

14. The school choir sang “I love you, China” and other _____ songs for the distinguished guests.
- A. dogmatic B. pragmatic
C. dramatic D. patriotic
15. A pleasant smell related to a good experience can bring a rush of joy, while a foul odor associated with a bad memory may make us _____ with disgust.
- A. grimace B. warp
C. scrunch D. shrug

Read the following passage carefully and complete the succeeding three items II, III, IV.

- (1) As birth announcements go, it was momentous. On November 24th India’s government declared that the country’s **fertility** rate had dropped to 2.0 children per woman. That is below the replacement rate—at which new births are sufficient to maintain a steady population—and puts India in the company of many richer economies. Indeed, fertility rates are now below replacement level in all four “BRIC” countries (Brazil, Russia, India and China), with the population probably falling in Russia and China. It is no surprise that emerging economies should follow a demographic trend similar to that travelled by rich economies before them. But the pace of change seems to be accelerating, with potentially profound implications for the global economy.
- (2) What social scientists refer to as the “demographic transition” (人口转型) has long been an essential feature of economic modernization. In pre-industrial societies both birth and death rates (annual births and deaths per 1,000 people) were very high, and overall population growth was uneven and slow. But in the 18th century, death rates in parts of north-west Europe began to decline, marking the first stage of a dramatic demographic shift. Falling death rates led to rapid population growth; Britain’s population roughly doubled between 1760 and 1830. Yet from the late 18th century, fertility rates began to decline as well. By the 20th century, birth and death rates in rich countries stabilized at low levels, leading to slow or even negative population growth in the absence of immigration.
- (3) Transitions are complex social phenomena. Falling death rates are easiest to explain, as the product of improved nutrition, medicine and public health. Falling birth rates are in part a response to economic incentives. As the return

to skill increases, for example, families seem to have fewer children in order to invest more in each child’s education. But culture matters, too. In a recent paper, Enrico Spolaore of Tufts University and Romain Wacziarg of the University of California, note that in Europe, new fertility norms first emerged in France in the late 18th and early 19th century. The fashion for fewer births was probably rooted both in changes in outlook associated with the Enlightenment and in the spread of information about family planning. As birth rates fell across Europe, they did so faster and earlier in places with linguistic and cultural ties to France.

- (4) Demographic transitions today follow fairly similar patterns, reckon Matthew Delventhal of Claremont McKenna College and Jesus Fernandez-Villaverde of the University of Pennsylvania in another new paper. The authors gather data on 186 countries, and find that all but 11 have experienced the transition to lower, more stable death rates that are well below pre-industrial norms. A bevy of about 70 countries began their transition toward low fertility rates between 1960 and 1990. Only one country—Chad—has yet to begin a fertility transition. (In 80 countries, both mortality and fertility shifts toward modern lows are now complete.)
- (5) Importantly, the pace at which countries undergo a demographic transition seems to have sped up. While Britain’s transition **unfolded** in a leisurely fashion between the 1790s and the 1950s, Chile’s occurred more briskly between the 1920s and the 1970s, and those begun toward the end of the 20th century have taken only a few decades. This acceleration seems at least partly to reflect what the authors call “demographic contagion”, or the fact that transitions occur sooner and faster where geographically and culturally proximate places have already undergone a fertility shift. This proximity effect may also mean transitions now start at lower income levels. Whereas fertility transitions over the past two centuries tended to begin at GDP per person of about \$2,700 (on a purchasing-power-parity basis and in 2011 prices), those begun since 1990 occurred at an income level of around \$1,500.
- (6) The result of this rush into the demographic transition is a steady drop in global fertility and population growth. The world’s fertility rate, which stood at 3.5 births per woman in the mid-1980s, fell to just 2.4 in 2019. Indeed it is possible, given observed declines in rich-world births during the pandemic,

that covid-19 may have pushed the world as a whole within sight of a replacement-level fertility rate, if only temporarily. The world's population will continue to grow even after that level is attained, because of the large number of people either at or approaching child-rearing age. India's population, for example, is still expected to rise to about 1.6bn by mid-century. But that is a lower peak (by about 100m people) reached sooner (by about a decade) than previously expected. Similarly, the rapid decline in global fertility may mean that projections by the UN, which show the global population rising toward 11bn by 2100, will ultimately have to be revised downwards.

(7) The global completion of the demographic transition will not be without its headaches. It may complicate long-run macroeconomic problems. Researchers note that increased saving by aging populations **depresses** inflation and interest rates. As the share of world population over 50 rises from 25% today to 40% in 2100, low interest rates may become more entrenched, returns on assets could drop and global imbalances widen.

(8) Yet demographic transitions could also bring a range of economic benefits. Slower population growth could make the challenge of cutting carbon emissions less daunting. And the potential of the fewer workers around might be better realized, through better education and more women participating in the labor force. The arrival of immigrants, once viewed as a threat, could even become as momentous an occasion as a birth in the family.

II. In this section, there are ten incomplete statements or questions, followed by four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the best answer and write the corresponding letter on your Answer Sheet. (20 points, 2 points for each)

16. In Paragraph 1, the word "fertility" refers to the ability to _____.
A. enhance cooperation B. exchange information
C. produce young D. boost economy
17. According to Paragraph 2, what is true about the demographic transition?
A. It is an effective measure to bring down death rates.
B. It is a predictable result of the shortage of immigrants.
C. It is an inevitable outcome of rapid population growth.
D. It is an important indicator of economic modernization.

