

2019年12月四级考试试题(一)答案详解

Part I

Writing

【参考范文】

Dear Daniel,

No words can express how excited I was when I received your letter, which says you are going to China as an English teacher. I am now writing to recommend Shanghai as your top choice.

First and foremost, as the largest international metropolis in China, Shanghai is a modern city with a group of foreign people. In other words, you can adapt to the environment here quickly. Moreover, the food here is also of various flavors from different countries and you are sure to find your favorite. Last but not least, students here are eager to learn English as many of them want to go abroad for study and their parents also attach great importance to English learning. Undoubtedly, you will have many job opportunities here.

I am looking forward to your early arrival and if you need more information, please feel free to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Li Ming

Part II

Listening Comprehension

Section A

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

【听力原文】

- (1) New York City police captured a cow on the loose in Prospect Park on Tuesday after the animal became an attraction for tourists while walking along the streets and enjoying the park facilities. The confused creature and camera-holding humans stared at each other through a fence for several minutes. At other times the cow wandered around the 526-acre park and the artificial grass field normally used for human sporting events. Officers used soccer goals to fence the animal in. However, the cow then moved through one of the nets, knocking down a police officer in the process. Police eventually trapped the cow between two vehicles parked on either side of a baseball field's bench area. And officer then shot an arrow to put it to sleep. Then officers waited for the drug to take effect. After it fell asleep, they loaded the cow into a horse trailer. It was not clear where the cow came from or how it got lost. (2) Police turned it over to the animal control department after they caught it.
- 1. What happened in New York's Prospect Park on Tuesday?

【答案】D

- 【解析】文章开头就提到纽约警察周二在展望公园抓住了一头在逃的牛,因此选择 D 项。
- 2. What do we learn about the cow from the end of the news report?

【答案】D

【解析】新闻最后提到,警察抓住它后,把它交给了动物管理部门,因此选择 D 项。C 项在新闻最开头



有提及,但题目询问的是新闻报道的最后部分,故排除。

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

【听力原文】

(3-1)Starting April 28th of this year, the National Museum of Natural History will begin renovating its fossil hall. The fossil hall, which displays some of the world's oldest and largest fossil specimens, receives more than 2 million visitors each year. (3-2)It's one of the museum's most famous attractions. As a result, the museum plans to expand the hall as well as add to its ancient birds collection. Bird lovers, both young and old, have already responded with excitement at the news. The museum's social media account has been flooded with messages of support. In the meantime, the current collection will be closed. However, visitors will be compensated during the closure. Museum's special exhibition area will now be free of charge. (4)This week the resident exhibition is a display of ancient wall paintings on loan from Australia. They celebrate the cultural heritage of the country and will be available to view until Sunday. Next week, the exhibition will be taken over by the Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition. The winner of this year's competition will be awarded a preview of the new fossil hall as well as a cash prize.

3. What does the news report say about the fossil hall of the National Museum of Natural History?

【答案】B

【解析】新闻开头提到,国家自然历史博物馆将翻新化石展厅。接下来提到,化石展厅作为博物馆最著名的景点之一,也将计划扩建,因此选择 B 项。

4. What is on display this week in the museum's resident exhibition hall?

【答案】C

【解析】新闻中提到,本周博物馆的驻地展厅将展出从澳大利亚借来的古代壁画,因此选择 C 项。

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

【听力原文】

(5)Six birds have just been trained to pick up rubbish at a French historical theme park. According to the park's manager, Mr. Villiers, the goal is not just to clear up the park. He says visitors are all really good at keeping things clean. Instead, he wants to show that nature itself can teach us to take care of the environment. (6)He says that rooks, the chosen birds, are considered to be "particularly intelligent". In the right circumstances, they even "like to communicate with humans and establish a relationship through play". The birds will be encouraged to clean the park through the use of a small box that delivers a small amount of bird food each time the rook deposits a cigarette end or a small piece of rubbish. So far, visitors to the theme park have been excited to see the birds in action. (7)However, some parents are concerned that it encourages their children to drop litter so they can watch the birds pick it up. Villiers is not concerned about this criticism. He maintains most of the feedback he has received has been overwhelmingly positive. He hopes now to train more birds.

5. What have six birds been trained to do at a French historical theme park?

【答案】A

【解析】新闻开头提到,在法国的一家历史主题公园里,人们刚训练了6只鸟去捡垃圾,因此选择 A 项。

6. Why were rooks chosen by the park manager?

【答案】A

【解析】新闻中提到,被选中的鸟类白嘴鸦特别聪明。在一定情况下,它们甚至愿意与人类交流,并且通过玩耍和人类建立关系,因此选择 A 项。

7. What is the concern of some parents?

【答案】B

【解析】新闻最后提到,有些家长担心这样可能会诱使孩子们为了看鸟捡垃圾而故意丢垃圾,因此选择B项。

Section B

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

【听力原文】

W: The name of the TV show we wish to produce is Science Nation.

