

A

Many students are confused about the difference between “whether” and “if”. It is a little bit complicated as in many cases they are very similar and interchangeable, but in other cases only one option is possible.

“Whether” & “If” - Similarities

Both “whether” and “if” can be used in reported speech with verbs such as “ask”. For example: “I asked her if I could take her car.” “I asked her whether I could take her car.” “She asked me if I spoke French.” “She asked me whether I spoke French.” “She asked if I liked it.” “She asked whether I liked it.” However, there are many other cases when it is only possible to use “whether”. Let’s see a few examples.

“Whether”

We use “whether” (and an infinitive with “to”) after the verbs “know”, “ask” and “wonder” when there are two or more alternatives or options. For example: “I don’t know whether to go to the cinema or whether to go to the theatre.” It isn’t always necessary to mention the second “whether”. So, we could say the previous sentence like this: “I don’t know whether to go to the cinema or (whether) to go to the theatre.” You can also use “or not” instead of mentioning the other option: “I don’t know whether to go to the cinema or not.” We always use “whether” if there is a preposition: “We were thinking about whether we should go early or late.” And we often use “whether” when it is followed by an infinitive with “to”: “I was wondering whether to tell you or Steve.”

“If”

It is NOT possible to use “if” when there are two alternative options, particularly with expressions like “I’m not sure”, “I don’t know” and “wonder” plus an infinitive with “to”. For example: “I’m not sure whether to go to France or Italy.” It is NOT possible to say, “I’m not sure if...

“I don’t know whether to tell Michael or Sam.” It is NOT possible to say, “I don’t know if...

“I’ve been wondering whether to go by train or plane.” It is NOT possible to say, “I’ve been wondering if...

21. The text is mainly intended for students with _____ problems.
- A. reading B. grammar C. writing D. listening
22. Which of the following is acceptable according to the text?
- A. I wonder if he is a fan of pop music or not.
B. I’m not sure if Sarah will lecture now or later.
C. I don’t know yet if I’ll make it to Henry’s party.
D. I often get asked about if you can ride if you are overweight.
23. How does the writer explain the usage of “whether” and “if”?
- A. By giving definitions. B. By giving examples.
C. By making quotations. D. By analyzing cause and effect.

B

Q: Last night I saw a comedian on TV making a joke about “old people smell”. I’d never heard of it before, so I did research and was worried to see that people say old people have the same bad smell. Now I’m worrying – do I smell? And if so, how can I get rid of it?

-Edith, 76

A: Thank you for your email. I can certainly smell something, and I'm afraid to say that it's the unpleasant odour (气味) of ageism. I doubt a comedian would dare say something like this about any other group of people. The fact that they feel able to do so shows how ageism is one of the last acceptable intolerances in our society. It's morally wrong to group people based on their age. So, to answer your question: no, old people don't smell. Body odour is the result of various factors. One thing I would note is that as we age, we tend to sweat less. As a result, sometimes older people don't think they need to wash as frequently, especially when combined with mobility problems-- meaning they find it difficult getting in and out of the shower, not realising that they can still have body odour without sweating. There is also the issue of incontinence (失禁). While this can affect people of any age, it's more common in old age and is also associated with a smell. There are plenty of treatments for incontinence, so this isn't something that should arise. I'm sorry to say, but some doctors just blame incontinence for part of getting older. It's not. The idea that old people smell just feeds into this, but my view is if someone does smell of urine (尿) due to incontinence, then this is the failure of doctors to provide adequate help. It's to do with their incontinence, not their age.

-Dr Max Pemberton

24. According to the text, what is Edith's top concern?
- A. A comedian's joke about "old people smell".
 - B. Uncertainty of the research about getting old.
 - C. Methods of getting rid of body odour from ageism.
 - D. Worry about old people having the same bad smell.
25. What would Dr Max Pemberton probably agree with?
- A. Many factors contribute to elders' body odour.
 - B. Sweating less cannot be avoided as people age.
 - C. Some doctors are to blame for elders' incontinence.
 - D. It's acceptable for comedians to group people by age.
26. Dr Max Pemberton tries to persuade Edith mainly by _____.
- A. showing understanding
 - B. commenting on comedians
 - C. offering practical advice
 - D. analyzing possible reasons
27. Where is this text probably taken from?
- A. An academic paper.
 - B. An autobiography.
 - C. A health column.
 - D. A medical treatment plan.

