

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 A4

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 A4

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)

Most people would be 1 by the high quality of medicine 2 to most Americans. There is a lot of specialization, a great deal of 3 to the individual, a 4 amount of advanced technical equipment, and 5 effort not to make mistakes because of the financial risk which doctors and hospitals must 6 in the courts if they 7 things badly.

But the Americans are in a mess. The problem is the way in 8 health care is organized and 9. 10 to public belief it is not just a free competition system. The private system has been joined a large public system, because private care was simply not 11 the less fortunate and the elderly.

But even with this huge public part of the system, 12 this year will eat up 84.5 billion dollars—more than 13 percent of the U.S. budget—large numbers of Americans are left 13. These include about half the 11 million unemployed and those who fail to meet the strict limits 14 income fixed by a government trying to make savings where it can.

The basic problem, however, is that there is no central control 15 the health system. There is no 16 to what doctors and hospitals charge for their services, other than what the public is able to pay. The number of doctors has shot up and prices have climbed. When faced with toothache, a sick child, or a heart attack, all the unfortunate person concerned can do is 17 up. Two-thirds of the population 18 covered by medical insurance. Doctors charge as much as they want 19 that the insurance company will pay the bill. The rising cost of medicine in the U.S. is among the most worrying problems facing the country. In 1981 the country's health bill climbed 15.9 percent—about twice as fast as prices 20 general.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. [A] compressed | [B] impressed | [C] obsessed | [D] repressed |
| 2. [A] available | [B] attainable | [C] achievable | [D] amenable |
| 3. [A] extension | [B] retention | [C] attention | [D] exertion |
| 4. [A] countless | [B] titanic | [C] broad | [D] vast |
| 5. [A] intensive | [B] absorbed | [C] intense | [D] concentrated |
| 6. [A] run into | [B] come into | [C] face | [D] defy |
| 7. [A] treat | [B] deal | [C] maneuver | [D] handle |
| 8. [A] which | [B] that | [C] what | [D] when |
| 9. [A] to finance | [B] financed | [C] the finance | [D] to be financed |
| 10. [A] Contrary | [B] Opposed | [C] Averse | [D] Objected |
| 11. [A] looking for | [B] looking into | [C] looking after | [D] looking over |
| 12. [A] which | [B] what | [C] that | [D] it |



- | | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 13.[A] over | [B] out | [C] off | [D] away |
| 14.[A] for | [B] in | [C] with | [D] on |
| 15. [A] over | [B] on | [C] under | [D] behind |
| 16. [A] boundary | [B] restriction | [C] confinement | [D] limit |
| 17.[A] to pay | [B] paying | [C] to be paid | [D] to have paid |
| 18.[A] is being | [B] are | [C] have been | [D] is |
| 19.[A] knowing | [B] to know | [C] they know | [D] known |
| 20.[A] in | [B] with | [C] on | [D] for |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions: Read the following four passages. Answer the questions below each passage by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1(40 points)

Text 1

As anyone who has tried to lose weight knows, realistic goal-setting generally produces the best results. That's partially because it appears people who set realistic goals actually work more efficiently, and exert more effort, to achieve those goals.

What's far less understood by scientists, however, are the potentially harmful effects of goal-setting.

Newspapers relay daily accounts of goal-setting prevalent in industries and businesses up and down both Wall Street and Main Street, yet there has been surprisingly little research on how the long-trumpeted practice of setting goals may have contributed to the current economic crisis, and unethical (不道德的) behavior in general.

"Goals are widely used and promoted as having really beneficial effects. And yet, the same motivation that can push people to exert more effort in a constructive way could also motivate people to be more likely to engage in unethical behaviors," says Maurice Schweitzer, an associate professor at Penn's Wharton School.

"It turns out there's no economic benefit to just having a goal---you just get a psychological benefit" Schweitzer says. "But in many cases, goals have economic rewards that make them more powerful."

A prime example Schweitzer and his colleagues cite is the 2004 collapse of energy-trading giant Enron, where managers used financial incentives to motivate salesmen to meet specific revenue goals. The problem, Schweitzer says, is the actual trades were not profitable.

