

2019~2020 学年度高三年级下学期期中考试

英语试卷

时间:120 分钟 分值:150 满分 命题人:刘苗 李如先 审核人:陈合舜

注意事项:

1. 答卷前, 考试务必将自己的姓名、准考证号填写在答题卡上。
2. 回答选择题时, 选出每小题答案后, 用 2B 铅笔把答题卡上对应题目的答案标号涂黑。如需改动, 用橡皮擦干净后, 再选涂其他答案标号。
3. 在答题卡上与题号相对应的答题区域内答题, 写在试卷、草稿纸上或答题卡非题号对应的答题区域的答案一律无效。

第一部分 听力(共两节, 满分 30 分)

第一节

听下面 5 段对话。每段对话后有一个小题, 从题中所给的 A、B、C 三个选项中选出最佳选项。听完每段对话后, 你都有 10 秒钟的时间来回答有关小题和阅读下一小题。每段对话仅读一遍。

1. How much is a ticket to New Jersey?

- A. \$21. B. \$42. C. \$50.

2. Who might Mr. Jones be?

- A. The science teacher.
B. The president of the class.
C. The school headmaster.

3. What is the woman doing right now?

- A. Washing the dishes. B. Working in the garden. C. Cleaning the house.

4. What are the speakers mainly talking about?

- A. Their vacation plan. B. Their budget. C. Their work.

5. Where will Mr. Adams probably go next?

- A. To the teachers' dining hall. B. To the classroom. C. To the gift shop.

第二节

听下面 5 段对话或独白。每段对话或独白后有几个小题, 从题中所给的 A、B、C 三个选项中选出最佳选项。听每段对话或独白前, 你将有时间阅读各个小题, 每小题 5 秒钟; 听完后, 各小题将给出 5 秒钟的作答时间。每段对话或独白读两遍。

听第 6 段材料, 回答第 6、7 题。

6. Where does the conversation probably take place?

- A. In a library. B. In the classroom. C. On the school playground.

7. What is different about Paul and Dave?

- A. Their height. B. Their interests. C. Their hair and eye color.

听第 7 段材料, 回答第 8、9 题。

8. What does the man suggest first?

- A. Having a party. B. Giving a card. C. Ordering something online.

9. What will the woman probably give her mother?

- A. A necklace. B. A cake. C. A handmade item.

听第 8 段材料, 回答第 10 至 12 题。

10. What is the woman doing now?

- A. Eating Saudi Arabian food.
B. Having Chinese dumplings.
C. Planning her day.

11. Who is serving coffee at the international fair?

- A. The Chinese students.
B. The Saudi Arabian students.

- C. The Vietnamese students.
12. What does the man find the best part about the Libyan coffee?
- A. The unusual machine used to make it.
- B. The strong and sweet flavor added to it.
- C. The tradition of using the coffee left in the cup.
- 听第9段材料，回答第13至16题。
13. How does Jane get good grades?
- A. She is lucky. B. She studies well. C. The teachers like her.
14. How does Ted describe his desk?
- A. It is very tall. B. It is a little messy. C. It is usually clear.
15. What does Jane do every half an hour during her study?
- A. She takes a break for 2-3 minutes.
- B. She eats something.
- C. She has some water.
16. Why does Jane think Ted shouldn't just stay at his desk?
- A. Moving around is beneficial.
- B. There are too many books.
- C. It's not quiet there.
- 听第10段材料，回答第17至20题。
17. What was one of the first reality television shows?
- A. *Candid Camera*. B. *The Real Housewives*. C. *Survivor*.
18. What type of show is *The Dating Game*?
- A. A "soap opera"-style show.
- B. A game show.
- C. A "hidden camera"-style show.

19. When did *Big Brother* come out?
- A. In the 2000s. B. In the 1990s. C. In the 1960s.
20. What is the major difference between reality TV shows we know today and other shows?
- A. Reality TV shows use non-actors.
- B. Reality TV shows focus on personal opinions.
- C. Reality TV shows do not follow a written text.

第二部分 阅读理解 (共两节，每小题2分，满分40分)

A

Occasions like anniversaries, weddings and reunions call for special event venues (场地). The following places may have a way out. There's no need to spend money creating atmosphere at special event venues. It's built right in!

