

2024年10月高等教育自学考试全国统一考试

英语阅读（二）

（课程代码 00596）

注意事项：

1. 本试卷分为两部分，第一部分为选择题，第二部分为非选择题。
2. 应考者必须按试题顺序在答题卡（纸）指定位置上作答，答在试卷上无效。
3. 涂写部分必须使用2B铅笔，书写部分必须使用黑色字迹签字笔。

第一部分 选择题

一、阅读理解：本大题共20小题，每小题2分，共40分。本部分包含4篇短文，每篇短文后有5个问题，请从每小题给出的4个备选项中选出最佳选项。并在答题卡相应位置上将该项涂黑。

Passage one

阅读下面短文，回答1~5小题。

It's nice to have people of like mind around. Agreeable people boost your confidence and allow you to relax and feel comfortable. Unfortunately, that comfort can hinder the very learning that can expand your company and your career.

It's nice to have people agree, but you need conflicting perspectives to dig out the truth. If everyone around you has similar views, your work will suffer from confirmation bias (偏颇).

Take a look at your own network. Do your contacts share your point of view on most subjects? If yes, it's time to shake things up. As a leader, it can be challenging to create an environment in which people will freely disagree and argue, but as the saying goes: From confrontation comes brilliance.

It's not easy for most people to actively seek conflict. Many spend their lives trying to avoid arguments. There's no need to go out and find people you hate, but you need to do some self-assessment to determine where you have become stale in your thinking. You may need to start by encouraging your current network to help you identify your blind spots.

Passionate, energetic debate does not require anger and hard feelings to be effective. But it does require moral strength. Once you have worthy opponents, set some ground rules so everyone understands responsibilities and boundaries. The objective of this debating game is not to win but to get to the truth that will allow you to move faster, farther, and better.

Fierce debating can hurt feelings, particularly when strong personalities are involved. Make sure you check in with your opponents so that they are not carrying the emotion of the battles beyond the battlefield. Break the tension with smiles and humor to reinforce the idea that this is friendly discourse and that all are working toward a common goal.

Reward all those involved in the debate sufficiently when the goals are reached. Let your sparring partners (拳击陪练) know how much you appreciate their contribution. The more they feel appreciated, the more they'll be willing to get into the ring next time.

1. What happens when you have like-minded people around you all the while?
 - A. It will help your company expand more rapidly.
 - B. It will create a harmonious working atmosphere.
 - C. It may prevent your business and career from advancing.
 - D. It may make you feel uncertain about your own decisions.
2. What does the author suggest leaders do?
 - A. Avoid arguments with business partners.
 - B. Encourage people to disagree and argue.
 - C. Build a wide and strong business network.
 - D. Seek advice from their worthy competitors.
3. What is the purpose of holding a debate?
 - A. To find out the truth about an issue.
 - B. To build up people's moral strength.
 - C. To remove misunderstandings.
 - D. To look for worthy opponents.
4. What advice does the author give to people engaged in a fierce debate?
 - A. They listen carefully to their opponents' views.
 - B. They show due respect for each other's beliefs.
 - C. They present their views clearly and explicitly.
 - D. They take care not to hurt each other's feelings.
5. How should we treat our rivals after a successful debate?
 - A. Try to make peace with them.
 - B. Try to make up the differences.
 - C. Invite them to the ring next time.
 - D. Acknowledge their contribution.

Passage Two

阅读下面短文，回答 6~10 小题。

Junk food is everywhere. We're eating way too much of it. Most of us know what we're doing and yet we do it anyway.

So here's a suggestion offered by two researchers at the Rand Corporation: Why not take a lesson from alcohol control policies and apply them to where food is sold and how it's displayed?

"Many policy measures to control obesity (肥胖症) assume that people consciously and rationally choose what and how much they eat and therefore focus on providing information and more access to healthier foods," note the two researchers.

"In contrast," the researchers continue, "many regulations that don't assume people make rational choices have been successfully applied to control alcohol, a substance — like food — of which immoderate consumption leads to serious health problems."

The research references studies of people's behavior with food and alcohol and results of alcohol restrictions, and then lists five regulations that the researchers think might be promising if applied to junk foods. Among them:

Density restrictions: licenses to sell alcohol aren't handed out unplanned to all corners but are allotted (分配) based on the number of places in an area that already sell alcohol. These make alcohol less easy to get and reduce the number of psychological cues to drink.

Similarly, the researchers say, being presented with junk food stimulates our desire to eat it. So why not limit the density of food outlets, particularly ones that sell food rich in empty calories? And why not limit sale of food in places that aren't primarily food stores?