Other studies have shown that saddling employees with unrealistic goals can compel them to lie, cheat or steal. Such was the case in the early 1990s when Sears imposed a sales quota on its auto repair staff. It prompted employees to overcharge for work and to complete unnecessary repairs on a



companywide basis.

Schweitzer concedes his research runs counter to a very large body of literature that commends the many benefits of goal-setting. Advocates of the practice have taken issue with his team's use of such evidence as news accounts to support his conclusion that goal-setting is widely over-prescribed

In a rebuttal (反驳) paper, Dr. Edwin Locke writes: "Goal-setting is not going away. Organizations cannot thrive without being focused on their desired end results any more than an individual can thrive without goals to provide a sense of purpose."

But Schweitzer contends the "mounting causal evidence" linking goal-setting and harmful behavior should be studied to help spotlight issues that merit caution and further investigation. "Even a few negative effects could be so large that they outweigh many positive effects," he says.

"Goal-setting does help coordinate and motivate people. My idea would be to combine that with careful oversight, a strong organizational culture, and make sure the goals that you use are going to be constructive and not significantly harm the organization," Schweitzer says.

21. What message does the author try to convey about goal-setting?

- A) Its negative effects have long been neglected.
- B) The goal increase people's work efficiency.
- C) Its role has been largely underestimated.
- D) The goals most people set are unrealistic.

22. What does Maurice Schweitzer want to show by citing the example of Enron?

- A) Setting realistic goals can turn a failing business into success.
- B) Businesses are less likely to succeed without setting realistic goals.
- C) Financial incentives ensure companies meet specific revenue goals.
- D) Goals with financial rewards have strong motivational power.

23. How did Sears' goal-setting affect its employees?

- A) They were obliged to work more hours to increase their sales.
- B) They competed with one another to attract more customers.
- C) They resorted to unethical practice to meet their sales quota.
- D) They improved their customer service on a companywide basis.

24. What do advocates of goal-setting think of Schweitzer's research?

- A) Its findings are not of much practical value.
- B) It exaggerates the side effects of goal-setting.
- C) Its conclusion is not based on solid scientific evidence.
- D) It runs counter to the existing literature on the subject.

25. What is Schweitzer's contention against Edwin Locke?

- A) The link between goal-setting and harmful behavior deserves further study.
- B) Goal-setting has become too deep-rooted in corporate culture.
- C) The positive effects of goal-setting outweigh its negative effects.
- D) Studying goal-setting can throw more light on successful business practices.



Text 2

Throughout this long, tense election, everyone has focused on the presidential candidates and how they'll change America. Rightly so. But selfishly. I'm more fascinated by Michelle Obama and what she might be able to do, not just for this country, but for me as an African-American woman. As the potential First Lady, she would have the world's attention. And that means that for the first time people will have a chance to get up close and personal with the type of African-American woman they so rarely see.

Usually, the lives of black women go largely unexamined. The prevailing theory seems to be that we're all hot-tempered single mothers who can't keep a man. Even in the world of make-believe, black women still can't escape the stereotype of being eye-rolling, oversexed females raised by our never-married, *alcoholic* (酗酒的) mothers.

These images have helped define the way all black women are viewed, including Michelle Obama. Before she ever gets the chance to commit to a cause, charity or foundation as First Lady, her most urgent and perhaps most complicated duty may be simply to be herself.

It won't be easy. Because few mainstream publications have done in-depth features on regular African-American women, little is known about who we are, what we think and what we face on a regular basis. For better or worse, Michelle will represent us all.

Just as she will have her critics, she will also have millions of fans who usually have little interest in the First Lady. Many African-American blogs have written about what they'd like to see Michelle bring to the White House—mainly showing the world that a black woman can support her man and raise a strong black family. Michelle will have to work to please everyone—an impossible task. But for many African-American women like me, just a little of her *poise* (沉着), confidence and intelligence will go a long way in changing an image that's been around for far too long.