M: Please tell us more. What would Science Nation be about?

W: (8) It will be about science, all sorts of science. Each episode will focus on a different area of science, and tell us what we know, how we know it, and what we still don't know. The show will have one host only, and this will be Professor Susan Paul from Harvard University. She is a great public speaker.

M: So, just be clear. Will the show's format be like that of a documentary?

W: (9)Kind of. It will be like a documentary in the sense that it will be non-fiction and fact-based. However, our idea is for it to be also fun and entertaining, something which traditional documentaries aren't so much. Please keep in mind, this will be a new TV show like nothing ever done before.

M: Okay, so it will be both educational and entertaining, and (10-1)<u>your audience will be anyone interested in science, right?</u>

W: (10-2) That's correct. Yes.

M: Right, thank you. So I think we're more or less clear what the show will be like. Could you please tell us now what exactly you want from us?

W: Yes, of course. (11) <u>Basically what we need from you is financial support.</u> In order to go ahead with this idea, we need two million dollars. This would cover the cost of making all 12 shows in the first season for the first year. If the show is a success, we can then look at making a second season for the following year.

8. What do we learn about the TV show Science Nation?

【答案】C

【解析】这位女士介绍说这个节目是有关科学的,每一集都聚焦一个不同的科学领域,因此选择 C 项。

9. In what way will the TV show Science Nation differ from traditional documentaries?

【答案】C

【解析】男士问女士这个节目是否和纪录片的形式差不多,女士回答,确实有共同点,但是他们会把节目做得更有趣,更具有娱乐性,因此选择 C 项。

10. Who will be the intended audience of the TV show Science Nation?

【答案】A

【解析】对话中男士问女士这个节目的目标观众是否为"任何对科学感兴趣的人",女士回答"没错", 因此选择 A 项。

11. What does the woman want the man to do for the TV show?

【答案】B

【解析】对话最后,男士问女士究竟想让他们做什么,女士回答说主要是需要财务支持,因此选择 B 项。

Questions 12 to 15 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

【听力原文】

W: What's up with you? You don't look very happy.

M: (12)I feel like I'm a failure. I can't seem to do anything very well.

W: I wouldn't say that. You do very well in a lot of things. That presentation you gave last week was excellent.

M: (13-1)Yes, but I have this urge to strive for perfection. I really want to push harder and progress further.

W: Well, that's very admirable. (13-2)<u>But be careful. Over-concern with being perfect can damage our confidence</u> if we never achieve it.

M: Yes, I know. I feel awful whenever I make a mistake in whatever I'm trying to do.

W: Well, think about it. You can't make progress without making mistakes and learning from them. Thomas Edison, the famous inventor, once said, "I've not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work."

M: You may well be right. I guess I should recognize my mistakes and learn the lesson they teach me and move forward.

W: Also, remember a successful ending is not the only thing worthy of a celebration. You need to recognize each step of progress you take towards achieving your goals, and no matter how tiny it is, it's still good news.

M: (14)<u>I</u> always feel down when I see others accomplishing things, and I feel miserable about my own achievements. I'm always trying to be as good as others. But I never seem to get there.

W: Listen, if you always compare yourself with others, you'll never feel good enough. (15) You're the only person you should be comparing yourself with. When you compare your current status with the starting point, you'll find you've made progress, right? That's good enough.

M: That's great advice. Thank you. I'm feeling better already.

12. How does the man feel about himself?

【答案】D

【解析】对话开头男士说他感觉自己很失败,好像什么事都做不好,可以推测出他对自己不满意,因此 选择 D 项。

13. What does the woman think is the man's problem?

【答案】A

【解析】对话中男士表示自己总是苛求完美,而女士则表示,过于追求完美又无法实现目标,可能会打



击我们的信心,可推断出苛求完美可能是男士的主要问题,因此选择 A 项。

14. How does the man feel when he sees others accomplishing things?

【答案】C

【解析】对话中男士提到,当看到别人有所成就时,他总会感到很失落,并因为自己的成绩而感到痛苦, 因此选择 C 项。

15. What does the woman suggest the man do?

【答案】B

【解析】对话最后女士建议男士只需要跟自己比较。当你比较自己的过去和现在时,会发现自己还是取得了进步,因此选择 B 项。

Section C

Questions 16 to 18 are based on the passage you have just heard.

