

第一部份：選擇題，畫卡作答。(50%)

I. Vocabulary (10%)

1. A diamond cutter before his arrival in the U.S., the Belgian-born Ulu Grosbard brought the same _____ craftsmanship to theater and movie direction. It was Grosbard who had the prescience to see a special talent in actors that had escaped others, and who gave them the chance to exploit it.
(A) cabbalistic (B) lapidary (C) doddering (D) vicarious
2. America's recent economic rebound is slow, spotty and _____. Practically speaking, it won't be strong enough to boost the world economy on its own.
(A) pedigree (B) senile (C) otiose (D) anemic
3. In late 2006, as a(n) _____ was launched for freshman Illinois Senator Barack Obama, a Tom Toles cartoon had him with a halo over his head and a hat in front of him labeled "08," with the beatific candidate saying, "I am considering throwing my ring into the hat."
(A) boomlet (B) allele (C) presage (D) emblem
4. The largest-ever show of the _____, which debuted at the Tate Modern in London earlier this year, brought together about 100, from the modestly scaled pictures to the room-size and mural-length works of Henri Matisse.
(A) collages (B) hoagies (C) stomas (D) harlequins
5. Although many gave the globally respected statesman the credit for his work with other nations' leaders to save the common currency, they blamed him for contributing to his nation's sizable debt. Under his _____ conservative reign, increased spending lifted the country's debt from 1.6 trillion to 2.2 trillion.
(A) effusively (B) irrevocably (C) nominally (D) sumptuously
6. Google Inc. is developing a contact lens that monitors glucose levels in tears, which could be _____ for diabetics who must keep _____ on their blood sugar and adjust their dose of insulin.
(A) conducive; tabs (B) instrumental; swipe (C) jovial; spikes (D) conspicuous; damper
7. Proponents of genetically modified crops claim that the debate over the technology should have ended decades ago, when researchers produced a stream of _____ evidence, while critics say we _____ nature at our peril. Who is right?
(A) exogenous; boomerang on (B) exonerating; tamper with (C) verdant; trot out (D) indignant; tear into
8. Every older generation disapproves of the next; that's predictable and human, so most of us have met the cluck-cluckers—the people who automatically _____ every new technology. "All this _____ gadgetry is rotting our brains," they say, "and ruining our kids."
(A) derogate; newfangled (B) decrypt; novel (C) leverage; white-knuckle (D) rhapsodize; state-of-the-art
9. It might seem _____ that if aspirin can help avert a second heart attack from taking place, it is supposed to be able to _____ the first occurrence.
(A) opulent; tromp (B) scrumptious; dissipate (C) plausible; contort (D) sensible; allay
10. Notwithstanding the _____ warning on each package of cigarettes for years, the _____ effects of smoking have cost untold sums, both personal and societal.
(A) whimsical; judicial (B) blatant; detrimental (C) poignant; deleterious (D) explicit; relentless

II. Cloze Test (10%)

- (A) One thing that makes sperm such a profitable commodity is that the customer base is huge. The World Health Organization

estimated in 2006 that there were 60 million to 80 million infertile couples worldwide. Thus far, most international sperm business has been for hetero-sexual couples with fertility challenges, but that is changing as more cultures accept lesbians and single parents—two groups that __11__ by some estimates up to 60% of the U.S. market.

America's ejaculatory exceptionalism is not a result of American men's superior virility. Rather quality control and wide product selection are the keys. What's more, the U.S. still always makes anonymity an option—and that's driving overseas customers into American arms. While anonymity helps the U.S. __12__ this market effectively, it's the quality issue that really keeps overseas buyers flocking. Dads are profiled according to their height, appearance and education level. A man with a Ph.D. can make as much as \$500 per ejaculation. Lower-end donors, who still need at least a college degree and a minimum height of 176 cm, can earn about \$60 a __13___. Depending on how dense his sperm is and the mobility of his swimmers—critical to surviving the freezing process—a donor can make up to \$60,000 over two years, the maximum amount of time most clinics use a donor.