Hard Rock Cafe Anchorage

415 E. STREET, ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501

Events, like great music are born of inspiration. Featuring a 13,600-square-foot facility that will seat 275 guests with private event space, we pride ourselves on delivering an exceptional experience with a rock and roll twist for each of our guests.

Business Expo Center

1960 S. ANAHEIM WAY, ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA 92805

The Business Expo Center is Orange County's important event venue in Anaheim, California. Our flexible 36,000-square-foot expo center is home to space for conferences, trade shows and celebrations. We pride ourselves on providing a memorable experience with excellent flexibility, services, and cost savings. We won't charge customers for on-site parking and provide high-speed Wi-Fi.

Automobile Driving Museum

610 LAIRPORT STREET, EL SEGUNDO, CALIFORNIA 90245

Centrally located in the South Bay beach community of El Segundo, California, the ADM offers a wonderful venue for private parties and corporate events. Conveniently located 5 minutes south of LAX, right off the 405 and 105 Freeways, the 610 Lairport space has a special feel surrounded by our primary automobile collection. We offer several different venues inside and outside our facility for diverse events. To better our service, reservations are needed.

Yamashiro Hollywood

1999 N. SYCAMORE AVE., LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90068

Yamashiro Hollywood is a restaurant and therefore, all food and wine must be handled in house.

However, guests are allowed to bring in outside wine and champagne for a corkage fee(开瓶费).

21. What can we learn about Business Expo Center?

A. You can enjoy free parking.

B. It's home to space for music shows.

C. It's located in Los Angeles, California 92805

D. You can experience high-speed Wi-Fi free of charge.

22. Which venue do you need to book in advance?

A. Business Expo Center.

B. Yamashiro Hollywood.

C. Hard Rock Cafe Anchorage.

D. Automobile Driving Museum.

23. What do the four venues have in common?

A. They are located in the same state.

B. They are open to special events.

C. They enjoy convenient transportation.

D. They offer an exceptional experience and free services.

Has the volume in a restaurant ever made you finish your meal early? If so, you're not alone.

Restaurants handle diners in various ways to influence food choices and consumption, from lighting to menu to server presentation. Unfortunately for those headache-prone restaurant goers, some places also choose to turn up the tunes and the background noise.

Chef Mario Batali is often blamed for the phenomenon of very loud or noisy restaurants in the 1990s, when he decided to flood the dining room with the same loud tunes he was playing in his kitchen. And other chefs followed suit. Some restaurateurs felt a "livelier" atmosphere encouraged more customers, but a side "benefit" was quicker table turnover, thus increasing the number of people who could dine in a specific evening.

A 1985 study out of Fairfield University looked at how chewing speed varied according to the type of music being played. Although the volume level was kept the same for both musical situations, it's important to note that fast-tempo(节奏)music often gives the impression of being louder than slower music.

"A significant increase in the number of bites per minute was found, and the effect was largest for fast music," the researchers wrote in the study. So, the faster, louder music gets people to down their food more quickly, relieving the table for future customers.

There're opinions about whether or not this is a sound practice. "A restaurant that places profit above dining experience often plays loud music with a fast tempo that puts diners under pressure to eat more quickly, even if that means they're less able to enjoy their meal," writes Dr. Neel Burton in

Psychology Today, adding that loud, fast music reduces appetite.

What's more, some would-be repeat diners will shy away for fear of another very loud meal. The non-profit group Action on Hearing Loss found in a 2016 survey of nearly 1,500 people that 91% of those who view a restaurant as too noisy would choose not to return.

24. Why did some bosses of the restaurants favour loud music?

A. It might help attract more customers.

B. It was the favorite kind of music of them.

- C. It made the restaurants softer and sweeter.
D. It could increase the popularity of their restaurants.
25. What plays the most important role in the effect of music on diners according to the passage?
A. Its content. B. Its length. C. Its speed. D. Its quality.
26. What is Dr. Neel Burton's attitude towards flooding restaurants with noisy music?
A. Doubtful. B. Disapproving.
C. Positive. D. Objective.
27. What could be a suitable title for the text?
A. What People Think of Loud Restaurants
B. Are Customers Made to Eat Quickly?
C. Why Loud Restaurants Are Popular Today
D. Does Loud Music Really Benefit Restaurants?

