山东省聊城市2020-2021学年高一下学期期末考试英语试题

本试卷分四部分，共12页。满分150分。考试用时120分钟。

注意事项：

1.答卷前，考生务必将自己的姓名、考生号等填写在答题卡和试卷指定位置上。

2.回答选择题时，选出每小题答案后，用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。回答非选择题时，将答案写在答题卡上。写在本试卷上无效。

第一部分 听力（共两节，满分30分）

做题时，先将答案标在试卷上。录音内容结束后，你将有两分钟的时间将试卷上的答案转涂到答题卡上。

第一节（共5小题；每小题1.5分，满分7.5分）

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，并标在试卷的相应位置。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. What’s the probable relationship between the speakers?

A. Mother and son. B. Teacher and student. C. Classmates.

2. Where did the woman probably go?

A. The office. B. The doctor’s. C. The airport.

3. Which team is the man’s daughter on?

A. The swimming team. B. The football team.

C. The basketball team.

4. What does the man plan to do first?

A. Tour in London. B. See his brother. C. Go back home.

5. What does the woman want to do?

A. Read a magazine. B. Search for information.

C. Have a conversation with Mike.

第二节（共15小题；每小题1.5分，满分22.5分）

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，并标在试卷的相应位置。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。

听第6段材料，回答第6、7题。

6. Why will the woman go to the flower shop?

A. To get fresh flowers. B. To apply for a job. C. To meet a friend.

7.How will the woman get to the flower shop?

A. By bus. B. On foot. C. By taxi.

听第7段材料，回答第8至10题。

8. What is the woman doing here?

A. Picking up the man. B. Asking the way. C. Showing the man around.

9. What did the man do last during the flight?

A. He read a book. B. He watched a movie. C. He listened to music.

10. Where will the speakers most probably go next?

A. To a hotel B. To a restaurant C. To a subway station.

听第8段材料，回答第11至13题。

11. What’s the weather usually like in summer here?

A. Hot and rainy. B. Hot and dry. C. Cool and rainy.

12. How long has the man been here?

A. For about a year. B. For about six months.

C. For about a month.

13. What does the woman suggest they do?

A. Go to a movie. B. Go swimming. C. Go our for a picnic.

听第9段材料，回答第14至16题。

14. What project are the speakers doing?

A. English project. B. History project. C. Geography project.

15. What is the second part of the project?

A. To create a poster. B. To do some research. C. To organize an activity.

16. Who will find the poster materials?

A. Arthur. B. Jane. C. Debbie.

听第10段材料，回答第17至20题。

17. Where does the speaker prefer to observe people?

A. On the street. B. In a library. C. In a coffee shop.

18. What is the biggest market for the speaker’s books?

A. America. B. Europe. C. Asia.

19. When did the speaker publish his first book?

A. 20 years ago. B. 12 years ago. C. 2 years ago.

20.Why does the speaker write books?

A. To make money. B. To inspire people. C. To be famous.

第二部分 阅读（共两节，满分50分）

第一节（共15小题；每小题2.5分，满分37.5分）

阅读下列短文，从每题所给的A、B、C、D四个选项中，选出最佳选项。

A

Essay Competition

This essay competition(写作大赛) is held to encourage great student writers and to give them a leg-up in their studies.

**Prizes**

One Grand Prize winner will receive: $1,000 in cash; the essay published in our magazines May 2021 issue; an interview with our magazine’s author.

Ten First Place winners will receive: $ 500 in cash; their names and essay titles listed in our magazine’s May 2021 issue.

Fifty Honorable Mention Winners will receive: a $ 50 gift card to our online shop.

**Requirements**

\*The length of the essay should be between 500—700 words.

\*Write an essay on the topic—How Food Affects Our Mood.

\*Please write about three reasons for believing in your topic statement in the form of body paragraphs and back up your reasons with practical evidence from respected sources.

\*Do not write about yourself and don’t explain why you deserve to win the prizes.

**Deadlines**(截止日期)

Early-Bird Deadline: May 4,2020—Free for the entry.

Deadline: June 5,2020 — $ 5 for the entry.