Sophisticated as all this seems, we are still in the Wild West phase of global sperm sales. Lucrative pay has raised questions about sperm profiteering. What's more, one man in Britain who donated for over 30 years has __14___ more than 1,000 children. Such stories prompted Britain to restrict the number of children a donor can spawn, including his own, to ten. The FDA has no limits on the number of offspring a donor may have, but most banks say they limit men to 25 or 30 children. That said, there's evidence that those guidelines can be loose. More worrisome, donors could be unwittingly spreading genetic diseases. Another risk—that of ethnicity mix-up for overseas buyers—is not just theoretical; it's happened. Finally, when a __15___ donor produces lots of half siblings who grow up near one another, accidental incest could result.

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| 11. (A) abide | (B) swear | (C) compose | (D) scrape |
| 12. (A) flail | (B) tap | (C) cavil | (D) bolt |
| 13. (A) pop | (B) crack | (C) jolt | (D) nudge |
| 14. (A) touted | (B) macerated | (C) vested | (D) sired |
| 15. (A) scrappy | (B) decorous | (C) egomaniacal | (D) prodigious |

(B) Creating jobs for the up-and-coming generation has become one of the most urgent problems facing policymakers worldwide. Persistent recession and budget cutting have brought the situation to crisis __16___ in some developed countries—like debt-burdened Greece, where youth unemployment is over 51%. Over the past two years, the share of Americans ages 18 to 24 who are employed, at only 54%, is the lowest on record. Without action, this army of young jobless could become “a lost generation,” warns Gianni Rosas, the Geneva-based coordinator of the International Labor Organization (ILO). “We are in a situation where our kids are worse off than we were 20 years ago,” he says. “We are going backward.”

The crisis now facing the world's young has been __17___ for some time. Although in many countries the jobless rate for youth has consistently been much higher than for the overall population, policymakers in both advanced and emerging economies have generally failed to address the problem. They are paying the price today. Young people in the world's richest nations got hit the hardest. Violent riots in London and many cities in the U.K. in 2011 were, in part, the result of __18___ among young men over miserable economic prospect. Persistent joblessness is a key source of the rage that sparked the Arab Spring. If the new leaders in the region can't create more jobs for young people, it could descend into a __19___ cycle of violence.

The factors that cause youth unemployment often differ among regions and labor systems. Yet, youth unemployment also has common roots throughout the world. Young entrants to the workforce are often the most vulnerable in economic downturns. Excessive red tape __20___ entrepreneurship and investment and therefore job creation. Those young workers who do find employment are often trapped in lousy jobs. Facing such hurdles, young people everywhere are finding that the traditional route to success—education—isn't paying off as much as in the past.

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| 16. (A) curlicues | (B) proportions | (C) repercussions | (D) shudders |
| 17. (A) rooting | (B) spawning | (C) curdling | (D) brewing |
| 18. (A) disaffiliation | (B) dishabille | (C) disengagement | (D) disequilibrium |
| 19. (A) debilitating | (B) deadening | (C) deciduous | (D) decrepit |

20. (A) polarizes (B) charters (C) stifles (D) battens

III. Passage completion (10%)

Biodiversity is not just a matter of tigers and whales, or butterflies and trees. It is also about __21__ creatures too small to see that live in numbers too large to count in ways too numerous to imagine. In that __22__, the discovery by Curtis Suttle of the University of British Columbia and his colleagues of a critter they propose to call *Cafeteria roenbergensis* virus, or CroV, should not be surprising. CroV is not a very virus-like virus. It has 544 genes, compared with the dozen or so that most viruses __23__. Also, it may be able to make its own proteins—a task that viruses usually delegate to the molecular machinery of the cells they infect.