C

Space Hotel Promises Guests A Truly Out-Of-This-World Vacation

Looking for a true out-of-this-world vacation? Then you are in luck! On Thursday, Aprils, Texas-based start-up Orion Span announced they were taking reservations for Aurora (极光) Station, the world's first luxury hotel in space, which is expected to launch in 2021 and begin welcoming visitors by 2022.

The pill-shaped space station, which begins construction in 2019, will measure 43.5 feet long and 14.1 feet wide--about the size of a large private jet's cabin--when completed. It will accommodate four guests in two private suites(套房) and two crew members, most likely former astronauts. Flying about 200 miles above Earth, Aurora Station will circle the planet once every 90 minutes, enabling guests to enjoy 16 spectacular sunrises and sunsets daily, as well as scores of the breathtaking northern and southern auroras that the hotel is named after.

While admiring the beauty of our planet, tourists can eat non-astronaut food and drinks or

entertain themselves with playing cards. Those hoping to do something more worthwhile will be able to engage in astronaut-like experiments such as growing food in a special environment. The Wi-Fi enabled spacecraft will make it easy for guests to share their experiences with friends and family members on Earth. At the end of the week and half-long vacation, returning guests will be treated to a special "hero's welcome", similar to the one experienced by astronauts returning from a real mission.

Before the once-in-a-lifetime trip, guests will have to undergo the three-month-long special training learning how to move in a weightless environment, along with the basics of spaceflight and orbital mechanics. Also, before you start packing your bags, you will have to pay \$9.5 million for the 12-day round-trip vacation.

While several companies are planning to build hotels in space, Orion Span hopes to transform sections of used rockets floating in space into hotel rooms, instead of crowding the already messy skies with additional man-made objects.

28. What can be learned about Aurora Station?
A. People can visit it now.
B. Its construction will last for about 5 years.
C. It can only hold four people in this station.
D. It looks like a pill with the size of a small plane.
29. Why is the station named Aurora Station?
A. Because the hotel is lit up by the auroras of the Earth.
B. Because the station will give off auroras while travelling.
C. Because guests can enjoy fantastic auroras of the Earth.
D. Because the station will run around the auroras of the Earth.
30. What can guests do in a space hotel?
A. Communicate with their family. B. Enjoy astronaut food and drinks.

- C. Cook meals like they are at home. D. Receive welcome as a real hero.

31. What can be inferred from the last paragraph?

- A. There is little room for people to live on the earth.
B. Too many space crafts have aroused people's concern.
C. Space hotels will be necessary in the near future.
D. Used rockets floating in space are easy to be recycled.

D

For several decades, there has been an organized campaign intended to produce distrust in science, funded by those whose interests are threatened by the findings of modern science. In response, scientists have tended to stress the success of science. After all, scientists have been right about most things, from the structure of the universe to the relativity of time and space.

Stressing successes isn't wrong, but for many people it's not persuasive. An alternative answer to the question "Why trust science?" is that scientists use the so-called scientific method. But what is called the scientific method isn't what scientists actually do. Science is dynamic: new methods get invented; old ones get abandoned; and at any particular point, scientists can be found doing many different things. False theories sometimes lead to true results, so even if an experiment works, it doesn't prove that the theory it was designed to test is true.

If there is no specific scientific method, then what is the basis for trust in science? The answer is the methods by which those claims are evaluated. A scientific claim is never accepted as true until it has gone through a long process of examination by fellow scientists. Scientists draft the initial version of a paper and then send it to colleagues for suggestions. Until this point, scientific feedback is typically fairly friendly. But the next step is different: the revised paper is submitted to a scientific journal, where things get a whole lot tougher. Editors deliberately send scientific papers to people who are not friends or colleagues of the authors, and the job of the reviewer is to find errors or other faults. We call this process "peer review" because the reviewers are scientific peers—experts in the

same field—but they act in the role of a superior who has both the right and the responsibility to find fault. It is only after the reviewers and the editor are satisfied that any problems have been fixed that the paper will be printed in the journal and enters the body of "science."