【听力原文】

Single-sex education can have enormous benefits for female students. Numerous studies have shown that women who attend single-sex schools tend to have stronger self-confidence, better study habits and more ambitious career goals than women who attend coeducational schools. (16) Girls who graduate from single-sex schools are three times more likely to become engineers than those who attend coeducational schools. The reason is that all-girls schools encourage women to enter fields traditionally dominated by men, such as science, technology and engineering. In coeducational schools, girls are often expected to succeed only in humanities or the arts. (17) Research has also shown that in coeducational settings, teachers are more likely to praise and give in-depth responses to a boy's comments in class. In contrast, they might only respond to a girl's comments with a nod. They are also more likely to encourage boys to work through problems on their own, while they tend to step in and help girls who struggle with a problem. In an all-girls setting, girls are more likely to speak up frequently and make significant contributions to class than in a coeducational setting. Girls studying in a single-sex setting also earn higher scores on their College Board and Advanced Placement exams than girls who study in coeducational settings. (18) All-girls schools tend to be smaller than coeducational schools, which means teachers will be able to tailor the materials to girl students' personal learning styles and interest.

16. What advantage does the speaker say girls from single-sex schools have over those from coeducational schools?

【答案】C

【解析】文章开头提到,毕业于单性别学校的女生成为工程师的概率是毕业于男女同校女生的 3 倍,也就是说单性别学校的女生更有可能成为工程师,因此选择 C 项。

17. What do teachers tend to do in coeducational settings?

【答案】D

【解析】文章提到,在男女同校的教学环境中,老师更可能表扬男生,并积极回应男生的意见;而对于女生,老师则可能只是轻轻点头。并且老师更可能鼓励男生自己独立解决问题,却会去帮助女生解决问题,因此选择 D 项。



18. What are teachers more likely to do in an all-girls school?

【答案】A

【解析】文章最后提到,女子学校一般比男女同校的学校规模更小,这就意味着教师可以根据女生的个人学习风格和兴趣来定制教学材料,也就是个性化的教材,因此选择 A 项。

Questions 19 to 21 are based on the passage you have just heard.

【听力原文】

(19-1)Today I found out that Seattle doesn't really get that much rain compared with most US cities. In fact, Seattle ranks 44th among major US cities in average annual rainfall. Cities that get more rainfall than Seattle include Houston, Memphis, Nashville, and pretty much every major city on the eastern coast, such as New York, Boston and Miami. (19-2)So why does everyone think of Seattle as a rainy city? The primary root of this misconception lies in that Seattle has a relatively large number of days per year with rainfall compared with New York and Boston, which get an average of about 16% more rain per year than Seattle, but also average between them about 36 fewer days a year of rainfall. (20)So it rains a lot less in Seattle, and the rain is spread out over more days than those cities. This is why few locals in Seattle carry an umbrella generally. When it does rain, it tends to be a very light rain. That isn't troublesome. It almost never really rains as most people think. (21)On top of that, it never really storms in Seattle, either. Seattle gets an average of a mere seven days a year with thunder. So in short, if you like sunny but not too hot summers, mild winters but with lots of cloudy days, Seattle's the place to be. Anyway, if you visit Seattle, don't bring an umbrella. People will look at you, thinking you're funny.

19. What does the speaker find out about Seattle?

【答案】C

【解析】文章开头说话者指出,跟美国其他城市相比,西雅图的降雨量并没有那么多,其年平均降雨量在美国的主要城市中排名第 44 位。并在接下来说"那为什么人们都认为西雅图是个多雨的城市呢?",也就是说人们认为西雅图多雨,但其实西雅图的雨并没有人们想象得那么多,因此选择 C 项。

20. Why do local people in Seattle seldom carry an umbrella?

【答案】B

【解析】说话者提到,跟其他多雨的城市相比,西雅图降雨量要少很多,而且降雨期较为分散,所以当地人通常很少带伞,因此选择 B 项。

21. Why does the speaker say Seattle is a good place to be?

【答案】D

【解析】说话者提到,西雅图从没有过暴风雨,平均一年内只有7天会打雷。如果你喜欢晴朗但又不是很热的夏天,温和但有很多阴天的冬天,那西雅图就是如此。可以得出说话者认为西雅图夏冬的气候都比较温和,因此选择D项。

Questions 22 to 25 are based on the passage you have just heard.