C

China's disability-related expense at all levels has increased year by year. Last year saw the completion of the National Ice Sports Arena for People With Impairments in light of the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games. The Games officially opened on March 4, marking not only a great event for the Olympic family, but also the advancement of China's path for developing the cause of people with disabilities.

Protection of those differently abled in employment, social security, public facilities, and education keeps improving in laws and regulations ensuring the rights and interests of persons with disabilities.

China has 85 million people with disabilities, who need more attention and help—from government and public alike. The possibility of people with disabilities falling back to poverty is high; the total

amount of public services for people with physical impairments is not enough and their distribution remains uneven; their diverse needs, such as education, medical services, and recovery, are not adequately met; discrimination, too, still occurs; less developed and rural areas are not suitable for them.

According to the arrangements for the protection and development of people with disabilities during the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-25) period issued in July 2021, basic systems providing multi-level social security will be in place by 2025 to ensure the livelihood of this social group continues to improve; by 2035, the differently abled will live a richer material and cultural life, and the gap between them and the average national level will have been remarkably narrowed.

To achieve these goals, the Chinese Government is revising regulations on the employment of those differently abled, aiming to help them live better and more fulfilled lives through their work. In addition, the country is accelerating the upgrading of the social security system, so that the differently abled with unstable income will be included in government aid under China's social safety net program.

28. What is paragraph 3 mainly about?

- A. The problems people with disabilities meet.
- B. The uneven distribution of medical services.
- C. The poverty level of people with disabilities.
- D. The growing attention to the differently abled.

29. What can people with disabilities benefit from the 14th Five-Year Plan?

- A. Improving livelihood.
- B. Basic commercial security.
- C. The narrowed gap.
- D. A materially satisfying life.

30. Which can best replace the underlined word "accelerating" in the last paragraph?

- A. Quickening.
- B. Receiving.
- C. Considering.
- D. Assessing.

31. What is the author's attitude towards the growing disability-related expense?

- A. Critical.
- B. Favorable.
- C. Objective.
- D. Uninterested.

D

Gleaning -- collecting leftover crops from farmers' fields -- is regaining popularity in Britain. A growing network of volunteer gleaning groups are being welcomed into farmers' fields to collect tonnes of free produce. The produce would then be given to local food banks, which would otherwise be left to rot after the commercial harvest.

Research has shown that up to 16 percent of a crop can be wasted for various reasons, such as overproduction to ensure meeting supermarket orders, produce not being the right shape or size to meet supermarket standards, unexpected weather patterns changing harvest times and yield, as well as shortages of pickers.

The charity Feedback told *The Times* that its number of gleaning groups across England had risen from five in 2017 to twenty last year. "Feedback's overall aim is for closer links between farmers and the communities they feed, so that getting hands on the land is an uncomplicated, accessible and enjoyable affair," the group said.

Holly Whitelaw, 52, from St Just in Penwith, set up the Cornwall Gleaning Network last year after watching a BBC series that highlighted food poverty in Cornwall. She contacted Feedback, which gave her a £2,000 grant to get insurance, knives, and cut-proof gloves.

She set up a Facebook page, found willing volunteers and then managed to get a £10,000 grant from

Feeding Britain, a national network of antihunger partnerships, to establish seven coordinators across the county and pay for more knives and gloves. They also raised funds to buy a pick-up truck.

“We look like proper farmers now,” Whitelaw said.

As a thank you to the farmers, they have begun planting trees to reduce wind speed across their land, preventing damage to crops and minimising soil erosion(侵蚀).

