles of those buildings should be known, protected, and learned by people today. Sometimes, traditional and historic buildings could be used as examples in students' textbooks. Imagine how wonderful it will be if students still have the opportunity to visit those buildings and feel the history conveyed by the architects' styles of design! Therefore, I believe that traditional and historic buildings must be protected and should not be demolished, so that people could learn the knowledge of a time period through visiting those buildings.

If traditional and historical buildings are well protected, they will benefit local tourism and economy as well. In my hometown, there are some buildings constructed several decades ago by the first generation of foreign immigrants. Those buildings, which are very different from today, used exotic collaboration of colors and special materials of construction. The local governments have spent lots of money on preserving those buildings, and turn the buildings into scenic spots. Every year, those buildings have attracted people all over the world and contribute a lot to the local economy. This example shows that the preservation and restoration of traditional buildings could benefit a city's local tourism as well as economy growth.

Indeed, many modern buildings are well designed and constructed using durable constructional materials. However, some of those constructional materials are not eco-friendly, which could be harmful to the residents' physical health. If the governments have to invest new buildings, it is better not to use hazardous materials and ensure that the buildings are eco-friendly.

To sum up, I strongly advocate that the governments spend more money on preserving traditional and historic buildings because of their cultural and historical values. Moreover, well preserved traditional buildings could stimulate local tourism and thus boost the economic growth in a city.

33. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? People can solve important problems by themselves or with the help from their family members so there's no need for the government to help them.

It is common that people might confront some difficulties or problems during their daily life, such as diseases and accidents. Some people argue that people could solve those

problems either all by themselves or with the help and support of family members, so that it is unnecessary to depend on the government. As far as I am concerned, this statement is not conclusive enough.

Indeed, people could solve some problems by themselves or with the help from their family members. For example, if someone gets hurt in a car accident and could not do the cleaning in his or her apartment, he or she can use the iRobot, a robot that can sweep the floor automatically. It seems that the development of modern technology could assist us when we cannot do something all by ourselves. Even if we could not afford to buy high-tech products, our family members would be willing to help us out in this situation. In this sense, there is no deny that people are capable of solving some problems by themselves using high-tech tools or asking help from family members.

However, what if our family members are not available when we are in trouble? What if we just run out of money when we are suffering from severe disease? Whom should we ask help from? The answer is the government. As we all know that our government has founded organizations that provide people in urgent need with health care opportunities, food, as well as shelter. We could contact those charity organizations. Workers in those organizations would schedule to help us settle down and solve our problems. Though many people refuse to trust the government, it is still true that the government would be there to help people in trouble.

Furthermore, in natural calamities, individuals lack the ability and power to help each other. In this situation, we have to rely on our government. There are a plenty of evidences that governments all over the world have been actively participated in saving people who suffer from natural disasters. Moreover, governments in different countries would support each other, offering food and rescue teams. For example, when Wen Chuan, a city in southwest China was trying to recover from a destructive earthquake, the central government sent rescue teams and professionals to save people and to restore the area. During this process, governments in other countries also provided China with financial support. This is a perfect example that shows how powerful and helpful the government could be when people suffer from natural disasters.

To sum up, I believe that sometimes people could depend on the government to solve their problems especially when individuals lack the ability to do so.

34. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? In the modern world, we should never be impolite to another person.

There is a famous saying in Chinese, that we should treat others the way we want them to treat us. If being respected by others is necessary for us, then we should not be impolite to others as well. Therefore, I believe that in modern world, we should always keep in mind the importance of being polite to people surrounding us.

Being polite to others is a basic rule in daily communications. As a student, I need to go

to school every day and communicate with both professors and my peers. Sometimes, my classmates or professors hold opinions that are different from mine. In this situation, it is extremely rude to use inappropriate words and expressions to argue with them. On the contrary, we should stay calm and exchange ideas with each other. After graduation, I will work in a company, and will face my supervisors, colleagues, and maybe customers in the workplace. When communicating with those people, we should never be impolite, and respect them even when they are not as cooperative as we expect. This is because we could complete our task more smoothly and effectively in this way than to waste our time arguing with our colleagues and customers. Based on the above discussion, in daily communications, we should not be impolite to people surrounding us.

We should keep being polite even when others treat us in impolite ways, because being impolite will only leads to a bad ending. It is not surprising that some people act rude to us. In this case, if we strike back, saying something impolite to those people, our relationship with them will become even worse. For example, Nancy, a friend of mine, seems to be aggressive sometimes because she tends to express her opinions without considering others' feelings. Once when we were in the same class, she pointed out in a straightforward way that one of our classmates was wrong about the topic we were discussing. The classmate was unhappy about her comments and used dirty words to strike back. Then Nancy became very angry and had a fight with that classmate in the classroom. In the end, both of them got hurt and the classroom was in a mess. This example shows that striking back in impolite ways will not lead to a happy ending.

To sum up, people should keep polite no matter in school or in workplaces. Besides, even when others are being rude to us, we should not strike back in an impolite way.

35. 城市生活比乡村生活更满意吗?

In today's big cities, people are suffering serious environmental issues such as air pollution. Many of them also have to squash into the subway to go to work. Therefore, lots of people argue that it is better to live in rural areas because people feel more satisfied enjoying fresh air and quiet living environment. However, as far as I am concerned, living in urban area still benefits people in different ways, and people feel more satisfied in big cities.

To begin with, big cities provide people with better opportunities of education. Nowadays, people, especially those who are parents are spending more efforts and money on their children's education. It is not exaggerated to say that the whole family will become satisfied if their children could receive high quality of education. In my home country, there are more top-ranked schools and universities located in big cities compared with rural area. Moreover, parents today tend to send their children to after-school programs or activities in big cities and help their children develop various

skills and abilities. With those skills and abilities, it is more likely for their children to win the competitions of entering better universities and getting a good job. Those programs and activities are usually located in cities rather than the countryside. There is no doubt that most parents prefer to settle down in urban area so that their children could receive better education.

Further, big cities have more advanced equipment and facilities in hospitals. People living in cities could benefit from better health and medical care. Usually, people do not have to spend too much time making an appointment with a doctor when they are sick. In rural areas, however, there are not so many hospitals with advanced facilities and medical care available for people living there.

Last but not least, in big cities, the public transportation and public service are more convenient compared with rural areas. People could take subways or buses to go to shopping malls or to watch movies in cinemas during weekends. On the contrary, in rural areas, it probably will take hours to drive to a shopping mall, which is extremely inconvenient.

Based on the above discussion, people are more satisfied living in urban areas compared with living in rural areas.

- 36. Some people think at the start of a new year, it's important to set a goal of improving a specific aspect of life. They call it a new-year resolution. Which of the following new-year resolution would you choose? 1. Help others in your community 2. Improve your health by exercising more and eat nutritious food 3. Manage your time better"**

Many people in the world would set a goal for the coming New Year. They would like to have a fresh start to make their life better. Last year, I wasted too much on video games and sleeping. I would choose to manage my time better as my New Year resolution. I am about to live a more meaningful life.

To begin with, plans should be made in order to organize my time more efficiently. A reasonable plan would be made on daily basis in advance. In this way, it will be clear that what needs to be done. When completing the plan, it will be a good idea to give myself some rewards. In this way, it becomes motivating to follow the plan. Laziness is bound to get in the way for me to achieve my goal. In order to overcome it, it is necessary to form a study group so that we could encourage and support each other.

In addition, good health means the most to everybody, especially for those people who are eager to accomplish something big. I have a dream that one day I will become an influential photographer in China. However, last year, it was quite often for me to stay up late, playing video games. In the next morning, the breakfast was often skipped. It was absolutely harmful for my physical and psychological health. Fortunately, I am a big fan of playing basketball. I would try to participate in doing sports regularly. It will be more

efficient for me to study when I am in a better health condition.

Moreover, I would spend my weekends visiting different places and meeting different people. It is crucial for a photographer to have rich life experience. I might not have much. But I am able to enrich mine by listening to others' life stories and learning about the culture and history about a place. Hence, it might provide a new perspective for me when taking some photos.

In sum, life is short. Time is valuable. In order to make the most of my time, I would make plans, do some sports as well as travelling and making friends with different backgrounds. In this way, my life will be more colorful.

37. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: people should not spend a lot of time on communication by technologies, such as through social media or with text messages.

With the development of modern technologies, people today are enjoying communicating through social media and text messages, which is convenient compared to scheduling face-to-face meetings. However, some people argue that people should not spend too much time on communication using technological devices. I totally agree with this viewpoint for the following reasons.

To begin with, communicating through social media reduces the time people meet in real life. Convenient it might seem, in fact, this type of communication could isolate people from each other. To illustrate, while chatting through social media, we usually choose to type and send text messages, which lacks tones, intonations, and facial expressions to show our feelings. Even if we could use emoji, the emoji still fails to express our true feelings because those symbols and pictures are identical in everyone's computer screens or cellphones. Gradually, people will not consider seriously the feelings conveyed by texts and emoji and thus the communications become less effective. For example, some people only "like" others' pictures and sharing on Facebook without any comments. It is inevitable that people feel more and more isolated from each other by simply "liking" each other's postings online without meeting in person.

Moreover, always sticking to our cellphones or sitting in front of computers is harmful to our physical health. For instance, many people have found themselves suffering from muscle pain because of a sedentary lifestyle. On the contrary, if people meet in person, they might hang out and take a walk while talking to each other. Though different from doing exercises in gyms, this in person meeting at least enables people to relax and even sweat a little bit.

In addition, during spare time, people could choose to schedule a short trip, do some exercises, or simply read some books that they are interested in. The above types of activities are beneficial for our physical health, and could help broaden our horizons. In order not to become addicted to social media, it is necessary for us to limit the time we

spending on our cell phones as well as the Internet.

Based on the above discussion, people should not spend a lot of time on communication by technologies, such as through social media or with text messages. On the contrary, we could meet in person, which could help us maintain social relationship with others. Besides, we should make use of our leisure time to do some beneficial activities instead of staring at the screen of our cellphones or computers all the time.

38. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: To be happy, it is more important to maintain a small group of friends over a long period of time than it is to make new friends.

No one would deny that friendship is an indispensable part in our life. Friends bring laughter to our life and comfort us when we feel unhappy. Some people argue that old friends who have spent more time with us are more reliable, and thus we should maintain a small group of friends over a long period, compared to making new friends. However, to my understanding, to be happy, making new friends is more important for the following reasons.

Admittedly, we should cherish old friends who have known us for a long time. We share similar interests and much experience with them, and we feel happy hanging out and talking with our old friends. However, it would be boring if we always stick to one group of people and refuse to make new friends because the shared topics between our old friends and us are limited after all. In contrast, making new friends could benefit us in different ways and thus make us feel happier.

First, making new friends could broaden our horizons. The new experience and knowledge they bring to us could make us feel happier. Take my own experience as an example. I am a big fan of travelling to other countries and I love to make friends with the local people. Last year, I went to the United States and met lots of new friends who are native speakers of English. As a foreign language learner of English, I used to practice my spoken English by myself. After I became friends with those native English speakers, we usually chat with each other through social media. Gradually, my spoken English is improved to a large extent, and I felt very happy about the progress I made.

Further, making new friends enables us to reflect on ourselves from more varied perspectives, thus we could become better person in the future, which could definitely makes us feel happy. Our new friends, who are less familiar with us than our old friends, will not pre-assume the type of person we are. Through interactions with them, we could continuously learn more about our personalities because they will provide us with feedback about their feelings towards us. Gradually, we could understand comprehensively about our weaknesses and strength, which could help us reflect on ourselves and become better person.

Based on the above discussion, making new friends is more rewarding than to maintaining old friends.

39. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: people should be open to new ideas and change his or her mind to be successful.

Nowadays, people are facing fierce competition in schools and at work, which makes it more difficult for people to succeed compared with the past. Some people argue that in order to achieve success, people should be open-minded and accept new ideas whereas others prefer to stick to the existing plan and refuse to make a change. Based on what I have learned about this topic, it is better to accept new ideas and take some risks to become successful.

To begin with, accepting new ideas enables people to seize the opportunity. With the development of modern technology and the advancing of new industries, people now have increasing new opportunities when choosing their future career. Inspired by new ideas and innovations, many people become successful after they started a career that is unprecedented in history. Jack Ma's story serves as a perfect example in this case. Jack Ma, the founder of Alibaba, was an English major student in college and became an English teacher after graduation. Soon he learned from a friend that a new type of business referred to as "e-commerce" sprung up in Western countries, and he believes that this online-based business will be promising in the world market. Therefore, he started his own business and founded the company, namely Alibaba. With his strong leadership and the ability to foresee the trends in the field of e-commerce, he now becomes one of the most successful businessmen in this century. His example clearly shows how rewarding it is to accept new ideas and make a change.