【听力原文】

After a tough workout or a day full of physical activity, it's common to find your muscles aching. But where



do these pains come from? (22)According to a German professor, the soreness comes from straining your muscles in an uncommon way, for example, jumping on a bicycle for a ride, because you haven't ridden in a long time. Soreness occurs since your leg muscles aren't used to that movement. When muscles perform an activity they aren't regularly exposed to, the tiny fibres that are inside them are being torn apart. As muscle soreness develops, the body has to work to repair the muscle tears. But this doesn't happen immediately. First, the body must realise the muscles are damaged. (23)When the body realises the muscles are hurt, the response is to increase blood flow to the area and increase body heat. Damaged cells are then cleaned up and the body sends cells specially designed to break down the large muscle fibre fragments. Healing can take place after this. It takes about a day until these cells make it to your aching muscles. That's why there is most often a delay associated with muscle soreness. (24)Repair of damaged cells takes about two days, and afterwards the soreness disappears. Unfortunately, there is little that can be done to relieve muscle soreness. (25)Pain-relieving creams don't work, but a hot shower or warm bath can provide some relief.

22. What does the German professor say about muscle soreness?

【答案】D

【解析】文章开头提到,一位德国教授认为,以一种不常用的方式拉伤肌肉会引起肌肉酸痛,uncommon 是unusual 的同义词,表示"不常用的,不同寻常的",因此选择 D 项。

23. What happens when muscles are damaged according to the passage?

【答案】A

【解析】文章中提到,当机体意识到肌肉受损,身体的反应是加快受伤部位的血液流动,提高身体部位的温度,因此选择 A 项。

24. How long does it take for damaged cells to heal?

【答案】B

【解析】文章中提到,修复受损细胞大约需要两天,之后酸痛就会消失,因此选择 B 项。

25. What does the speaker suggest one do to relieve muscle soreness?

【答案】C

【解析】说话者在最后提到,洗个热水澡或泡个温水澡能够缓解肌肉酸痛,而止痛药膏都是不管用的,因此选择 C 项。

Part III

Reading Comprehension

Section A

26. 【答案】B

【解析】空格前面有or,说明 _____ the ruins of Angkor 应该与 wandering about on a Thai island 构成并列结构,因此本空应填入动词的 -ing 形式。空格前面提到,想象你在泰国的一个小岛上闲逛,或者_____ 吴哥遗址。空格中填入 admiring 表示在"欣赏,观光",符合文义,因此选择 B 项。

27.【答案】M

【解析】空格前面是 is, 空格处可填入形容词、名词、表示被动的动词分词, 或现在进行时。本句中的

瓶子紧接文前提到的从当地小贩那里买的瓶装水,填入 sealed,表示瓶子是"密封的,未打开的",因此选择 M 项。

28. 【答案】I

【解析】空格前面有系动词 is 和副词 so, 因此应填入形容词。本句中的 But 表示转折, 空格句前一句提到, 瓶子的标签上写着"纯净水",但是瓶子里面的水不一定是纯净的、天然的,因此应填入natural, 选择 I 项。

29.【答案】C

【解析】空格位于 that 引导的宾语从句中,该句缺少谓语动词,空格处应为一个动词,该宾语从句的意思为,全世界出售的 90% 以上的瓶装水中____塑料微粒,根据意思可推断空格处应填入动词contains "包含,含有",因此选择 C 项。

30.【答案】K

【解析】空格前有副词 recently,后有名词 study,因此应填入形容词或动词的分词形式。根据常识可知,此处应表达公开的、发布的研究结果,因此本空应填入含有"公开,公布"意义的词,因此选择 K项 released。选项中的 revealing 也有"揭示,揭露"的含义,但研究是被动公开的,应填过去分词,因此选择 K 项。

31.【答案】L

【解析】空格所在部分是结果状语,表明这项研究的结果,空格处应填入动词的分词形式作状语。空格后的句意为,每升水中平均有325个塑料微粒,空格处应填入revealing"发现",表示研究发现了这一结果,因此选择L项。

32.【答案】O

【解析】空格前面有冠词a,后面的过去分词短语应为空格处词的后置定语,因此空格处应填入一个单数可数名词。空格所在部分指出,这些塑料微粒包括一种通常被称为 PET 的____。PET 是一种化学物质,因此本空应填入 substance "物质,材料",故选择 O 项。

33.【答案】G

【解析】空格所在句的clothing、food 和 _____ containers 由and 连接表并列,因此空格处应填入形容词或名词,修饰 containers。空格所在部分指出,PET 这种物质广泛用于制造服装、食品和 _____ 容器。文章中提到 PET 是在瓶装水里发现的,可推断此处应表示液体容器,填入 liquid,因此选择 G 项。