32. The passage mainly focuses on _____ in UK.
- A. the benefits of gleaning
 - B. research on gleaning network
 - C. warm welcome to gleaning pickers
 - D. the growing acceptance of gleaning
33. According to the passage, which of the following has little impact on crop waste?
- A. Productions in poor quality.
 - B. Lack of labor working the land.
 - C. Changeable weather conditions.
 - D. The increasing supermarket orders.
34. What might help Whitelaw generate the idea of gleaning?
- A. A growing network of volunteers.
 - B. Feedback’s overall aim for closer links.
 - C. A TV series revealing regional food poverty.
 - D. Caring communities and volunteers’ joint effort.
35. Which of the following can best describe this gleaning practice?
- A. No cross, no crown.
 - B. From saving comes having.
 - C. Knowledge starts with practice.
 - D. One good turn deserves another.

第二节（共 5 小题；每小题 2.5 分，满分 12.5 分）

根据短文内容，从短文后的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。

As human beings, our ability to predict and prevent trouble is one of those superpowers that set us apart from birds and beasts. 36

Dr. Michelle Newman, director of the Laboratory for Anxiety and Depression Research at Pennsylvania State University, presents some characteristics of out-of-control worrying, like focusing on things over which you have no control, or which have a low probability of happening, and “catastrophizing” them. Worrying about a loved one who’s driving and picturing the horrible consequences of an accident is one example. 37

Constant worrying and anxiety can increase your blood pressure and heart rate, which has been linked to a higher risk for cardiovascular（心脏血管的）diseases. Anxiety can also over activate your immune system. But isn’t there a benefit to lots of worrying? After all, if your mind is dealing with emergencies and potential threats, you can act now to prevent them, right?

38 “Mostly worrying becomes a process to itself that doesn’t lead to problem solving or helping you in any way,” she says. “If you’re worrying about something,” she says, “you’re not taking steps to address the source of your worry, if that’s even possible.”

In fact, worry is really a failure to live in the moment, Newman says. 39 Exercise, massage

and other things that relieve physical tension are also helpful, she says.

40 Select a spot you can get to easily every day, but that isn't a place where you normally spend time, Newman advises. Your goal is to give yourself 20 or 30 minutes a day in that space, devoted only to worrying. "The rest of the day, you tell yourself you aren't going to worry because you will at that time and place," Newman explains. "The idea is that by setting apart your worry, you can control it."

- A. That's bad news for several reasons.
- B. Unfortunately, Newman opposes this idea.
- C. Activities like yoga that attempt to comfort your mind to the present may help.
- D. Focusing on a favorite relaxing setting has also proven worry-reducing benefits.
- E. But nonstop worrying can ruin your life and your immune system to some degree.
- F. Imagining issues that might lead to your losing your job and your home is another.
- G. Another great way to control your worry is to set aside a specific time and place for it.

第三部分 语言运用 (共两节, 满分 30 分)

第一节 (共 15 小题; 每小题 1 分, 满分 15 分)

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

Eight years ago, Nixon, 59, started each day from a bench of the St. Petersburg, Florida, waterfront. Watching a sunrise makes him feel 41.

"Seeing you 42 here, I know everything will be OK." a woman's words changed his perspective. Nixon 43. "That's when I knew: I needed to pay attention to the people 44. I needed to ensure them we 45 to each other."

46 watching sunrise, Nixon started smiling at people and 47 conversations. People began joining him on the bench, asking for advice.

"I wanted them to walk away 48 they didn't have to feel alone." said Nixon. "People feel their purpose hasn't been 49 in their 50s. At this stage in life, this is definitely my 50."

Weather permitting, Nixon will sit on the bench before sunrise every morning. His presence and 51 to listen have led some people to 52 him the Sunshine Mayor. No matter what problem a person wants to 53, Nixon lends an ear.

Once a couple talked about problems in their relationship. "The husband was 54 working, rarely home," Nixon said. "It was ruining their marriage. I told him: 'My friend, if your wife's words didn't scare you, then maybe the possibility of losing her will.'" Finally, the man agreed to slow down.

No topic is off limits, but some 55 want to sit next to someone and share the silence.