Moreover, our visions will be limited if we are too stubborn to change our mind. This is not only true in business but also in the field of scientific research. As a student majored in linguistics, I have learned the importance of conducting interdisciplinary research. However, some professors prefer to stick to their own field of research and refuse to make a change cooperating with professors in other subjects. As a result, it becomes extremely difficult for this group of professors to propose new hypotheses or theories, let alone to make a breakthrough in the field of linguistics.

To sum up, being willing to accept new ideas is an essential factor than contributes to our success. And I believe that in different fields, it is always necessary for us to take some risks and be creative.

40. A leader should have strong opinions and not change his or her mind about those opinions.

Some people believe that a leader should hold strong opinions and should not change them even when others disagree with them because this is an important way to show a strong leadership. However, I believe that in today's workplace, the democratic style does have its place in business. Therefore, sometimes a leader should provide his or her team members with opportunities to express their opinions. If necessary, a leader should change his or her opinions as well.

To start with, a leader's primary task is to stimulate and motivate their colleagues to come up with creative ideas, which benefit teamwork to a large extent. In workplace, most tasks require teamwork where everyone in the team needs to contribute. The role of a leader is to stimulate all his or her team members to express their opinions rather than

to become a dictator who make every decision on his or her own. It is not exaggerated to say that sometimes team members are always the source of innovative ideas and plans, which could definitely benefit the company. In order to motivate the team members, a leader should not only create an atmosphere that everyone could feel free to speak up but also respect the thoughts of his or her colleagues.

Moreover, it happens that sometimes a leader's decision could be wrong and will exert negative influence on the team's work. As everyone knows, no one is perfect and people do make mistakes. If a leader hold strong opinions that might result in setbacks, and he or she refuses to change, the whole team's project will be affected by his or her dictation. As a result, the team members will become reluctant to contribute to the team and might even quit the current job for a better one. On the contrary, if the leader is humble enough to change their opinions and listen to others' suggestions, the team could avoid future loss. More importantly, the team members will look up to the leader because he or she has an open mind and is willing to accept others' opinions.

As I have read from an article published online, "decision making is when the leader gives up ownership and control of a decision and allows the group to vote". Nowadays, a leader should encourage his or her colleagues to actively participate in the decision-making process, and should change their opinions when it is necessary.

41. Your community has a piece of land and is considering introducing a business to this land. Which business would you prefer? 1. A shopping mall 2. A performing art center 3. A hotel.

If my community were considering introducing a business to a piece of land in our place, I would rather choose a shopping mall compared to a performing art center or a hotel.

To begin with, a shopping mall could benefit our local people and local economy. Nowadays, residents in our community are busy with their jobs during daytime and seldom have time to drive to shopping malls far away. Still, they need to purchase some clothing, foods, and technological products. If there could be a shopping mall inside our community, it would save the residents lots of time and efforts, and make their life more convenient. Moreover, a shopping mall could attract lots of small businesses and chain stores, which could help develop local economy. In this way, local government could collect more tax from the stores, and the stores could gain more profits as well.

As for a performing art center, I believe that most our residents do not have too much spare time to enjoy the performances there. Besides, everyone has to eat, drink, and dress, but not all of us needs to enjoy art works. In fact, most residents tend to relax at home or travel somewhere during weekends. Therefore, even if the performing center has some high quality shows, probably there will be very few residents who are willing to spend their money on watching them.

Among the three choices we have, I believe the hotel is the least favored one. If our community is close to a scenic spot where tourists always come to visit, it is meaningful to build a hotel for sure. However, the local residents all have their own places to stay, there is no need to build a hotel that nobody would make use of.

Based on the above discussion, it seems that a performing art center or a hotel contributes little to local people and our community compared to a shopping mall. Thus I prefer that the local government build a shopping mall instead of the other two.

42. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Workers would be much happier if they are doing different types of tasks during their workday than doing the same task.

In today's workplace, employees are assigned with more demanding tasks than in the past. It is common that workers sometimes need to complete multiple types of task rather than to repeat the same type of task. Despite the fact that doing repeated works is easier for most employees, I believe that employees would be happier if different types of tasks are distributed to them.

Working on different types of tasks could help workers develop a sense of belonging in the company, which will make workers become more self-motivated to do their assignments, and thus become much happier. While working on multiple types of tasks, workers could develop varied skills, meet with colleagues from different departments, and learn about the company's cultures and values as well. During this process, it is very likely that workers find themselves an indispensable part in the company, and then develop a sense of belonging. As a result, workers become more self-motivated and more willing to devote themselves to their work. In this sense, workers will definitely feel much happier because they are self-driven when doing their assignments.

Furthermore, working on various types of tasks, workers have more opportunities to get promoted and therefore earn higher salaries, which will undoubtedly lead to happiness. As it is mentioned in the previous paragraph, employees' skills related to different types of tasks could be improved if they continue working on those tasks. Once employees become professionals in multiple fields, the company will offer them more promotion opportunities, compared with those who are simply skillful in a single field. In this sense, employees could earn higher salaries and become much happier.

Admittedly, it is easier for one to repeat one type of task all the time. However, if workers keep repeating the same task every day, they will feel bored and less motivated soon. It seems that workers have to meet with the same group of people and follow the same procedure. There is little hope to receive more training and develop new skills, let alone to get promoted. It is not difficult to imagine that workers will become unhappy in this situation.

To sum up, working on different types of tasks could enable workers to become more motivated and to earn higher salaries in the future. Therefore, workers would be much happier while doing those tasks, compared with repeating the same task all the time.

43. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: It is better to relax by a

movie or reading a book than doing physical exercise.

Present-day city-dwellers have already been accustomed to the hustle and bustle of metropolis, plagued by the daily urban commute. Agonizing over endless work and trivia, average citizens have to find some leeway to both relax and let out their pent-up energy. The debate over what is the best solution to eliminating fatigue never fades out of the public arena.

Those who often resort to a movie or a book for the sake of thorough relaxation tend to locate their logic at spiritual enjoyment, as most people, at least the vast majority of brain-workers, are inclined to mental relaxation after a whole-day tiring work. Every time when the curtain of night falls, flopping into an armchair, we are easily amazed by the latest Hollywood blockbuster, with a series of static or dynamic images taking us to a placid island or a tragic battlefield. A complete shift of mood from grave anxiety to great excitement can be achieved merely by a slight click of the mouse, sufficient enough to drag us out of exhaustion and distress. Even a bestseller, despite seeming to be a bit inferior to films in the regard of the relaxing effect, can calm us down and furnish us with a peaceful mind owing to the frequent meditation required in intensive reading. Naturally, such means of taking a break from the stifling daily routines are invariably applauded by many.

However, legions of health experts doubt the above as they have the belief that real relaxation only can be actualized with the presence of both psychological and physiological participation. Loads of past and current academic periodicals, after continuous study and survey, have come to a unanimous conclusion that sweating off dirt in the body proves to be the optimal measure to relax. Such consensus indicates the irreplaceable function of doing physical exercises. To fully release the pressure, a snap glimpse at a movie or a book is far from enough because our physical condition has two integral parts, which means simple mental pleasure can seldom substitute for giving our body a workout to render us sweating. In most cases, non-manual workers may feel better right after sweating themselves by outdoor activities or high-intensity training. In the absence of regular exercises, a large number of nationals live in the state of sub-health, a final result as well as a by-product of insufficient relaxation. Immersed in videos and cartoons, seemingly good ways to relax, the masses are not conscious of delicate changes to their health, which means a lack of physical workout pushes them on the verge of falling ill easily.

To sum up, movies together with books should be regarded as a rewarding and inspiring channel to get us away from fatigue and burden, but we shall not be under the delusion that bursting into laughter virtually equals full bodily liberation, as the two carry the same weight.

44. The opinions of celebrities, such as entertainers and athletes, are more important to the younger people than they are to the older people.

Score 5:

Today's celebrities, such as entertainers and athletes, usually show up on TV or post their viewpoints through the Internet, thus young people who tend to make more use of modern technology have more opportunities to hear the voice of those celebrities.

Compared with young people, the older usually have their own role models, and might not be influenced by celebrities today. Some people believe that the opinions of celebrities are more important to younger people than to the older people. However, I believe that the older should value the celebrities' opinions as well.

To begin with, it is a good way to help older people keep themselves updated through learning from entertainers and athletes. Keeping learning updated news as well as viewpoints of those celebrities could benefit older people in many ways. For example, more shared topics between the old and the young could be created. To illustrate, older people could get familiar with what today's young people are interested in and thus can discuss with their children or even grandchildren about the hot topics. Through those talks and discussions, the generation gap between the old and the young will gradually disappear; the old will not feel isolated from the younger generation. As a result, they might even feel more energetic than before spending more time with young people. It is not exaggerated to say that watching news and TV shows of celebrities could help the old to maintain mental health to a certain extent.

Moreover, many old people are referred to as "stubborn" because they only believe what they have learned from their experience in the past. With the development of the society and modern technology, everything changes fast, thus some rules and principles in the past do not work the way as they used to do. It is advisable for the old to learn the views and opinions of the young generation, and avoid sticking to the old-fashioned rules. In addition, entertainers and athletes, who are different from politicians, usually tend to speak for ordinary people rather than political parties. Therefore, I believe that their viewpoints towards certain social issues could represent the voice of the people. In this sense, it is at least not harmful for the old to learn from the celebrities.

To sum up, it is beneficial for old people to learn from celebrities' opinions, which could benefit their mental health and could keep them informed and updated.

45. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: The main role of a university professor is to educate students rather than to do research.

Nowadays, universities professors are assigned with more and more demanding requirements on research study and teaching assignments. Some people believe that the top priority for university professors is to educate students rather than to do research. As far as I am concerned, I agree with this standpoint for the following reasons.

As a teacher, a university professor should focus more on prepare their students for their future, and teach them how to apply theories and knowledge in practices. In order to start a career in the future, the majority of university students expect to learn both knowledge and skills in university-level education so that that they could utilize what they have learned in the future. Obviously, professors are the source of specialized of knowledge. Moreover, professors are also many students' mentors who provide precious advice on students' personal life. If professors devote all their efforts and time to academic research, they will have very limited energy to teach and guide their students, which, however, should be their primary task as teachers and educators.

Further, conducting research studies requires the knowledge in certain fields and inspirations as well. The inspirations, however, sometimes come from the discussions between professors and students rather than previous research. It is not surprising that students are highly creative and have excellent ideas that could contribute to professors' research. As we all know, professors always stimulate students' critical thinking ability. I believe that the converse is true as well. Many professors found that their students' innovative ideas in class discussions could inspire their own research. In addition, if students are interested in professors' research, they will probably participate in the research and provide professors with lots of help. Hence, it will benefit the professors' research in return if they focus more on educating students in class.

Based on the above discussion, the main role of a university professor is to educate students rather than to do research. In the future, universities should not assign too many research assignments to professors, and should encourage professors to spend more efforts and time devoting themselves to classroom teaching as well as after class tutoring.

46. It is necessary for high school students to do household work after school because this can give them a sense of responsibility.

In my home country, high school students are under great pressure competing with their peers in the college entrance exam. Many parents usually do not require their children who are high school students to do housework so that their children will not feel too stressful. However, in my opinion, doing household work could benefit high school students in different ways. In particular, it could help students develop a sense of responsibility.

To begin with, doing household work, students could learn how difficult it is for parents to keep everything in order at home. Nowadays, many high school students are spoiled by their parents because parents tend to force their children to focus on academic study. It seems that doing household work will distract their children from study. As a result, those students have no idea about how difficult it is to keep a house clean and tidy. If they could have the opportunity to do household works by themselves, they could learn that it takes time and efforts to cook, to wash clothes, and to mop the floor. Once they understand the difficulties of doing housework, they would become more willing to share some housework with their parents, and therefore develop a sense of responsibility in the family.

Moreover, doing housework could benefit high school students in other ways. For example, students could escape for a while from a sedentary lifestyle. Usually, high school students have limited chances to participate in social and sports activities because they have to finish lots of writing assignments every day, sitting in front of the computer or the desk. This will definitely lead to a sedentary lifestyle, which is harmful to students' physical health. Gradually, students might suffer from muscle pain or obese because of

the lack of doing exercises. In the end, students will become less efficient in learning when their physical health is threatened by diseases. Doing household works, students need to walk around in the house and sweat a little bit. In this sense, students could take a break from academic study, and avoid a sedentary lifestyle.

Based on the above discussion, there is no doubt that doing housework could help high school students develop a sense of responsibility towards their families. Moreover, students could relax for a while and avoid a sedentary lifestyle that leads to obese and muscle pain.

47. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The rules that the whole society today expect young people to follow are too strict.

Nowadays, young people need to follow rules at home, in schools and universities, as well as workplace. It seems that those rules that society expects them to follow are sometimes too overwhelming and strict that impose lots of pressure on young people. However, I do believe that rules are vital for youngsters in their life.