Extended Deadline： July 22,2020—$ 10 for the entry.

21. What will the First Place winners be rewarded with?

A. Getting their essays published in the magazine.

B. Having their essay titles listed in the magazine.

C. Receiving a gift card to the particular online shop.

D. Gaining an opportunity to meet the magazine’s author.

22. Which of the following meets the requirements?

A. Writing an essay of more than 800 words.

B. Creating an essay about food safety.

C. Including in the essay your personal information.

D. Supporting your reasons with reliable evidence.

23. When can you submit your essay for free?

A. April 30, 2020. B. May 20, 2020. C. June 10, 2020. D. July 25, 2020.

B

I climbed up a ladder to the roof of our house? catching a book about the evolution of animals. I was 10 years old, and I’d just finished cooking dinner for my entire family—a task that was my daily responsibility. We didn’t have any lamps in our house, so I needed sunlight to read my book. I didn’t know it at the time? but that study routine was my ticket to a career as a scientist.

I had a passion for learning, and when I was allowed to go to school, I quickly shot to the top of my class. When I was 10 years old, my father sent me to a better school, which was mostly attended by students from wealthier families. I was at the top of the class there, too, but I was treated poorly by classmates who saw me as a child of the poor areas. When I graduated from high school, I wanted to become an engineer? but my father said I couldn’t study engineering because it was for boys； he said I should study food science instead. My first reaction was that food science was the last thing I wanted to study. After a childhood preparing meals for my family, there was nothing I hated more than cooking. I enrolled in a food science program anyway, and I quickly discovered that food science wasn’t so bad.

In the years that followed, I received a PhD in food engineering and wanted to handle malnutrition(营养不良) in slums. Other researchers laughed at me, but I’ve proved them wrong. My work has won numerous national and international awards and companies, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies have all sought my expertise.

In my life, I’ve faced poverty, hunger, and discrimination, but I didn’t let them hold me back. I hope others can take inspiration from my story and realize that—despite the challenges they may be facing—they, too, can make it.

24. Why did the author climb to the roof of her house?

A. To search for animals. B. To enjoy her dinner.

C. To read a book. D. To bathe in the sun.

25. Who plays the key role in helping the author receive education?

A. Her classmates. B. Her teacher. C. A scientist. D. Her father.

26. How did the author feel about food science in the beginning?

A. Confused. B. Bored. C. Interested. D. Concerned.

27. What’s the purpose of writing the text?

A. To persuade us to read more books. B. To provide ways to become a scientist.

C. To encourage us to stick to our dreams. D. To share the author’s experience in school.

C

Every year, wildfires destroy millions of hectares of forest land, leaving many homes damaged and a lot of people homeless. Luckily, smoke jumpers help to stop this. They are brave guardians for us.

Smoke jumpers are a special type of firefighters. Unlike regular firefighters, they work in a different way. They jump from planes or are lowered by helicopters into areas that are difficult to reach by car or on foot, such as the middle of a mountain forest. They race to put out fires as fast as they can.

At a fire site, smoke jumpers first examine the land and decide how to fight the fire. Their main goal is to stop a fire from spreading or to slow its progress until full, ground-based firefighters arrive. Using basic equipment such as shovels (铁锹) and axes, smoke jumpers clear land of burnable materials, like dry grass and dead trees. They carry water with them, too, but only a limited amount.

Although the majority of smoke jumpers are men, more women are joining now. The most important factors are your height and weight. Smoke jumpers employed in the United States9 for example, must be between 120 and 200 pounds (between 54 and 91 kilograms) so they don’t get blown away by the strong winds or get hurt when they land. Smoke jumpers must also be capable(有能力的) of surviving in the wilderness. In Russia, many smoke jumpers know how to find food in the forest and can even make simple furniture from trees so that they can survive in the wild.

The work is dangerous, and the hours are long. But for these firefighters 9 smoke jumping isn’t just an occupation(职业). They love being able to jump out of planes, fight fires, and live in the forest. As 28-year-old Russian smoke jumper Alexi Tishin says, “This is the best job for tough guys.”