34.【答案】E

【解析】空格前有限定词 this,因此应填入名词。本句指出,包括雀巢和可口可乐在内的几家瓶装水制造商用同样的方法进行了自己的研究。由此可知,this指的就是第2段的研究结果,所以空格处应填入evidence,表示"发现,结论,结果",选择E项。

35.【答案】J

【解析】空格前有定冠词 the,后有名词,因此应填入形容词。空格所在句前一句提到,生产商的研究 表明,他们的水确实含有塑料微粒,但远远低于奥布研究的结果。但无论如何,这些微粒应是对人体有 害的,世界卫生组织也已经开始审查这些可能的风险和危害了,根据句意推断本空应填入含有potential



"潜在的,隐藏的",因此选择J项。

Section B

【参考译文】

邮件投递的无声英雄主义

- A) 星期三,一股极地风给中西部地区带来了严寒。一夜之间,芝加哥的最低气温达到零下 21 华氏度,比南极洲(Antarctica)、阿拉斯加和北极还要冷一些。根据国家气象局的数据,明尼苏达州帕克拉皮兹市的风寒为零下64度,北达科他州布法罗市的风寒为零下 45度。学校、餐馆和企业关闭,超过 1000 个航班被取消。
- B) 就连美国邮政局(USPS)也暂停了邮件投递。"由于这次北极地区的大风,出于美国邮政员工安全的担忧,"美国邮政周三上午宣布,"美国邮政局将于1月30日在一些三位数邮政编码地区暂停投递。"周三有12个地区被列为不安全地区,周四仍有8个。
- C) 随着全球地表温度上升,极端天气的可能性也在增加。仅在 2018 年,野火、火山爆发、飓风、泥石流和 其他自然灾害在美国至少花费了 490 亿美元。正如我的同事范恩•纽柯克报道的那样,波多黎各仍在面 对 2017 年飓风玛丽亚带来的经济和结构破坏以及资源匮乏。<u>自然灾害会破坏一个社区的基础设施,使系</u> 统中断几个月或几年。然而,一些服务提醒我们,生活最终会以某种形式恢复正常。
- D) 2017 年加州圣罗莎发生致命的野火后几天,一架无人机拍下了美国邮政工作人员特雷弗·史密斯的镜头,他开着那辆熟悉的白色面包车穿过被烧毁的房屋,在受灾地区收集邮件。这段视频令人震惊。这种行为虽是日常所见,但场景看起来就像世界末日。据美国邮政全国准备办公室的项目经理瑞安·海特说,史密斯是在满足一些房主的要求,捡拾任何未被触动的邮件。对史密斯来说,这只是工作中的另一天。"我像往常一样沿着我的路线走,"史密斯告诉一位记者,"我遇到一个信箱,房子已经没了,我检查了一下,里面有正要投递的邮件。于是我拿起这些邮件继续前进。"
- E) 美国邮政对自然灾害有复杂的应急计划。在全国范围内,有 285 个应急管理小组专门负责危机控制。这些团队每年都要按照"3P"原则接受培训,3P代表:人员、财产、产品。在邮件服务受天气影响而停止后,美国邮政局的首要任务是确保员工的安全。然后,它评估基础设施的健康状况,如邮递员行驶的道路。最后,它决定何时和如何重新开放业务。如果破坏程度很严重,寄往该地区的邮件将被送往其他地方。为了应对 2005 年的"卡特里娜"飓风,美国邮政局将收到的新奥尔良邮件转送到休斯敦的现有邮件设施。已经在新奥尔良设施中处理的邮件被转移到上层,这样就可以避免水灾。
- F) 一旦外面足够安全,邮递员就开始在仍然可以通行的路线上分发累积的邮件。美国邮政敦促那些没有固定地址的人向他们的新地点提交地址变更表。2005 年"卡特里娜"飓风袭击后,在 USPS 无法提供街头投递服务的两周内,全国有数十个点设立了邮件设施。
- G) 每天, USPS 平均处理 4.934 亿件邮件——从明信片到社会保障支票再到药品,无所不包。USPS 和 UPS 的发言人都告诉我,所有的邮件都很重要。但有些邮件可能是极其敏感且需要及时送达的。根据2017 年1 月发布的数据,56%的账单是在网上支付的,这意味着近一半的支付仍然依靠快递服务来完成。
- H) 尽管很难确定哪些包裹携带的是社会保障支票等关键物品,但美国邮政和 UPS 尽力优先处理敏感材料。