Display and sales restrictions: California has a rule prohibiting alcohol displays near the cash registers in gas stations, and in most places you can't buy alcohol at drive-through facilities. At supermarkets, food companies pay to have their wares in places where they're easily seen. One could remove junk food to the back of the store and ban them from the shelves at checkout lines. The other measures include restricting portion sizes, taxing and prohibiting special price deals for junk foods, and placing warning labels on the products.

6. What does the author say about junk food?
- A. People should be educated not to eat too much.
 - B. It is widely consumed despite its ill reputation.
 - C. Its temptation is too strong for people to resist.
 - D. It causes more harm than is generally realized.

7. What do the Rand researchers think of many of the policy measures to control obesity?
- A. They should be implemented effectively.
 - B. They provide misleading information.
 - C. They are based on wrong assumptions.
 - D. They help people make rational choices.
8. Why do policymakers of alcohol control place density restrictions?
- A. Few people are able to resist alcohol's temptations.
 - B. There are already too many stores selling alcohol.
 - C. Drinking strong alcohol can cause social problems.
 - D. Easy access leads to customers' over-consumption.
9. What is the purpose of California's rule about alcohol display in gas stations?
- A. To effectively limit the density of alcohol outlets.
 - B. To help drivers to give up the habit of drinking.
 - C. To prevent possible traffic jams in nearby areas.
 - D. To get alcohol out of drivers' immediate sight.
10. What is the general guideline the Rand researchers suggest about junk food control?
- A. Guiding people to make rational choices about food.
 - B. Enhancing people's awareness of their own health.
 - C. Borrowing ideas from alcohol control measures.
 - D. Resorting to economic, legal and psychological means.

Passage Three

阅读下面短文，回答 11~15 小题。

New Yorkers are gradually getting used to more pedaling (骑车的) passengers on those shining blue Citi Bikes. But what about local bike shops? Is Citi Bike rolling up riders at their expense?

At Gotham Bikes in Tribeca, manager W. Ben said the shop has seen an increase in its overall sales due to the bike-share program. "It's getting more people on the road," he said. James Ryan, an employee at Danny's Cycles in Gramercy, also said Citi Bike is a good option for people to ease into biking in a city famed for its traffic jams and aggressive drivers. "They can try out a bike without committing to buying one," he said.

Rentals are not a big part of the business at either Gotham Bikes or Danny's Cycles. But for Frank's Bike Shop, a small business on Grand St., the bike-share program has been bad news. Owner Frank Arroyo said his rental business has decreased by 90% since Citi Bike was

rolled out last month. Arroyo's main rental customers are European tourists, who have since been drawn away by Citi Bikes.

However, Ben said the bike-share is good for bike sales at his shop. "People have used the bike-share and realized how great it is to bike in the city, then decide that they want something nicer for themselves," he noted.

Christian Farrell of Waterfront Bicycle Shop, on West St. just north of Christopher St., said initially he was concerned about bike-share, though, he admitted, "I was happy to see people on bikes."

Farrell's early concerns were echoed by Andrew Crooks, owner of NYC Velo, at 64 Second Ave. "It seemed like a great idea, but one that would be difficult to implement," Crooks said of Citi Bike. He said he worried about inexperienced riders' lack of awareness of biking rules and strong negative reaction from non-cyclists. However, he said, it's still too early to tell if his business has been impacted.

While it's possible bike-share will cause a drop in business, Crooks allowed that the idea is a positive step forward for New York City.

11. What is the author's chief concern about the increasing use of Citi Bikes in New York?
 - A. How non-cyclists will respond to it.
 - B. Whether local bike shops will suffer.
 - C. Whether local bike businesses will oppose it.
 - D. How the safety of bike riders can be ensured.
12. What happened to Gotham Bikes as a result of the bike-share program?
 - A. It found its bike sales unaffected.
 - B. It shifted its business to rentals.
 - C. It saw its bike sales on the rise.
 - D. It rented more bikes to tourists.
13. Why is the bike-share program bad news for Franks Bike Shop?
 - A. It cannot meet the demand of the bike-share program.
 - B. Its customers have been drawn away by Citi Bikes.
 - C. Its bike prices have to be lowered again and again.
 - D. It has to compete with the city's bike rental shops.
14. Why did Andrew Crooks think that the bike-share program would be difficult to execute?
 - A. Inexperienced riders might break biking rules.
 - B. Conflicts might arise among bike rental shops.
 - C. Traffic conditions might worsen in the downtown area.
 - D. There are not enough lanes to accommodate the bikes.

