

成人学位外语考试复习资料 II --Reading Comprehension

Reading Comprehension 1

It is customary for adults to forget how hard and dull and long school is. The learning by memory of all the basic things one must know is a most incredible and unending effort. School is not easy and it is not for the most part very much fun, but then, if you are very lucky, you may find a real teacher. Three teachers in a lifetime are the very best of my luck. My first was a science and math teacher in high school, my second, a professor of creative writing at Stanford, and my third was my friend and partner, ED Rickets.

I have to believe that a great teacher is a great artist and that there are as few as there are any other great artists. It might even be the greatest of the arts since the medium is the human mind and spirit.

My three teachers had these things in common: They all loved what they were doing; they did not tell, but stimulated a burning desire to know. Under their influence, the horizons sprang wide and fear went away and the unknown became knowable.

I shall speak only of my first teacher because in addition to the other things, she brought discovery. She aroused us to shouting, bookwaving discussions. She had the noisiest class in school and she did not even seem to know it. We could never stick to the subject. Our speculation ranged the word. She breathed curiosity into us so that we brought in facts or truths shielded in our hands like captured fireflies

She was fired, and perhaps rightly so, for failing to teach fundamentals. Such things must be learned. But she left a passion in us for the pure knowable world and she inflamed me with a curiosity which has never left . I have had many teachers who told me soon-forgotten facts but only three who created in me a new attitude and a new hunger. What deathless power lies in the hands of such a person?

- In the writer's opinion, school life is usually _____.
A. Exciting B. interesting C. tiresome D. challenging
- We can infer from *Para.2* that _____.
A. it is easy to find great artists as well as great teacher
B. there are few great teachers but many great artists
C. the greatest artists are not easy to find; nor are the greatest teachers
D. being a great teacher is a great art to learn because teachers spread knowledge
- In the writer's opinion, a good teacher should _____.
A. teach students the fundamental things
B. stick to one subject and be strict with students
C. teach students the knowledge ranging the world
D. arouse students' curiosity and desire to know the world
- The writer's first teacher was dismissed mainly because _____.
A. her class was the noisiest in school
B. she did not teach basic knowledge in class
C. she let students shout and wave books in class

- D. she did not know how to teach basic knowledge effectively
5. What is the best title of this article?
- A. The Teachers in My Life B. How to Become a Teacher
- C. What to Teach at School D. What Makes a Good Teacher

Reading Comprehension 2

If you've been on campus for very long, I'm certain that you've already heard about this course. You may know that last term about fifty percent of the students who selected my course failed it. Let me explain how this came about before you jump to any conclusions. In the first place, since this is a composition class, I expect my students to follow certain rules of formality. Unfortunately, many students today dislike having to follow rules of any kind, especially those which they may feel to be unnecessary. For example, I ask that each of your papers be typed. I count off points for various kinds of mistakes. A misspelled word will cost you 5 points. You'll lost 25 points if you misspell five words. If you write an incomplete sentence, you'll lost 10 points. If you give me two complete sentences as one without adequate punctuation (标点), you'll lost 15 points. I do not accept late papers. You will receive a zero for any theme which you fail to submit on time. I expect you to read each assignment. To make certain that you have read the assignment, I will give you a short unannounced quiz from time to time. This class meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. You will have a total of six major tests throughout the semester. Your final grade will be based on an average of these major tests and eight written themes. If you have any questions at any time, you can see me on Tuesday. My office is on the second floor of this building. Your assignment for Wednesday is to read Hemingway's short story on page 55. Friday will be the last class day of this week, so you can expect to write a short in-class theme for me then.