他们会与社会保障局协调,确保社会保障支票及时到达正确的人手中。去年秋天"佛罗伦萨"和"迈克尔"飓风过后, USPS 与州和地方选举委员会合作,确保缺席选票能够及时收到。

- I) 邮政公司是物流 (logistics) 公司,这使它们处于特殊的地位,在灾难来临时可以提供帮助。在 2011 年的一项案例研究中,该机构强调其庞大的基础设施是一种"独特的联邦资产",可以在灾难或恐怖袭击中被调用。<u>"我认为,作为一个联邦机构,我们是独一无二的。"美国邮政官员迈克•斯威格特告诉我,</u>"因为我们在这个国家的每一个社区都有……我们有义务每天向这些地方派送。"
- J) 资金更加充足的私人快递公司,他们利用自己在物流方面的专业知识,帮助灾后受损地区恢复活力。十多年来,联邦快递一直支持美国红十字会向国内外受灾地区运送应急物资。2012年,该公司向加州的医疗后备队组织分发了 1200 多个医疗包。他们还为全球 310 万磅的慈善运输捐赠了空间。去年 10 月,该公司承诺为"佛罗伦萨"和"迈克尔"飓风提供 100 万美元的现金和交通支持。UPS 的慈善机构,即UPS 基金会,利用公司的物流帮助受灾地区进行重建。"我们意识到,作为一家拥有人力、卡车、仓库的公司,我们需要发挥更大的作用。"UPS 基金会主席爱德华多•马丁内斯说。该公司利用其卡车和飞机来运送食品、药品和水。11 月在我与马丁内斯交谈的前一天,他正与美国红十字会一起巡视佛罗里达州"迈克尔"飓风造成的损失。他说:"我们有义务确保 我们的社区蓬勃发展。"
- K)重建可能需要很长的时间,即使如此,灾难的印记可能仍然存在。恢复正常生活可能是困难的,但一些小的日常惯例——邮件递送就是其中之一——可能会帮助居民记住他们的社区仍然是他们的社区。"<u>斯</u>威格特说:"当他们看到邮递员回到街上时,这是他们的生活开始恢复正常的第一个迹象。"

36.【答案】E

【解析】由题干中的 employees' safety 定位到文章 E 段第 4 句。在邮件服务受天气影响而停止后,美国邮政局的首要任务是确保员工的安全。

37.【答案】I

【解析】由题干中的 unique、communities 和 federal agencies 定位到文章 I 段倒数第 2 句。"我认为,作为一个联邦机构,我们是独一无二的。"美国邮政官员迈克·斯威格特告诉我。

38.【答案】C

【解析】由题干中的 Natural disasters 和 community life 定位到文章 C 段倒数第 2 句。自然灾害会破坏一个社区的基础设施,使系统中断几个月或几年。

39.【答案】G

【解析】由题干中的 Mail delivery service 和 payments 定位到文章 G 段最后一句。根据 2017 年 1 月发布的数据,56%的账单是在网上支付的,这意味着近一半的支付仍然依靠快递服务来完成。

40.【答案】K

【解析】由题干中的 a mailman on the street、sign 和 life becoming normal 定位到文章 K 段最后一句。 Swigart 说: "当他们看到邮递员回到街上时,这是他们生活开始恢复正常的第一个迹象。"

41.【答案】F

【解析】由题干中的 Hurricane Katrina 和 mail service points 定位到文章 F 段最后一句。2005 年卡特里娜

飓风袭击后,在 USPS 无法提供街头投递的两周内,全国有数十个设立了邮件设施。

42.【答案】B

【解析】由题干中的suspended 和extreme cold weather 定位到文章B 段第1、2 句。甚至美国邮政服务 (USPS) 也暂停了邮件投递。"由于这次北极地区的大风,出于对美国邮政员工安全的担忧,"美国邮政周三上午宣布,"美国邮政将于1月30日在一些三位数邮政编码的地方暂停投递。"

43.【答案】J

【解析】由题干中的 Private postal companies、disaster relief efforts 和urgent supplies 定位到文章J 段第 1 句。资金更加充足的私人快递公司,他们利用自己在物流方面的专业知识,帮助灾后受损地区恢复活力。

44.【答案】D

【解析】由题干中的A dedicated USPS employee 和extreme conditions 定位到文章D 段第 1 句。2017 年加州圣罗莎发生致命的野火后几天,一架无人机拍下了美国邮政工作人员特雷弗·史密斯的镜头,他开着那辆熟悉的白色面包车穿过被烧毁的房屋,在受灾地区收集邮件。

