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## 全国 2008 年 4 月高等教育自学考试

### 英语词汇学试题

课程代码：00832

I. Each of the statements below is followed by four alternative answers. Choose the one that best completes the statement and put the letter in the bracket. (30%)

1. Words fall into the basic word stock and nonbasic vocabulary by \_\_\_\_\_. ( )

- A. use frequency
- B. notion
- C. productivity
- D. origin

2. Words like bear, nut, knocked out can be categorized as \_\_\_\_\_. ( )

- A. terminology
- B. jargon
- C. slang
- D. neologisms

3. Identify the word that is of Scandinavian origin among the following. ( )

- A. Skirt
- B. Dress
- C. Model
- D. Status

4. Which of the following statements is **NOT** true? ( )

- A. Old English was a highly inflected language.

- B. Reviving archaic or obsolete words also contribute to the growth of English vocabulary  
C. The word *cloak* is of French origin.  
D. Modern English is a synthetic language.
5. The root of the word “antecedent” is \_\_\_\_\_. ( )  
A. ante- B. -ced-  
C. -dent D. -ent
6. Shortening a longer word by cutting a part off the original and using what remains is called \_\_\_\_\_. ( )  
A. blending B. clipping  
C. acronymy D. back-formation
7. Associative meaning of words comprises the following except \_\_\_\_\_. ( )  
A. connotative meaning B. lexical meaning  
C. affective meaning D. collocative meaning
8. What is a common feature peculiar to all natural languages? ( )  
A. Suffixation. B. Polysemy.  
C. Allomorph. D. Variation.
9. Which word that formerly meant animal, and later *animal* from Latin and *beast* from French found their way into English? ( )  
A. Deer. B. Cattle.  
C. Sheep. D. Bird.
10. When a word with multiple meanings is used in an inadequate context, this word may create \_\_\_\_\_. ( )  
A. semantic motivation B. degradation  
C. ambiguity D. extension
11. Without \_\_\_\_\_, there is no way to determine the very sense of the word that the speaker intended to convey.  
A. context B. semantic unity  
C. structural stability D. stylistic feature
12. Idioms manifest such rhetorical features as the following except \_\_\_\_\_. ( )  
A. phonetic manipulation B. lexical manipulation  
C. literary expressions D. figures of speech
13. According to its grammatical functions, idioms can be classified into five groups. The idiom “heart and soul” belongs to \_\_\_\_\_. ( )  
A. idioms nominal in nature B. idioms adjectival in nature  
C. idioms verbal in nature D. idioms adverbial in nature
14. The main body for a dictionary is \_\_\_\_\_ of words. ( )  
A. spellings B. pronunciations  
C. definitions D. grammar
15. Readers can't find pronunciation or meaning in \_\_\_\_\_. ( )  
A. *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English with Chinese Translation*  
B. *The Encyclopedia Americana*  
C. *Chamber's Encyclopedic English Dictionary*  
D. *Collins COBUILD English Language Dictionary*

## II. Complete the following statements with proper words or expressions according to the course book. (10%)

16. Affixes attached to the end of words to indicate grammatical relationships are known as \_\_\_\_\_ morphemes.  
17. The chief function of \_\_\_\_\_ is not to change the word class of the stem, but to change its meaning.

18. "Pavement" in British English and "sidewalk" in American English have the same \_\_\_\_\_.
19. Red, scarlet, mauve, violet, lavender, pansy, black, purple, etc, make up the \_\_\_\_\_ field of 'colours'.
20. Some words can have two different types of antonyms at the same time, one being \_\_\_\_\_ and the other opposite

**III. Match the words or expressions in Column A with those in Column B according to 1) types of meanings; 2) types of motivations; 3) types of dictionaries; 4) origins of English and 5) types of sense relations. (10%)**

- | A  | B                             |
|--|-------------------------------|
| ( ) 21. queer, odd                           | A. onomatopoeically motivated |
| ( ) 22. surplus value                        | B. subordinate hyponymy       |
| ( ) 23. miaow                                | C. specialized dictionary     |
| ( ) 24. CED                                  | D. Greek                      |
| ( ) 25. hard disk, CPU etc. — computer       | E. polysemy                   |
| ( ) 26. technology                           | F. semantically motivated     |
| ( ) 27. Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs  | G relative synonym            |
| ( ) 28. The pen is mightier than the sword.  | H. conceptual meaning         |
| ( ) 29. gay-joyous, brilliant and homosexual | I. bilingual dictionary       |
| ( ) 30. home/dwelling place                  | J. German                     |

**IV. Study the following words or expressions and identify 1) types of context; 2) types of word formation; 3) causes of meaning change; 4) types of bound morphemes underlined. (10%)**

31. boob-head-one who returns too often to jail ( )
32. ascendant ( )
33. look out/look out ( )
34. descend ( )
35. telequiz ( )
36. landlord (in English vs. in Chinese) ( )
37. a coloured nail/a copper nail ( )
38. tolerance ( )
39. churl-bad people ( )
40. stockholder ( )

**V. Define the following terms. (10%)**

41. creation (as a mode of vocabulary development)
42. free morphemes
43. collocative meaning
44. concatenation
45. grammatical context

**VI. Answer the following questions. Your answers should be clear and short. Write your answers in the space given below. (12%)**

46. What is suffixation? Give an example to illustrate your point
47. What is the remarkable feature of *Longman Lexicon of Contemporary English* ?
48. Supply two examples to illustrate that the influx of borrowings has caused some words to change in meaning.

**VII. Analyze and comment on the following. Write your answers in the space given below. ( 18 % )**

49. Explain the meaning of the phrase "a laconic answer", using the theory of motivation.
50. Study the following sentence: 1) pick out the idiom, 2) explain its origin, and 3) comment on

the use.

David's head was in the tool-box, but his voice was heard saying, "Too many cooks, better let me."