15. What is the general attitude of local bike shops towards Citi Bike?
 - A. Wait-and-see.
 - B. Negative.
 - C. Indifferent.
 - D. Approving.

Passage Four

阅读下面短文, 回答 16~20 小题。

As a society we might want to rethink the time and money spent on education, so that these resources can benefit a greater percentage of the population. Ideally, both high schools and colleges can prepare individuals for the ever-changing roles that are likely to be expected of them.

High school degrees offer far less in the way of preparation for work than they might, or than many other nations currently offer, creating a growing skills gap in our economy. We encourage students to go on to college whether they are prepared or not, or have a clear sense of purpose or interest, and now have the highest college dropout rate in the world.

We might look to other countries for models of how high schools can offer better training, as well as the development of a *work ethic* (勤奋工作的美德) and the intellectual skills needed for continued learning and development. I recommend Harvard's 2011 "Pathways to Prosperity" report for more attention to the "forgotten half" (those who do not go on to college) and ideas about how to address this issue.

Simultaneously, the liberal arts become more important than ever. In a knowledge economy where professional roles change rapidly and many college students are preparing for positions that may not even exist yet, the skill set needed is one that prepares them for change and continued learning.

Learning to express ideas well in both writing and speech, knowing how to find information, and knowing how to do research are all solid background skills for a wide variety of roles, and such training is more important than any particular major in a liberal arts college. We need to continue to value broad preparation in thinking skills that will serve for a lifetime.

Students also need to learn to work independently and to make responsible decisions. The lengthening path to adulthood appears *exacerbated* (恶化) by parental involvement in the college years. Given the rising investment in college education, parental concern is not surprising, but learning where and when to *intervene* (干预) will help students take more ownership of the outcomes of these increasingly costly educations.

第二部分 非选择题

16. What kind of education does the author think is ideal?
- A. It benefits the great majority of the general population.
 - B. It prepares students to meet the future needs of society.
 - C. It encourages students to learn throughout their lives.
 - D. It ensures that students' expectations are successfully fulfilled.
17. What does the author say is the problem with present high school education?
- A. Ignoring the needs of those who don't go to college.
 - B. Teaching skills to be used right after graduation only.
 - C. Giving little attention to those having difficulty learning.
 - D. Creating the highest dropout rate in the developed world.
18. What characterizes a knowledge economy according to the passage?
- A. People have to receive higher education to qualify for a professional position.
 - B. Students majoring in liberal arts usually have difficulty securing a job.
 - C. New positions are constantly created that require people to keep learning.
 - D. Colleges find it hard to teach students how to cope with the changing economy.
19. What does the author think a liberal arts college should focus on?
- A. Solid background knowledge in a particular field.
 - B. Practical skills urgently needed in current society.
 - C. Basic skills needed for change and lifelong learning.
 - D. Useful thinking skills for advanced academic research.
20. What suggestion does the author offer to parents?
- A. Rethinking the value of higher education.
 - B. Investing wisely in their children's education.
 - C. Helping their children to bring their talent into full play.
 - D. Avoiding too much intervention in their children's education.

二、文中找词：本大题共 15 小题，每小题 1 分，共 15 分。阅读下列短文，在文中找出与短文后所给各题意思大致相同的词，每小题括号内已给出参考的段落，请将所找的词写在答题卡相应的位置上。

The ups and downs of life may seem to have no predictable plan. But scientists now know there are very definite life patterns that almost all people share. Today, when we live 20 years longer than our great-grandparents, and when women mysteriously outlive men by seven years, it is clearer than ever that the "game of life" is really a game of trade-offs. As we age, we trade strength for ingenuity, speed for thoroughness, and passion for reason. These exchanges may not always seem fair, but at every age, there are some advantages. So it is reassuring to note that even if you've passed some of your "prime", you still have other prime years to experience in the future. Certain important primes seem to peak later in time.

When are you smartest? From 18 to 25, according to IQ scores; but you are more experienced with increasing age. You're sharpest in your 20's; around 30, memory begins to decline, particularly your ability to perform mathematical computations. "But your IQ for other tasks climbs," says Berkeley psychologist Arthur Jensen. Your vocabulary at age 45, for example, is three times as great as when you graduated from college. At 60, your brain possesses almost four times as much information as it did at age 21. This trade-off between sharpness and wisdom has led psychologist Dr. Leopold Bellak to suggest that "maturity quotients" (MQs instead of IQs) be adopted for adults.