At home, parents usually require children to follow some rules to ensure their children's safety or to help children develop a sense of responsibility. From the perspective of young people, it seems annoying sometimes that parents force them to get back home before midnight, for example. However, in some communities that are not safe, it is dangerous for the young, especially female to hang out too late. Another example is that many parents ask their children to do some housework after school. Despite the fact that nowadays students have intensive learning schedule even after school, doing housework could definitely benefit them because the young could learn how hard it is to keep a house organized and sense the difficulties of their parents. Gradually, they could develop a sense of responsibility towards their families, which could benefit their future study and work.

In schools, universities, and workplace, young people still need to follow some rules that seem to be strict but necessary. In East Asian, young people should pay special attention to their language use when talking to people who are older or of higher social status, which is a way to show respect to these two groups of people. For example, a respectful form of addressing senior citizens and people of higher social status need to be used in daily communications. Though some young people find it daunting to switch from one form of language use to another, they could learn to be humble working with professors at school or cooperating with colleagues at work.

Based on the above discussion, the rules that young people need to follow in nowadays' society, though strict, are necessary to a certain extent. They could help young people become more independent and humble in their future study or work.

48. 有些职业运动员和娱乐行业者转业到政治家，你同意他们从政吗？

Admittedly, artists and performers are not professionals in the field of politics, and they might lack related knowledge to make decisions in congress or other institutions. Still, I believe that they should be involved in politics, and participate in the decision-making

process together with politicians for the following reasons.

To begin with, representatives from different fields should all participate in politics. Athletes and artists are not exceptions. There is no doubt that their voices should be heard in institutions and organizations, so that policies that benefit these two groups of people will be proposed. Although have not been trained as politicians, they could provide suggestions and proposals from diverse perspectives, which should be considered in politicians' decision-making process. Moreover, artists and performers who are famous usually have been through extremely intensive training since they were children, in order to achieve success or become famous. Therefore, they have learned how difficult it is to survive and to become successful for common people. In contrast, many politicians graduated from elite universities and well-known families might fail to take common people's needs into consideration. In this sense, artists and athletes' unique points of view and their considerations for common people should be valued by politicians.

Furthermore, famous athletes and artists are very influential. This is particularly because of people's increasing interests in entertainment as well as sports. People look up to famous athletes and artists, and use their examples to educate their children the spirit of persistence and hardworking. Letting them to speak for the governments would be a good strategy. For example governments make use of athletes and artists' fame to educate people the importance of developing a healthy life style, helping people around, cherishing family members, to name a few. It seems that people tend to believe in slogans spoken by a familiar face of artist or athlete compared with a politician that they know little about. Hence, based on the above discussion, famous athletes and artists' participating in politics could benefit the governments as well.

To sum up, artists and athletes should be valued if they become politicians. Moreover, governments could utilize their fame to enhance the governments' influence.

49. People can learn more from watching television than reading books, which is more important for students to understand ideas and concept or learn facts.

Nowadays, people could gain knowledge from different sources, such as the Internet, television, and books as well. Some people argue that watching TV is a better way for students to learn both abstract concepts and facts as well. I am afraid that I have to agree with this statement for the following reasons.

First of all, the information and knowledge in books cannot be updated as fast and in TV. With the development of science and technology, new theories and hypotheses are proposed constantly all around the world. Researchers have been devoting themselves to conducting new experiments and studies. During this process, the deficiencies and mistakes in previous research are revealed and corrected; then new theories and hypotheses are proposed. It seems that disseminating new knowledge through TV could

be faster compared with editing and publishing the knowledge in books. Usually, it took months or even years to publish a new version of a book. In order to keep students being informed with updated information and knowledge; it is more efficient to utilize TV than printed books.

Moreover, watching TV programs could help students develop a deeper and comprehensive understanding towards not only abstract concepts but also facts. For example, in TV programs targeting students, usually a professor or lecturer demonstrates a concept through actual experiments in laboratories or detailed illustrations. In this way, students could understand abstract theories and learn how the theories are generalized from experiments and facts. Therefore they could develop a better and deeper understanding of those concepts, which helps students memorize knowledge in a more efficient ways. On the contrary, books only contain words that describe those abstract concepts and ideas. Only by reading those lines and words, students might find it difficult to visualize the process of conducting experiments or the actual happenings in the world. In nowadays' education, visualization has become an indispensable part in not only classroom teaching but also students' learning after class. In this sense, it is better for students to learn knowledge through watching TV programs than reading books.

To sum up, utilizing TV programs to convey knowledge is more effective than books. Moreover, students could develop deeper and comprehensive understanding towards concepts as well as facts through watching TV than reading books.

50. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: one quality that a successful leader must have is to make decision quickly; when a leader takes too much time to make decisions, he will be seen as ineffective to the people he lead.

Some people believe that a leader should hold strong opinions and make decision quickly because this is an important way to show strong leadership. However, I believe that a leader needs to consider for some time to make decisions, and take into consideration the group members' proposals during decision-making process.

In today's workplace, the democratic style does have its place in business, thus both leaders and all group members should participate in the process of decision-making. This decision-making process usually requires several rounds of discussion and revision. In order to ensure that the whole team will be satisfied with the final decisions, it is inevitable to spend lots of time before the conclusion is drawn. For example, as a student majored in linguistics, I participated in several research studies related to the efficiency of students' language learning. Every time when we made a decision about which research method to adopt and how to design the research, our team leader did not make hasty decisions without consideration; on the contrary, several meetings were held and the leader analyzed the advantages as well as the disadvantages of everyone's proposal, which might take several weeks. Though taking lots of time, this decision-making process enables us to develop a deep and comprehensive understanding towards the topic of research and make correct decisions.

Admittedly, a leader should not hesitate when he or she is required to make decisions, as it is a way to show strong leadership. However, if, in a company or a research team, every decision is made in this way, I believe that it is because of lack of sufficient preparation. The decisions might bring terrible results and harm the whole team's benefits. As a result, the leader will be seen as ineffective to the people he or she lead. In fact, in order to earn team members' respect, a leader should involve everyone in the decision-making process and be humble to make a change when he or she makes wrong decisions. After all, it is not the time of making decision matters, but whether or not the decision itself is appropriate.

Based on the above discussion, a leader should avoid making hasty decisions but to spend enough time considering each team member's proposals. Moreover, every team member should participate in the decision-making process.

51. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Nowadays people are more willing to help strangers than they were in the past.

Everyone meets problems in life and work, but not everyone has a willing heart to extend a helping hand to those who are in desperate need. That is human nature, and no one is to blame. Rather to our surprise, the number of people who are always ready to do a favor is on the rise, and I am also an eyewitness of such a delightful sign.

Back to the past decades, the public, indeed on most occasions, would pour out good will to all the vulnerable or the deprived that are often marginalized by the mainstream. Their kindness and generosity are basically contingent on mutual trust. Since the poor live a miserable life, those comparatively on a better position are obliged to help.

But short of solid material basis, people in the past are shyer in pocket than modern-day citizens. Thanks to the amelioration of living standard, present-day city-dwellers have ample resources and capabilities to play a role of helpers in every aspect. Young volunteers, for example, full of youth and vigor, are always prepared to contribute both time and energy to charities and other nonprofits whose targets are absolute strangers. Another momentum is the wide use of social media, a catalyst attracting average nationals to donate a small or large sum online. Our innate goodness and generosity have been fully piqued by virtue of relentless relay of those energetic social media users. Thus, to give immediate help to strangers across the ocean is no longer a fairy-tale.

Yet, an agonizing fact that a mass trust crisis along with internet trust crisis has been generated by invisible corruption and other illegal deeds appears to be a stunning revelation to the public. In the past few years, repetitive accounting fraud and other major scandals on the part of China Red Cross have taken us to a dilemma where we find ourselves totally lost in the course of doing good deeds. While the act of cooking the book is merely an individual case, the trauma has been made to both the credibility and capability of these organizations, also at the cost of public confidence. Fortunately, constant publicity, in light of the media supervision, and a transparent system of social security jointly create stronger faith in the public to rebuild trust again.

To conclude, people are showing more generosity towards strangers nowadays not only because of improved social surroundings but more of a convincing supervision system, a

secure protection of our good will.

52. Government should cover internet fee or individual should pay the internet fee?

Nowadays, people are enjoying Internet coverage almost everywhere in a city, but they have to pay monthly for it. Some people argue that the government should pay the Internet fee so that individuals do not have to spend money on it. To my understanding, I believe that it is better for the government not to pay for the Internet coverage for the following reasons.

To begin with, if the government pay for the Internet fee and make sure that everywhere in the city is covered with free WI-FI, the network signal will become extremely crowded since too many people could have access to it. This is true especially in big cities where an incredibly large number of people need Internet in their work or leisure time. Some gamers might need even Internet connections for online games, and only high speed Internet could ensure that gamers could keep in touch with their teammates during the games. If the connection to WI-FI drops from time to time, many people will still choose to buy Internet packages from network services. In this case, the efforts and money that the government spends on Internet will be in vain.

Moreover, the Internet service will not fond the idea that the government pays for the Internet. As everyone knows, if individuals buy packages including Internet connections, they need to pay the fee at the local Internet service. Obviously, the Internet service makes lots of money from this business. Once people do not have to pay for Internet connection, the Internet service will lose lots of customers and could gain no profits anymore. The worst situation is that workers in Internet service will lose their jobs and become unemployed. If this happens, the government needs to financially support this group of people, which will costs a large portion of the budget as well. It seems that both the Internet service and the government will not benefit from providing individuals with free connections to Internet.

Admittedly, it is our government's responsibility to create a better living environment for people. However, the government cannot pay for each penny that we spend on our living. Moreover, some people might need high-speed Internet whereas others do not. It is difficult to measure how fast the Internet connection should be even if the government has decided to provide free WI-FI coverage.

Based on the above discussion, it is advisable to require individuals to pay for Internet, which will not exert negative influence on the Internet service and the government as well.

53. Do you agree or disagree with the statement that it is a waste of money for government's fund to space travel or space exploration?

Nowadays, governments around the world are paying more attention to scientific

achievements related to the outer space because the resources on earth are becoming more and more limited. It is likely that human will need to relocate to other planet sometime in the future. Still, some people argue that it is a waste of money for government to fund space travel or space exploration. In fact, based on what I have learned about this topic, I agree that there is no need to fund either space travel or space exploration, at least for now.

Admittedly, the resources on earth are becoming more and more limited, and people in big cities are facing serious pollution problems. However, the best way to solve this problem, I believe, is not to explore other planets, but to protect our living environment on earth, which is definitely one of our top priorities. To illustrate, even if space travel or space exploration could benefit us, that would be billions of years later from now. In other words, we do not know for sure that this type of projects will benefit human beings. Compared with funding those projects, it is more urgent for our government to solve problems that we face right now and turn the earth into a better place to live. Therefore, funding space travel or space exploration is a waste of time and money, at least for now.

Moreover, the money used to fund space travel or space exploration is originally from taxpayers. If the government intends to use taxpayers' money to invest programs or launch projects, whether or not those programs and projects could benefit the taxpayers need to be considered in the first place. It seems that taxpayers today care more about issues of health care system, their children's education, and employment, to name a few. For those taxpayers, if the government plan to fund space travel or space exploration which will cost a huge amount of money, taxpayers would not agree, which might negatively influence the government's reputation. From this perspective, taxpayers will believe that spending money on exploring outer space is for sure a waste of money.

To sum up, it is a waste of money for governments to fund either space travel or space exploration because this type of projects cannot benefit human beings within at least several centuries. In addition, taxpayers would consider the project useless as well because there are other issues that governments should handle first compared with exploring outer space.

54. Agree or disagree: people nowadays spend much time than they should using text messages and new technologies such as social media to communicate with each other.

With the development of modern technology, various ways of communication are available today, such as text messages, cell phone calls, and online chatting, among others. It seems that people do not have to communicate with each other face to face anymore. However, some people argue that people nowadays spend much time than they should using new technologies in daily communication. I totally agree with this viewpoint for the following reasons.

People today are extremely dependent on new technologies in daily communication even

if using those technologies is less effective compared with talking in person. For example, in workplace, team members need to schedule meetings to discuss about the projects that they are working on. In the past, workers needed to get together, distributing handouts and working on the projects face to face. Today, they tend to have a video or teleconference so that team members do not have to meet in person. In fact, it usually takes time to set up the video or telephones; as a result, the meeting might not start on time as it is scheduled. Moreover, during video or teleconferences, the Internet connection or telephone signal is sometimes unstable, which might interrupts the conference from time to time. Still, in order not to get up early or to rush from home to the company, many workers prefer to have video or teleconference instead of attend a face-to-face meeting in the conference room.

Apart from workers, students are addicted to social media in communications as well. Nowadays, students could chat with each other on Facebook or Twitter, and they become reluctant to go out and play with their friends compared with students in the past. Many parents are worried about this situation because staying in front of computers or sticking to smart phones is harmful to their children's physical health. For example, staying in front of computer for a long time could lead to a sedentary lifestyle, which probably will cause obesity or other diseases. Regardless of their parents' concerns, students, however, still use smart phones or online chatting to kill time. According to a recent online survey in my hometown, almost 70% students prefer to use social media to communicate with friends instead of meeting in person because they could use stickers online and share video clips with each other. It seems that face-to-face communications among students is less popular now than in the past.