CroV, as its full name suggests, is a parasite of *Cafeteria roenbergensis*, a single-celled planktonic organism that was itself discovered only in 1988. Despite the recentness of its discovery, *C. roenbergensis* is one of the commonest creatures on the planet. It is also reckoned by some, __24__ it hunts down and eats bacteria, to be the most abundant predator on Earth. It is found in every ocean. The samples of *C. roenbergensis* from which Dr Suttle and his team extracted their quarry were collected off the coast of Texas.

Those who like their categories __25__ may wonder whether viruses are alive or not. Wise biologists do not struggle too much with such questions. Viruses have genes, can reproduce and are __26__ to the evolutionary pressures imposed by natural selection. That is enough for biology to claim them. As for CroV, those 544 genes (__27__ 730,000 base pairs, the DNA letters in which the language of the genes is written) mean its genome is bigger than those of several bacteria—creatures which everyone agrees are alive.

The problem with categorical thinking in biology is that evolution does not work like that. It actually works by whatever works working. If an organism can successfully __28__ part of the business of metabolism to another while retaining the rest itself, rather than offloading the whole lot as most viruses do, then there are no rules to stop it happening. CroV seems to do just that. Besides the genes that relate to protein synthesis, it has others encoding DNA repair mechanisms __29__ those involved with protein recycling and signaling within cells. This is not mere hijacking. It is tantamount to a complete personality transplant for the infected cell.

A whole new chapter of life, in other words, has been opened. This discovery, then—and the earlier one of *C. roenbergensis* itself—speak __30__, albeit in a microscopic language, about biodiversity. Two centuries after Carl Linnaeus invented the system now used to describe it, and a century after Charles Darwin worked out what causes it, the ability of that diversity to surprise is still staggering.

(A) context	(B) cut and dried	(C) encompassing	(D) given that	(E) volumes	(AB) sport
(AC) as well as	(AD) myriad	(AE) constituted	(BC) subcontract	(BD) susceptible	(BE) but that

IV. Discourse Structure (10%)

Most of the time, economic policymaking is about tinkering at the edges. Politicians argue furiously about modest changes to taxes or spending. __31__ From China's market opening in 1978 to Poland's adoption of "shock therapy" in 1990, bold politicians have seized propitious circumstances to push through reforms that transformed their countries. Such a once-in-a-generation opportunity exists now.

The plunging price of oil, coupled with advances in clean energy and conservation, offers politicians around the world the chance to rationalize energy policy. __32__ As such, a cheaper, greener and more reliable energy future could be within reach. The most obvious reason for optimism is the plunge in energy costs. Not only has the price of oil halved in the past six months, but natural gas is the cheapest it has been in a decade. __33__ That should help cut waste and thus lower costs still further. For decades the big question about energy was whether the world could produce enough of it. Now, suddenly, the challenge should be one of managing abundance.

The most straightforward piece of reform is simply to remove all the subsidies for producing or consuming fossil fuels. Last year governments around the world threw \$550 billion down that rat hole — on everything from holding down the price of petrol in poor countries to encouraging companies to search for oil. ____ 34 ____

Falling prices provide an opportunity to rethink this nonsense. ____ 35 ____ On the other end of the spectrum, America still keeps handing out money to Iowa's already coddled corn farmers to produce ethanol and has not reviewed generous subsidies for nuclear power even though fracking has boosted its oil output by two-thirds in just four years. All these subsidies should be binned.

- (A) For example, they can get rid of billions of dollars of distorting subsidies, especially for dirty fuels, whilst shifting taxes towards carbon use.
 - (B) Cash-strapped developing countries such as India and Indonesia have bravely begun to cut fuel subsidies, freeing up money to spend on hospitals and schools.
 - (C) Once in a while, however, momentous shifts are necessary.
 - (D) By one count, such handouts led to extra consumption that was responsible for 38% of global carbon emissions in 1980-2014.
 - (E) The big oil exporters in the world, which tend to be the most egregious subsidizers of domestic fuel prices, underwrite the production of oil and gas.
- (AB) Besides, the price of cleaner forms of energy is also falling and new technology is allowing better management of the consumption of energy.