28. When a smoke jumper reaches a fire site, what is the first thing he or she does?

A. Studying the land. B. Clearing the land. C. Looking for water. D. Recording the accident.

29. What can be inferred about a smoke jumper according to the text?

A. Smoke jumpers are paid more than regular firefighters.

B. Smoke jumpers must learn to survive in the wilderness.

C. Smoke jumpers appear as an occupation only in recent years.

D. Smoke jumpers play a more important role than regular firefighters.

30. What does the underlined word "tough" mean in the last paragraph?

A. Healthy and talented. B. Caring and hardworking.

C. Strong and brave. D. Energetic and generous.

31. What is the text mainly about?

A. The life of a Russian smoke jumper. B. Why people become smoke jumpers.

C. Interesting facts about a new occupation. D. Who smoke jumpers are and what they do.

D

Can you imagine a world without music? Studies show that public schools across the country are cutting back on music classes to save money. Worse, some schools have never had music classes to begin with. But without them, students’ academic(学业的) growth and emotional health could suffer. In fact, music classes are necessary for all students in schools.

A recent study by Brown University has shown that students who had music classes were better in math and reading skills than those without having music classes. Another study by The College Board found that students taking music and art classes got higher points. Students’ academic success seems to depend on taking part in music education.

Music programs in public schools also help to add to a student’s sense of pride and self-confidence. Teens today have too many learning tasks. Besides, they have family problems, self-confidence problems, relationship troubles, and choices about drugs and alcohol. All of these can stop academic success, but music education can help. Students who took part in school music programs were less likely to turn to drugs. Music programs encourage students to work together to produce an excellent performance.

Music crosses language, class9 cultural and political boundaries(界限). Music allows students from different countries to connect. For example, at a school talent show, a new Japanese student played a piano duet(二重奏) with an American classmate. Although they could not communicate verbally, they were able to read the music in order to play the duet. Two students from different cultures worked as a team with self-confidence and a common purpose through music.

The gift of music is priceless. We need to be sure of having necessary music classes for all students. The world is losing its music, and putting music into schools is the first step to get it back.

32. What can we know about education with music classes?

A. It wastes a lot of money from parents. B. It leads to a lot of emotional problems easily.

C. It helps students improve their school work. D. It has a bad influence on the quality of education.

33. The studies in paragraph 2 show that .

A. not all students take part in music classes

B. students with great success attend music classes

C. students having music classes are better in all courses

D. music plays an important role in students’ academic success

34. What does the example in paragraph 4 mainly suggest?

A. Different cultures have different styles of music.

B. Music makes cross-country communication possible.

C. Japan has a good international relationship with America.

D. Japanese and American students are good at playing the piano.

35. Which of the following is the best title for the text?

A. Music education in schools B. How to get music back?

C. Music—a bridge to understanding D. The importance of listening to music

第二节（共5小题；每小题2.5分，满分12.5分）

阅读下面短文，从短文后的选项中选出可以填入空白处的最佳选项。选项中有两项为多余选项。

Travel is one of the activities people carry out most often during their spare time. 36 Maybe, for them, to broaden their horizons and to be happy and healthy, are more important than money. Travel can be a wonderful experience and a sweet memory. The following tips on travel may help you if you plan to travel later on.

Know more about the place you plan to visit. 37 After making a decision, you should seek others’ advice and try to know more about the place that you are going to, including how to get there, the cost, the sights you plan to visit9 and so on.

 38 Especially if you plan to take part in adventure activities, you may get injured. Once such an injury or accident happens to you, you may not have to suffer both physically and financially as long as you have travel insurance.

Do not forget medicines. 39 They are necessary for a cold, infection, stomach upset? injuries, etc. Since you are travelling away from home, you may not have family members to care for you when you fall ill. So, take extra care of yourself and be ready for everything.