Some people argue that we should not trust science because scientists are "always changing their minds." While examples of truly settled science being overturned are far fewer than is sometimes claimed, they do exist. But the beauty of this scientific process is that science produces both creativity and stability. New observations, ideas, explanations and attempts to combine competing claims introduce creativity; transformative questioning leads to collective decisions and the stability of scientific knowledge. Scientists do change their minds in the face of new evidence, but this is a strength of science, not a weakness.

32. Scientists stress the success of science in order to _____.

- A. promote basic knowledge of science
B. remind people of scientific achievements
C. remove possible doubts about science
D. show their attitude towards the campaign

33. What can we learn about the so-called scientific method?

- A. It's an easy job to prove its existence.
B. It usually agrees with scientists' ideas.
C. It hardly gets mixed with false theories.
D. It constantly changes and progresses.

34. What can we learn about "peer" review?

- A. It seldom gives negative evaluation of a paper.
B. It aims to perfect the paper to be published.
C. It is usually conducted by unfriendly experts.
D. It happens at the beginning of the evaluation process.

35. What does the underlined sentence in the last paragraph imply?

- A. changes bring creativity and stability to science
- B. scientists are very strong in changing their minds
- C. people lose faith in those changeable scientists
- D. it is not uncommon for science to be overturned

第二节 (共 5 小题; 每小题 2 分, 共 10 分)

根据短文内容, 从短文后的七个选项中选出能填入空白处的最佳选项。选项中有两项为多余选项。

Talking to yourself may seem a little shameful. According to the well-known saying, talking to yourself is the first sign of madness, ___36___ Talking to ourselves, whether out loud or silently in our heads, is a valuable tool for thought.

Far from being mentally ill, self-talk allows us to plan what we are going to do, manage our activities, regulate our emotions and even create a description of our experience. ___37___

As children, according to the Russian psychologist Lev Vygotsky, we use private speech to regulate our actions in the same way that we use public speech to control the behavior of others. ___38___ Psychological experiments have shown that the private speech can improve our performance on tasks ranging from judging what other people are thinking to sorting images into categories. One recent study suggested that self-talk is most effective when we address ourselves in the second person, as "you" rather than "I".

___39___ If you want proof, turn on the sports channel. You're certain to see an athlete or two cheering themselves up with a bitter phrase or scolding themselves after a bad shot.

Conduct a dialogue with ourselves. ___40___ The private speech seems to be a particularly good way of solving problems and working through ideas. The to-and-fro between different points of view means our thoughts can end up in expected places, just like a regular dialogue can, and

might turn out to be one of the keys to human creativity.

- A. What is private speech?
- B. But there is no need for embarrassment.
- C. Psychologists refer to this as private speech.
- D. Ask questions of the self and provide answers.
- E. We do a lot of private speech when we are young.
- F. As we grow older, we are more aware of the importance of the private speech.
- G. Although the private speech is effective, we never entirely put away the out-loud speech.

第三部分 语言知识运用 (共三节, 满分 45 分)

第一节 (共 20 小题; 每小题 1.5 分, 满分 30 分)

阅读下面短文, 从短文后各题所给的 A、B、C 和 D 四个选项中, 选出可以填入空白处的最佳选项。

In a fast-paced world driven by noise, excitement, and continuous connections due to technology, I think we've lost a(n) ___41___ for something essential to the human experience: Quiet.

I'm not talking about the library style version of soft whispers, but about the soul-defining quiet of self-reflection, of being alone and of being ___42___.

This past weekend, I found myself glued to my computer screen in a flurry (手忙脚乱) of ___43___ work to build my career. I was ___44___ social media and worrying about building my vision for tomorrow. Like so many evenings, the call of the Internet had ___45___ me in, and the beautiful July night in Pennsylvania was ___46___ — until my husband stepped in and reminded me that there's more to life than noises, likes and followers.

We got into our truck and drove ten minutes to a local state park, a place that has ___47___ our different stages of life through the years. Phones and computers ___48___, we spent the evening in nature, enjoying simple scenes and ___49___ in the quiet of the setting.