When are you healthiest? For men, from 15 to 25; for women 15 to 30. "A man is in his best shape in the decade before age 25," says New York internist Dr. Donald Tomkins. "His muscles are firmest, his resistance to colds and infection is highest, and his body is most efficient in utilizing nutrients." Women, for reasons scientists do not understand, get a five-year bonus. Peak health begins to decline when the body process called anabolism (cell growth) is overtaken by the opposite process, catabolism (cell death). "Cells have been dying since birth," says Tomkins, "but in our late 20's, they start dying faster than they are replaced." Also, muscle is replaced with fat.

Women also get an additional bonus of good health later in life. The figures of National Institute of Health show that the onset of such "old age" diseases as arthritis, rheumatism and heart ailments denies the generally greater fitness of women. Life expectancy for men is now 68.3; for women 75.9. U.S. aging authority William Kannel says, "Older women with low blood pressure are practically important." However, psychologists believe that by entering the

competitive job market in increasing numbers, women may eventually give up their statistical advantage.

When are you most likely to develop mental disorders? From 30 to 35. This surprisingly narrow peak is very real. The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) reports that more than half of the patients in mental hospitals, male and female, are in this age group (men leading women by about 20%).

But if we are most neurotic between 30 and 35, apparently we recover quickly. Admissions to mental hospitals drop sharply around age 40 and stay down until age 65. Yet, say psychologists, between 40 and 55, more people report they “feel” on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Relatively few actually occur. “We become veterans at coping,” says psychologist Marvin Karlins.

Suicide, a measure of mental problems, peaks from 20 to 24 and then again around 70. Incidences of suicide are smallest among people with intact marriages, highest among the divorced.

21. that can be seen or told in advance (Para. 1)
22. live longer than (Para. 1)
23. skill and cleverness in making and arranging things (Para. 1)
24. the time of greatest perfection, strength or activity (Para. 1)
25. decrease, move from a better to worse position (Para. 2)
26. of or related to the abstract science of number, quantity, etc. (Para. 2)
27. the ability to withstand adverse conditions (Para. 3)
28. the state of result of disease being put into body (Para. 3)
29. any substance that provides essential nourishment for the maintenance of life (Para. 3)
30. anything pleasant, but unexpected (Para. 3)
31. a state of expectation, a prospect, esp. of future possession (Para. 4)
32. of collected numbers which represent facts or measurement (Para. 4)
33. suffering from mental illness (Para. 6)
34. an edge or border (Para. 6)
35. a person who has had long experience (Para. 6)

三、补全语段大意:本大题共10小题,每小题2分,共20分。本部分包含10个段落,每个段落有一个概括大意的句子,根据所给首字母填入遗漏的单词以使句子完整。请把答案写在答题卡相应的位置上。

Paragraph One

Besides the academic degree, teachers should also be interested in teaching. It was necessary not only that teachers should be knowledgeable in their major fields, but also that they should be skillful. In addition, the teacher must have proficiency in the target language that includes four skills: understanding, speaking, reading, and writing.

36. It is really d_____ to be a teacher.

Paragraph Two

Living in the city, people can participate in the political and cultural activities and see the latest films. There are good schools for children to study in the city. And there are big department stores for residents to buy a great variety of goods produced in every part of the world.

37. It's good to l_____ in the city.

Paragraph Three

One way to keep from getting bored, sad, and lonely is to go somewhere where things are happening. Sitting alone can make you feel frustrated. Instead of feeling sorry for yourself, get involved and become a participant. Offer your services in volunteer organizations. Help yourself by helping other people. Get involved in the world and the people around you, and you'll find they'll be attracted to you. You'll be on your way to making new friends and enjoying new activities.

38. Be a p_____.

Paragraph Four

But body image is much more. It is the mental picture a person has of his/her body as well as their thoughts, feelings, judgments, sensations, awareness and behavior. It's not uncommon for people who think poorly of their bodies to have problems in other areas of their lives, including sexuality, careers and relationships.

39. P_____ outcome from perception of body image.

Paragraph Five

The popularity of rivalries fueled the attraction of the game (base-ball) and caused it to become the national past time. The sport transformed from being a game of amateurs into a sport played by professionals. With that transformation, the innocence of baseball had been lost.

40. Baseball t_____ to a professional sport.

Paragraph Six

Upcoming experiments on the space shuttle may lead to production of a new generation of drugs for treating cancer and high blood pressure and preventing rejection of transplanted organs. The drugs could be worth billions of dollars to the pharmaceutical industry.