1. The course mentioned by the teacher is on _____?
- A . reading B. assignments C. writing D. spelling
2. When was this lecture given?
- A . On Monday B. On Wednesday C. On Thursday D. On Fridays
3. How many points will a student lose if he misspells 3 words and writes 2 incomplete sentences on a theme?
- A. 25. B. 35. C. 40. D. 45.
4. During the term the students are required to _____.
- A. write eight themes B. read Hemingway's short stories
- C. follow the rules of the school D. take six major tests and eight quizzes
5. If the students have any questions, they may consult the teacher _____.
- A. Three times a week B.in his office on Tuesdays
- C. At any appointed time D. before or after class on Tuesdays

Reading Comprehension 3

Reading Comprehension 4

Nearly half of all marriages end in divorce. This surprising statistic makes many people think twice before tying a knot(结). This statistic also makes one wonder what causes a marriage to succeed. My parents have been married for thirty-three years, and though they've had their ups and downs, they have had a wonderful relationship. Why has their marriage succeeded?

My parents have always expressed their love for each other. Throughout their courtship (求婚) they did many wonderful things for each other: buying flowers, writing letters, and sending surprises. They've continued these practices throughout their marriage as ways of showing love.

Another quality of my parents' marriage is that they are flexible about their demands and expectations of each other. When I was four, Dad was laid off from his job. As a result, Mom entered the workforce. Although Dad was soon rehired, Mom enjoyed her job so much that she decided to keep it. Dad was a bit surprised, but he could see that it made her happy. If problems arose because of the time demands of their jobs, they worked through these problems—together.

My parents remain committed(忠诚的) to each other, even during difficult times. Early in their marriage, Dad was sent overseas as a communications specialist. He wrote home every now and then, but he didn't see Mom for nine months. Mom was home alone. Sometimes her single coworkers would encourage her to go out with them and have a good time. When I asked her why she didn't, she told me that she had made a commitment to my father and she was living by that commitment. Meanwhile, thousands of miles away, Dad was living up to the same commitment. When they were reunited, they had nothing to be ashamed of and nothing to be angry with each other about. I have come to believe that their absolute commitment to each other is, more than anything else, what has caused their marriage to work.

I once heard someone say that marriage isn't a fifty-fifty deal. It's ninety-ten on both sides. Could that be the secret of a successful marriage? It seems to describe the one my parents have.

1. According to the passage, people tend to hesitate before they _____.
A. get married B. start courtship C. get a divorce D. look at the statistic
2. What is the key factor that contributes to the successful marriage of the author's parents?
A. Their loyalty toward each other.
B. Their common interests and attitudes towards life.
C. Their readiness to express their love for each other.
D. Their capability to deal with their jobs and family life.
3. When the father got his job again, the mother _____.
A. did not quit her job B. entered the workforce too
C. was laid off from her job D. returned home to raise the kids

4. Why didn't the mother go out to enjoy herself while the father was away from home?
- A. She couldn't spare any time. B. She was fed up with betrayal of any kind.
- C. She preferred to stay on her own. D. She lived up to her commitment to the father.
5. What is the secret of a successful marriage according to the author?
- A. To make commitments. B. To give more than to take.
- C. To solve problems together. D. To send gifts to each other occasionally.

Reading Comprehension 5

A hunter had found a piece of forest where there were plenty of animals to hunt. The only trouble was that the place was very difficult to get to. He returned from his first visit to the place in late autumn, and could not get back until the snows melted in the following spring. Then he went to the pilot of a small plane, who earned his living by carrying hunters over parts of the country where there were no roads and no railways, and asked him to take him back to his favorite piece of forest.

The pilot did not know the place, so the hunter showed it to him on the map. "But there is nowhere to land there, man!" said the pilot. "I have flown over that part of the country on my way to other places, and I know that we can't land anywhere between this river and these mountains."

"I thought you were a wonderful pilot," said the hunter. "Some of my friends said you could land a plane on a postage stamp."

"That's right," answered the pilot. "I can land a plane where nobody else can. But I tell you there is nowhere to land in the place you are talking about."

"And what if I tell you that another pilot did land me there last spring?" said the hunter.

"Is that true?" asked the pilot.

"Yes, it is. I swear it."

