

國立嘉義大學九十四學年度

碩士班招生考試試題

科目：英文

第一大題：克漏字(請依據文意選出一個最佳答案)，每題 2.5 分，共 50 分。

Passage A

NASA is doing well in its effort to make the space shuttle safer, officials said recently, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

Wayne Hale, deputy manager of the shuttle program, reported that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is still on (1) for a launch next spring. The shuttle fleet has been (2) since February 2003, when the shuttle Columbia broke apart as it re-entered the (3).

The toughest problems facing NASA will probably consume much of the (4) time before launch, Hale said. They include drastically reducing the (5) coming off the shuttle's massive external fuel tank and developing a method to repair the shuttle's (6) protection system in space.

Columbia was lost because a large chunk of (7) foam from the tank broke off and punched a hole in a reinforced panel on the edge of the left wing. During re-entry, superhot gases seeped in through the hole and caused the spacecraft to (8).

NASA's goal is to have foam chunks no bigger than the size of a coffee cup come off the tank. Neil Otte, chief engineer of the external tank program, said there is cautious (9) that an improved tank will be ready in time for a spring launch.

Repairing the shuttle's heat shield in (10) is another challenge. Materials for patching cracks and tools for fixing larger holes are all coming along well, Hale reported.

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|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. (A) way | (B) track | (C) route | (D) pace |
| 2. (A) fixed | (B) constructed | (C) grounded | (D) broken |
| 3. (A) atmosphere | (B) space | (C) sphere | (D) graph |
| 4. (A) making | (B) selling | (C) during | (D) remaining |
| 5. (A) debris | (B) pebbles | (C) rocks | (D) ashes |
| 6. (A) degree | (B) scale | (C) thermal | (D) interval |
| 7. (A) insulating | (B) protecting | (C) performing | (D) insulting |
| 8. (A) disintegrate | (B) dismiss | (C) disregard | (D) discover |
| 9. (A) optic | (B) optimism | (C) organism | (D) orphanage |
| 10. (A) oval | (B) obstacle | (C) orchestra | (D) orbit |

Passage B

Amy Tan is probably the world's best known Chinese-American writer. Her intense, fascinating novels are (11) her own experience, and are deeply influenced by her Chinese cultural heritage. (12), Tan's books often deal with the theme of Chinese mother-daughter relationships.

While (13), Tan was a teenage rebel. She had friends who took drugs. At sixteen, she had a German boyfriend who was in his twenties. But her mother, who had emigrated to America from China in the 1940s, had very traditional Chinese values.

It was hard for the fun-loving, open-minded Tan to accept her mother's conservative point of view and strict discipline. (14) Tan grew older, however, she realized that her mother's controlling ways and constant advice (15) of love. The elder Tan simply wanted her American daughter to have the best possible life.

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|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 11. (A) replied to | (B) based on | (C) put off | (D) given up |
| 12. (A) In particular | (B) For particular | (C) Of particular | (D) At particular |
| 13. (A) grown up | (B) be grown up | (C) be growing up | (D) growing up |
| 14. (A) If | (B) Although | (C) Not only | (D) As |
| 15. (A) dragged away | (B) added up | (C) came out | (D) jumped out |

Passage C

I think the most important suggestion in foreign language reading is to expect that we will not know all of the words, and to decide which words are necessary for understanding and which words we can ignore. That's a difficult task, but I believe that for most readers, (16) the key words – those words that are essential to the meaning of the text – which are usually frequently-used nouns and verbs, (17) readers to tolerate ignoring words that are not essential to the overall meaning of the text. Previewing the text before beginning to read is often helpful in identifying key words; considering the title and the chapter headings or subheadings in the text also assists readers in guessing a word's meaning from the context. Sometimes key words are (18) in the text. And, of course, there is always the dictionary.

It takes time and energy to develop this strategy of ignoring some unfamiliar words in a text, particularly for learners (like me) who (19) most comfortable knowing the meaning of every word. I try to remind myself that it is not necessary that I be able to define every word, (20) that instead I recognize the general meaning of the text. What I have found is that the result of developing this strategy is that reading becomes less of a required task and more of a pleasurable experience.

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| 16. (A) identified | (B) identify | (C) identifying | (D) identification |
| 17. (A) allowing | (B) allowed | (C) will allow | (D) is allowed |
| 18. (A) defined | (B) defining | (C) define | (D) definition |
| 19. (A) felt | (B) are feeling | (C) feels | (D) feel |
| 20. (A) for | (B) but | (C) because | (D) otherwise |

第二大題：閱讀測驗(請依據文意選出一個最佳答案)，每題 2.5 分，共 25 分。

Passage D

One of the insidious things about overpopulation is that its harmful effects are not immediately apparent. To the untrained eye, things may look good at first. There are a lot of animals, and they seem to be in good condition. The real danger signals are subtle and difficult to detect.

The plants that sustain grazing animals have adapted themselves to the periodic loss of some of their foliage. When a grazing animal takes a bite of grass or leaves, the plant has a reserve of energy that enables it to recover and replace the lost foliage in due time. This situation prevails to the benefit of both plants and animals on a balanced range.

