

绝密★启用前

2014 年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试 英语（二）

英语试卷 B4

考生需知

1. 选择题的答案须用 2B 铅笔填涂在答题卡上，其它笔填涂的或做在试卷或其它类型答题卡上的答案无效。
2. 其他题一律用蓝色或黑色钢笔或圆珠笔在答题纸上按规定要求作答，凡做在试卷上或未做在指定位置的答案无效。
3. 交卷时，请配合监考人员验收，并请监考人员在准考证相应位置签字（作为考生交卷的凭据）。否则，所产生的一切后果由考生自负。



2014 年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语 (二)

英语试题 B4

Section I Use of English

Directions:

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

During recent years we have heard much about "race": how this race does certain things and that race believes certain things and so on. Yet, the 1 phenomenon of race consists of a few surface indications.

We judge race usually 2 the colouring of the skin: a white race, a brown race, a yellow race and a black race. But 3 you were to remove the skin you could not 4 anything about the race to which the individual belonged. There is 5 in physical structure, the brain or the internal organs to 6 a difference. There are four types of blood. 7 types are found in every race, and no type is distinct to any race. Human brains are the 8. No scientists could examine a brain and tell you the race to which the individual belonged. Brains will 9 in size, but this occurs within every race. 10 does size have anything to do with intelligence. The largest brain 11 examined belonged to a person of weak 12. On the other hand, some of our most distinguished people have had 13 brains. Mental tests which are reasonably 14 show no differences in intelligence between races. High and low test results both can be recorded by different members of any race. 15 equal educational advantages, there will be no difference in average standings, either on account of race or geographical location.

Individuals of every race 16 civilization to go backward or forward. Training and education can change the response of a group of people, 17 enable them to behave in a 18 way.

The behavior and ideals of people change according to circumstances, but they can always go back or go on to something new 19 is better and higher than anything 20 the past.

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. [A] complete | [B] full | [C] total | [D] whole |
| 2. [A] in | [B] from | [C] at | [D] on |
| 3. [A] since | [B] if | [C] as | [D] while |
| 4. [A] speak | [B] talk | [C] tell | [D] mention |
| 5. [A] something | [B] everything | [C] nothing | [D] anything |
| 6. [A] display | [B] indicate | [C] demonstrate | [D] appear |



- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 7. [A] All | [B] Most | [C] No | [D] Some |
| 8. [A] same | [B] identical | [C] similar | [D] alike |
| 9. [A] remain | [B] increase | [C] decrease | [D] vary |
| 10. [A] Only | [B] Or | [C] Nor | [D] So |
| 11. [A] ever | [B] then | [C] never | [D] once |
| 12. [A] health | [B] body | [C] mind | [D] thought |
| 13. [A] big | [B] small | [C] minor | [D] major |
| 14. [A] true | [B] exact | [C] certain | [D] accurate |
| 15. [A] Provided | [B] Concerning | [C] Given | [D] Following |
| 16. [A] make | [B] cause | [C] move | [D] turn |
| 17. [A] and | [B] but | [C] though | [D] so |
| 18. [A] ordinary | [B] peculiar | [C] usual | [D] common |
| 19. [A] that | [B] what | [C] whichever | [D] whatever |
| 20. [A] for | [B] to | [C] within | [D] in |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D.

Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

Text 1

Amid all the job losses, there's one category of worker that the economic disruption has been good for: nonhumans.

From self-service checkout lines at the supermarket to industrial robots armed with saws and taught to carve up animal bodies in slaughter-houses, these ever-more-intelligent machines are now not just assisting workers but actually kicking them out of their jobs.

Automation isn't just affecting factory workers, either. Some law firms now use artificial intelligence software to scan and read mountains of legal documents, work that previously was performed by highly-paid human lawyers.

"Robots continue to have an impact on blue-collar jobs, and white-collar jobs are under attack by microprocessors," says economics professor Edward Leamer. The recession permanently wiped out 2.5 million jobs. U.S. gross domestic product has climbed back to pre-recession levels, meaning we're



producing as much as before, only with 6% fewer workers. To be sure, robotics are not the only job killers out there, with outsourcing (外包) stealing far more jobs than automation.