In a word, people today tend to rely on technologies such as social media to communicate with each other rather than meeting in person.

55. Some students prefer to have their final grades determined by numerous small assignments, whereas others prefer to have their final grades determined by only a few large ones.

In college-level study, students could negotiate with professors in terms of how their final grades are determined. Some students prefer that their final grades be determined by lots of small assignments, such as response paper, group presentations, to name a few. Others, however, would like to complete a few large assignments, such as a final exam and a final project at the end of a semester. To my understanding, it is better to complete many small assignments rather than a few large ones because small assignments could benefit us in different ways.

Working on small assignments regularly throughout the semester could enable us to enhance our learning while practicing on each important topic covered in class. In order to finish each small assignment, we need to review what we have learned in several

previous classes. During this process, we could continuously digest the knowledge learned previously, and utilize our critical thinking ability. If we have some questions about either the knowledge or the assignments, we could make an appointment with the professor and solve our problems as soon as possible. On the contrary, it is less possible that a few large assignments could cover every important piece of knowledge in class. In this case, students will just prepare for questions or prompts in those large assignments, and thus lose the opportunity to comprehensively review what they have learned. Based on the above discussion, doing lots of small assignments could enhance our learning through an ongoing process of reviewing throughout the semester.

Moreover, students could monitor their ongoing learning process and find out their strengths as well as weaknesses through completing numerous small assignments. After students hand in their homework, teachers will provide both positive and negative feedbacks. If we are assigned with many small assignments, we will receive many feedbacks as well. Through reading those feedbacks, we could have a better understanding of our strengths and weaknesses, which will benefit our learning eventually. Compared with numerous small assignments, it seems that end-of-a-semester large projects or exams do not benefit students in this way. This is because teachers usually do not have the time to give sufficient feedbacks at the end of a semester. Even if teachers do provide lots of feedbacks, students will be reluctant to read all of them since they should be ready to enjoy the coming summer or winter breaks and might feel bored reading teachers' feedbacks. Therefore, numerous small assignments could enable students to continuously learn about their strengths and weaknesses, which will enhance their learning as a result.

Apart from the above benefits that small assignments have, it should also be noted that working on small tasks regularly is less stressful than completing large projects in a short time period. Hence, I believe that lots of small assignments should be better than a few large assignments in determining our academic performance at the end of a semester.

56. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The best way to improve the quality of education in a country is to increase the teachers' salaries.

There are different ways to improve the quality of education in a country, such as adopting modern technology in classrooms, providing professional development opportunities for teachers, and raising student parents' awareness of the importance of education, to name a few. Some people believe that the best way to achieve this goal is to increase teachers' salaries. I totally agree with this statement for the following reasons.

Increasing teachers' salaries could result in better teaching quality in classrooms. Once teachers are paid more than before, they will undoubtedly become more motivated in teaching. As a result, they would like to spend more efforts on adopting innovative teaching methodologies in classrooms, providing sufficient feedbacks on students'

assignments, as well as conducting action research concerning the efficiency of classroom activities. All the above efforts could lead to better teaching quality in classrooms, which will help improve a country's education quality eventually.

Moreover, increasing teachers' salaries could enable students to study in a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere in classrooms. It is undeniable that teaching has always been a difficult and daunting task. If not paid well, teachers could not always maintain a positive mental status when they are teaching in classrooms. On the contrary, if paid well, teachers will feel much happier and tend to create a pleasant atmosphere in classroom. As everyone knows, learning environment, such as the atmosphere in classrooms could influence students' attitudes towards study as well as learning outcome to a certain extent. Research studies have shown that students could become more motivated and could learn more effectively in a relaxed and pleasant learning environment. It is not exaggerated to conclude that increasing teachers' salaries could benefit students because teachers will be more willing to create a better learning environment in classrooms.

In addition, being offered higher salaries, teaching positions will become more competitive, and thus attract more qualified teachers. It is not surprising that qualified and experienced teachers expect higher salaries. They will not apply for teaching positions that offer very poor salaries. In this sense, governments should fund education and encourage schools to raise teachers' salaries, so as to attract better teaching faculties. Based on the above discussion, raising teachers' salaries could benefit education in various ways. There is no doubt that it is the best way to guarantee and to improve the quality of education in a country.

57. If a city has given money to investment, which option would you prefer:

- 1. build a public garden to provide a quiet environment to benefit all**
- 2. build a sports field for students in a high school that doesn't have its own.**

As far as I am concerned, if a city plans to spend money on a project that benefits its citizen, I prefer a quiet public garden compared with a sports field for students in a high school.

To begin with, I believe that a city, or its governments should spend money on public service that could benefit a larger group of people instead of a small group of students. A sports field could only benefit students from one high school, whereas a public garden could provide people of different age groups with a quiet environment to relax, to do exercises, and to study as well. For example, senior citizens could take a walk every morning, enjoying fresh air; whereas students could do some reading, surrounded by trees and flowers in the garden. It could be seen that the advantages of a public garden outweigh those of a high school sports field.

Another reason is that taxpayers in a city would prefer a public garden, not a high school sports field. Obviously, the budget that the city has is from taxpayers, not students from

one single high school. If the city's government plans to use the budget, it has to take those taxpayers' needs and expectations into consideration. As we all know, the majority of taxpayers are employees, workers, as well as businessmen. This group of people would definitely vote for a public garden that all of them could utilize, rather than a sports field in a high school that doesn't have its own.

Last but not the least, building a public garden is beneficial for a city's environment. In today's big cities, people are suffering from air pollution almost every day, such as PM 2.5. Trees and flowers in a public garden could help purify the air in the city, and thus protect the environment to some extent. There is no doubt that people would love to live in a city of better environmental condition and to breathe fresh air every day. Compared with a public garden, it seems that a sports field in a high school could not improve a city's environment or to solve pollution problem at all.

To sum up, it is better for a city to spend money on building a quiet public garden than a sports field in a high school. In fact, the high school could share a sports field with other schools located close to it. In this way, the city could save more public space and more money for other public services.

58. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Students could receive a better, more efficient education if they spend 11 months a year studying.

In my home country, students usually need to study for two semesters a year, which last for nearly nine months. Some people propose that students should spend eleven months a year studying, because students could acquire more knowledge if they study for three more months than before. However, to my understanding, students will not benefit from studying for eleven months for the following reasons.

If students have to go to school for eleven months a year, they will become less motivated sooner or later. For now, many high school students have already been complaining that they are tired of studying so hard to prepare for college entrance exam. As far as I know, high school students need to complete at least six courses each semester, and they have to compete with each other when applying for universities. Adding three more months of learning to students' busy schedule will definitely make them feel more stressful and tired. Sooner or later, students will lose their interests in learning and become less motivated learners. In that case, students' learning will become less efficient no matter how intense their learning schedule will be and how long they will study a year.

Further, if students use appropriate learning methods, they could achieve a better and more efficient education even though they only study for nine months a year. For example, as a language learner, I believe that choosing appropriate ways of learning that are suitable for me is the most effective way to learn a new language. I used to learn Japanese by taking an online course offered by a university. However, two years later, I

found that my Japanese language proficiency was not improved at all. Once a friend of mine recommended that I could learn the language by watching Japanese dramas. Soon the plots in those dramas attracted me and I started to imitate the language that the characters use. Several months later I became able to talk in Japanese. After that, I travelled to Japan for two weeks and people from Tokyo complemented on my accent as well as the choice of words. My own experience shows that it is no use studying for a long time using inappropriate methods. However, if we choose learning methods that are suitable for us, we could achieve a more efficient education in a comparatively short term.

To conclude, it is better not to extend the length of studying per year from nine months to eleven months, because in this way students will feel extremely stressful and become less motivated in classrooms. It should also be noted that the most effective way to achieve a better and more efficient education for students is to choose appropriate learning methods.

59. 你推荐高中要求学生必须上关于以下哪种课程：做菜，个人理财，修车。

In my home country, the curricula in high schools are extremely intense for students. Many high school students are under great pressure at school, and they might feel stressed out if one more required course is added to their busy schedule. However, if they have to choose one course to take, I believe that a cooking class is better than a personal financial management class or a vehicle repairing class, because a cooking class could benefit students in different ways.

To begin with, a cooking class could provide students with opportunities to relax and escape from intense academic study for a while. In a cooking class, students neither need to read lots of materials nor to solve complicated mathematic problems. What they need to do is to follow the chef's instructions and learn how to serve delicious dishes. Moreover, students could cooperate and communicate with each other during the process of cooking. By working cooperatively with their peers, students could learn more about their classmates and thus become friends with each other, which is almost impossible in classrooms where students are forbidden to discuss in my home country. Thus, a cooking class could help students relax in a pleasant atmosphere.

Another advantage of cooking class is that the skill of cooking could benefit students in a long run. In the future, some high students might choose to enter colleges or universities in their home country, whereas others will choose to study abroad. It is possible that many of them will relocate to a new city and live in apartments with roommates. If those students have learned how to cook during high school, they could cook by themselves, and treat their friends with delicious dishes when they have time. In this way, the students could save a lot of money because they do not have to eat outside in restaurants that are usually more expensive than cooking at home. Moreover, the

students' friends would appreciate a lot being invited to their places and served with mouthwatering dishes. Hence, a cooking class could benefit students even after their graduation.

Compared with a cooking class, a personal financial management course would be too boring because students still need to sit in classrooms and complete difficult tasks. As for a vehicle-repairing course, students might find it dangerous because they need to use tools that they are not familiar with to repair cars. Furthermore, in order to open a vehicle-repairing course, high schools need to spend a lot of money purchasing vehicles and equipment. I am afraid that the administration offices in high schools are not fond of this idea.

Based on the above discussion, a cooking class could benefit students in that they could relieve the pressure from academic learning, and could utilize the skill of cooking in the future.

60. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? In the busy and crowded world today, we should not expect people to be polite to each other.

There is a famous saying in Chinese, that we should treat others the way we want them to treat us. If being respected by others is necessary for us, then we should not be impolite to others as well. Therefore, I believe that in the busy and crowded modern world, we should always keep in mind the importance of being polite to people surrounding us.

Though people today are competing with each other at school or in the workplace, being polite is still a basic rule in daily communications. As a student, I need to go to school every day and communicate with both professors and my peers. Sometimes, my classmates or professors hold opinions that are different from mine. In this situation, it is extremely rude to use inappropriate words and expressions to argue with them. On the contrary, we should stay calm and exchange ideas with each other. After graduation, I will work in a company, and will face my supervisors, colleagues, and maybe customers in the workplace. When communicating with those people, we should never be impolite, and respect them even when they are not as cooperative as we expect. This is because we could complete our task more smoothly and effectively in this way than to waste our time arguing with our colleagues and customers. Also, if we are polite to others at work, it is more likely that they will respect us in return. Based on the above discussion, in daily communications, people should respect each other and be polite no matter at school or work.

We should keep being polite even when others treat us in impolite ways, because being impolite will only leads to bad ending. It is not surprising that some people act rude to us. In this case, if we strike back, saying something impolite to those people, our relationship with them will become even worse. For example, Nancy, a friend of mine, seems to be aggressive sometimes because she tends to express her opinions without

considering others' feelings. Once when we were in the same class, she pointed out in a straightforward way that one of our classmates was wrong about the topic we were discussing. The classmate was unhappy about her comments and used dirty words to strike back. Then Nancy became very angry and had a fight with that classmate in the classroom. In the end, both of them got hurt and the classroom was in a mess. This example shows that striking back in impolite ways will not lead to a happy ending.

Thus, people in the crowded modern world need to be polite to each other no matter in school or in workplaces. Besides, even when others are being rude to us, we should not strike back in an impolite way.

61. If your teacher says something incorrect in a class, what will you do? 1. Interrupt your teacher right away 2. Keep silent 3. Correct your teacher after class.

Score 5:

Nowadays, teachers need to complete more demanding teaching assignments and to conduct research studies in order to get promoted or earn higher salaries. Sometimes, it is possible that teachers says something incorrect in class because they are too tired to make sure that every piece of knowledge is presented as they planned before class. In this situation, if students become aware of those errors in class, it is better for them to point those errors out after class instead of interrupting the teachers right away or keeping silent.

To begin with, if we interrupt the teachers right away, it is very likely that the teachers could not end the class on time. Before the class, most teachers need to prepare lesson plans and activities for that class, so that they could follow their teaching schedule and wrap up the course on time. Once we interrupt the teachers in class and point out the errors teachers made, new questions could be elicited. In this situation, teachers might have to answer more questions than they planned. Indeed, experienced teachers would arrange their class in a more flexible way. However, for novice teachers, it is not easy to keep the original schedule and they might fail to wrap the class on time.

