

I. Vocabulary (20%)

1. His banter is nearly always _____, for his wit is blunt and often unseasonable.
(A) ungainly (B) gingerly (C) didactic (D) salubrious
2. One tends to _____ about what food is healthier, particularly when the health experts come up with a different opinion each day.
(A) accolade (B) pontificate (C) rescind (D) vacillate
3. The plan would _____ the operational effectiveness of the armed forces; therefore, it had to be aborted.
(A) compromise (B) expatiate (C) vilify (D) subjugate
4. Hypertension and high blood cholesterol level are oftentimes referred to as the first _____ of a cardiovascular disease.
(A) neophytes (B) parvenus (C) harbingers (D) martinets
5. A badly-behaved and _____ employee is hard to control and perceived as a pain-in-the-neck to the company.
(A) convivial (B) refractory (C) taciturn (D) malleable
6. Since Mr. Johnson was diagnosed with cancer, he made up his mind to _____ alcohol, tobacco, and even red meat.
(A) importune (B) eschew (C) cavil (D) stigmatize
7. Tired of the _____ of workday life, Jason took a gap year off and went on a solitary global expedition.
(A) subterfuge (B) ubiquity (C) chrysalis (D) banality
8. A(n) _____ is someone from a low social class who has become rich or important; however this person is not accepted as an equal by other rich or important people because he/she is recognized as tawdry.
(A) sycophant (B) nonchalant (C) charlatan (D) parvenu
9. The toxic waste dump being planned for our neighborhood could have a(n) _____ influence on the air we breathe and the water we drink.
(A) fastidious (B) onerous (C) pernicious (D) gratuitous
10. The chairlady grumbled, "We don't have time for a long meeting, so please keep your comments _____."
(A) jejune (B) laconic (C) insouciant (D) strident
11. The president said, "We will never _____ to the demands of the terrorists because justice prevails over evil."
(A) censure (B) pontificate (C) truncate (D) acquiesce
12. The manager was so impressed by the worker's _____; he suggested a promotion.
(A) alacrity (B) umbrage (C) peccadillo (D) levity
13. Health-care advocates can work intensively during a medical crisis or _____ if a client's needs are more episodic.
(A) arduously (B) tenuously (C) sporadically (D) officiously
14. The earthquake destroyed thousands of people's lives but I was struck by the incredible _____ of the survivors I met.
(A) vacillation (B) crochet (C) echelon (D) resilience
15. Many so-to-speak politicians' interests are strictly _____, which means they are interested only in the money or other personal advantages.
(A) meretricious (B) meticulous (C) mercenary (D) mercurial
16. The student's _____ excuse for being late sounded legitimate, but was proved otherwise when his teacher called his home.
(A) provident (B) specious (C) clairvoyant (D) bucolic
17. Halle Berry jubilantly told the press that she was _____ after learning she's pregnant.
(A) by ones and twos (B) at sixes and sevens
(C) on cloud nine (D) at the eleventh hour
18. With all the _____ Mr. Nathan ran into at city hall, it took him nearly three months to get his business license.
(A) green hand (B) red tape (C) blue blood (D) yellow belly
19. The weekly letters from their son, who works overseas, are _____ to the old couple.
(A) bread and butter (B) water and milk (C) meat and drink (D) big cheese
20. If you always mind your _____, your supervisor cannot criticize you.
(A) pros and cons (B) ins and outs (C) p's and q's (D) ups and downs

II. Cloze (20%)

(A)

Frederick Law Olmsted, America's first landscape architect and co-designer of New York City's Central Park, was a(n) __21__. __22__ most people see only moments ahead, Olmsted could plant a landscape and know what it would look like 100 years later. His landscapes remain as __23__ today as when he created them more than a century ago. During his __24__ career, two places that bear his mark are Biltmore Estate in North Carolina and the U.S. Capitol Grounds in Washington, D.C.