26. Why does Michelle Obama hold a strong fascination for the author?

- A) She serves as a role model for African-American women.
- B) She possesses many admirable qualities becoming a First Lady.
- C) She will present to the world a new image of African-American women.
- D) She will pay closer attention to the interests of African-American women.

27. What is the common stereotype of African-American women according to the author?

- A) They are victims of family violence.
- B) They are of an inferior social group.
- C) They use quite a lot of body language.
- D) They live on charity and social welfare.

28. What do many African-Americans write about in their blogs.

- A) Whether Michelle can live up to the high expectations of her fans.
- B) How Michelle should behave as a public figure.
- C) How proud they are to have a black woman in the White House.



- D) What Michelle should do as wife and mother in the White House.
29. What does the author say about Michelle Obama as a First Lady?
- A) However many fans she has, she should remain modest.
- B) She shouldn't disappoint the African-American community.
- C) However hard she tries, she can't expect to please everybody.
- D) She will give priority to African-American women's concerns.
30. What do many African-American women hope Michelle Obama will do?
- A) Help change the prevailing view about black women.
- B) Help her husband in the task of changing America.
- C) Outshine previous First Ladies.
- D) Fully display her fine qualities.

Text 3

Since Andrew Benton graduated from college less than four years ago, he has dropped out of a Princeton Ph.D. program in economics, moved to rural Georgia to start a Web-software company that he's trying to sell, and now works freelance (自由职业) for a cloud-computing company in Silicon Valley. He buys his own health insurance and contributes to his retirement accounts; neither his policy nor his accounts receive corporate contributions. Does his job instability and lack of benefits worry him? Nope. The 26-year-old does not expect to hold a traditional 9-to-5 job unless he starts his own business again, and he is not overly pessimistic about the recession's long-term effect on his career. "I don't pay that much attention to what is going on in the economy," he says. "I just found stuff I was interested in."

Whatever you make of this attitude — smart, entitled, tech savvy (聪明的), risky, or bold — Benton is arguably the prototype (典型) of the new and perhaps ideal worker in the post-recession economy.

Still, this savvy demographic group isn't immune from the career setbacks of the recession. Workers born after 1980, who are having a harder time gaining a foothold in the job market, may face lower earnings over the next several years of their careers.

Those who opt for traditional corporate careers have had to readjust their expectations. For some young, well-educated workers such as 24-year-old Adrian Muniz, the recession has been startling. Muniz graduated from Brown University in 2007 and moved to New York City, expecting to easily find work at a magazine. Instead, he ended up working at high-end retail stores for the past three years and doing media internships on the side to build up his résumé.

When the economy does pick up, experts warn that millennials, i.e. people born in or after 1980, may leave their companies for better jobs and higher paychecks. They will quit to travel the world, or simply because they did not like their boss. When more jobs become available, the millennials will use their tech savvy to promote themselves on Facebook, Twitter, and other social networks. They will have no problem accepting contract, short-term work in place of a steadier paycheck. "The economy is actually creating a type of work that suits millennials well and does not suit baby

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boomers,” says Karl Ahlrichs, a human-resources consultant. In part, that’s because the economy is generating jobs in technology, computers, education, and health care that require serious technological, entrepreneurial, and creative skills as opposed to expertise in operations or management.

Armed with their education, parental support, or savings, millennials seem to have plenty of answers when it comes to dealing with the current economy. Still, questions remain. In their 30s and 40s, will they start their own businesses rather than joining the ranks of middle management? Will their innovative and entrepreneurial streak survive as they move through adult rites (仪式) of passage such as buying houses, raising children, or caring for aging parents? Ask a millennial and they’ll tell you that they’ll find or invent new answers to such age-old questions.