45.【答案】H

【解析】由题干中的 work hard、identify 和 priority treatment 定位到文章 H 段第 1 句。可能很难确定哪些包裹携带的是社会保障支票等关键物品,但美国邮政和 UPS 尽力优先处理敏感材料。

Section C

Passage One

【参考译文】

(46) <u>佐治亚理工学院的阿肖克·戈尔教授开发了一个人工智能助教,以帮助处理"基于知识的人工智能"这门在线课程中学生的大量问题。</u>这门在线课程是佐治亚理工学院计算机科学硕士在线课程的核心课程。(47) 戈尔教授目前已经有八名助教,但这仍不足以处理学生每天提出的大量问题。

许多学生因为缺乏教学支持而退选了在线课程。当学生感到孤立或困惑,提出问题又得不到答复时,他们继续学习的动力就会开始减弱。戈尔教授决定行动起来改善这一现状,他的解决方案就是基于 IBM 沃森平台开发一个名为吉尔•沃森的虚拟助手。

戈尔及其团队开发了吉尔·沃森的不同版本,然后才将她发布到在线论坛上。起初,这个虚拟助手并不是太好。但戈尔和团队在论坛里找到了这门课开设以来被问及的四万个问题,然后给吉尔输入问题和答案让她进行机器学习。(48) 经过一些调整和足够的时间后,吉尔回答学生问题的正确率能够达到97%。这个虚拟助手变得非常先进和逼真,学生们甚至都不知道她是一台电脑。(49) <u>学习人工智能的学生与虚拟助手进行互动时也未能分辨出其并非是真人。</u>戈尔直到 4 月 26 日才告诉他们吉尔的真实身份是机器人。学生们对于这次经历的反响十分热烈。

(50) <u>戈尔教授的虚拟助手明年的目标是接手回答学生在网上论坛提出的 40% 的问题。</u>当然,吉尔·沃森这个名字在下学期会换成其他名字。与埃隆·马斯克、斯蒂芬·霍金、比尔·盖茨或史蒂夫·沃兹尼亚克等人相比,戈尔教授对人工智能的未来有着更乐观的展望。

46.【答案】B

【解析】由题干中的 Knowledge-Based Artificial Intelligence 定位到首段第 1、2 句。定位句指出,戈尔教授开发了一个人工智能助教来帮助处理在线课程中大量的学生问题,这门在线课程名叫"基于知识的人工智能",也就是说,"基于知识的人工智能"是一门为学生开设的在线课程,因此选择 B 项。

47.【答案】C

【解析】由题干中的 problem 和 Professor Goel 定位到第 1 段最后一句。定位句指出,戈尔教授已经有了 8 名助教,但还是不足以处理学生每天提出的大量问题。也就是说,学生的问题太多了,很难处理,因此选择 C 项。A 项,文章提到学生的问题得不到及时回答并因此退课,但并未提到学生对助教不满意,属于过度推断,故排除。B 项,文章第 2 段第 1 句指出,许多学生因为缺乏教学支持而退课,并未提及他的课程让学生觉得很困难,故排除。D 项,戈尔教授遇到的直接问题是助教不够,学生退课是这一问题引起的后果,并且文章虽然提到许多学生因为缺乏教学支持退出了在线课程,但并不是特指戈尔教授的课程,故排除。

48. 【答案】A

【解析】由题干中的 Jill Watson 定位到第 3 段第 5、6 句。定位句指出,经过一段时间的调整,吉尔答疑的正确率能够达到 97%,十分先进而且逼真,以至于学生们都不知道她是一台计算机,并且学生们反响也很热烈,可见,吉尔大获成功,因此选择A 项。B、D 两项原文均未提及,故排除。C 项,第 3 段第 2 句指出,一开始,这个虚拟助手做得并不太好,但并没有提及学生不喜欢吉尔,属于过度推断,故排除。

49.【答案】D

【解析】由题干中的 students feel about Jill Watson 定位到第 3 段最后 3 句。定位句指出,学习人工智能的学生与虚拟助手进行互动时也无法将其与真人区分开,因此选择 D 项。A、B、C 项文中均未提及,故排除。

50.【答案】C

【解析】由题干中的 Professor Goel 和 plan to do 定位到最后一段第 1 句。定位句指出,戈尔教授的虚拟助手明年的目标是接手回答学生在网上论坛提出的 40% 的问题。也就是说,戈尔教授会让虚拟助教回答更多学生的问题,因此选择 C 项。A、B 两项均为戈尔教授已经做过的事情,而非下一步的打算,故排除。D 项原文并未提及,故排除。