Gone were the rings of notifications(通知) the constant horns of cars flying by, and the ___50___ of YouTube videos. In their place, a silence ___51___ something we both know but

sometimes lose ___52___ of : Life's quiet, simple moments are sometimes the most beautiful.

In these peaceful moments, I found a(n) ___53___ with nature and with my husband. I found a reminder that there is a world ___54___ the computer and the ___55___ of our fast-paced life.

___56___, I was reminded that in these quiet moments, we were able to hear the most important voice: our own.

Our world ___57___ constant attention and engagement. We become so ___58___ to constantly connecting and engaging with others that we fail to appreciate something ___59___ to our happiness: our inner voice.

So take a moment, take a break and take some time to find the quiet in your life. Let the quiet moments in life remind you that your inner voice ___60___ to be heard.

41. A.cooperation B. appreciation C. confidence D. opportunity

42. A.unobserved B. unconfirmed C. unplugged D. uncontrolled

43. A.regular B. simple C. desperate D. interesting

44. A.drowning in B. fond of C. curious about D. sensitive to

45. A.showed B. sucked C. forced D. led

46. A.acquired B. occupied C. ignored D. stressed

47. A.marked B. experienced C. presented D. undertaken

48. A.hung on B. turned on C. worn out D. shut off

49. A.trapped B. involved C. bathed D. anchored

50. A.existence B. draw C. impression D. separation

51. A.removed B. reflected C. restricted D. refreshed

52. A.touch B. sight C. control D. hope

53. A.connection B. imagination C. exploration D. prediction

54. A.against B. with C. beyond D. about

55. A.chaos B. values C. mess D. quality

56. A.In addition B. In short C. After all D. Above all

57. A.avoids B. desires C. transfers D. spells

58. A.opposed B. limited C. entitled D. addicted

59. A.glorious B. unique C. vital D. superior

60. A.remains B. tends C. appears D. deserves

第 II 卷

第二节 (共 10 小题, 每小题 1.5 分, 共 15 分)

阅读下面材料, 在空格处填入适当的内容 (1 个单词) 或括号中单词的正确形式。

China will become stronger from the coronavirus (冠状病毒) challenge, experts said at a conference on Tuesday, while ___61___ (praise) China's efforts to stop the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic (传染病).

Speaking at the conference ___62___ (title) "Battling Coronavirus," Sumit Mullick, chief information commissioner of India's southwestern state of Maharashtra, said that China has created a new criterion in addressing a health issue by quarantining (隔离) Wuhan, the city of the virus outbreak.

"The coronavirus does not understand or respect borders. It does not need a visa or passport," Mullick said. "Challenges are ___63___ (true) in global in nature."

However, Chinese labs have quickly decoded the coronavirus and shared it with the world, ___64___ are now working on a new vaccine, he said.

R. N. Bhaskar, a senior journalist and consulting editor with Indian English newspaper Free Press Journal, said China is doing all it can ___65___ (contain) the spread of the virus and create a vaccine.

"As ___66___ very big player in the global economy, there will be negative impact ___67___ the Chinese economy for a temporary period. However, thanks to the swift responses to the virus outbreak, the Chinese economy will overcome this crisis and become stronger," he added.

Health officials at the conference also listed the steps 68 (take) to fight the virus and shared their experiences in fighting misinformation and raising 69 (aware) among the public at large.

The event 70 (organize) jointly by the Observer Research Foundation, a think-tank body, along with the Chinese Consulate General in Mumbai.

第四部分 写作 (共两节, 满分 35 分)

第一节 短文改错 (共 10 小题; 每小题 1 分, 满分 10 分)

假定英语课上老师要求同桌之间交换修改作文, 请你修改你同桌写的以下作文。文中共有 10 处语言错误, 每句中最多有两处。每处错误仅涉及一个单词的增加、删除或修改。

增加: 在缺词处加一个漏词符号 (∧), 并在其下面写出该加的词。

删除: 把多余的词用斜线 (\\) 划掉。

修改: 在错的词下划一横线, 并在该词下面写出修改后的词。

注意: 1. 每处错误及其修改均限一词。 2. 只允许修改 10 处, 多者 (从第 11 处起) 不计分。

Dear Jenny,

Welcome to my school! When you arrive, there will be a party for you holding by my classmates. You may attend to English classes to feel a differently learning style. After that, you can go to your host family that you can experience the Chinese way of life. You can have meals together chatting anything that interests us.