Spread across 8,000 acres in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Biltmore Estate is a 250-room mountain __25__ near Asheville, North Carolina. If the structure seemed immense, the grounds were __26__. Buying up forests and farmland in every direction, its owner acquired 125,000 acres. Olmsted was then hired to turn them into a proper setting for his home. Olmsted __27__ a series of small pleasure gardens around the structure. He also designed the 250-acre Deer Park. Most of the remaining land, __28__ 100,000 acres, was planted as timberland. He recommended that bottomland along the French Broad River, which flows through the property, __29__ used to raise cattle for manure to be spread as fertilizer.

From 1874 to 1889, Olmsted supervised the planting of the nearly 60 acres of grounds surrounding the U.S. Capitol Grounds and was responsible for the design of walkways, walls, lights, and so on. He provided spacious lawns and spectacular open views, keeping the Capitol building itself as the focal point of the grounds. Olmsted's love of nature is __30__ in the thousands of plants found here. Today, a wide variety of trees thrive on the grounds. These carefully selected, interesting plants make the Capitol Grounds an arboretum.

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| 21. (A) visionary | (B) missionary | (C) advocate | (D) entrepreneur |
| 22. (A) Unlike | (B) However | (C) Because | (D) While |
| 23. (A) stale | (B) obscene | (C) vibrant | (D) obscure |
| 24. (A) perilous | (B) imminent | (C) distinguished | (D) contumacious |
| 25. (A) bungalow | (B) retreat | (C) antique | (D) masonry |
| 26. (A) colossal | (B) sophisticated | (C) malignant | (D) hilarious |
| 27. (A) scavenged | (B) envisioned | (C) commemorated | (D) abducted |
| 28. (A) rough | (B) or so | (C) barely | (D) some |
| 29. (A) be | (B) is | (C) was | (D) to be |
| 30. (A) contradicted | (B) manifested | (C) obstructed | (D) interfered |

(B)

__31__ had the birth of a baby caused a father so much disappointment and rage. When Elizabeth was born, the __32__ Henry VIII, King of England, wanted no part of her. He had, after all, divorced his first wife, broken relations with the Catholic Church, and married Anne Boleyn for the sake of __33__ was supposed to be a male heir. Boleyn, like Henry's first wife, Catherine of Aragon, failed to give him a son. Afterwards, Henry continued to remarry. Elizabeth, who doubtlessly __34__ marriage with betrayal and danger, announced that she would never marry.

When Elizabeth took the throne, all she wanted was __35__ to work immediately. However, everyone else wanted her to marry right away. Her sister's widower, now King Philip II of Spain, was the first to offer marriage, but he was __36__ the last. Through the course of her reign, negotiations were conducted with Erik of Sweden and the Hapsburg Archduke Charles, but ultimately, the Queen decided no.

The religious turmoil of the times shaped the Queen's life. Elizabeth was a religious Protestant who regarded convoluted discussions of dogma as beside the point. Different from her relatives, she was free of any __37__. On July 19, 1588, a(n) __38__ threat arose from abroad: Philip II of Spain intended to attack England. Therefore, Elizabeth turned England's minuscule navy into a fearsome fighting force, equipping it with a lighter and faster fleet than __39__. In the __40__ battle, England lost 100 men, while Spain lost 20,000. It was a humiliating defeat for Spain.

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| 31. (A) More often than not | (B) In the long run | (C) On occasion | (D) Seldom |
| 32. (A) volatile | (B) rampant | (C) judicial | (D) lucrative |

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| 33. (A) that | (B) which | (C) it | (D) what |
| 34. (A) associated | (B) mesmerized | (C) maneuvered | (D) adhered |
| 35. (A) getting | (B) get | (C) got | (D) to getting |
| 36. (A) nothing but | (B) anything but | (C) more or less | (D) far and away |
| 37. (A) inauguration | (B) remnant | (C) zealotry | (D) sediment |
| 38. (A) nostalgic | (B) affluent | (C) ominous | (D) transparent |
| 39. (A) Spain | (B) Spanish | (C) Spaniards | (D) Spain's |
| 40. (A) ensuing | (B) aesthetic | (C) indolent | (D) intoxicating |

III. Passage Completion (20%)

(A)

It seems like any run-of-the-mill Facebook status update. But what its poster, Matt Guthmiller, is attempting is not 41 at all. The 19-year-old is on a solo flight that he hopes will take him around the world. If he completes it, he will become the youngest American ever to do so.