Keeping silent is not recommended either. If no one tells the teacher about the errors, students will memorize the incorrect piece of knowledge, which will definitely harm their academic performance. In East Asia, the majority of students belong to the reserved type of learners, which means that they tend to remain silent even if they are aware of the mistakes that teachers make. Moreover, it would be considered as impolite if students point our teachers' mistakes in a straightforward way in certain cultures, such as Chinese and Japanese. In this situation, students should still let their voice be heard, but they could discuss with the teachers after class, so that they will not feel embarrassed speaking up in class.

The best way to express our opinion and point out the teachers' mistakes is to discuss with the teachers after class, especially in countries where speaking up loudly is not

considered as appropriate. In this way, the teachers will realize their mistakes, and could correct the errors in the next class. More importantly, the teaching schedule in the class will not be influenced and the teachers could finish their lessons in time. In addition, both teachers and students will not feel offended or embarrassed.

Based on the above discussion, compared with interrupting teachers in class or keeping silent, it is more appropriate to save our questions and discuss the questions with teachers after class.

62. Some people say that we should use clean energy to protect the environment, but others say that we should use traditional energy sources such as coal and oil because they are less expensive. What is your opinion?

Nowadays, many countries in the world are facing serious problems of pollution. It has been advocated by experts that the governments should encourage the use of clean energy to protect the environment. However, some large-scale industries refuse to do so, because clean energy sources are too expensive. As far as I am concerned, it is better to explore and use clean energy though it might cost lots of money for now.

To start with, using traditional energy has already caused air pollution and water pollution in the past, such as the haze and oil spill, which are harmful to our living environment as well as the habitats of ocean creatures. Before it is too late, we should try to avoid more pollution problems and explore clean energy. Besides, the amount of existing traditional energy sources are very limited. Even if we continue using them, someday we will run out of coal and oil. Sooner or later the exploration and application of clean energy will become necessary for human beings.

Admittedly, to explore and use clean energy will cost a large amount of money. For example, teams of professionals should be formed; new research centers need to be built; hundred times of research studies need to be conducted. All those efforts and investments are of course not for free. The scientists and experts will not work without being paid, and the new equipment as well as facilities in research centers must be expensive. However, compared with solving environmental problems in the future, it is much cheaper to start using clean energy from now on. In the history, there are numerous examples that people suffered from natural disasters because of over exploitation. Even for now, people in big cities have to bear the haze, or PM 2.5, which is caused by cars' gas emission. It is not exaggerated to say that the majority of environmental issues are originated from human exploitation. If we use clean energy, which might costs lots of money though, we could save the money to solve environmental issues in the future. More importantly, there will be less pollution problems, and people will do not have to suffer from more disasters resulted from human activities.

Based on the above discussion, it is better to explore and use clean energy than traditional energy. In the future, the legislative institution should establish laws to restrict

the use of traditional energy, and reward the exploration of clean energy. Further, governments and large-scale industries should follow the laws and protect the environment.

63. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Society benefits more from works of great artist than from political leaders.

During the civilization of our society, both great artists and political leaders contribute a lot to make our life more pleasant and convenient. Some people argue that the society benefits more from works of great artists compared with those from political leaders. However, based on what I have learned about this topic, I believe that political leaders have greater influence on the development of our society than great artists.

Admittedly, art works, such as sculptures, are making our living environment more pleasant. Also, more and more people today tend to go to concert or galleries to spend their leisure time. However, those contributions could only benefit people who do not have worry about supporting their livings, and those who have the time and money to enjoy those art works. For people who still suffer from poverty or disasters, it seems that they need to solve problems related to basic necessities of living. In this sense, the works of great artists fail to support people who could not afford to appreciate their works. Furthermore, some artists possess comparatively aggressive personality and they might hold extreme opinions on social issues. Sometimes, their opinions are contradicted to the concept of creating a peaceful world. Obviously, their works reflect their opinions as well. Those works might have negative influence on people's mental status, let alone to benefit the society.

On the contrary, the decisions made by political leaders could influence everyone in this society. The contributions of political leaders are closely related to our life, such as education, health care, and employment, to name a few. More importantly, political leaders have been trying to create a society where minorities could live a better life. For example, in my home country, people from minority ethnic groups could enjoy some preferential policies in children's education because those people are usually from remote areas and did not have lots of opportunities to enter universities. The policies related to minority groups of people have benefitted lots of people and made out society more equal for everyone living in the country.

Based on the above discussion, political leaders have greater and more positive influence on our society compared with famous artists.

64. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? It is as important for older people to study or learn new things as it is for younger people.

Nowadays, our life is changing so rapidly that we need to spend lots of time and efforts on learning new things to keep up with our peers. Some people argue that this is only

true for young people, and older people do not have to keep learning. However, to my understanding, learning new things could benefit older people in various ways.

In the first place, learning new things such as how to use the Internet could prevent our senior citizen from feeling extremely lonely. In my home country, since the government implemented the One Child Policy, most families only have one child. When parents become older, their children who are busy with their work might not have time to visit them. Because young people usually do not have brothers and sisters, it is almost impossible for them to take turns to take care of their parents either. Moreover, in big cities, people are spending less time on developing relationship with their neighborhood. Older people who have to stay at home all day long seldom have the opportunity to communicate with their neighbors. As a result, older people will feel very lonely. In this situation, if older people could devote themselves to learning new things such as playing computer games or cooking dishes that they never tried before, they will be distracted from the sense of being alone. In this way, their time will be occupied with new things and thus they will less lonely than before.

Another benefit is that learning new things could help older people avoid mental diseases such as senile dementia. A recent online survey shows that older people who are willing to learn new things and maintain a positive mental status are less possible to suffer from mental diseases. While learning new things, older people could participate in different communities and communicate with different groups of people. Also, they need to use their brain to complete tasks that they are not familiar with. In this way, older people are living a more vibrant life, compared with those who just stay at home all day long. Obviously, people who participate in new activities tend to become more active and thus avoid mental diseases such as senile dementia when they are old.

To sum up, learning new things could benefit older people, helping them maintain an optimistic mindset in life and avoid mental diseases such as senile dementia.

65. Students should help their parents with household chores, since it's the best way to give them a sense of responsibility.
66. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? If people are on vocation (holiday), they should leave their mobile phones at home.
67. The opinions of celebrities, such as entertainers and athletes, are more important to the younger people than they are to the older people.
68. For a business to be successful, it must spend a lot of money on advertising.

综合写作

1. 阅读: 1.马路是平的,不能倾斜,接受能量不够有效。2.马路表面运用的 glass 易碎,雨天会打滑。3.维修预算太高。

听力:

- 1.实验表明平的路面反而能创造更多的能量,尤其在多云的天气
- 2.路面问题通过换一种表面粗糙质地的玻璃可以防止之前阅读中提到的问题。
- 3.虽然修路开销很大,但是从长远来说还是盈利的。

解题思路: 综合写作的重点应放在听力的内容上,相对阅读越详尽越好,阅读部分则可以简单的通过改写一句话概括即可。

The lecturer argues that it is promising to install solar panels on the surface of the roads to produce power. This directly refutes the reading passage's claim that the building of solar panels on the roads is impractical

First, solar energy, in fact, can be utilized to a large extent by the installation of solar panels on the major roads. Even though the road surface is flat, it still can considerably absorb the solar energy, which has been proven by studies that much more power can be produced, especially in cloudy days, because sun rays will be reflected to different places on the panels. This contradicts the reading passage's claim that the flat surface of roads would make it inefficient to preserve the solar energy.

On top of that, the lecturer contends that the potential risks brought by the glass for building the solar panels would be avoid due to the fact that a replacement has been found, which is of strong structure and has a rough surface that can prevent the motor vehicles and pedestrians from slipping in the rainy days. This rebuts the reading passage's claim that a large number of accidents would be incurred as the glass used for building the solar panels is fragile and slippery

Finally, the economic returns for the establishment of solar panels on the road will be huge enough to cover the running cost of this project, for the electricity created by it is such that it can be transmitted to different states to meet their demands for power. In addition, this technology can be exported to other countries to earn money; thus, in the long run, revenue brought by it definitely can offset the cost. This challenges the idea presented in the reading passage that the expenditure on this solar panel program will exert a heavy financial burden on the federal government.

2. 阅读: 越来越多的人对在大公司上班失去了兴趣,转而自己开公司 (self-employed) :
- (1) 大公司上班有太多 bureaucracy, 难以实现自己的 idea。
 - (2) 大公司上班工作稳定感大大不如从前。
 - (3) 大公司最近几年不提供 extra benefits, 比如退休金, 更低的医疗保险。

听力驳斥:

- (1) 自己开公司要面对的手续会更多。
- (2) 自己开公司明显更有风险，稳定感更不强。
- (3) 自己开公司 extra benefits 更没有保证。

An increasing number of people choose to start their own business instead of working for a company. The reading passage explains why self-employment has become so popular, while the lecturer points out several risks associated with this trend.

First, the reading says that big companies often have too many bureaucratic regulations and rules, making it difficult for individual employees to pursue their own ideas. However, the lecturer argues that starting one's own business involves even more rules during the process of business registration.

Second, the reading states that employment by big companies nowadays is not as stable as it used to be, leading to a decreased sense of security among employees. However, the lecturer refutes this point by saying that starting up a new company involves far more risks and far less stability because it could mean the loss of personal investment or other assets.

Finally, the reading suggests that recently there is a trend for big companies to stop offering extra benefits, such as pension or medical insurance, to their employees. Yet the lecturer points out that these extra benefits are even less likely to be found in a start-up company.

3. T-Rex 恐龙能跑吗?

阅读: 能跑, 理由

- (1) 吃其他跑得很快快的动物;
- (2) 腿骨结构和老虎类似;
- (3) M 恐龙的化石, 两腿分得很开, 是能跑的动物的特征, 而 M 恐龙和 T 恐龙是亲戚, 如果 M 恐龙能跑, 那么 T 恐龙自然也能跑;

听力: 一一反驳,

- (1) T 恐龙吃那些跑的很快的动物的时候, 那些动物早就死了, 因为 T 恐龙能闻到他们尸体的味道;
- (2) 虽然有和老虎类似的腿骨结构, 但老虎的骨头要比 T 恐龙的强壮的多, T 恐龙腿骨的结构太脆弱, 如果跑的话, 很容易损坏;
- (3) M 恐龙比 T 恐龙小得多, 如果 T 恐龙要跑, 它的肌肉密度要比 M 恐龙大得多, 强壮得多;

There has been some controversy over whether or not T. rex could run fast. The reading passage provides three pieces of evidence to prove that T. rex was a fast runner. However, the lecturer argues that none of the evidence is convincing.

First, the reading suggests that T. rex must have been a capable runner because it fed on herbivorous animal which could run very fast.

However, the lecturer argues that this may not serve as valid proof, because T. rex had very acute sense of smell so they could detect and scavenge on the dead bodies of small animals instead of having to chase them.

Secondly, the reading draws comparison between the leg bones of T. rex and a fast running tiger. Yet the lecturer rejects such comparison. He argues that in spite of the similarity, the bones of T. rex were too fragile to sustain the high pressure caused by high-speed running.

Finally, fossil evidence shows that T. rex had two powerful legs and large toes. Relatives of the T. rex that shared these features, like the [M-], were fast runners. Again this is disproved by the professor, who argues that in order to run, a T. rex would have needed to carry 86% of its huge body mass as supportive muscles in its legs, which could not have been possible.

4. hydroelectric dam 的好处

Reading: hydroelectric power plants three advantages

- (1). low cost
- (2). low pollution
- (3). the water paths protect wildlife

Lecture: disagree

- (1). account of the research cost for selecting location and building cost, the cost of hydroelectric plants is not low
- (2). hydroelectric plants produce the same amount of greenhouse gases as fossil fuel plant do
- (3). water paths cannot protect all fishes, an example in England, a kind of fish cannot use the water path as salmon do.

Be suspicious of whether hydroelectric power is advantageous to us compared with other power, the speaker holds a perspective contrary to the reading passage.

The first point is about the cost and it means that prior to a dam can be built, many studies have to be researched and made sure if the rock around the potential dam can support the heavy and massive construction. The dams cannot be built just anywhere near a river source. In addition, the cost of building a dam is enormous. This is not cost cutting. However, the reading thinks dams are built right in the source and do not need extra fuel to transport the power, so it is more inexpensive.

Secondly, according to the speaker, even though the operation of such plant does not generate greenhouse gases, hydroelectric plants create flooded areas that make large amounts of plant material to decompose and decay. This is "the source" of producing

greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and methane. For tropical areas where vegetation is densest, the damage to the environment is just the same compared to coal plants. This likewise refutes the author from the passage in that hydroelectric plants do not cause harmful gases to the surroundings.