V. Reading Comprehension (10%)

(A) Transmigration of souls, sometimes called metempsychosis, is based on the idea that a soul may pass out of one body and reside in another, human or animal, or in an inanimate object. The idea appears in various forms in tribal cultures in many parts of the world. The notion was familiar in ancient Greece, and was adopted in a philosophical form by Plato. The belief gained some currency in gnostic and occult forms of Christianity and Judaism and was introduced into Renaissance thought by the recovery of the Hermetic books.

The most fully articulated doctrine of transmigration is found in Hinduism. Central to the conception of human destiny after death was the belief that human beings are born and die many times. Souls are regarded as emanations of the divine spirit. Each soul passes from one body to another in a continuous cycle of births and deaths. Thus transmigration is closely interwoven with the concept of karma, which involves the inevitable working out, for good or ill, of all action in a future existence. The whole experience of life, whether of happiness or sorrow, is a just reward for deeds, good or bad, done in earlier existences. The cycle of karma and transmigration may extend through innumerable lives; the ultimate goal is the reabsorption of the soul into the ocean of divinity whence it came. This union occurs when the individual realizes the truth about the soul and the Absolute (Brahman) and the soul becomes one with Brahman.

The idea of transmigration has been propagated in the Western world by movements such as the theosophy and by the more recent increase of Oriental religious cults. Most of these Westernized versions appear to lack the intellectual rigor and philosophical content of the classical Hindu doctrines.

36. Which of the following phrases is closest in meaning to the phrase “**gained some currency**” in the first paragraph?

- (A) to be in full swing
- (B) to become established
- (C) to make minor amendments
- (D) to achieve growing dominance

37. According to the passage, which of following statements is **WRONG** ?

- (A) The Hindus believe that souls move ever closer to ultimate perfection with each successive life.
- (B) Hinduism is based on the belief that each soul came from and seeks to return to an ocean of divinity.

- (C) Transmigration of souls, a notion familiar to Greeks in the old times, is not in the mainstream of Judaism as well as Christianity.
- (D) The idea of transmigration did not originate from the philosophical thinking of Plato, but it has gained its acceptance in the West.

(B) As time goes by, it seems that the Arab Spring is looking less appealing. The promise of a new birth of freedom in the Middle East has been followed by a much messier reality, particularly in Egypt, where there have been attacks on Christians, Western aid workers and women. Much of what we are seeing might well be the tumult that accompanies the end of decades of tyranny and the rise of long-suppressed forces, but it raises the question—why does it seem that democracy has such a hard time taking root in the Arab world?

As it happens, a Harvard economics professor, Eric Chaney, presented a rigorous paper that helps unravel that knot. Chaney asks why there is a “democracy deficit” in the Arab world and systematically tests various hypotheses against the data. He notes that such majority-Muslim nations as Turkey, Indonesia, Albania, Bangladesh and Malaysia have functioning democratic systems, so the mere presence of Islam or Islamic culture cannot be to blame. He looks at oil-rich states and finds that some with vast energy reserves lack democracy (Saudi Arabia), but so do some without (Syria). He asks whether Arab culture is the culprit, but this does not provide much clarity. Chaney points out that many countries in the Arab neighborhood seem to share in the democracy deficit—Chad, Iran, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan—yet they are not Arab.

Then Chaney constructs a persuasive hypothesis based in ancient history and modern economics. He notes that the democracy deficit today exists in lands that were conquered by Arab armies after the death in A.D. 632 of the Prophet Muhammad. Lands that the Arabs controlled in the 12th century remain economically stunted today. This correlation is not simply a coincidence. Scholars from Montesquieu to Bernard Lewis suggest that there was something in the political development of the Arab imperial system that seemed to poison the ground against economic pluralism. Arab imperial control tended to mean centralized political authority, weak civil society, a dependent merchant class and a large role for the state in the economy. Chaney documents the latter, showing that the government’s share of GDP is 7% higher on average in countries that in those that were not. He also finds that countries in the first group have fewer trade unions and less access to credit, features of a vibrant civil society.