The "9 hours down" refers to the time it took the MIT freshman to fly Saturday from El Cajon, California, to Aberdeen, South Dakota, the first 42 of his odyssey. The "150 to go" 43 the remaining hours he plans to fly over the next six weeks on a plan that will take the South Dakota native through Athens, Greece; Cairo; Bangkok, Thailand; Honolulu, Hawaii, and more.

"Setting a record is exciting, but records are made to be broken," Guthmiller said on a website 44 to the voyage. "My real goal is to inspire other young people to attempt things of a similar 45. That's what I hope to accomplish with this flight." If 46, Guthmiller will replace Jack Wiegand of Fresno, California, as the youngest American pilot to circumnavigate the globe alone. In June 2013, Wiegand accomplished the feat at 21, according to Guinness World Records.

On Wednesday, Guthmiller plans to fly from Teterboro, New Jersey, just outside of New York City to St. John's in Newfoundland, Canada according to the flight 47 he posted. It will be his final stop in North America until a planned touchdown in Hawaii more than a month later. If all goes as 48, Guthmiller will 49 his 1981 prop powered Beechcraft Bonanza back in Aberdeen on July 12 --- just 42 days after beginning the trip. According to Guthmiller, the single-engine plane, which normally 50 six, has a range of 2,800 nautical miles, can reach a speed of 175 knots, and has a maximum cruising altitude of 11,500 feet.

(A) successful	(B) seats	(C) magnitude	(D) routine	(E) land
(AB) marks	(AC) leg	(AD) planned	(AE) dedicated	(BC) itinerary

(B)

Albert Einstein famously said: "Imagination is more important than knowledge." They're both important, says physicist and Nobel Prize recipient Frank Wilczek, but knowledge without imagination is 51. Take his subject of theoretical physics. As Wilczek says a lot of what you do is to try to understand Mother Nature's mind and her sense of beauty to see how the laws of physics could be more beautiful.

Not many people truly appreciate what happened in physics in the last part of the 20th Century. We understood at a level whose 52 would be difficult to exaggerate what matter is. We really have the equations for the different fundamental building blocks of matter – the different particles have mathematical 53 that are precise and elegant. They have no secrets; in principle we have the equations.

The bad news, however, is that we are not so good at solving them. There are still gaps in fundamental understanding. We have very good equations or practical purposes, but they are kind of 54; they are beautiful but not quite as beautiful as they should be given that they are close to God's last word in some sense. We're trying to think of better ways to solve the equations, 55 takes a lot of imagination because they describe an unfamiliar world – it's a very small world and things behave differently in it. The only way to get experience is to play around with the equations and imagine 56 they might behave in different circumstances; it's more like imaginative play than anything else.

The laws we have discovered, especially in the quantum world, are so strange that you have to play with them in your mind. Usually __57__ you imagine is wrong, but its mind expanding and every once in a while you see something that may be right. Sometimes it even is right.

The questions we are now able to ask are so __58__, so extraordinary. What is most of the Universe made of? Are the laws of physics ultimately unified? What was the Big Bang like? You just say them and they have such __59__. The more you learn about the equations, the more you learn about physics, the more you learn how beautiful it is. That's the real value; it's a(n) __60__ to the human mind.