Jeff Burnstein, president of the Robotics Industry Association, argues that robots actually save U.S. jobs. His logic: companies that embrace automation might use fewer workers, but that's still better than firing everyone and moving the work overseas.

It's not that robots are cheaper than humans, though often they are. It's that they're better. "In some cases the quality requirements are so exacting that even if you wanted to have a human do the job, you couldn't," Burnstein says.

Same goes for surgeons, who're using robotic systems to perform an ever-growing list of operations—not because the machines save money but because, thanks to the greater precision of robots, the patients recover in less time and have fewer complications, says Dr. Myriam Curet.

Surgeons may survive the robot invasion, but others at the hospital might not be so lucky, as iRobot, maker of the Roomba, a robot vacuum cleaner, has been showing off Ava, which could be used as a messenger in a hospital. And once you're home, recovering, Ava could let you talk to your doctor, so there's no need to send someone to your house. That "mobile telepresence" could be useful at the office. If you're away on a trip, you can still attend a meeting. Just connect via videoconferencing software, so your face appears on Avas screen.

Is any job safe? I was hoping to say "journalist," but researchers are already developing software that can gather facts and write a news story. Which means that a few years from now, a robot could be writing this column. And who will read it? Well, there might be a lot of us hanging around with lots of free time on our hands.

21. What do we learn from the first few paragraphs?

- [A] The over-use of robots has done damage to American economy.
- [B] It is hard for robots to replace humans in highly professional work.
- [C] Artificial intelligence is key to future technological innovations.
- [D] The robotic industry has benefited from the economic recession.

22. What caused the greatest loss of jobs in America?

- [A] Using microprocessors extensively.
- [B] Moving production to other countries.
- [C] The bankruptcy of many companies.
- [D] The invasion of migrant workers.

23. What does Jeff Burnstein say about robots?

- [A] They help companies to revive.
- [B] They are cheaper than humans.
- [C] They prevent job losses in a way.
- [D] They compete with human workers.

24. Why are robotic systems replacing surgeons in more and more operations according to Dr. Myriam Curet?

- [A] They save lots of money for the patients.



- [B] They beat humans in precision.
[C] They take less time to perform a surgery.
[D] They make operations less painful.
25. What does the author imply about robotics?
- [A] It will greatly enrich literary creation.
[B] It will start a new technological revolution.
[C] It will revolutionize scientific research.
[D] It will be applied in any field imaginable.

Text 2

It is possible for students to obtain advanced degrees in English while knowing little or nothing about traditional scholarly methods. The consequences of this neglect of traditional scholarship are particularly unfortunate for the study of women writers. If the canon — the list of authors whose works are most widely taught — is ever to include more women, scholars must be well trained in historical scholarship and textual editing. Scholars who do not know how to read early manuscripts, locate rare books, establish a sequence of editions, and so on are bereft of crucial tools for revising the canon.

To address such concerns, an experimental version of the traditional scholarly methods course was designed to raise students' consciousness about the usefulness of traditional learning for any modern critic or theorist. To minimize the artificial aspects of the conventional course, the usual procedure of assigning a large number of small problems drawn from the entire range of historical periods was abandoned, though this procedure has the obvious advantage of at least superficially familiarizing students with a wide range of reference sources. Instead students were engaged in a collective effort to do original work on a neglected eighteenth-century writer, Elizabeth Griffith, to give them an authentic experience of literary scholarship and to inspire them to take responsibility for the quality of their own work.

Griffith's work presented a number of advantages for this particular pedagogical purpose. First, the body of extant scholarship on Griffith was so tiny that it could all be read in a day; thus students spent little time and effort mastering the literature and had a clear field for their own discoveries. Griffith's play *The platonic Wife* exists in three versions, enough to provide illustrations of editorial issues but not too many for beginning students to manage. In addition, because Griffith was successful in the eighteenth century, as her continued productivity and favorable reviews demonstrate, her exclusion from the canon and virtual disappearance from literary history also helped raise issues concerning the current canon.

The range of Griffith's work meant that each student could become the world's leading authority on a particular Griffith text. For example, a student studying Griffith's *Wife in the Right* obtained a first edition of the play and studied it for some weeks. This student was suitably shocked and outraged to find its title transformed into *A wife in the Night* in Watt's *Bibliotheca Britannica*. Such



experiences, inevitable and common in working on a writer to whom so little attention has been paid, serve to vaccinate the student — I hope for a lifetime — against credulous use of reference sources.