The third point is regarding the wildlife. It is true that salmon can be saved in the research because they are strong and get upstream from the dam. This is not the case for other kinds of fish in England. The fish cannot move vertically up to bypass the dam. To be more concise, hydroelectric plants still cause negative effects on wildlife. Thus, all points from the reading passage are different from those stated in the listening content.

5. 美国的 Death Valley 里 300kg 的大石头会动 (moving stones), 有人试着解释。
阅读:

(1) 第一种理论是风吹动的, 因为存在关于山谷里有大风的纪录, 且天下雨的时候, muddy 很变得很平, 适合让风吹动石头。

(2) 第二个理论是地下水晚上结冰, 石头就能动了。

(3) 第三个理论是人类恶搞的, 比如麦田圈就是。

听力:

(1) 没有风强到能吹到石头, 并且给了张照片, 石头陷在 muddy 里, 按 writer 的理论, 石头不应该陷下去的。

(2) 这里沙漠, 水根本不够, 并且沙漠里温度太高, 就算晚上能结冰, 白天就化了, 没法搬动石头。

(3) 如果是人干的, 那一定会留下痕迹, 这种 muddy 里, 没有人能做到不留痕迹。而现场既没有人的痕迹, 也没有马的痕迹。

The reading passage tries to explain why some stones in desert areas show signs of moving slowly across the surface. However, all the three theories proposed in the reading are refuted by the lecturer.

The first theory is that the stones are moved by the forces of winds. This is made possible by powerful windstorms in the valley and muddy and slippery surfaces on rainy days. However, the professor argues that winds strong enough to move a rock have never been recorded on Earth. Furthermore, there's evidence showing that part of the stones is beneath the muddy surface, indicating that the stones are not sliding on the surface.

The second theory is that the rocks move because of the floating ice sheets that surround the rocks. However, this theory is also not possible because, as the speaker says, the desert area is extremely dry, so it lacks the amount of water to form large ice sheets. Even though ice could possibly form during the night when the temperature drops, during the day the ice would melt. Therefore, ice sheets could not have been the forces at play.

Finally, there is the possibility that human or animal intervention rather than natural forces made this happen. However, if this were true, the professor says, then there would have been

traces left of humans or animals moving the rocks, and these traces would not have been easily removed in such muddy places. Yet the fact is that neither the traces of humans nor those of horses exist near the moving rocks. So the human intervention theory is highly unlikely.

6. 讲congestion pricing。说为了缓解交通拥堵，想要在city 中的某个区域收费，这样就能缓解一下。

阅读文章支持，三个理由：

- (1) 这样做可以improve time (主要就是说节省时间)
- (2) 可以改善环境improve that area's environment
- (3) 收的fee 可以用于revenue the city 可以再修路，修桥等等

Lecture 中，professor 否定了这个观点。

(1) 他认为这样做有些司机不愿意花钱走这个区域就得绕路，更浪费时间。举了个例子：送快递的，他们要省钱，所以送快递的时候会变长。

(2) 在收费区里面环境可能会好点，但是周围的车相对就会增多，noise and air pollution 就会多。所以不是整个city都能环境变好

(3) 有的人不能afford 这个费用了，就会去坐subway，政府就得出更多的钱维护subway，这样一来收的那点钱可能还不够维护的，所以也不能起到帮助修桥，修路什么的作用了。

The policy of congestion pricing is enforced in some urban areas in order to alleviate traffic congestion. The reading passage explains the benefits of congestion pricing, while the lecture warns that this policy has a number of negative effects.

The reading suggests that congestion pricing reduces traffic so drivers can reach their destination in less time. However, the lecturer contends that not all people will find it time-saving. Some drivers will go round the pricing zone in order to avoid congestion surcharges. For example, delivery drivers will take a longer route to avoid this additional cost, so the delivery time is increased.

The second benefit mentioned in the reading is that congestion pricing improves urban environment. However, the lecturer points out that this may be true for areas within the charging zone because there is less traffic there. But in the surrounding areas, pollution and noise may become worse as a result of increased level of traffic that moves to those areas.

Finally, according to the reading, congestion charges are a source of city revenue which can be used by the government to improve public facilities such as roads and bridges. Yet the lecturer argues that this policy will lead some people to switch from driving to using public transportation such as the subway. This will entail an additional cost for subway maintenance, which may even exceed the revenue from congestion pricing. Therefore the policy will not help improve roads and bridges.

7. Harappan civilization decline 的三个原因

第一个阅读认为有外敌入侵；听力说不可能有那么large scale 的

第二个阅读说是天气变化忽然特冷特干燥导致农作物没法正常生长了；听力说在同一时期还有另外俩 Civilization 他们都有办法供给他们自己的食物所以H 不会有这么大的 Decline

第二个原因阅读提到因为季风受到 climate change 影响，所以农作物减产，造成文化灭绝，然后教师说，同时期的埃及同样也受climate change 影响，但没事！

第三个阅读是说有传染病蔓延通过水传染的；听力里的女人说 H 的人都是很好的工程师他们在设计的是时候肯定会注意一个叫C 的问题不会导致疾病大规模传播

The reading passage puts forward three hypotheses to explain the decline of the Harappan civilization. However, the lecturer challenges these hypotheses and uses evidence to prove that all of them are based on flawed speculations.

The first hypothesis is that the decline of Harappan civilization was caused by invasion from a nomadic tribe. However, the lecture argues that the Harappan culture covered a huge expanse of territory, so even if the nomad people invaded Harappan land, such invasion was confined to a small number of Harappan cities only, so it's unlikely to have led to the total destruction of the Harappan culture.

The second hypothesis is that climate change had led to the collapse of Harappan agriculture. With no food available, the Harappan people had to abandon their home. Reasonable as it may sound, there are flaws in this argument too, because, as the lecture indicates, the Egyptian civilization, a contemporary of the Harappan civilization, was able to make adjustment to its agriculture and managed to cope with the same inhospitable climate changes. There is no reason why the Harappan people could not have also adapted successfully to climate change.

The third hypothesis puts the blame on water contamination, suspecting that a water-borne disease had forced the Harappan people to migrate to other locations, leading to the decline of the entire civilization. This theory is not valid according to the lecture. The professor explains that Harappan people were excellent engineers who had created advanced canal systems that should be capable of preventing the transmission of disease through water.

8. 阅读：GM plant有好处

【1】可以导入抗虫基因，少用杀虫剂，有利于保护环境

【2】可以耐干旱，在非洲种可以提高农民收入

【3】可以让大米里含更多维生素a，防止维a缺乏。

听力部分认为GM的好处被夸大了，因为：

【1】这种基因如果扩散到野草里，那野草也该疯长了，一样破坏生态平衡

【2】农民往往用去年的种子播种，用gm 种子的话就得年年买新种子，多花的钱也许比多赚的还多。

【3】含维生素a 的蔬菜有的是，含量还比这种gm 大米高，为什么不建议人们吃蔬菜就

得了。

The issue talked in both contents is about whether or not genetic modified plants are advantageous to humans as well as to the environment. The stands are contradictory between the reading and the listening materials.

To begin with, the reading says that GM plants can bring profits to the environment by making the targeted plant species resistant to the pests, so pesticide usage will not be overused. However, the lecturer considers that such genetically modified genes will be transferred to the wild plants. With this, those plants will not be afraid of their arch foe (natural pests that feed on them) any longer and the number of the plant will grow in an uncontrolled way, producing an imbalanced environment cycle.

Secondly, the lecturer says farmers need to buy expensive seeds from those private seed companies in order to yield good production. Yet, it is very costly and is not really helping farmers make more money from this GM plant method. This is contrary to the reading passage in that GM plants make the plant more tolerant for dry weather and is to make more production of the crop that cultivate.

Thirdly, from the author, GM crops can help enhance the deficiency of vitamin A to people and this is to the improvement of the rice nutrients. Nevertheless, the lecturer says that eating rice indeed might not be able to gain Vitamin A, yet changing the habit of diet sounds more promising to tackle this problem. For example, people suffering from Vitamin A deficiency can eat more vegetables or fruits that contain such Vitamin.

All in all, GM crops may sound rosy to us, yet it will cause a lot of harms to plants, farmers and our environment. Scientists should not just hold a unilateral perspective to this issue and believe GMOs will help us.

9. 讲述养鱼场作为世界上主要的提供鱼类食物的farm 对环境可能会造成严重影响:

- (1) 鱼产生大量的by-product, 滋生细菌污染环境
- (2) 一些饲养的鱼逃跑跟野生鱼交配产生存活能力低的后代
- (3) 渔场浪费大量珍贵资源

professor 说事实上这些问题都有已经找到了解决办法:

- (1) 有一种细菌可以吃鱼的排泄物, 这种细菌会打出来
- (2) 事实上人工饲养的鱼由于基因变异不大可能跟野生的鱼交配成功
- (3) 科学家已经在找到方法通过recycle water 使养虾时使用的被污染的清水可以使用, 而且一种生物(会打出来)可以在盐水中生存...

This topic is about whether or not the fish farming places can be damaging to the fish species, water and the whole nearby environment. Clearly, the contents in the reading and listening are different.

Firstly, the reading says that fish from the fish farms produce higher content ration of waste to

the nearby water resource, which causes serious damages. However, from the listening, it says that fish farmers can keep a certain kind of marine animals, such as Mollusks that feed on the waste of the farm fish and this will largely reduce the degree of water pollution fish farms make.

In the second place, from the speaker, scientists can now genetically altered the farm fish; in other words, those farm fish cannot reproduce again with local fish groups. This yet is different from the reading content that indicates the interaction of the farm fish and local fish will generate physically poorer offspring.

Thirdly, the lecturer thinks that those used water from fish farms can be re-used to grow a kind of plant that is a great source of protein for both human beings and the livestock; for instance, the shrimp farm water was dumped into the open water, but now it is used to cultivate such salt-tolerate plant. The reading content likewise says that fish farms waste a great deal of fresh water and the water cannot be used for other intentions any longer.

10. 阅读：防止Asian carp 进入Great Lakes 的三种方案

- (1) 阅读说construct walls in Great Lakes
- (2) 阅读说利用electrical charged device to eliminate Asian carp.
- (3) 阅读说two-step measure. First, 通过toxic chemicals 把所有的鱼毒死。Second, 再引进native species.

听力:

- (1) 说这个对shipping 有影响, cargo 要从一个船reload 到另一个船上, 增加了 cost.
- (2) 听力说这样无法覆盖全面, carp 可以游到other side 从而进入lake
- (3) 教授说这种做法总来试过, unpredictable and dangerous. 而且利用toxic chemical 之后可能会导致whole ecosystem 发生变化, 不利于鱼类生长。

The reading says that the three methods used can prevent Asian carps from entering the Great Lakes; however, the listening passage refutes the idea and thinks they cannot work well.

To begin with, in the listening content, it says that it will cost an extra expense for shipping and cargo movements to the ships since those walls do not just constrain fish but also factories that are built near the lake. However, the reading content indicates that constructing the wall in certain part of the lake build an area of limitation for the fish and it also ignores the economic benefits of the commercial activities nearby.

Secondly, the electricity charged device, from the listening content, cannot effectively discourage Asian carps entering the lake. It is true that the electronic field can deter fish moving into the lake, yet the lake is huge and the fish can still swim to the other side of the lake where there is no such device employed. However, the reading indicates the electronic device will create a power electronic field that eliminates all the carp trying to move into the lake.

Thirdly, the author thinks that a two-step measurement can work as the toxic chemicals can

be carried out to kill Asian carps in the first step; once the number of the fish decreases, the second step —introducing the native species can increase the chances of survival for them. However, the listening content completely contradicts the argument and indicates that such toxic substance method has never been used in the similar situation, so this is too dangerous and unpredictable. Maybe it will lead to an environmental disaster that will make the situation even worse.

In conclusion, from the listening content, the three methods trying to stop Asian carps entering the Great Lake are not valuable to this issue. Thus, the content both in the reading and listening is contradictory.

11. 在Rhone river 发现了一个bust

阅读: passage 里面认为是罗马的一个leader—西泽大帝, 原因有三。

- (1) 雕塑风格 (realism) 是西泽时期引入的;
- (2) 雕塑特点和罗马铸币上西泽相似 (the style of hair);
- (3) 发现雕塑的地点在一条河, 以前人们想销毁它, 因为有新的leader 上任, 留着它是不respect。

听力: lecture 完全反驳这个观点, 原因有三。

- (1) 写实主义是在西泽之后才引入的, 所以不可能是西泽;
- (2) 雕塑的特点也不完全一致, 西泽有Slim nose and long leg, 和雕塑不符合;
- (3) 最后一原因罗马人把没有用的雕塑都往河里扔, 举了一个叫Neptune 的雕塑, 是古罗马的一个神。

The lecture and the reading passage both talk about a life-size marble bust, found during an archaeological excavation and retrieved from the bed of the river Rhone. While the author of the passage attributes this bust to Julius Caesar, the lecturer refutes each of the arguments presented in the reading.