The host family will also show you around some famous scenic spot. You can see people selling kites everywhere because our city was home to kites. There are many kinds of kites to choose from. So isn't it the good idea to buy some for your friends? Write to me unless you have any questions about the schedule.

Best wishes.

Yours,

Zhang Ming

第二节 书面表达 (满分 25 分)

假定你是李华, 从互联网上得知 Banks 夫妇的西餐馆在登广告招聘兼职服务员。请写一封电子邮件应聘。

内容包括:

1. 发邮件的目的。

2. 自我介绍。

3. 应聘理由 (可开阔视野、交到新朋友等)。

4. 表达自己的希望。

注意: 1. 词数 100 左右。 2. 可以适当增加细节, 以使行文连贯。

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Banks,

Regards

Li Hua

衡水中学 2019-2020 学年度下学期期中考试

英语科答案

听力: (每小题 1.5 分): 1—5 ACBBA 6—10 CBACA 11—15 CCBBC 16—20 AABBC

阅读: (每小题 2 分): ADB ACBD DCAB CDBA BCFGD

完形: (每小题 1.5 分) 41-45 BCCAB 46-50 CADCB 51-55 DBACA 56-60 DBDCD

语法填空: (每小题 1.5 分)

61. praising 62. titled 63. truly 64. which 65. to contain
66. a 67. on 68. taken 69. awareness 70. was organized

短文改错: (每小题 1 分)

Dear Jenny,

Welcome to my school! When you arrive, there will be a party for you holding by my classmates.

You may attend to English classes to feel a differently learning style. After that, you can go to

your host family that you can experience the Chinese way of life. You can have meals together

chatting about anything that interests us you.

The host family will also show you around some famous scenic spot spots. You can see people

selling kites everywhere because our city was is home to kites. There are many kinds of kites to

choose from. So isn't it the a good idea to buy some for your friends? Write to me unless if you

have any questions about the schedule.

Best wishes.

Yours,

Zhang Ming

书面表达:

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Banks,

I'm Li Hua, who has just graduated from high school this summer. I know that you want some part-timers for your newly opened Western restaurant on the Internet and I'd like to be part of your team.

I've been learning English for 10 years, and I can express myself fluently. Besides, I'm diligent and healthy with a nice character, which helps me get along well with people of different backgrounds. What matters most is the opportunity to expand my horizons as well as make more new friends. And it is the sense of commitment that I am eager to raise through such a valuable experience that inspires me to make this request.

An early reply at your convenience will be much appreciated if my qualifications meet with your approval.

Regards

Li Hua

听力文本:

Text 1

W: Hi. Could I have two tickets for the next train to New Jersey, please?

M: Uh, OK. The next train is at 2:30 p.m., and it leaves from platform 5. That'll be \$42, please. (1)

W: Let's see... I think I have a \$50 bill somewhere.

Text 2

M: Hi, Kendra. I'm Tony, Student President of Class 4C. Mr. Jones told me to help you on your first day here. Ready for science class?

W: Yeah. It's nice of you to help me. I'm a little lost. Who's our teacher?

M: It's Ms. Thompson. (2) And our class is right here.

Text 3

W: After you cut the grass, put away these garden tools I'm using now. (3) Then come inside and help me wash the dishes.

M: Sure. I'll just finish cleaning my room, and then I'll head out there.

Text 4

W: I'm looking at our budget, and if we keep working at this pace, we'll be able to afford a trip to Mexico in the summer.

M: Let's not get ahead of ourselves. You're forgetting that we have car insurance and other bills to pay. (4)

Text 5

M: This box is empty! What kind of gift is this supposed to be?

W: Look inside it, Mr. Adams. We left you something in there.

M: Oh, it's a piece of paper with some writing on it, "Go to the teachers' dining hall in five minutes and look in the fridge for your surprise." (5)

Text 6

M: **Who's that guy passing basketball over there, Jill?** (6)

W: Him? **That's my brother, Paul. (7) And that's his friend, Don. They're both really good at basketball. (7)**

M: Oh, right. So, you've got a brother. That's cool.