41. A p_____ result from space experiment.

Paragraph Seven

The birds are shipped to some chosen places a few hundred miles away. Then all of them are let go together. The winner is the bird that goes home first. A good racer can make it home 500 miles away in a single day.

42. To hold a c_____.

Paragraph Eight

Bloated by melting snow and rain across the Upper Midwest, the Mississippi River rose out of its banks and strained against dikes. Hundreds of people had left their homes in low-lying riverside areas of Wisconsin and Iowa. A 403-mile stretch of the Mississippi from Muscatine, Iowa, to Minneapolis was closed to boat and barge traffic.

43. Mississippi River f_____ in Upper Midwest.

Paragraph Nine

The vitality of our societies will increasingly depend on active participation by older persons. It is therefore imperative that we foster economic and social conditions that will allow people of all ages to remain integrated into society. An essential challenge is to promote a culture that values the experience and knowledge that come with age.

44. A favorable e_____ to ensure older people's participation in society.

Paragraph Ten

The challenge for the future, therefore, is how best to deal with youth violence. Unfortunately, we are obsessed with quick and easy solutions that will not work, such as the wholesale transfer of juveniles to the jurisdiction of the adult court, parental responsibility laws, midnight curfews, the V-chip, boot camps, three strikes, even caning and capital punishment, at the expense of long-term and difficult solutions that will work, such as providing young children with strong, positive role models, quality schools, and recreation programs.

45. The c_____ to dealing with future youth violence.

四、英译汉：本大题共 6 小题，第 46~50 小题各 4 分，第 51 小题 5 分，共 25 分。在下面短文中，有 6 组下划线的句子，请将文中划线句子翻译成中文，并将答案写在答题卡相应的位置上。

Virtually every company with a computer is vulnerable to computer abuse, crime and accident. Security of the computer and of the information and assets contained within it are therefore of paramount importance to management. 46. Skilled computer criminals can break into a computer system far more easily than an armed robber can gain access to a bank vault (银行的保险库), and usually with far less risk of apprehension (逮捕) and punishment. A slight change in a complex program can bring about the misappropriation of thousands of pounds. Accidental erasure of crucial data can paralyse (使瘫痪) company's operations. Anyone familiar with the necessary procedure can gain access to information stored in the computer, no matter how confidential (机密), and use it for his own purposes.

Although the actual extent of computer crime is difficult to measure, most experts agree that it is one of the fastest growing areas of illegal activity. The principal reason for both the growth and the lack of accurate measurement is the difficulty in detecting a well-executed theft. Losses per incident thus tend to be higher than in other types of theft. 47. Once the computer criminal has compromised the system, it is just as easy to steal a great sum as it is to steal a little, and to continue stealing long after the initial theft. Indeed, the computer criminal may find it more difficult to stop his illicit activity than to start it.

48. Computer criminals are, for the most part, well-educated and highly intelligent, and have the analytical skills that make them valued employees. The fact that computer criminals do not fit criminal stereotypes (老套) helps them to obtain the positions they require to carry out crimes. 49. Being intelligent, they have fertile imaginations, and the variety of ways in which they use equipment to their advantage is constantly being extended. In addition to direct theft of funds, the theft of data ("program-napping") for corporate espionage (间谍活动) or extortion (敲诈, 勒索) is becoming widespread, and can obviously have a substantial effect on a company's finances. Another lucrative (有利的, 赚钱的) scheme, often difficult to detect, involves accumulating fractions pence from individual payroll (工资名单) accounts, with electronic transfer of the accumulated amount to the criminal's payroll. Employers are hardly concerned with pence, much less fractions of pence. In addition, of course, the company's total payroll is unaffected. But the cumulative value of fractions of pence per employee in a company with a substantial payroll can add up to a useful gain.

Sabotage (蓄意破坏) is also an increasingly common type of computer crime. This can involve disabling the hardware, but is more likely to affect the software. Everyone in the

computer business has heard of cases of a “time-bomb” being placed in a program.
50. Typically, the programmer inserts an instruction that causes the computer to destroy an entire personnel data bank, for example, if the programmer’s employment is terminated. As soon as the termination data is fed into the system, it automatically erases the entire program.

51. Such acts of sabotage are particularly difficult to prevent because they do not become evident until the trigger (扳机, 触发器) is activated (使活跃起来) — by remote control. But, of course, not all computer losses are attributable (可归因的) to theft or abuse. Simple human error is by far the largest cause of system failure. Data stored on disks or tapes may be accidentally erased, or improper entry of information may introduce errors into the database. This is partly why every newly-created program must undergo extensive debugging (移去程序中的错误).