31. What do we learn about Andrew Benton’s work experience?
- A) He has now an unsteady job without corporate welfare benefits.
 - B) Without a Ph.D., he was at a disadvantage when applying for job.
 - C) He gave up the chance to take a traditional corporate job.
 - D) It takes about four years for him to realize what he wants to be.
32. What is a main concern of Andrew Benton?
- A) Whether the economy is going to pick up quickly.
 - B) When he should start and run another software firm.
 - C) Whether the job interests him and arouses his curiosity.
 - D) How he can find an ideal job unaffected by the recession.
33. According to the passage, in the job market, workers born after 1980 _____.
- A) earn much more than their predecessors
 - B) have been affected by the economic downturn
 - C) gain a competitive edge with good education
 - D) are undoubtedly ideal workers for the economy
34. What accounts for millennials’ being suitable for work created by the current economy?
- A) Their desire to promote themselves.
 - B) Their strong sense of looking after families.
 - C) Their special skills in running and managing firms.
 - D) Their embrace of tech skills and innovative ideas.
35. What can we infer from the passage about millennials’ attitude towards their future?
- A) Negative. B) Uncertain. C) Positive. D) Conservative.

Text 4

If you were to examine the birth certificates of every soccer player in 2006’s World Cup tournament, you would most likely find a noteworthy quirk: elite soccer players are more likely to have been born in the earlier months of the year than in the late months. If you then examined the European national youth teams that feed the World Cup and professional ranks, you would find this strange phenomenon to be ever more pronounced.



What might account for this strange phenomenon? Here are a few guesses: a) certain astrological signs confer superior soccer skills; b) winter born babies tend to have higher oxygen capacity, which increases soccer stamina; c) soccer-mad parents are more likely to conceive children in springtime, at the annual peak of soccer mania; d) none of the above.

Anders Ericsson, a 58-year-old psychology professor at Florida State University, says he believes strongly in “none of the above.” Ericsson grew up in Sweden, and studied nuclear engineering until he realized he would have more opportunity to conduct his own research if he switched to psychology. His first experiment, nearly 30 years ago, involved memory: training a person to hear and then repeat a random series of numbers. “With the first subject, after about 20 hours of training, his digit span had risen from 7 to 20,” Ericsson recalls. “He kept improving, and after about 200 hours of training he had risen to over 80 numbers.”

This success, coupled with later research showing that memory itself is not genetically determined, led Ericsson to conclude that the act of memorizing is more of a cognitive exercise than an intuitive one. In other words, whatever inborn differences two people may exhibit in their abilities to memorize, those differences are swamped by how well each person “encodes” the information. And the best way to learn how to encode information meaningfully, Ericsson determined, was a process known as deliberate practice. Deliberate practice entails more than simply repeating a task. Rather, it involves setting specific goals, obtaining immediate feedback and concentrating as much on technique as on outcome.

Ericsson and his colleagues have thus taken to studying expert performers in a wide range of pursuits, including soccer. They gather all the data they can, not just performance statistics and biographical details but also the results of their own laboratory experiments with high achievers. Their work makes a rather startling assertion: the trait we commonly call talent is highly overrated. Or, put another way, expert performers – whether in memory or surgery, ballet or computer programming – are nearly always made, not born.

36. The birthday phenomenon found among soccer players is mentioned to

- A) stress the importance of professional training.
- B) spotlight the soccer superstars at the World Cup.
- C) introduce the topic of what makes expert performance.
- D) explain why some soccer teams play better than others.

37. The word “mania” (Line 4, Paragraph 2) most probably means

- A) fun. B) craze. C) hysteria. [D] excitement.

38. According to Ericsson, good memory

- A) depends on meaningful processing of information.
- B) results from intuitive rather than cognitive exercises.
- C) is determined by genetic rather than psychological factors.
- D) requires immediate feedback and a high degree of concentration.

39. Ericsson and his colleagues believe that

- A) talent is a dominating factor for professional success.



- B) biographical data provide the key to excellent performance.
 C) the role of talent tends to be overlooked.
 D) high achievers owe their success mostly to nurture.
40. Which of the following proverbs is closest to the message the text tries to convey?
- A) "Faith will move mountains."
 B) "One reaps what one sows."
 C) "Practice makes perfect."
 D) "Like father, like son."

