

2021年10月高等教育自学考试全国统一命题考试

英语写作

(课程代码 00603)

注意事项:

1. 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。
2. 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。

I. Supply the missing paragraph. (20 points)

The following passage is incomplete with one paragraph missing. Study the passage carefully and write the missing paragraph in about 100 words. Make sure that your tone and diction are in unity with the passage provided.

Chat Rooms in the Smartphone Era

Chat rooms have become an integral aspect of people's lives in the smartphone era. People share news, thoughts, and feelings through lively phone messages. It is no exaggeration to say that every smartphone user belongs to at least one group chat room. Their chat room buddies are mostly family, friends, or people from work. The majority enjoy the casual chats while some occasionally complain about the constant messages from the workplace. Admittedly, chat rooms strengthen family ties and friendships though work-related chat rooms may bother some who care much about their after-work leisure.

To start with, smartphone chat rooms can help narrow emotional distance between family members who live together under the same roof. Words like "thank you" and "sorry" that can be heard frequently among colleagues and strangers are less often spoken among family members. Thanks to chat rooms, these emotions can now be shared through a wide selection of expressive emoticons (表情符号). Specifically, chat rooms can serve as a helpful connection between parents and children, who may otherwise be out of touch with each other most of the time. Listening to their children and being aware of even little things going on in their lives through family chat rooms contribute to better parenting.

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Are group chat rooms just as beneficial in the workplace? The answer is no. The chief reason is that employees have to be available 24/7. While a chat room keeps them informed, employees often feel harassed by messages from the boss, especially after work hours. For example, the boss may check an employee's work, giving more instructions, even long after office hours. If the employee does not reply to the message, it would be the same thing as ignoring the boss. Worse still, employees are not free to simply leave the chat room. They are afraid if they are not part of that online space, they will be left out of real-life interaction with their colleagues. That is why some people view the chat room as prison in the workplace.

In a word, while people appreciate the benefits of connecting and communicating with family members, friends and workmates, they may also suffer from the harassments of work messages in their leisure time. Yet, like it or not, chat rooms are here to stay.

II. Write an outline. (20 points)

Read the following passage carefully and compose a "Topic Outline" for it.

Deadline Trauma

Kelly's last day at high school was full of nostalgic sentimentalities. "All my friends were posting, 'I'm going to miss you! Have fun at Queen's or Western or wherever!'" Though her school had reminded her of the university application deadline in January, Kelly hesitated between arts and medicine as she was enthusiastic about both. The deadline came and went, but she applied for neither. Kelly is not alone; many high school graduates delay their applications.

Every year around this time, prospective university students slave over applications to their preferred programs and schools. In Ontario, almost 90,000 bombard the Ontario University Applications Centre with a total of 480,000 applications by the end of January. A few keeners submit early, the majority apply in the few days before the deadline, and the rest wait until the last minute.

It can be tempting to fall into stereotypes about teens as irresponsible, unfocused and immature, but it's not so simple. "Procrastination (拖延) is never just laziness, even if it sometimes looks that way," says a guidance counselor who has spent 18 years at high schools. "Most kids are somewhere in the middle, but about 15 percent of kids have a plan and are ready—they don't even need talking to. About a quarter need to be reminded and pestered and re-pestered."

Hardcore procrastinators usually fall into two camps, the counselor says. Some students just aren't ready. "Those students often take a year or two to explore the work world and

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decide what they're really looking for." Others have so many choices that they have a hard time choosing a program. Used to being excellent, they deeply fear missteps. They're often operating under the myth that if they choose and change their mind, that's a failure.

Kelly was a bit of both. For a well-rounded student with good grades, the options were daunting. She thought the choice would determine her future job prospect and even her life. Scared and overwhelmed, she simply gave up the choice.

To help reduce the stress, parents should resist the urge to monitor the application process. As education costs climb higher, parents have a larger stake in their kids' success, but "too much parental involvement gets problematic," warns a senior registrar. "We want students to do the soul searching and make decisions themselves."

Still, students shouldn't panic if they miss a deadline. They might just pick up the telephone, like Kelly did in August when she decided she was ready for university and wanted to study at Ryerson. The admissions officers worked some magic and found her a spot. "Despite all the procrastination," says a Ryerson registrar, "it's never too late to check if it's really too late."

Most students may find university application stressful or traumatic; therefore, it is normal for students to procrastinate. Behind their procrastination could be laziness or indecision out of a scare for future uncertainty. Since missteps cannot be avoided, it is well-advised for university applicants to break the myth of failure.

### **III. Compose an essay. (60 points)**

Food waste is a common problem today. Many people order more food than they can consume and throw away food that is no longer good to eat. Write a 300-word essay discussing the causes and offering the solutions.