But when too many plant eaters dine too often, the animals start to consume the reserves that the plant needs to restore itself. In short, the plant is nibbled to death. The first thing that happens on an overgrazed range is the disappearance of the choice forage plants. These are the plants that the animals like best and eat first. They are sometimes referred to as "ice-cream plants" by range managers. As the ice-cream plants disappear, less palatable plants take their place. To the untrained eye, the range still looks good. It is green and there is vegetation; but to the range manager, who must look at the range through the eyes of the horse, pickings are slim.

After a time the horses start to eat the less palatable plants. As the range continues to deteriorate, the animals are forced to become less choosy about their food. More important, many of the plants they now consume are low in nutritional value. The animals start to show signs of malnutrition, and, as the overgrazing continues, the vegetative cover is depleted to the point that the soil begins eroding.

Yet, even on a severely overgrazed range, it is rare for an animal to lie down to die of simple starvation. Instead, the weakened animals become more susceptible to disease. An infection that healthy animals might throw off may become fatal to the undernourished, and a cold spell or rainy season that would be only a minor inconvenience to healthy animals may decimate a herd weakened by prolonged hunger.

The disaster that has hovered on the horizon for so long may at last strike like lightning, but chances are it will be misinterpreted as something else. The public rarely understands what happens.

21. The signs of overgrazing
 - (A) are seen first in small animals.
 - (B) are subtle and slow to develop.
 - (C) are apparent only after whole herds have died.
 - (D) are referred to "ice-cream plants."
22. The author implies that the range manager
 - (A) is sympathetic towards range animals.
 - (B) is often unaware of overgrazing.
 - (C) is responsible for preventing excessive overgrazing.
 - (D) is innocent to the phenomenon.
23. The less palatable range plants
 - (A) are often poisonous.
 - (B) contain little water.
 - (C) are low in vitamins and minerals.
 - (D) consume too much fertilizer.
24. This article is mostly concerned with the effects of overgrazing
 - (A) on cattle. (B) on deer. (C) on horses. (D) on sheep.
25. The states that most people
 - (A) are not concerned with ecological problems.
 - (B) do not comprehend the dangers of overpopulation.
 - (C) do not care about the survival of wild animals.
 - (D) are not interested in nature.

Passage E

Municipal sewage is of relatively recent origin as a pollutant. It was first brought to the public attention in the 19th century by a London physician who showed that the city's cholera outbreak had been caused by just one contaminated well. Even though the contamination of drinking water by disease germs has been nearly eliminated in this country, hundreds of communities are still discharging raw sewage into streams and rivers.

When we consider that this sewage contains effluents from toilets, hospitals, laundries, industrial plants, etc., then the potential of the pollutants as a health hazard is apparent.

The problem of municipal sewage disposal is complicated by the fact that, years ago, most cities combined their storm and waste disposal sewers. Many of these combined systems work well, but others cannot cope with sudden heavy rains. When such storms occur, water mixed with sewage may flood and disable treatment plants unless bypassed, untreated, into a stream. In either case, the people may have little protection for several days from these wastes which may contain disease germs.

Even if adequately treated to eliminate the health hazard, sewage is esthetically undesirable because of odors and colors produced. Detergents have posed a particular disposal problem. Although there is no indication that they are injurious to health, they can cause foaming, which can clog treatment plants and, at the least, spoil the scenic beauty of streams.

One consequence of pollution, usually resulting from the discharge of either raw or treated sewage wastes into water sources, is an increase in nutrient levels in these waters. These higher nutrient levels result in a rapid increase in the biological population of the water. Excessive respiration and decomposition of aquatic plants deplete the oxygen content in these waters causing decay which, in turn, may produce an undesirable taste, odor, color, and turbidity. Increasing nutrient contents may also result in an increase in more undesirable species of aquatic life. All these factors make the water unfit for domestic, industrial, and recreational purposes.

Rural and suburban residents should be aware that septic tanks and cesspools are a potential source of pollution to ground water supplies. This is especially true in the suburban areas with a high population density and with no municipal sewage disposal and treatment system available. In some areas, sewage disposal is accomplished by cesspools. Soil research is furnishing guidelines for more effective and safer use of systems such as these.

26. In densely populated suburban areas a danger exists from
 - (A) streams that do not flow directly to open bodies of water.
 - (B) cesspools and septic tanks that contaminate water supplies.
 - (C) storm and waste disposal sewers that have been combined.
 - (D) nutrient levels in waters that increase biological population.
27. In developing his point, the author makes use of
 - (A) scientific arguments.
 - (B) convincing testimony.
 - (C) common sense observations.
 - (D) various expository examples.
28. This selection is concerned primarily with
 - (A) the problems of waste disposal.
 - (B) the dangers of drinking unknown water supplies.
 - (C) the turbidity of polluted waters.
 - (D) the nutrient levels in waters.
29. The author mentions the London cholera epidemic
 - (A) to prove that the city refused to deal with pollution.
 - (B) to prove that medical science once knew little about pollution.
 - (C) to introduce the idea of contaminated water supplies.
 - (D) to provoke citizens' curiosity.
30. Excessive respiration and decomposition of aquatic plants
 - (A) eliminates the concern over municipal water supplies.
 - (B) causes an undesirable taste in drinking water.
 - (C) allows an increase in the fish population.
 - (D) enlarges the nutrient levels.

第三大題: 作文, 25 分

Several holidays in Taiwan honor people or events. If you could create a new holiday for our country, which person or event would it honor and how would you want people to celebrate it? Give specific reasons and examples to explain your choice.