18. According to Paragraph 3, falling birth rates are partly related to _____.
A. changes in culture and economy
B. insufficient supply of nutritious food
C. increased expenses in higher education
D. emergence of diversified fertility norms
19. We can learn from the data gathered by some researchers that most of those 186 countries have _____.
A. shifted toward low fertility rates
B. begun transitions toward high birth rates
C. experienced transitions to lower death rates
D. completed mortality and fertility transitions
20. In Paragraph 5, the word "unfolded" means _____.
A. moved B. emerged
C. narrated D. pervaded
21. We can learn from Paragraph 5 that demographic transitions are faster in countries where _____.
A. their per capita GDP level is relatively low
B. they are culturally linked or close to Britain
C. they want to maintain their established fertility norms
D. their neighbors have already undergone a fertility shift
22. According to Paragraph 6, which of the following shows the impact of covid-19?
A. Rich countries' birth rates have increased faster than those of the poor.
B. The global fertility rate may have approached the replacement-level.
C. India's population has increased to 1.6 billion by 2023.
D. Global population may rise toward 11 billion by 2100.
23. In Paragraph 7, the word "depresses" means _____.
A. brings down B. prevents
C. keeps pace with D. complicates
24. According to Paragraph 8, which of the following reflects the potential benefit of slower population growth?
A. Labor workers could be better educated than before.
B. Women workers could play a more active role in society.
C. The problem of carbon emission could become less severe.
D. The arrivals of immigrants could bring more vitality to families.

25. The main purpose of this passage is to _____.
 A. encourage young people to give birth to more children
 B. point out the essential function of economic modernization
 C. elaborate on the fact that the demographic transition is speeding up
 D. show the relationship between fertility rates and economic benefits

第二部分 非选择题

III. Translate the following sentences into Chinese and write the translation on your Answer Sheet. (10 points, 2 points for each)

26. But the pace of change seems to be accelerating, with potentially profound implications for the global economy.
 27. By the 20th century, birth and death rates in rich countries stabilized at low levels, leading to slow or even negative population growth in the absence of immigration.
 28. As birth rates fell across Europe, they did so faster and earlier in places with linguistic and cultural ties to France.
 29. The result of this rush into the demographic transition is a steady drop in global fertility and population growth.
 30. The global completion of the demographic transition will not be without its headaches. It may complicate long-run macroeconomic problems.

IV. Answer the following essay question in English within 80-100 words. Write your answer on your Answer Sheet. (10 points)

31. What might be the consequences of an aging society?

V. The following paragraphs are taken from the textbooks, followed by a list of words or expressions marked A to Y. Choose the one that best completes each of the sentences and write the corresponding letter on your Answer Sheet. One word or expression for each blank only. (25 points, 1 point for each)

What do we give them in 32? Applause and praise, of course. In one 1972 33 opinion poll, more than 10 percent of the high school boys and 20 percent of the girls said their hero was a rock superstar. We 34 give them money. "The 35 way to become a millionaire these days," says *Forbes*, a business 36, "is to become a rock 'n' roll star."

The need for 37 on euthanasia cannot be dodged for much 38. In one of the world's smaller countries, mercy-killing is 39 by the medical establishment and 40 practiced a few thousand times each year. In one of the world's biggest countries, euthanasia is condemned by the medical establishment, secretly practiced many times more often, and almost 41 comes to light.

In the case of news, this practice, in my view, results in 42 communication. I 43 how much of television's nightly news effort is really 44 and understandable. Much of it is what has been aptly described as "machine-gunning with scraps." I think the technique fights 45. I think it tends to make things ultimately boring and dismissible (unless they are 46 by horrifying pictures) because almost anything is boring and dismissible if you know almost nothing about it.

What will our own lives be like when we are old? Americans find it difficult to think about old age 47 they are propelled into the 48 of it by their own aging and that of relatives and friends. Aging is the neglected 49 of the human life cycle. Though we have begun to 50 the socially taboo subjects of dying and death, we have leaped over that long period of time 51 death known as old age.

I agree that America can set as good a table as any nation in the world. I agree that our food is 52 and that the diet of most of us is well-balanced. What America eats is 53 packaged; it is usually clean and pure; it is excellently preserved. The only trouble 54 it is this: year by year it grows 55 good to eat. It 56 increasingly to the eye. But who eats with his eyes?

A. question	B. accepted	C. return	D. nutritious	E. examine
F. coherence	G. openly	H. also	I. magazine	J. preceding
K. stepchild	L. with	M. accompanied	N. laws	O. fastest
P. less	Q. midst	R. appeals	S. until	T. inefficient
U. handsomely	V. never	W. national	X. longer	Y. absorbable

VI. Translate the following sentences into English and write the translation on your Answer Sheet. (20 points, 2 points each for 57-60, 4 points for 61, 8 points for 62)

57. 那么，选择一种策略来应对它是年轻人必须做出的第一个决定，而且通常也是他们一生中最重要的决定。
58. 当他说到所有那些反对政府、反对议会的话时，他变得越来越丑陋、越来越怨恨，我曾为他担惊受怕。
59. 他们没有以自己的标准来评判他：他属于一个不可理解的阶层，他们起初甚至没有把怯懦这一概念与他的行为联系起来。
60. 事实上，当任务巨大、紧急、有些令人恐惧，并且会受到许多人注意时，我是享受我的工作的。
61. 她把车停在市中心的一个车库里。一切都在为这一刻做准备。她没有把花放在车里，而是放在她心里。现在她将会弄清楚（儿子）是死是活。两种结果她都能忍受。她没想过新闻短片或许不在那里。
62. 虚荣心的麻烦之一是，它随着滋养环境而增长。你被谈论得越多，你就越希望被谈论。一个被允许阅读有关他审判报道的已定罪的杀人犯，如果他发现某家报纸对此报道不足，会感到气愤。他在其他报纸上读到的关于自己的消息越多，对那些报道不充分的报纸就越气愤。政治家和文人也是如此。