26. The author of the text is primarily concerned with

- [A] revealing a commonly ignored deficiency.
- [B] proposing a return to traditional terminology.
- [C] describing an attempt to correct a shortcoming.
- [D] assessing the success of a new pedagogical approach.

27. It can be inferred that the author of the text expects that the experience of the student mentioned as having studied *Wife in the Right* would have which of the following effects?

- [A] It would lead the student to disregard information found in the *Bibliotheca Britannica*.
- [B] It would teach the student to question the accuracy of certain kinds of information sources when studying neglected authors.
- [C] It would teach the student to avoid the use of reference sources in studying neglected .
- [D] It would help the student to understand the importance of first editions in establishing the authorship of plays.

28. Which of the following best states the “particular pedagogical purpose” mentioned in lines 1-2, paragraph 3?

- [A] To assist scholars in revising the canon of authors.
- [B] To minimize the trivial aspects of the traditional scholarly methods course.
- [C] To provide students with information about Griffith’s work.
- [D] To encourage scholarly rigor in students’ own research.

29. Which of the following best describes the function of the last paragraph in relation to the text as a whole?

- [A] It summarizes the benefits that students can derive from the experimental scholarly methods course.
- [B] It provides additional reasons why Griffith’s work raises issues having to do with the cannot of authors.
- [C] It provides an illustration of the immediate nature of the experiences students can derive from the experimental scholarly methods course.
- [D] It contrasts the experience of a student in the experimental scholarly methods course with the experience of a student in the traditional course.

30. It can be inferred that the author of the text considers traditional scholarly methods courses to be

- [A] irrelevant to the work of most students.
- [B] inconsequential because of their narrow focus.



[C] unconcerned about the accuracy of reference sources.

[D] too wide-ranging to approximate genuine scholarly activity.

Text 3

Over the last decade, demand for the most common cosmetic surgery procedures, like breast enlargements and nose jobs, has increased by more than 400 percent. According to Dr. Dai Davies, of the Plastic Surgery Partnership in Hammersmith, the majority of cosmetic surgery patients are not chasing physical perfection. Rather, they are driven to fantastic lengths to improve their appearance by a desire to look normal. "What we all crave is to look normal, and normal is what is prescribed by the advertising media and other external pressures. They give us a perception of what is physically acceptable and we feel we must look like that."

In America, the debate is no longer about whether surgery is normal; rather, it centres on what age people should be before going under the knife. New York surgeon Dr. Gerard Imber recommends "maintenance" work for people in their thirties. "The idea of waiting until one needs a heroic transformation is silly," he says. "By then, you've wasted 20 great years of your life and allowed things to get out of hand." Dr. Imber draws the line at operating on people who are under 18, however. "It seems that someone we don't consider old enough to order a drink shouldn't be considering plastic surgery."

In the UK cosmetic surgery has long been seen as the exclusive domain of the very rich and famous. But the proportionate cost of treatment has fallen substantially, bringing all but the most advanced laser technology within the reach of most people. Dr. Davies, who claims to "cater for the average person", agrees. He says: "I treat a few of the rich and famous and an awful lot of secretaries. Of course, £3,000 for an operation is a lot of money. But it is also an investment for life which costs about half the price of a good family holiday."

Dr. Davies suspects that the increasing sophistication of the fat injecting and removal techniques that allow patients to be treated with a local anaesthetic in an afternoon has also helped promote the popularity of cosmetic surgery. Yet, as one woman who recently paid £2,500 for liposuction to remove fat from her thighs admitted, the slope to becoming a cosmetic surgery Veteran is a deceptively gentle one. "I had my legs done because they'd been bugging me for years. But going into the clinic was so low key and effective it whetted my appetite. Now I don't think there's any operation that I would rule out having if I could afford it."