Mind your basic safety. It’s easy to let your guard down when you travel. After all, you’re more relaxed and there are so many new sights to focus on. However, nothing is more important than your life. 40

A. Consider travel insurance.

B. Being a money-saving traveller is not easy.

C. So, watch out for your personal safety at all times.

D. Ask your classmates for opinions about where to go.

E. Although travel may cost a lot of money, most people like to travel.

F. Always remember to carry your first aid box and necessary medicines.

G. To enjoy a wonderful trip, you should think carefully about where to go.

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、D四个选项中选出可以填入空白处的最佳选项。

Picking up a free newspaper at the Tube station, I see the title “Hot! Hot! Hot!”. Today, the temperature in London is 41 to reach 30 plus degrees! The average high temperature in July is only 22 degrees, so over 30 is unusual for London. It’s going to be 42 on the Central Line, with no air conditioning.

Sure enough, going down the stairs and onto the 43 is like jumping into a volcano that’s erupting. This, 44 , is nothing compared to the train. Because there’s no air conditioning, the temperature 45 the train can reach 35 degrees! It’s lovely at the beach, but not so when you’re wearing a suit and in a 46 of passengers! I’m sure the passenger next to me and I are 47 and becoming one!

Yes, each summer in London 48 seems hotter than the last. I suddenly feel a bit 49 . Perhaps now is the time to start planning for the future? I should probably 50 my flat on the market and buy a boat.... Most importantly, I’ll need to learn to swim! I’ll join a beginner’s swimming class 51 . Then I’ll be able to 52 even when the tall buildings are flooded.

 53 my newspaper, I’m shocked by photos showing that a hurricane in Asia has destroyed a town. Experts say this bad weather has occurred due to 54 change. News like this makes me feel nervous. 55 it’s hard to avoid a disaster on Earth, perhaps I should start thinking about moving to space...

41. A. allowed B. stopped C. encouraged D. expected

42. A. awful B. powerful C. helpful D. peaceful

43. A. stage B. lift C. platform D. playground

44. A. therefore B. moreover C. however D. otherwise

45. A. outside B. inside C. beside D. alongside

46. A. crowd B. group C. series D. score

47. A. travelling B. melting C. sweating D. freezing

48. A. possibly B. eventually C. accidentally D. definitely

49. A. tired B. scared C. excited D. disappointed

50. A. set B. make C. put D. hit

51. A. immediately B. gradually C. slowly D. suddenly

52. A. choose B. engage C. breathe D. survive

53. A. Looking for B. Looking through C. Looking into D. Looking after

54. A. environment B. location C. time D. climate

55. A. Now that B. Unless C. Though D. Where

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。

It is often said 56 learning a new language can open a new world. You are able to talk with new people, explore new cultures and understand new ways of life.

English is the most 57 (wide) spoken foreign language in the world. That’s why British people are lazy when it comes 58 learning new languages. A recent survey found that Britons are the 59 (bad) language learners in Europe. It found that just one-third of those asked were able to speak a second language. In Britain, children begin learning to speak French in junior school. Children spend an hour a week 60 (learn) the language. Some schools go on a day trip to France 61 (practice) speaking.

When children reach high school, they continue their French studies. They 62 (give) the chance to learn German too.

In certain schools, children also learn Latin. This language is no longer spoken, 63 many English words and structures come from it. Having a good knowledge of Latin 64 (help) improve your English.

Most children in Britain do not enjoy learning languages. They think they are more difficult and less fun than other 65 (subject). Also, because so many speak English, many British children think they don’t need to bother learning a second language.

第四部分 写作（共两节，满分40分）

第一节（满分15分）

为确保2022年北京冬奥会顺利举行，组委会计划招募一批为外国运动员提供服务的志愿者。假定你是李华，希望能成为其中一员，请按要求用英语给组委会写一封申请信，内容包括：

1.个人情况；

2.自身优势；

3.服务承诺。

注意：

1.词数80左右；

2.可以适当增加细节，以使行文连贯。

Dear Sir/Madam,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Yours faithfully,

Li Hua

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。续写的词数应为120左右。

Deep into the night, outside Washington, the bus pulled into roadside restaurant, and everybody got off except Vingo. He sat rooted in his seat, and the young people began to wonder about him, trying to imagine his life. When they went back to the bus, one of the girls said brightly, “We’re going to Florida. I hear it’s really beautiful.”