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|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 41. A. available | B. centered | C. negative | D. creative |
| 42. A. wandering | B. sitting | C. working | D. greeting |
| 43. A. recalled | B. requested | C. responded | D. regretted |
| 44. A. hanging out | B. wearing off | C. walking past | D. living near |
| 45. A. mattered | B. belonged | C. appealed | D. compromised |
| 46. A. Regardless of | B. Because of | C. In case of | D. Instead of |
| 47. A. breaking off | B. striking up | C. carrying on | D. bring around |
| 48. A. knowing | B. answering | C. forecasting | D. celebrating |
| 49. A. served | B. lacked | C. defeated | D. achieved |
| 50. A. influence | B. purpose | C. secret | D. personality |
| 51. A. happiness | B. blindness | C. openness | D. greatness |
| 52. A. make | B. offer | C. purchase | D. nickname |
| 53. A. air | B. create | C. avoid | D. understand |
| 54. A. even | B. seldom | C. never | D. always |
| 55. A. randomly | B. regularly | C. simply | D. peacefully |

第二节 (共 10 小题; 每小题 1.5 分, 满分 15 分)

阅读下面短文, 在空白处填入 1 个适当的单词或括号内单词的正确形式。

Come and enjoy the amazing snowscape of the Changbai Mountains 56 (border) the DPRK (朝鲜民主共和国). Thick snow 57 (turn) the area into a fairyland recently, covering the mountains with a layer of silver.

Changbai Mountains mean “Forever-White Mountains” in Chinese 58 its top is covered with snow all year round. It is considered 59 ski paradise and one of the best areas 60 (enjoy) snow scenery in China.

The Heavenly Lake 61 (locate) on Changbai Mountains is at 2,189 meters above sea level. It is a crater with multiple volcanic eruptions 12 million years ago. 62 (fortunate), the volcano has remained silent since 1702. During the winter, the lake will freeze. You can admire the grand mountain-crater ice kingdom with snowy peaks 63 stand guard all around.

The weather at Changbai Mountains is 64 (predict). It’s the luck of the draw whether you see anything as the lake is visible only about 100 days 65 the year.

第四部分 写作（共两节，满分 40 分）

第一节（满分 15 分）

假定你是某国际学校学生会主席李华，负责组织学校下个月即将开幕的英语节。请你向学校国际部负责人 Mr. Wilson 写封邮件，请他推荐一位合适的学生在开幕式上致辞。内容如下：

1. 写信目的； 2. 推荐要求； 3. 期待与感谢。

注意： 1. 词数 80 左右； 2. 可适当增加细节，以使行文连贯。

第二节（满分 25 分）

阅读下面材料，根据其内容和所给段落开头语续写两段，使之构成一篇完整的短文。

I grew up and started my school career in Haiti. Teachers in Haiti were well known for certain skills: some for their ability to scare you with just a look, and others for their consistency in beating kids.

Our fear pushed us to learn whatever we’re assigned, whether it was memorizing a passage or solving a math problem, so in a way, the teachers were effective. I was able to remember a lot, and as a kid I never sat back and wondered if the education I was getting was good enough.

But looking back, I see that I never grew mentally in that school. They didn’t teach us to think broadly or be creative. Instead, my classmates and I were taught what we needed to know to survive inside a classroom, but not the things that would help me survive in the real world.

When I came to the United States, I didn’t know what to expect. On my first day of school, I met my new teacher, Mr. Jean Pierre, who was Haitian. He greeted me with Creole(克里奥尔语). It meant that we were equals.

On my first day in his class, I couldn’t even read the English title of the textbook he handed me. But I learned so quickly that by my third week, I understood most questions and was even raising my hand.

He also had us learn 10 to 20 vocabulary words each day. For each word we had to memorize how to spell it and pronounce it and create a sentence with it. At first, I hated this method because I wasn’t used to having to be creative in any way. But gradually, he helped me fall in love with creative writing. Every morning, we’d have 30 minutes to write about anything that came to mind. I discovered I was good at this, and he was the first teacher ever to put in time aside from his regular schedule for me, staying during lunch or after school to help me and another student who loved writing.

注意： 1. 续写词数应为 150 左右； 2. 请按如下格式在答题卡的相应位置作答。

Paragraph 1

Through actions like these, Mr. Jean Pierre showed me that he truly cared about me as a person and wasn’t just interested in doing his job and getting paid. _____

Paragraph 2

But he was also the kind of teacher who taught us how to survive in life. _____