First, the style of the portrait could not be used as evidence to show that this bust was that of Julius Caesar. Although the bust was made in a style very popular during Caesar's time, this style continued to be popular many years after Caesar died. Therefore, this bust could very well have been made in a much later time for someone other than Caesar.

Second, the similarities between the bust and the portrait of Caesar on silver coins were rather limited to the hair only. In other features such as the neck and the nose, there are many obvious differences. If the bust was Caesar's, then it should have looked the same in all features to other portraits of Caesar.

Finally, the location where the bust was found could not prove anything. Archaeological study also excavated other items from the same place including a sculpture for the God of Neptune. This indicates that people could have thrown things into the river because they have become useless rather than because of political reasons, as what the reading suggests.

12. 阅读: natural gas 的缺点

- (1) 不够干净, 会排放温室气体
- (2) 会有大量的废水
- (3) 噪音和光影响小区

听力: 反驳。

- (1) 现在风太阳能并不能很好的利用, 并且天然气也并没有产生那么多温室气体, 最起码比煤少多了
- (2) 采天然气产生大量的废水已经有了处理办法, 可以排到很深的地下, 这样就不会污染饮用水
- (3) 关于噪音和光污染, 其实天然气产业带来了更多的好处, 比如增加就业。增加税收、促进小区发展。

This article talks about whether or not the extraction of natural gas can be reduced since it is controversial for either bringing more benefits to human beings or leading to more disasters, the speaker and the author hold a different perspective toward this issue.

To begin with, the reading says that the natural gas is not a clean energy because it releases greenhouse gases and we should develop cleaner energy instead. Yet, from the speaker, due to the utilization of energy in our modern society, those cleaner energies, such as wind power or solar power has difficulty satisfying the needs, additionally, the greenhouse gases emitted from the natural gas is only half as much as that released by burning coal.

Secondly, from the speaker, modern technology can transported wastewater into a much deeper ground that is separated from the aquifer. In other words, the protection of the clean water source is solid. However, the writer indicates, the process of exploiting natural gas can release toxic wastewater that can contaminate clean water source. From the listening, it is indeed true, yet the technology is revolutionized and the distance between the wastewater and the clean water source is set afar. So it is perfectly fine.

Thirdly, the writing says that during the extraction of the natural gas, it causes negative impacts, such as noise and light, to the neighboring communities, which is indeed an unpleasant feeling and living environment. However, from the speaker, the advantages are far more than the disadvantages, for the development of the natural gas brings government revenues from the natural gas constructing site, increases job opportunities. In addition, it also promotes the improvement of the local communities since the companies always contribute to the local community for better environment. Thus, the local people will not be unpleasant and support the development instead. From the points above, the listening content is opposing to the reading material on the development of the natural gas.

13. 讲 congestion pricing。说为了缓解交通拥堵, 想要在 city 中的某个区域收费, 这样就能缓解一下。阅读文章支持, 三个理由:

- (1) 这样做可以improve time (主要就是说节省时间)。

(2) 可以改善环境improve that area's environment。

(3) 收的fee 可以用于revenue the city 可以再修路，修桥等等lecture 中，professor 否定了这个观点。

(1) 他认为这样做有些司机不愿意花钱走这个区域就得绕路，更浪费时间。举了个例子：送快递的，他们要省钱，所以送快递的时候会变长。

(2) 在收费区里面环境可能会好点，但是周围的车相对就会增多，noise and air pollution就会多。所以不是整个city 都能环境变好。

(3) 有的人不能afford 这个费用了，就会去坐subway，政府就得出更多的钱维护subway，这样一来收的那点钱可能还不够维护的，所以也不能起到帮助修桥，修路什么的作用了。

14. 阅读：一个什么动物在很久以前身躯很大的原因。

(一) 那时候氧气含量很多。

(二) plant 很多。

(三) warm climate。

听力：

(一) 氧气含量其实比现在还少。

(二) plant 是很多，但是营养很少。

(三) warm climate is actually a disadvantage, because they needed to cool off。

15. 阅读：关于大象有三种很奇幻的说法。

(1) 大象能预知自己将死，并找到水边独自死去。

(2) 大象有艺术和绘画的能力，能用鼻子拿笔画个花。

(3) 大象怕小老鼠。

听力：教授驳斥

(1) 大象是因为老了而牙齿脱落，要软的食品，而在水边才容易找到。

(2) 大象会画画是因为有人训练它、教它动作（训象人用摸耳朵的方式）并不是它真的有能力。

(3) 大象不是怕老鼠，是因为它对没见过的东西警觉，这是动物本能，当动物园里的大象（对老鼠熟悉了），就根本不在乎了。

16. 让加州一个 Salton Sea的盐化程度降低的几种方法。

Reading:

(1) 使用海水淡化设备

(2) 引渠道，引进盐度低的海水

(3) 用墙围住，不让全部的地方盐度都那么高

Listening:

(1) 淡化后有些物质可危害人类

(2) 起渠道等不经济，太远了造价昂贵

(3) 湖的所在位置是地震频繁地方，造墙是不明智

17. 阅读：越来越多的人对在大公司上班失去了兴趣，转而自己开公司 (self-employed)。

- 1 大公司上班有太多 bureaucracy，难以实现自己的 idea。
- 2 大公司上班工作稳定感大大不如从前。
- 3 大公司最近几年不提供 extra benefits，比如退休金，更低的医疗保险。

听力：一一反驳三个观点

- 1 自己开公司要面对的手续会更多。
- 2 自己开公司明显更有风险，稳定感更不强。
- 3 自己开公司 extra benefits 更没有保证。

18. 独角鲸头上独角的作用。

关于独角鲸tusks of narwhals (拼写是Narwhals 不是Narwhales) functions (独角鲸头上独角的作用)

阅读：提出三种理论

- 1.独角应该是用来Pierce through thick ice sheet to breathe 的，因为独角鲸待的地方在冰层下面不好呼吸，还说有eyewitness see 曾经有独角鲸钻破冰层。
- 2.独角是male narwhals 用来Compete for territory 的
- 3.此角与鲸的神经系统相连，可以起到一个Sensor 的作用，感知ocean properties (比如temperature、盐浓度、气压etc.)，而且是important in narwhals' survival

听力：教授反驳。

- 1.她说其实独角是软的，可以Bend 的，而且还是从many directions，所以说独角根本就穿不透厚厚的冰层，只能弄碎很薄的冰面。目击者看到的情况很有可能只是独角鲸把its head 放在一个ice sheet have already begun to break 的地方。
- 2.她说其实所谓两条公独角鲸为领地而战只是远观而得的结论，如果是从Close 的地方看就会发现，其实独角鲸在gently rub each other，这是它们的一种交流方式。
- 3.她说Female narwhals don't have tusks，那如果这玩意在narwhals' survival 里真的很important，为啥一般母的独角鲸都live longer than male

The topic is about the functionality of Narwhal's tusks; Narwhals are a kind of whale in ocean ; however, perspectives in both read in g and listening content are different for the function of the tusk.

First of all, the lecturer indicates that the tusk cannot be used to break ice sheets in the ocean because the tusks are bendable and not hard enough to pierce through the thick ice. Even though some people witnessed the ice-breaking phenomenon Narwhals did as the reading explains; it is true partly because the ice sheet have already broken into smaller ones or thinner ones, which makes it much easier to break.

Secondly, the reading insists that the tusk is used as weapons for male Narwhals to compete for territory for superior mating opportunities.

Likewise, this standpoint is refuted by the speaker who thinks that observation from a distance makes people confused about what they actually were doing. They were communicating, not fighting each other. Male Narwhals rub together as a way of commutation.

Lastly, if the tusk, possessed mostly by male, is really essential in the survival game for such creature in the ocean, the life span of male should be longer than that of the female that rarely have tusks. However the fact is that female Narwhals have longer life span than male Narwhals. The reading says tusks can be used to sense the changes of their living environment and are vital to all the Narwhals. So this does not make sense. As above mentioned, the reading and the listening contents are opposing.

19. 【The Hohokam 人类的灭绝原因】

阅读:

- (1) 其灌溉系统含有alkaline water, 土地遂不孕不育;
- (2) 因为Hohokam 砍伐一种树砍太多, 而这种tree 是很多动物依赖生存的, 所以森林里面的物种消失, 而这些动物又是人依赖生存的meat, 于是人类没东西吃;
- (3) 受到外来者 (NAVAJO GROUPS) 入侵所以灭亡, 有找到fence 可以证明。

听力:

- (1) The Hohokam 有休耕的概念, 加上雨水冲刷, 所以土地应该可以在几年后变得肥沃; 再说在那以前 1000 年他们一直用得好好的, 怎么就一下子没了?
- (2) 这种树生长很快, 只用木材来生火和盖房子的古人是用不完的。
- (3) 缺乏明确证据, 有工事不等于有战争, 也许只是预防而已; 再说没有其他关于战争的遗迹留下。

范文:

The topic is about the reason the Hohokam people went extinct and vanished. The content of both materials in reading and listening are different.

The first point is about food scarcity problem. From the reading, the irrigation system the Hohokam people used cause alkaline quality of the water that leads to infertilization on the land. However, the listening content indicates that fallow, the method of leaving land unseeded, allowed the land to become fertile again by rain water washing away the salty water. Besides, the Hohokam people had been using such arable method for thousands of years. This was a common practice, so the land would not become unable to farm in a short period of time.

Secondly, according to the speaker, the tree mentioned was able to grow fast with the nurture of the Mother Nature. If they were only used for materials of setting up fires or building houses, they would not be used up easily. This likewise refutes the author from the passage in that they chopped down too many trees that their —meat source || , lived on. In other words, when those animals died out, the Hohokam people were cut off the food.

At last from the reading, Navajo groups, the invasive people has successfully occupied the place the Hohokam people lived. Thus there were some fortifications left as evidence. From the listening, however, might not be employed for wars. Maybe they were just used for defending against invading people and they never used it. On top of that, there were nothing else left expect those fences. There should be more evidence left if there were wars. All points mentioned above, the speaker and the author hold different views on this issue for how the Hohokam people vanished.

20. 【美国甲壳虫】

阅读: American Burying beetles 大量减少的三个可能的原因/理论。

- (1) 农民使用poisonous pesticide
- (2) 这种beetle 的生活模式需要完整的habitat, 人为的环境改造, 使得环境破碎, fragmentation of habitat or Discontinuity 造成其灭绝
- (3) 现提出这种beetle 有一个特性, 可以嗅到很远地方的食物, 然后在底下找食物, 但是竞争不过scavenger mammal, 所以大量灭绝。

听力: 教授反驳。

- (1) 从pesticide 的使用时间来看, 根本就不是杀虫剂引起这个问题的。美国的northeastern地区在使用pesticide 之前就有beetle's loss发生, 而在Middle West, 大面积使用pesticide 的二十年内, 这种beetles 都存在, 所以使用农药和该虫灭绝没有必然关系。
- (2) 有些跟其生活模式差不多的beetle 没有灭绝, 他们同样受到fragmentation of habitat, 却没有灭绝, 同为相近的beetle, 不可能只作用于这种虫, 可见并不是其引起的。
- (3) Reading 忽略了这种beetle 另外一种特性, 他可以在发现食物之后释放一种气味chemical smell, 防止(block)其他动物对食物的探寻, 他具有这样的优势, 不可能竞争不过那些scavengers。

The topic is about how the American burying beetles goes extinct in a wide scale. The reading and listening points of view are different in perspectives to it.

To begin with, from the reading, it says that poisonous pesticide, such as DDT made a large-scale wipe out in the beetle along with other creatures that are food to American burying beetles. From the listening, however, prior to the usage of DDT, there were unknown reasons of beetle loss already. In addition, DDT has been used in several parts of the US, especially in the Middle West, for more than twenty years, and it did not bring any extinction to other similar beetles and why only such kind of American burying beetles? Thus, there is no direct correlation linked between this pesticide and the beetle extinction.

Secondly, due to the reading material, the fragmentation of habitat led to the extinction of the beetles. However, other similar beetles and creatures were also encountering such fragmentation of habitat by human behavior. They are also living in the same nature, yet they were still stable in numbers. In other words, such human interruption as fragmentation of habitat is not the cause. There is no reason to just single out American burying beetles and

wipe them out.

Thirdly, the olfactory sensitivity of American burying beetles is superior that it can smell the food as far as two miles away. However, the author indicates that other scavengers took prevalence over them in locating food better, leading to the scanty of food source. This may be somewhat true, however there is another advantage for this special beetle—chemical weapon-, which means it will secrete a strong odor that can prevent other scavengers from stealing it. Such strong acidity makes American burying beetles feed on their food exclusively.

From the above mentioned points, extinction of the beetles is not that simple as what the author puts forward. Thus, the content of the two sources is opposing.