31. According to the text, the reason for cosmetic surgery is to _____.

[A] be physically healthy

[B] look more normal



- [C] satisfy appetite [D] be accepted by media

32. According to the third paragraph, Dr. Davies implies that _____.

- [A] cosmetic surgery, though costly, is worth having
[B] cosmetic surgery is too expensive
[C] cosmetic surgery is necessary even for the average person
[D] cosmetic surgery is mainly for the rich and famous

33. The statement “draws the line at operating on people” (Line 3, Paragraph 2) is closest in meaning to _____.

- [A] removing wrinkles from the face [B] helping people make up
[C] enjoying operating [D] refusing to operate

34. It can be inferred from the text that _____.

- [A] it is wise to have cosmetic surgery under 18
[B] cosmetic surgery is now much easier
[C] people tend to abuse cosmetic surgery
[D] the earlier people have cosmetic surgery, the better they will be

35. The text is mainly about _____.

- [A] the advantage of having cosmetic surgery
[B] what kind of people should have cosmetic surgery
[C] the reason why cosmetic surgery is so popular
[D] the disadvantage of having cosmetic surgery

Text 4

Positive surprises from government reports on retail sales, industrial production, and housing in the past few months are leading economists to revise their real gross domestic product (GDP) forecasts upward supporting the notion that the recession ended in December or January.

Bear in mind: This recovery won't have the vitality normally associated with an upturn. Economists now expect real GDP growth of about 1.5 in the first quarter. That's better than the 0.4 the consensus projected in December, but much of the additional growth will come from a slower pace of inventory drawdowns, not from surging demand.

Moreover, the economy won't grow fast enough to help the labor markets much. The only good news there is that jobless claims have fallen back from their spike after September 11 and that their current level suggests the pace of layoffs is easing.

The recovery also does not mean the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates soon. The January



price indexes show that inflation remains tame. Consequently, the Fed can take its time shifting monetary policy from extreme accommodation to relative neutrality.

Perhaps the best news from the latest economic reports was the January data on industrial production. Total output fell only 0.1, its best showing since July. Factory output was flat, also the best performance in six months. Those numbers may not sound encouraging, but manufacturers have been in recession since late 2000. The data suggest that the factory sector is finding a bottom from which to start its recovery.

Production of consumer goods, for instance, is almost back up to where it was a year ago. That's because consumer demand for motor vehicles and other goods and the housing industry remained healthy during the recession, and they are still growing in early 2002.

Besides, both the monthly homebuilding starts number and the housing market index for the past two months are running above the averages for all of 2001, suggesting that home-building is off to a good start and probably won't be big drag on GDP growth this year.

Equally important to the outlook is how the solid housing market will help demand for home-related goods and services. Traditionally, consumers buy the bulk of their furniture, electronics, and textiles within a year of purchasing their homes. Thus, spending on such items will do well this year, even as car sales slip now that incentives are less attractive. Look for the output of consumer goods to top year-ago level in coming months.

Even the business equipment sector seems to have bottomed out. Its output rose 0.4% in January, led by a 0.6% jump computer gear. A pickup in orders for capital goods in the fourth quarter suggests that production will keep increasing—although at a relaxed pace—in coming months.

36. American economists are surprised to see that_____.

- [A] they have to revise the GDP forecasts so often
- [B] their government is announcing the end of a recession
- [C] US economy is showing some signs of an upturn
- [D] GDP growth reflects stronger domestic demand

37. The most encouraging fact about the US economy is that_____.

- [A] employment rates have risen faster than expected
- [B] the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates soon
- [C] industrial production is reaching its lowest point
- [D] some economic sectors have become leading industries

38. Of which of the following did the author provide a guardedly optimistic view?

- [A] GDP growth.
- [B] The number of layoffs.



- [C] Price indexes. [D] Output of consumer goods.

39. Which of the following is the guarantee of a better future for US economy?

- [A] Motor vehicles. [B] Housing market.
[C] Business equipment. [D] Computer gear.

40. Which of the following best summarizes the U. S. economic situation today?

- [A] American economists are painting a gloomy picture.
[B] It is slowly warming up with moderate growth.
[C] Recession may come back anytime in the coming months.
[D] Most sectors are picking up at a surprisingly fast pace.

