

English Placement Test (2015.12)

Part I. Cloze Test (共 20 小题, 30 分)

Directions: Read the passage and choose the best answer to each of the blanks in the passage from A, B, C or D. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **Answer Sheet**.

Traveling can be fun and easy. A vacation trip to another part of the country is especially __1__ when the traveling conditions are good. Good traveling conditions __2__ a comfortable and familiar mode of transportation, knowledge of the __3__ language and system of money, __4__ with the customs and habits of the people in the country, and nice travel __5__. All of us have had nice trips like this. We have good __6__ of an enjoyable, relaxing trip.

Most of us have also had trips that we would __7__ to forget. Many conditions can produce a bad __8__ experience. For example, if the four conditions __9__ above do not __10__, we will probably have a bad experience, or in a difficult __11__. Students who travel to __12__ country to study often have a difficult trip. They usually travel __13__, they don't know the language of the new country __14__, they are not familiar with the money system and so on. They often arrive in the new country at a huge __15__ airport. From the airport, they need to __16__ their way to the city where their school is. Maybe they need to __17__ airplanes, to take a bus, a train, or a taxi. They need to do all this in a country __18__ everything is unfamiliar: the language, the money, the people, the cities, and the weather. Later, after the experiences are __19__, they can laugh. But at the __20__, they feel terrible.

1. A) enjoyable B) amusing C) happy D) favorable
2. A) include B) exclude C) conclude D) contain
3. A) place's B) country's C) area's D) city's
4. A) awareness B) understand C) familiar D) familiarity
5. A) friends B) companions C) colleagues D) company
6. A) memories B) impressions C) opinions D) pictures
7. A) like B) have C) want D) need
8. A) trip B) tour C) travel D) visit
9. A) outlined B) talked C) discussed D) listed
10. A) take place B) happen C) exist D) appear
11. A) one B) that C) condition D) situation
12. A) different B) another C) foreign D) other
13. A) along B) alone C) lonely D) themselves
14. A) yet B) too C) either D) already
15. A) national B) international C) domestic D) local
16. A) watch B) notice C) see D) find
17. A) get off B) board C) take D) change
18. A) where B) when C) that D) which
19. A) end B) complete C) over D) gone

20. A) airport B) country C) time D) day

Part II. Reading Comprehension (共 20 题, 40 分)

Directions: Read the passages and choose the best answer to each of the questions that follow. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **Answer Sheet**.

Passage 1

Do you know how to be happy? Here are six ways for you to find more pleasure in your life.

Play that song you love so much. As we all know, repetition can lead to pleasure. When you experience something more than once, you notice more information about it each time, and it increases your enjoyment. That's why you love revisiting that jazz club, the favorite restaurant, and the old Woody Allen movie. Of course, you can't overdo it.

Don't buy boxed sets of DVDs. Economist (经济学家) Tyler says that much of the joy we get from buying things lies in the experience of choosing them, getting them home, and opening them up. If you receive 18 DVDs in one package, you'll use up the excitement all at once. Buy things one at a time and pleasure follows.

Look outside. Our ancestors (祖先) spent almost all of their time outside with trees, water, and sky around. The world in which most of us spend our time nowadays is unnatural and can harm the spirit. Getting close to nature makes you happy.

_____. Staying with animals works wonders. You can pet an animal. It increases the brain chemicals connected with pleasure and decreases those connected with stress. People can get some of the effect by hanging out for a few minutes with pets.

Smile. Well, like it or not, smiling improves your mood (心情). Here's why: when you look happy, people do better to you, which in turn leads you to be happy. What's more, looking happy fools your brain into thinking that you are happy.

21. According to the writer, buying things one at a time can _____.
A. help us save some money
B. spare time for other activities
C. increase our experience of happiness
D. give us more time to consider buying things
22. What's the best title for Paragraph 5? _____.
A. *Pet an animal.* B. *Exercise the brain.*
C. *Decrease work stress.* D. *Hang out more often.*
23. What does the underlined word "decrease" in Paragraph 5 mean? _____.
A. 提高. B. 聚积. C. 排除. D. 减少.
24. Which of the following is right? _____.
A. Smiles fool others' mood. B. Repetition results in pleasure.
C. Animals add to your stress. D. Spending time outside harms your spirit.
25. What is most likely to be discussed in the paragraph that follows? _____.
A. The effect of pleasure on life. B. The writer's own experience.
C. Another way to find pleasure. D. Reasons for finding more pleasure.