21. 阅读：讲要meet the demand of energy. 一个国家应该采用核能发电，但是有些批评者反对。

- (1). Safety, 说如果core overheat 的话会辐射外泄造成对环境生态及人类的危害；
- (2). Cost, 说核能发电厂一间大约要2~5 billion, 比起其他的发电费贵, 举例子说了oil 和 coal;
- (3). 有other technology, 比如风力发电；

听力：女教授反驳了。

- (1). 就新技术pebble bed reactor, 可以控温, 当热量超出regular 时会slow work 以保持 normal temperature, 不会有危险；
- (2). 虽然核能电碍造价比较贵, 但是轴比较便宜, 相较之下煤或石油发电虽然发电费便宜但是燃料贵, 不见得比较省；
- (3). 风力发电不稳定unprecedented, 换句话说not reliable, 因此需要其他的发电废当backup, 所以还不如用nuclear 呢。

The topic is about whether or not the nuclear power is a better power source among other alternatives. The reading and listening material hold a different viewpoints toward this debated issue.

To begin with, the reading indicates that the overheating of the nuclear reactor will release radioactivity in leakage that does great harm to not just human beings, but the whole environment. However, the speaker refutes and says that with the advanced technology - Pebble Bed Reactor--, the problem can be solved. When the reactor is about to overheat, it will automatically be slowed down in speed and the heating problem can be tackled.

In the second place, speaker says that nuclear power is not expensive based on the long term perspective. However, the author claims that the cost of building the unclear plant is way too much and oil or coal plant is the better choice. For this point, the listening indicates that the construction of unclear plant is indeed more expensive, yet the fuel, Uranium, is very cheap in comparison of the fuel to the oil or coal plant. For the long run, unclear plants are a better

choice to this energy generation issue.

Thirdly, wind power seems a great alternative energy since it is renewable. Nevertheless, the speaker indicates that wind power generated from wind turbine is from our nature and thus is not reliable and stable. Usually, countries using such power all have a backup power plant, which is way too troublesome. Nuclear reactors can generate a steady amount of power without any limitations. Thus, viewed from the above reasons, the reading and the listening are opposing to each other in the issue of unclear plants.

22. Harappan civilization decline 的三个原因

第一个阅读认为有外敌入侵；听力说不可能有那么large scale 的。

第二个阅读说是天气变化忽然特冷特干燥导致农作物没法正常生长了。

听力说在同一时期还有另外俩Civilization 他们都有办法供给他们自己的食物所以H不会有这么大的Decline。

第二个原因阅读提到因为季风受到climate change 影响，所以农作物减产，造成文化灭绝，然后教师说，同时期的埃及同样也受climate change 影响，但没事!!

第三个阅读是说有传染病蔓延通过水传染的；听力里的女人说 H 的人都是很好的工程师他们在设计的是时候肯定会注意一个叫C的问题不会导致疾病大规模传播。

第三个理由我怎么听到他们的水利工程系统很棒，所以在处理drinking water 时会很小心，所以不会被传染。

23. 讲了三种可能的理论来解释一次物种大灭绝。

1. sea level decline 造成 coast living 灭绝。

2. cool climate,主要是火山活动造成的 SO2 增多,导致地球变冷。

3. asteroid strikes,产生的 cater 使植物得不到足够的 sunshine,也是恐龙灭绝的原因。

Listening 里的 professor 进行一点一点的否决:

1. 她说 sea level 在那个时候是 fluctuate, 但是很 graduate,所以对 coast living 造不成。影响因为它们能适应环境的变化。

2. SO2 虽然能使地球变冷,但是大气中的 SO2 不怎么多,而且还为变成酸雨降到地面上。

3. asteroid 撞击地球是在 12 million year ago(好像是,不太确定没在作文里写),在生物大灭绝之前发生,和这次没有任何关系。

24. Passage: microcredit 不能解决贫困问题。

1) borrower 没有business skill, 做生意很容易失败

2) 小额贷款会increase 银行的administration cost, 是inefficient 的。

3) 如果政府把钱投入microcredit 里面, 就不能投到其它方面了。

Lecture: 文章说得不对。

1) agencies 提供other services, 比如教borrower 怎么记账, 怎么利润最大化等等。

2) 文章说的问题很好解决: 银行可以把钱借给由4-5 个人组成的small groups, 这样

在相同的cost 下帮助了贫困的人。

3) 由于提供小额贷款的都是agencies, 政府其实在这方面save 了money, 这样政府就能把钱投到小型贷款不能融资的大型工程, 比如建一栋楼什么的。

25. 阅读文章:

在Rhone river 的河底, 考古学家发现了一个bust (就是一种头部雕塑), 人们认为这个bust是Julius Caesar的。有几个理由:

【1】style of the sculpture: 头像的艺术风格正好是Caesar的那个年代的, 叫“realist style”

【2】resemblance to Caesar's other portraits : Caesar年代的silver coin上有他的头像, 和考古发现的这个bust非常相似, 特别是头发

【3】location of the bust found: Caser后来被推翻, 所以民众不敢在新的国王统治下还保留Caesar的头像, 所以就扔河里了, 很说得通。

听力讲座教授反对:

【1】realism又不是在Julius Caesar的时代才有, 在Julius Caesar死后还持续了很久, 可能bust是其他人的作品。

【2】仅仅是与coin上hair一样, bust的鼻子却和coin上的不同, 要是出自同一人, all features should be consistent with each other.

【3】被人扔在河边也不是因为政治因素, 只是单纯的废品。人们不可能很早就埋好了这个半身像, 为了显示自己对Julius Caesar的崇敬。

26. Reading: 罗马第九兵团消失之谜。

(1) Scotland 第九兵团被派去镇压苏格兰的暴乱, 被苏格兰的叛军消灭了。

(2) Netherland 荷兰的一个Roman fort 的房顶上发现有罗马第九兵团标记的tile, 明第九兵团在荷兰生活过。

(3) Judea 犹太有revolt, 罗马帝国派不列颠总督带第九兵团前往镇压, 士兵们路上得病死了或者是被叛军击溃了。

Listening:

(1) 大规模战争才能建制地消灭一个兵团, 而没有迹象显示当时苏格兰和罗马之间爆发过大规模的战争, 比如在苏格兰没有找到属于第九兵团的武器装备。

(2) tile 可能是由其他人从不列颠带到荷兰的。另外tile 需要一种XX 工具才能制造, 而堡垒附近没有发现这种工具。

(3) 不列颠在帝国西边, 犹太在帝国东边, 长途运送士兵和补给品去镇压暴乱耗时太久, 而犹太当地就有士兵可以征调。

27. 阅读: 建造wind turbines 会kill bat, 阻碍bat 迁徙导致bats 数量的减少, 三种措施

(1) 让科学家研究bat 的迁徙路线, 建造WT 的时候远离这个路线。

(2) 夜间关停WT 同时bat 迁徙基本是在夜里。

(3) 用雷达影响bat 改变bat 飞行路线。

听力：教授三个都不同意。

(1) bat 沿山脊飞山脊是风力最强的地方也是WT 应该建的地方；而蝙蝠不经过的平缓地带风速太低，没法发电，故此方法不实际。

(2) bat 白天睡觉，它们睡觉喜欢在高的树上或者其他高的东西上，夜间关停的WT 就会成为它们的首选，白天WT 启动还是会造成伤害。

(3) 雷达会毁坏蝙蝠的reproduction organs, 影响bat 生殖繁衍，直接就导致bat减少。

28. 阅读：史前人类为何在洞穴作画。

(1) 洞穴画里有大量动物主题，而且有一些是当时的首要狩猎对象，还有一些箭的图案，受伤的动物，所以表现的都是狩猎场景。

(2) 有出现人身兽头的图像，说是因为他们常常用动物头伪装成动物打猎，所以画这些画。

(3) 史前人类作画很多时候是因为认为画有魔力，可以通过作画影响一定的现实，所以画出来的狩猎场景就是为了保证打猎顺利而作。

听力：反驳阅读，给出理由是：

(1) 洞穴里有大量的动物主题，但也有犀牛和猫，这两样不怎么被狩猎，而且很多画的动物也没有wounded 啊；还有根本没那个时候最常被狩猎的动物—驯鹿，所以说动物主题和打猎不一定有关系。

(2) 壁画上的人身兽头是因为当时的人们相信他们的祖先的灵魂会附在动物身上。为了和祖先交流，他们会举办一些仪式活动，这些兽头很可能是为了这种仪式才画上去的。而且说是猎人，那么打猎的活动猎人形象应该是站着的，可是画上的人是水平姿势的，所以这个解释站不住脚

(3) 这个magical power 在不同的文化中有不同的含义啊，in some case, 这是一种仪式，actually the magical power their ancestors believe in is that they can communicate with the animals living around.

29. 国家公园是否应该收费。

阅读反对national park 将要收门票。理由有三点：

(1) 这是国家公园，国家对市民的税中包含了公园的维护等费用，所以不应额外收费，而且国家公园就是应该让大家免费参观。

(2) 收费会减少大家去公园的兴趣，去公园的人数将会减少，违反设立国家公园的本意。

(3) 会使公园的工作人员多参与有关门票销售，以防有人偷渡，或者是处理废票等的工作，而会分散对别的工作的重视，如保障游人安全，保护公园环境等，阅读材料认为这些才是真正需要工作人员重视的。

听力：教授不同意阅读材料的观点。教授认为收费是合理的。理由也有三条。

(1) 收费会对人们更加公平，例如：有的人每年最多来一次公园，却要交纳税费，虽然每人都可以去公园，但并不是每人都去。所以收费门票可以保证公平。

(2) 收费可以更有创意，有名的国家公园像是Yellowstone 或是大峡谷，门票要高一

点，冷门景点收便宜一点，这么一来，收费反而可以更加吸引游人参观。因为在游人们的心目中，门票高的公园比门票低的公园更值得去看。

(3) 可以让公园的工作人员接触到更多的人，有机会了解他们的需要和对公园发展的意见等等，收票控制人进出，也可以提升安全性。

30. 阅读：美国东北部一个社区公园突然发现一批针叶树木逐步死掉，怀疑是附近 Household 使用的一种新型除草剂 (Herbicide) 惹的祸。文章认为不是的，主要原因：

(1) 这种除草剂在投放市场之前经过了政府机构详细的长达数年的测试木有问题

(2) 并非所有的针叶树木受感染，还有好多其他种类树木没有问题。

(3) 专家「发现这段时间气候突然变化 (变冷) 可能是因为气候原因导致树木死亡
听力：还是认为这个除草剂是元凶：

(1) 政府的测试主要是针对人和动物的安全测试，没有太多对植物的。

(2) 那些没有被感染的树木发现都是在高处的，而低处的都被感染了因为是流经附近社区的河流将除草剂带到了公园裡这些树木的根部

(3) 气候变化应该是那些枯黄的老树叶先死掉，而事实上很多新绿的树叶也掉落了

31. 阅读：有一种蚊子传播一种疾病，科学家发明了一种基因改良过的蚊子和这种蚊子交配，导致后代有缺陷，减少这种蚊子的 popularity，可以预防疾病 听力：有些人不同意，原因：

(1) 蚊子数量下降，可能导致其他带有同样病毒的蚊子数量上升，其中可能包括一些有些可能有更厉害的病毒蚊子

(2) 如果基因改良的蚊子咬人的话，传到人的身上，对人体无益

(3) 放出这些蚊子可能导致环境问题，可能会对其他物种产生影响，例子是种改良过的菜，但是菜周围的蝴蝶数量减半

32. 阅读：现代都市里 glass 越来越多，严重干扰鸟类飞行，有三个 solutions 可以防止 birds 撞到玻璃上。

(1) 做 one-way-window (单一光线玻璃)，里面看得到外面，外面的鸟看不到裡面。

(2) 玻璃上画图案 (彩色的玻璃)，比如 stripes

(3) 制造人工磁场，阻止鸟类向玻璃飞近

听力：反对所有观点：

(1) 鸟以为是镜子，同样会撞上

(2) 找缝隙撞到没有颜色的玻璃上

(3) 制造人工磁场导航在短距离没效果。

33. 为了防止沙漠化的扩大，有人提出用可以 collect water 的 device 种树，是否可行。

阅读：认为不可行。

(1) 新型蓄水绿化装置太贵了。

(2) 当地人穷，主要精力争温饱食物，没有 motivation 去 install 和 maintain 那些 device。

(3) 树长大后就要移除 DEVICE 了，因为太大呀，然后他们自己生存能力不行，就挂了这不是浪费钱吗？

听力：教授完全不同意以上说法。

(1) 小树长大后，device 可重复利用 20次，所以是 reasonable price。

(2) 除了为树蓄水，那些设备也可以种蔬菜啊，当地人就会有更多食物了，而且树长大后可以把 branch 砍下来当 firewood 烧，当地人会照看设备的。

(3) 树长大后根系也发达了，可以达到更深的土层，一旦他 reach water resources 就能独立存活了，而且 90% 的树木在离开设备后两年都活得好好的。

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