Part B

Directions: Reading the following text and answer questions by finding information from the right column that corresponds to each of the marked details given in the left column. There are two extra choices in the right column. Mark your answer on ANSWER SHEET 1 (10 points)

Sustainable development is applied to just about everything from energy to clean water and economic growth, and as a result it has become difficult to question either the basic assumptions behind it or the way the concept is put to use. This is especially true in agriculture, where sustainable development is often taken as the sole measure of progress without a proper appreciation of historical and cultural perspectives.

To start with, it is important to remember that the nature of agriculture has changed markedly throughout history, and will continue to do so. Medieval agriculture in northern Europe fed, clothed and sheltered a predominantly rural society with a much lower population density than it is today. It had minimal effect on biodiversity, and any pollution it caused was typically localized. In terms of energy use and the nutrients captured in the product it was relatively inefficient.

Contrast this with farming since the start of the industrial revolution. Completion from overseas led farmers to specialize and increase yields. Throughout this period food became cheaper, safe and more reliable. However, these changes have also led to habitat loss and to diminishing biodiversity.

What's more, demand for animal products in developing countries is growing so fast that meeting it will require an extra 300 million tons of grains a year by 2050. Yet the growth of cities and industry is reducing the amount of water available for agriculture in many regions.

All this means that agriculture in the 21st century will have to be very different from how it was in the 20th. This will require radical thinking. For example, we need to move away from the idea that traditional practices are inevitably more sustainable than new ones. We also need to abandon the notion that agriculture can be "zero impact". The key will be to abandon the rather simple and static measures of sustainability, which center on the need to maintain production without increasing damage.

Instead we need a more dynamic interpretation, one that looks at the pros and cons of all the various way land is used. There are many different ways to measure agricultural performance besides food yield: energy use, environmental costs, water purity, carbon footprint and biodiversity. It is clear,



for example, that the carbon of transporting tomatoes from Spain to the UK is less than that of producing them in the UK with additional heating and lighting. But we do not know whether lower carbon footprints will always be better for biodiversity.

What is crucial is recognizing that sustainable agriculture is not just about sustainable food production.

41. The increasing demand for animal products and the decline amount of water available for agriculture means_____.

42. To promote agriculture in the 21st century, we need to recognize that_____.

43. The old simple and static measures of sustainability_____.

44. To recognize the various way land is used, we need a more dynamic notion that_____.

45. The carbon of transporting tomatoes from Spain to the UK_____.

A. focused on the need to maintain production but neglected the increasing damage

B. we should look at both the pros and cons

C. agriculture in the 21st century will have to make some changes

D will always be better for biodiversity

E. traditional practices might be less sustainable than new ones

F. medieval agriculture in northern Europe had minimal effect on biodiversity

G. is less than that of producing them in the UK with additional heating and lighting

Section III Translation

46. Directions: In this section, there is a passage in English. Translate it into Chinese and write your version on ANSWER SHEET 2(15 points)

Many things make people think artists are weird and the weirdest may be this: artists' only job is to explore emotions, and yet they choose to focus on the ones that feel bad. You could argue that art became more skeptical of happiness because modern times have seen so much misery. But it's not as if earlier times didn't know perpetual war, disaster and the massacre of innocents. The reason, in fact, may be just the opposite: there is too much damn happiness in the world today.

What we forget is that happiness is more than pleasure without pain. The things that bring the greatest joy carry the greatest potential for loss and disappointment. Today, surrounded by promises of easy happiness, we need someone to tell us as religion once did: remember that you will die, that everything ends, and that happiness comes not in denying this but in living with it.



Section IV Writing

Part A

47 Directions:

You are a senior of English for Business. A German company in China is recruiting an assistant to marketing project manager, which requires a good command of English and knowledge in German especially. Write a letter of about 100 words applying for the position, introducing yourself and asking for an interview. You needn't write the address. Do not sign your own name at the end of the letter, using "Wang Lin" instead.

Part B

48 Directions:

Study the following pie chart carefully and write an essay based on the tips:

1. Describe the picture
2. Show your understanding of the symbolic meaning of the picture below
3. Give your opinions or advice

You should write at least 150 words neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (15points)