Passage 2

Robert had just moved into the street and he felt strange that he was not wanted. He knew that perhaps the other boys were trying to get an idea of what kind of a boy he was. This did not help him to make himself less lonely. He was new and he had to be tested. Still, proving himself would not be all that easy. He did not want to run with the boys or get into something against the law to prove that he was strong. No! He must show what he was made of in a more helpful way. That's when he got the idea.

The next day was Saturday. He knew that most of the boys would be down on the playground and choose up sides for the Saturday game. Robert knew he could play well and that just might be enough to prove he was strong, and to make friends with them. He arrived early and did his step exercises. He shot the ball several times and did some other exercises—the most difficult and most wonderful in basketball. Then the boys came. Robert went through what he had done before the game and showed what he could do. No one said a word. The boys just looked at each other and thought about it. In the end, when it was all over, the biggest of the group just smiled and shook his head. Robert knew he had made it.

26. What does “This did not help to make him less lonely” mean? _____
- A. Robert felt more lonely because the other boys wanted to test him.
 - B. Robert did not want himself to be less lonely.
 - C. Robert felt as lonely as before when the other boys tried to find out what kind of a boy he was.
 - D. The other boys did not want to make Robert feel less lonely.
27. Why would it not be easy for Robert to prove himself? _____
- A. Because he was not sure if he was really strong.
 - B. Because he was new and was not wanted in the street.
 - C. Because the other boys had found out what kind of a boy he was.
 - D. Because he must choose the best way to prove himself.
28. When did Robert decide to prove himself by playing basketball? _____
- A. After he had thought about the other two ways mentioned in paragraph one.
 - B. Long before he moved into the street.
 - C. When the other boys came down to the playground.
 - D. As soon as he showed what he was made of in front of the other boys.
29. What did the biggest of the group mean by shaking his head? _____
- A. He did not want to say anything about what Robert had done.
 - B. He had not thought Robert could play so wonderfully.
 - C. He did not want to make friends with Robert.
 - D. He did not think Robert played basketball well.
30. Which of the following is the best title for this passage? _____
- A. Ways to Prove Oneself.
 - B. Robert Is Lonely.
 - C. Just One of the Boys.
 - D. A Saturday Basketball Game.

Passage 3

Faces, like fingerprints, are unique. Did you ever wonder how it is possible for us

to recognize people? Even a skilled writer probably could not describe all the features that make one face different from another. Yet a very young child ---- or even an animal, such as a pigeon ---- can learn to recognize faces, we all take this ability for granted.

We also tell people apart by how they behave. When we talk about someone's personality, we mean the ways in which he or she acts, speaks, thinks and feels that make that individual different from others.

Like the human face, human personality is very complex. But describing someone's personality in words is somewhat easier than describing his face. If you were asked to describe what a "nice face" looked like, you probably would have a difficult time doing so. But if you were asked to describe a "nice person", you might begin to think about someone who was kind, considerate, friendly, warm, and so forth.

There are many words to describe how a person thinks, feels and acts. Gordon Allport, an American psychologist, found nearly 18,000 English words characterizing differences in people's behavior. And many of us use this information as a basis for describing, or typing, his personality. Bookworms, conservatives, military types ---- people are described with such terms.

People have always tried to "type" each other. Actors in early Greek drama wore masks to show the audience whether they played the villain's (坏人) or the hero's role. In fact, the words "person" and "personality" come from the Latin persona, meaning "mask". Today, most television and movie actors do not wear masks. But we can easily tell the "good guys" from the "bad guys" because the two types differ in appearance as well as in actions.

31. By using the example of fingerprints, the author tells us that _____.
 - A. people can learn to recognize faces
 - B. people have different personalities
 - C. people have difficulty in describing the features of fingerprints
 - D. people differ from each other in facial features
32. According to this passage, some animals have the gift of _____.
 - A. telling people apart by how they behave
 - B. typing each other
 - C. telling good people from bad people
 - D. recognizing human faces
33. Who most probably knows best how to describe people's personality?
 - A. The ancient Greek audience
 - B. The movie actors
 - C. Psychologists
 - D. The modern TV audience
34. According to the passage, it is possible for us to tell one type of person from another because _____.
 - A. people differ in their behavioral and physical characteristics
 - B. human fingerprints provide unique information
 - C. people's behavior can be easily described in words

- D. human faces have complex features
35. Which of the following is the major point of the passage?
- A. Why it is necessary to identify people's personality
 - B. Why it is possible to describe people
 - C. How to get to know people
 - D. How best to recognize people

Passage 4

A boy between the ages of 6 and 14 still admires his mother and has plenty to learn from her.