There are less medieval factors. It has long been apparent that the dictatorships of the Middle East form close alliances with religious leaders to crowd out other leaders and groups. Coupled with a historically weak civil society, this has created a one-sided political system in which religious parties enjoy powerful advantages in ideology, organization and, perhaps most of all, lack of competition. Indonesia had religious parties just as Egypt does, but it also had powerful groups that were less religious, more moderate and entirely secular. All these groups competed for influence on an even footing, something that is not happening in the Arab world.

The real problem in a country like Egypt is that the military continues to keep power concentrated, undivided and unchecked. It maintains the central role in the economy. Even when it has liberalized control of the economy, it has done so to benefit a handful of cronies and friends. The chief challenge in the Arab world remains to create a vibrant civil society, which means political parties and also a strong, self-sustaining private sector. The term civil society was coined during the Scottish Enlightenment to describe the activities of private businesses, an independent force that existed between the government and the family. The Middle East today has strong families and strong governments, but everything in between is underdeveloped.

If the dysfunctions in the Arab world have ancient roots, this does not mean that the region is impervious to change. Chaney does not point to immutable factors such as culture or religion as the causes of the problem. History—and the habits engendered—are democracy’s biggest foes in the Arab world. If political structures and institutional design and its legacies are to blame, then as these change, things should improve. It is a prescription for the very long term, but at least it is a prescription.

38. It can be inferred from the passage that _____

- (A) The Arabic Empire presumably left behind quite a few authoritarian regimes which lack economic diversification drive.
- (B) Rigorous social hierarchy is commonly considered an integral part of the national economy in most Islamic countries.
- (C) It can be argued that political leaders in most Islamic countries hold inherently ambivalent views on democracy.
- (D) Religious extremism may account for the fact that many Muslim-majority countries in this region are not in favor of democracy.

39. According to the passage, which of the following statements about the Arab world is **TRUE**?

- (A) Religious groups are commonly in alliance with non-religious ones and thus secure their political domination.
- (B) The development of the private section has been deliberately and relentlessly obstructed from the Middle Ages to the present.
- (C) Governments of the affluent countries in this region rely on their rich oil reserves to generate sufficient revenues to maintain their political sovereignty.
- (D) Building a modern, resilient economy may be a facilitator to the liberation of political development in those autocratic Islamic countries.

40. What is the main purpose of this passage?

- (A) To point out a globally discussed concern and provide its solutions.
- (B) To introduce the social and cultural background of imperial powers in the Arab world.
- (C) To present a proposition on a long-time phenomenon prevailing in many Islamic countries.
- (D) To analyze the causes for the lack of a sound civil foundation in the Middle East.

禁止商用

I. Design one-sentence question for each of the words /phrases provided (10%)

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|----------------|------------------|
| 1. Accountable | 4. As opposed to |
| 2. Divert | 5. Go a long way |
| 3. Harness | |

II. Poem analysis (15%)

Please read the poem. **First**, paraphrase the poem. **Second**, identify the theme of the poem using textual evidence. **Third**, jot down what figures of speech are included (metaphor, simile, personification, etc.)

Hope is the thing with feathers – by Emily Dickinson

'Hope' is the thing with feathers—
That perches in the soul—
And sings the tune without the words—
And never stops—at all—

And sweetest—in the Gale—is heard—
And sore must be the storm—
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm—
I've heard it in the chilliest land—
And on the strangest Sea—
Yet, never, in Extremity,
It asked a crumb—of Me.

III. Essay Question (25%)

(Your essay should be no less than 500 words. It will be rated in terms of organization, grammar, vocabulary, and coherence.)

1. Please briefly describe your current English teaching in terms of your students' levels and styles of learning, your teaching philosophy/interests, and how you put your personal ideas about English learning into practice. Then, please articulate the difficulties you are faced with in your teaching responsibilities before exemplifying us how you have intended to overcome these challenges.