Passage Two

【参考译文】

从细节出发、有趣味性、再加点儿幽默感,这些并没有坏处,最近一项调查了近400个科学众筹活动的研究表明,以上这些正是成功的众筹活动的特点。然而,庞大的关系网络和一些推销技巧可能更为重要。

近年来,众筹,即通过网络呼吁项目筹集资金,在各个领域都十分流行,包括电影制作到节水设备 生产等项目。(51)<u>科学家们也曾试过互联网众筹,但成败参半。有些项目筹到了比目标金额多一倍的</u>

资金,但有些却连小目标都没达到。

(52) 为了调查科学项目众筹成败的原因,苏黎世大学的科学传播学家迈克·沙费尔领导的团队调查了最近 371 个众筹活动的网页内容。

研究人员在《科学的公众认识》上发表报告称,达到筹款目标的众筹活动有四个突出特征。第一,它们会使用专门为科学项目筹集资金的众筹平台,而不是那些对任意众筹项目都开放的平台。Kickstarter 这类的网站是来者不拒的,但诸如 Experiment.com 和 Petridish.org 这样的平台只则只有科学众筹项目。第二,成功的筹款项目都会用有趣的视频进行展示,因为好的视觉画面和幽默感可以提高成功的可能性。(53)第三,大多数成功筹款项目还与潜在的捐助者有密切联系,因为回答感兴趣的捐助者问题的项目会进展得更顺利。(54)第四,其目标金额较小。研究中涉及的项目平均筹集金额为 4,000 美元,其中 30%的项目获得的资金不足 1,000 美元。研究人员发现,项目需要的资金越多,达到目标的机会就越小。

其他因素也可能会显著影响项目的成功与否,最重要的因素是,科学家的个人人脉和职业网络的规模以及研究人员对项目的推动程度。这两个因素远比页面上的内容重要得多。(55) <u>通过众筹,科研人员可以到接触公众,人们捐款是因为"他们感觉与筹款的科研人员彼此关联"而不是与科学有联系。</u>

51.【答案】C

【解析】由题干中的 the scientists 和 raise money online 定位到第 2 段第 2、3 句。定位句指出,科学家们也曾试过互联网众筹,但成败参半。有些项目筹到了比目标金额多一倍的资金,但有些却连小目标都没达到。可见,并非所有的科学项目都成功达到了预期筹款目标,因此选择 C 项。A 项,第 2 段最后一句提到,有些项目即使目标较小,也未能达成,故排除。B、D 两项,原文均未提及,故排除。

52.【答案】B

【解析】由题干中的 Mike Schafer's research 定位到第 3 段。定位段提到,为了调查科学项目众筹成败的原因,苏黎世大学的科学传播学家迈克·沙费尔领导的团队调查了近来 371 个众筹活动的网页内容,因此选择 B 项。A、C、D 文中均未提及,故排除。

53.【答案】B

【解析】由题干中的 trait 和 contributes to 定位到第 4 段第 5 句。定位句指出,第三,大多数成功筹款项目还与潜在的捐助者有密切联系,因为回答感兴趣的捐助者问题的项目会进展得更顺利。由此可知,与可能的捐助者互动会有助于众筹的成功,因此选择 B 项。A、C、D 项文中均未提及,故排除。

54. 【答案】A

【解析】由题干中的 financial targets of crowdfunding projects 定位到第 4 段最后 3 句。定位句提到,成功众筹项目的目标金额较小,且研究人员认为项目需要的资金越多,达到目标的机会就越小。由此可以推断科学众筹要想成功,应设立较小的目标资金,因此选择 A 项。B、C 两项文中均未提及,故排除。D 项的表述与原文相反,故排除。

55.【答案】D

【解析】由题干中的 motivates 和 donate 定位到最后一段最后一句。定位句指出,通过众筹,科研人员可以到接触公众,人们捐款是因为"他们感觉与筹款的科研人员彼此关联"而不是与科学有联系。由此



可见,人们捐款是因为他们感觉与科学家彼此关联,因此选择 \mathbf{D} 项。 \mathbf{A} 、 \mathbf{B} 、 \mathbf{C} 项文中均未提及,故排除。

Part IV

Translation

【参考译文】

Chinese families attach great importance to children's education. Many parents stick to the idea that they should work hard to ensure their children a good education. They are perfectly willing to invest in their children's education and devote lots of time to urging their children to learn. Most parents hope that their children can be admitted to top universities. Owing to China's reform and opening-up policy, an increasing number of parents are able to send their children to study abroad or participate in international exchange programs for broadened horizons. By these efforts, they expect their children to grow healthily and contribute to the development and prosperity of the country.