But his interests are changing – he is becoming more interested in what men have to offer. A boy knows he is turning into a man. He has to learn from a man to complete his development.

The father's job is to step in over time. If there is no father around, then the child depends more on finding other men at school, for example. Yet men are leaving teaching, especially in primary schools. This is a problem.

They insisted, too, that they needed lots of extra support. Throughout primary school years and into high school, boys should spend a lot of time with their fathers and mothers, getting their help, learning how to do things and enjoying their company.

With regard to feelings, at this stage the father is more important. The boy is ready to learn from his father and listens to what he has to say. Often he will take more notice of his father. It's enough to drive a mother wild!

Now is a good time for a father to do "little" things: playing in the yard on summer evenings, going for walks, telling stories about life, telling him about his own youth, working on hobbies or sports together for the enjoyment of doing it. This is the time when good memories are laid down that will be healthy to your son, and you, for years to come.

Although every boy is different, it's common for boys at this age to get a little argumentative (好辩论的), restless and moody (情绪无常的). It's not that they are turning bad – just that they are being born into a new self and birth always means struggle.

I believe this is the age when we fail teenagers the most. In our society all we offer those in the middle teens is "more of the same": more school. So it's little wonder that problems arise.

36. According to the passage a boy needs the help of _____ to develop well.
- A) his mother only
 - B) his father only
 - C) neither his mother nor his father
 - D) both his mother and father
37. One problem for a boy's development is that _____.
- A) there are fewer men teaching in primary schools
 - B) there are fewer women teaching in primary schools
 - C) the boy's interests are changing
 - D) the boy wants to act as a man

38. The good time for a father to have an influence on his son is _____.
 A) when the boy is 14 B) when the boy is at primary school
 C) from about age 6 to the 14th birthday D) since the boy was born
39. By the middle teens boys argue often with their parents. This means _____.
 A) they are turning bad
 B) they are turning good
 C) they are being born into a new self
 D) they are rebelling against their parents
40. The main idea of this passage is that _____.
 A) fathers play an equal role in raising boys
 B) mothers should feel comfortable when their sons' interests are changing.
 C) without fathers mothers can raise good men
 D) fathers should stay with their sons as much as possible

III. Writing (30 分)

Directions: On August 22, 2013, the Ministry of Education issued a 10-point order draft on alleviating the heavy burdens placed on primary school students. According to the draft, pupils would cease to have homework after school. You are required to write a short passage entitled **Will a Homework Ban Make Any Difference**. You should write at least 150 words following the outline given below. You should write on the **Answer Sheet**.

1. Some think that a homework ban is a good thing;
2. Others think that it may cause many problems;
3. Your opinion.

English Placement Test (Answer Sheet)

Name _____ Score _____

Part I Cloze (30%)

- 1.[A][B][C][D] 6.[A][B][C][D] 11.[A][B][C][D] 16.[A][B][C][D]
2.[A][B][C][D] 7.[A][B][C][D] 12.[A][B][C][D] 17.[A][B][C][D]
3.[A][B][C][D] 8.[A][B][C][D] 13.[A][B][C][D] 18.[A][B][C][D]
4.[A][B][C][D] 9.[A][B][C][D] 14.[A][B][C][D] 19.[A][B][C][D]
5.[A][B][C][D] 10.[A][B][C][D] 15.[A][B][C][D] 20.[A][B][C][D]

Part II Reading Comprehension (40%)

- 21.[A][B][C][D] 26.[A][B][C][D] 31.[A][B][C][D] 36. [A][B][C][D]
22.[A][B][C][D] 27.[A][B][C][D] 32.[A][B][C][D] 37. [A][B][C][D]
23.[A][B][C][D] 28.[A][B][C][D] 33.[A][B][C][D] 38. [A][B][C][D]
24.[A][B][C][D] 29.[A][B][C][D] 34.[A][B][C][D] 39. [A][B][C][D]
25.[A][B][C][D] 30.[A][B][C][D] 35.[A][B][C][D] 40. [A][B][C][D]

Part III. Writing (30%)