W: Actually, I have two brothers: Paul and Dave.

M: Really? And how old is Dave?

W: They're twins. They're both fourteen.

M: And does Dave look like Paul?

W: Yep. They're identical twins. They're both short and thin, and they both have brown hair and green eyes. And they both have a funny nose.

M: **Does Dave play basketball, too?** (7) Maybe we could start a team.

W: Sorry, Jim. **He's only interested in books. (7)**

Text 7

W: What's the date today, Dad?

M: It's June 3rd. Why do you ask, Flora?

W: Did you remember mom's birthday? I completely forgot to get her a present.

M: Well, not everyone forgot. I ordered some jewelry online four days ago.

W: I can't think of anything to get for her. Do you have any ideas?

M: **Maybe you could just throw her a surprise party with some decorations and a cake. (8)**

W: That would be a great idea, if I could bake... I should just give her a gift.

M: How about a nice card?

W: That's too easy. Maybe I could make her something.

M: **You could knit her a sweater. (9)**

W: In two days? I don't think so. **I could definitely do a scarf, though... (9)**

Text 8

M: **This is the best international fair our school has ever put on! (11)** Did you see the presentation that the Libyan Student Association put on?

W: No. **I've been too busy here at the Saudi Arabian table, eating all the snacks. (10)** And after this I'll go to the Chinese Student Association booth and try some dumplings.

M: I think you shouldn't miss the Libyan coffee presentation.

W: Isn't coffee just coffee?

M: No, it's definitely not. **I tried the Vietnamese coffee, (11)** and it was strong and sweet.

W: **And what's so special about the Libyan coffee?** (12)

M: First they use a special machine to make it. And then after you drink your coffee, there's a little bit of brown, fine coffee left in the bottom of the cup.

W: You're not convincing me, Mark.

M: **No, this is the best part. They make the coffee come out of the bottom of the cup and put it on a small round dish, and then the pattern the coffee makes tells your fortune. (12)**

W: That does sound interesting!

Text 9

M: You always get the highest grades, Jane. You're lucky. The teachers don't like me. They never give me A's.

W: Oh, Ted, teachers don't give A's — **you have to earn them. And believe me, it's not luck. I have very specific habits that I always follow when I study. (13)**

M: Like what?

W: I always make sure I'm in a quiet place when I study, with no distractions.

M: I do that, too. I almost always study in the classroom after school is out.

W: Well, that's good. The second thing I do is make sure my desk is clear.

M: Uh-oh! **My desk isn't ever clear. I've got a tall wall of books piled up in the front of my desk, and there are papers everywhere. (14)**

W: That's not good at all.

M: What else do you do?

W: I take breaks. **Every thirty minutes, I get up and take a five-minute break. I move around, drink some water, and look out of the window. (15)** Then I get back to work.

M: I never do that. I study from start to finish without ever stopping.

W: **It's really important to move around a bit. (16)** Research shows that physical exercise is good for your mind.

M: OK, well, it looks like I have a few changes to make.

Text 10

Reality TV shows may seem like a relatively new invention, although many different forms of the type appeared much earlier in television history. *Candid Camera* was one of the first examples, (17) which used hidden cameras to catch the real reactions of unknowing participants as they were frightened or joked with by members of the show. At that time, television had never featured real-life situations without the use of professional actors. **Twenty years later, in 1965, another type of reality TV show called *The Dating Game* enjoyed widespread success. In this game show, (18)** one woman would ask various questions to three men hidden from her view. She had to choose one when the time ran out. Although these were the earliest forms of reality television shows, they are not classified as such today. **After all, news shows, sports shows, and talk shows all use non-actors in real-life situations, but they have a written text for the most part. In the late 1990s, *Survivor* and *Big Brother* attracted audiences and defined the reality TV show as we know it today. (19)** The participants are all real people, each scene is completely without a written text, (20) and the shows focus more on drama and personal conflict. Within the last five years, "soap opera"-type shows like *The Real Housewives*, in which famous people are followed around as they go about their lives, have become popular. Reality television shows have given us the perfect excuse to spy on other people's lives, from the comfort of our very own living rooms.