“It is,” he said quietly, as if remembering something he had tried to forget.

“Are you married?”

“I don’t know.”

“You don’t know?” she said.

“Well, when I was in prison I wrote to my wife,” he said, “I told her that I was going to be away for a long time, and that if she couldn’t stand it, if it hurt too much, well, she could just forget me. I’d understand. Get a new guy, and forget about me. I told her she didn’t have to write to me. And she didn’t. Not for three and a half years.”

“And you’re going home now, not knowing whether she’s still there or not?”

“Yeah,” he said shyly. “Well, last week, when I was sure the parole(假释) was coming through, I wrote to her again. There’s a big oak tree just as you come into town. I told her that if she’d take me back, she should put a yellow handkerchief(手绢) on the tree, and I’d get off and come home. If she didn’t want me, forget it—no handkerchief, and I’d go on through.”

“Wow,” the girl exclaimed.

The next morning they were 20 miles from Brunswick, and the young people took over window seats on the right side, waiting for the approach of the great oak tree. Vingo stopped looking, tightening his face, as if having no courage to face another disappointment.

However, something unexpected happened. Vingo sat there stunned(目瞪口呆的), looking at the oak tree. It was covered with hundreds of yellow handkerchiefs, which was like a banner of welcome billowing in the wind. As the young people shouted, Vingo rose from his seat and made his way to the front of the bus and went home.

Paragraph 1:

*When Vingo arrived home, he really wanted to know what had happened to his wife, Marry, throughout these years.* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Paragraph 2:

*Determined to turn over a new leaf, Vingo began to try his best to make his family live a happy life.*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**2020-2021学年度第二学期期末教学质量抽测**

**高一英语参考答案**

第一部分 听力

（说明：本题共20小题，每小题1.5分，满分30分）

1-5 BCABA 6-10 CBACB 11-15 ACBBC 16-20 ACAAB

第二部分 阅读

（说明：本题共20小题，每小题2.5分，满分50分）

21—25 BDACD 26—30 BCABC 31—35 DCDBA 36—40 EGAFC

第三部分 语言运用

第一节

（说明：本题共15小题，每小题1分，满分15分）

41-45 DACCB 46-50 ABDBC 51-55 ADBDA

第二节

（说明：本题共10小题，每小题1.5分，满分15分）

56. that 57. widely 58. to 59. worst 60. learning

61. to practice / to practise 62. are given 63. but / yet 64. helps 65. Subjects

第四部分 写作

第一节

（说明：本题满分15分）

*One possible version:*

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Li Hua. I would like to work as a volunteer for the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympic Games.

I’m a boy of eighteen years old from a high school. My spoken English is good and I can communicate with foreigners fluently. What’s more, I have other advantages—I’m especially fond of sports, familiar with Beijing, good at communication and always glad to help others. I’m willing to provide the best service for every foreign athlete in the Winter Olympic Games.

I would appreciate it if you could offer me the chance to be a volunteer.

Yours faithfully,

Li Hua

第二节

（说明：本题满分25分）

*One possible version:*

*When Vingo arrived home, he really wanted to know what had happened to his wife, Marry, throughout these years.* Looking back, Marry couldn’t hold back her tears. Four years ago, Vingo left home unexpectedly, leaving Marry to raise a four-year- old girl and a two-year-old boy. She suddenly had to be both mom and dad. To make ends meet, she had to take a second job and left the kids in a day care centre. Marry’s neighbors also came to help her in turn. She fell sick from overwork two years ago, but she didn’t want to make Vingo worry her.

Determined to turn over a new leaf, Vingo began to try his best to make his family live a happy life. Vingo got a job as a worker in an electronic company. Every day, returning from his job, he would cook for the family. Moreover, he also went to the night market to sell home-made cakes to earn more money. Busy as he was 9 he would spare some time to take his family to go outing every weekend. At the same time, he became a warm-hearted volunteer in his community. Whenever people praised him, he would say, “Never too late to become a better man.”

附：听力原文

Text 1

W: Stuart, did you leave your basketball in my office today?