(A) which	(B) compelling	(C) lope-sided	(D) characterizations
(E) profundity	(AB) how	(AC) grandeur	(AD) qualm
(AE) barren	(BC) ornament	(BD) fertile	(BE) what

IV. Please (A) define each of the following vocabulary words (1%) and (B) illustrate it with a sentence by showing a context. (1%) (10% in total)

1. fidelity (n.)
 - (A)
 - (B)
2. wholesome (adj.)
 - (A)
 - (B)
3. paradoxically (adv.)
 - (A)
 - (B)
4. dwindle (v.)
 - (A)
 - (B)
5. unanimous (adj.)
 - (A)
 - (B)

V. The following is an article from a textbook. Please make a two-paragraph summary and use your summary to design a cloze test of five multiple-choice questions with four options for each question. The answer for each question should be underlined. (10%)

"Tom's phone is ringing, and Ms. Lewis doesn't hear a thing," said Belinda as she laughed to herself. "Yes, she is going on with the lesson," her friend replied. Their classmates started laughing, and Ms. Lewis had no idea what was going on.

"When I heard about it, I couldn't believe my ears," said Donna Lewis, a high school teacher in Manhattan. "But one of the kids gave me a copy of the ring tone. My colleague and I played it for some first graders. They could all hear it, but we couldn't."

The ring tone that she couldn't hear is called the Teen Buzz. It makes use of an invention called the Mosquito. The Mosquito is an annoying 17 kHz buzzer. It was first designed to keep teenagers from hanging around in front of stores.

The high-pitched sound made by the Mosquito is so disturbing that young people cannot stand it and go away. Since it is audible only to kids, adults use the Mosquito to keep them away.

The invention is based on a scientific fact related to hearing loss. Humans can generally hear sounds with frequencies between 20 Hz and 20 kHz. However, the range of audible sounds varies with age. When you are younger, you are able to hear high-pitched sounds. When you get older, it is likely that you will no longer hear these sounds. The Mosquito makes a high-frequency noise that usually only people under the age of 20 can hear.

The teenagers then turned the tables on the adults. Some clever teenagers reinvented the device as a ring

tone, Teen Buzz. The kids adopted this new technology and took advantage of their better hearing. However, not all teenagers have this advantage. Hearing loss affects not only the elderly but the young as well. They can lose their hearing, especially from exposure to noise.

If exposure to noise can cause hearing loss, the younger generation may be on the losing side. Many teenagers listen to MP3 players or other portable music players for long periods of time. They also turn up the volume in noisy places, such as on the subway or the street. If the volume is on too high for too long, there is a risk of hearing damage.

Unfortunately, however, any hearing loss a person suffers does not show up right away.

It may take months or even years for it to surface. The first signs of damage include a feeling of fullness in the ears and the loss of the ability to hear sounds clearly. One warning sign is an inability to hear radio or television at normal volumes. Another is better hearing in one ear than the other when talking on the telephone.

It goes without saying that prevention is always better than a cure. Before you come down with any symptoms, give your ears a break. Turn down the volume on your MP3 player and do not listen to it all day long. Take care of your ears and maybe you will be able to enjoy the advantage of Teen Buzz long after your teen years.

VI. The following is a student's composition on the college entrance exam. Please correct it, score it, and give some comments. (5%)

題目：如果你可以不用擔心預算，隨心所欲的度過一天，你會怎麼過？請寫一篇短文，第一段說明你會邀請誰和你一起度過這一天？為什麼？第二段描述你會去哪裡？為什麼？

I finally decide to choose my best friends to come with me and star the crazy day. Because of them, I can feel more freedom, without them, I just like a fish out of water. Therefore, we will try those which we have never experienced and never done. Although shopping is not the tea in my cup, I will can buy any luxury to our contentment.

I think the first station will be the Tokyo where is the most prosperous in Japan. We eat the located delicacy and soak in the hot spring which is said that is good for skin. Second station will be Franch where the art and buildings are full of classicism. When it comes to Franch, no one won't think up the fashionable clothes. We will buy a lot of clothes which are showed by models. Finally station will be home, because it is the warmest place which can't be replace. And we enjoy sleeping in our own beds.

VII. Essay Writing (15%)

With the implementation of 12-year compulsory education, high school teachers are encouraged and expected to design featured courses for students of our own. As an English teacher, what kind of English featured course will you design for students at Taoyuan Senior High School? Please specify your ideas for the featured course. The title, the objective(s), the content and the activities of the course should be covered and detailed in the essay.