Part B

Directions:

Reading the following text and answer questions by finding a subtitle for each of the marked parts or paragraphs. There are one extra items in the subtitle. Mark your answer on ANSWER SHEET 1 (10 points)

- [A] A bad thing may bring about a good result.
[B] Pollution and poverty are leading us to destruction.
[C] The worries of humanists are unfounded.
[D] God helps those who help themselves.
[E] Is our planet getting less habitable(适合居住的) than it used to be?
[F] The view on resource crisis deviates from facts.

A great many articles and books discussing environmental and resource problems begin with the proposition that there is an environmental and resource crisis. If this means that the situation of humanity is worse now than in the past, then the idea of a crisis—and all that follows from it—is dead wrong. In almost every respect important to humanity, the trends have been improving, not deteriorating.

41. _____

Our world now supports 6 billion people. In the nineteenth century, the earth could sustain only 1 billion. And 10,000 years ago, only 1million people could keep themselves alive. People are now living more healthily than ever before.

42. _____

One would expect lovers of humanity—people who hate war and worry about famine in Africa—to jump with joy at this extraordinary triumph of the human mind and human organization



over the raw forces of nature. Instead, they lament (feel sorrow for) that there are so many human beings, and wring their hands about the problems that more people inevitably bring, and the problem that resources will be further diminished.

43. _____

It is amazing but true that a resource shortage resulting from population or income growth usually leaves us better off than if the shortage had never arisen. If firewood had not become scarce in seventeenth century England, coal would not have been developed. If coal and whale oil shortages hadn't loomed, oil wells would not have been dug.

44. _____

The prices of food, metals, and other raw materials have been declining by every measure since the beginning of the nineteenth century, and as far back as we know; that is, raw materials have been getting less scarce throughout history, defying the common sense notion that if one begins with an inventory of a resource and uses some up, there will be less left. This is despite, and indirectly because of, increasing population. We don't say that all is well everywhere, and we don't predict that all will be rosy in the future. Children are hungry and sick; people live out lives of physical or intellectual poverty and lack of opportunity; war or some other pollution may do us in.

45. _____

Also, we do not say that a better future happens automatically or without effort. It will happen because men and women—sometimes as individuals, sometimes as enterprises working for profit, sometimes as voluntary nonprofit groups, and sometimes as governmental agencies—will address problems with muscle and mind, and will probably overcome, as has been usual through history.

We are confident that the nature of the physical world permits continued improvement in humankind's economic lot in the long run, indefinitely. Of course, there are always newly arising local problems, shortages, and pollution, resulting from climate or increased population and income and new technologies. Sometimes temporary large scale problems arise. But the world's physical conditions and the resilience(power of recovering quickly)of a well functioning economic and social system enable us to overcome such problems, and the solutions usually leave us better off than if the problem had never arisen. That is the great lesson to be learned from human history.

Part III Translation

46. Directions



Translate the following passage into Chinese and put your translation on the ANSWER SHEET 2. (15points)

Climate change is the greatest challenge facing humanity: drastic reduction of carbon emissions is vital if we are to avoid a catastrophe that devastates large parts of the world. Governments and businesses have been slow to act and individuals now need to take the lead.

The Earth can absorb no more than 3 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions each year for every person on the planet if we are to keep temperature and rainfall change within tolerable limits. Yet from cars and holiday flights to household appliances and the food on our plates, Western consumer lifestyles leave each of us responsible for over 12 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year --- four times what the Earth can handle.

Individual action is essential if we want to avoid climate chaos. *How to Live a Low-Carbon Life* shows how easy it is to take responsibility, providing the first comprehensive, one-stop reference guide to calculating your CO2 emissions and reducing them to a sustainable 3 tonnes a year.

Section IV Writing

Part A

47. Directions:

You have taught Zhou Jie for two years . Write a letter of recommendation for Zhou Jie to

- 1) state your relationship with Zhou,
- 2) introduce Zhou's academic achievements,
- 3) introduce his language proficiency,
- 4) introduce his sports and social activities, and
- 5) express your sincere recommendation .

You should write about 100 words on ANSWER SHEET 2.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the letter. Use "Li Ming" instead. You do not need to write the address (10 points).

Part B

48. Directions:

In this section, you are asked to write an essay based on the following chart. In your writing, you should



1) interpret the chart and

2) give your comments.

You should write at least 150 words.

Write your essay on **ANSWER SHEET 2**. (15 points)