M: Oh yes, I did. Sorry I was in a big hurry then. May I come and get it early tomorrow?

Text 2

M: You look tired. Where did you go?

W: I planned to see a doctor, but I needed to meet my clients at the airport.

Text 3

W: I heard your daughter just got chosen to be captain of the swimming team. Congratulations!

M: Thank you. We’re very proud of her. I heard your son is trying out for the football team. Wish him good luck!

Text 4

W: Summer vacation is coming. Have you already got any plans?

M: Not really. But I’m going to head down to London to visit my brother for a few days first, We haven’t seen each other for a couple of years. Then maybe go back home. Fm a little homesick.

Text 5

W: Mike, are you reading the magazine now?

M: No. I have finished it. Now, I’m just searching for some information on the Internet. Do you want to read it?

W: May I?

M: Certainly. Here you are.

Text 6

W: Excuse me. How far is it to the new flower shop?

M: Not far. Do you want to buy flowers from there? The flowers there are fresh and beautiful but a bit expensive.

W: No, Pm meeting a friend there, She is working there. We planned to meet at 8 :00. And now it’s already 7 :30. Need I take a taxi or a bus?

M: Not really, it’s only about a 10-minute walk from here. First, go straight until you get to the corner. Turn left. Walk another five minutes. The flower shop will be on your left.

W: That’s great. Thank you very much.

Text 7

W: Hi, Mr. Johnson. Nice to see you again! How is everything going? M： Very well. What about you?

W: Not bad, thanks. I’m here to pick you up.

M: Wow, that’s so nice of you.

W: So how was your flight?

M: It was a really long flight, but luckily, it wasn’t that boring. I slept for about three hours, watched a movie and then listened to music for a while. Before I was going to read a book, the plane landed.

W: Good. So where do you want to go now? Your hotel?

M: No. I think my stomach is calling for food now.

Text 8

M: How is the weather today?

W: It’s very hot and humid.

M: Indeed, quite different from the forecast.

W: The weather changes often at this time of the year. It’s possible it’ll cool down a little in the late afternoon.

M: How are summers here generally? W: They are usually hot and rainy.

M: I have been here for about a month. It’s very hot and wet.

W: It’s past June now. The rainy season hasn’t arrived yet.

M: What shall we do today? Good weekends shouldn’t be wasted.

W: What about swimming?

M： I’d rather go out for a picnic, and we can see a movie this afternoon.

Text 9

M: I’m sorry that I missed our first history project meeting yesterday.

W: That’s okay. You didn’t miss much. Jane didn’t show up, either.

M: So it was just the three of you?

W: Yeah. Arthur had some good ideas, though.

M: So what are we doing?

W: Our topic is ancient Greece. There are two parts. The first is to make a poster. It should include information about Greek entertainment, government, geography...

M: And history. Mr. Jones would not be happy with us if we didn’t include that.

W: Right. The second part is to create an activity for the class.

M: I’ll do that.

W: Great. So, I’ve put Debbie in charge of the outline. Arthur will find the stuff we need to make the poster.

M: What about the others?

W: Everyone else is doing the research. Jane does well in Mrs. Stone’s English class, so I’ll get her to do the writing.

M: Perfect. I’ll get to work, then.

Text 10

M&W: Hello, everyone. I am happy to attend this programme “The People Around You”. Some people ask me how I write great characters in my book, and I tell them that I love to watch people and study them. It can be anywhere, on the street, in the library... but my favourite place is a coffee shop near my house. I take a seat by the window and watch how people walk, talk and interact. If I see something that I think I can use in a book, I will write it down. I think that this is universal, because my books sell all over the world. My biggest market is America, but they also sell very well in Europe, Asia and Australia. Despite all different cultures9 it’s easy to find we all share those details. I published my first book 20 years ago, and since then I’ve written 12 more, two of which have been turned into films. And I want to thank all of you for your support over the years, I receive many messages and letters about how my books have had a positive impact on people’s lives, and that is what I love about writing. I don’t write books to make money or be well known but I do it to inspire others. Thank you for coming.