Well, this pilot could not let himself be beaten by another, so he agreed to take the hunter. When they reached the place, the hunter pointed out a small spot without trees in the middle of the forest, with a steep rise at one end. The pilot thought that there was not enough room to land there, but the hunter said that the other pilot had done so the year before, so down went the plan. When it came to the rise, it turned right over onto its back. As the hunter climbed out, he smiled happily and said, "Yes, that is exactly how the other pilot managed it last time."

1. What does the passage say about the piece of forest the hunter liked?
- A. He had been there twice. B. He saw a lot of animals he liked there.
- C. He could not wait to go back there. D. He paid his first visit there in late summer.

2. How and when could that piece of forest be reached?
 - A. By bus in spring.
 - B. On foot all year round.
 - C. By train in summer.
 - D. On foot except in winter.
3. Which of the following is FALSE about the pilot of a small plane?
 - A. He earned a lot from his job.
 - B. He had a strong sense of competition.
 - C. He was skillful and experienced.
 - D. He had never landed on that piece of forest.
4. Why did the pilot eventually agree to take the hunter to his favorite place?
 - A. Because the hunter challenged him by telling him a lie.
 - B. Because the pilot was convinced he could land the hunter.
 - C. Because the pilot was encouraged to have a big adventure.
 - D. Because the hunter promised to pay the pilot a huge amount.
5. What happened at the end of the story?
 - A. The hunter managed to save the pilot.
 - B. The pilot landed the plane in a wrong place.
 - C. The pilot carried the hunter to the forest safely.
 - D. The hunter doubtfully showed the pilot the way to land.

Reading Comprehension 6

The legal limit for driving after drinking is 80 milligrams of *alcohol*(酒精) in 100 milliliters of blood when tested. But there is no sure way of telling how much you can drink before you reach this limit. It varies with each person depending on your weight, your sex, if you've eaten and what sort of drinks you've had. Some people might reach their limit after only about three standard drinks.

In fact, your driving ability can be affected by just one or two drinks. Even if you're below the legal limit, you could still be taken to court if a police officer thinks your driving has been affected by alcohol.

It takes about one hour for the body to get rid of the alcohol in one standard drink. So, if you have a heavy drinking session in the evening, you might find that your driving ability is still affected the next morning, or you could even find that you're still over the legal limit.

In a test with professional drivers, the more alcoholic drinks they had had the more certain they were that they could drive a test course through a set of movable posts... and less able they were to do it! So the only way to be sure you're safe is not to drink at all.

Alcohol is a major cause of road traffic accidents. One in three of the drivers killed in road accidents have levels of alcohol which are over the legal limit, and road accidents after drinking are the biggest cause of death among young men. More than half of the people stopped by the police to take a breathalyzer (呼吸测醉器) test have a blood alcohol concentration more than twice the legal limit.

1. Can people be sure how much they can drink below the legal limit?
 - A. Yes, if they eat food first.
 - B. Yes, if they know how much they have drunk.
 - C. No, they can never be sure.
 - D. No, because they don't know about the legal limit.
2. When can an adult be quite sure he has stayed away from his drinks?
 - A. At 5 pm, if he drinks 4 standard drinks at lunchtime.
 - B. At 6 pm, if he drinks 5 standard drinks at lunchtime.
 - C. At 8 am, if he drinks 5 standard drinks the night before.
 - D. At 7 am, if he drinks 6 standard drinks the night before.
3. Which of the following is NOT true according to the passage?
 - A. A driver may reach the legal limit even though he drank only a little.
 - B. To be on the safe side, a driver should not drink at all before driving.
 - C. If a driver drank below the legal limit, he can be sure of his innocence.
 - D. A driver's road behavior can be affected even though he drank only a little.
4. What does the passage tell us about a test with professional drivers?
 - A. They can drink and drive well.
 - B. The more they drink, the less able they are to drive.
 - C. The more they drink, the better they could drive.
 - D. The more they drink, the less sure they are of being able to drive.
5. What does the passage say about road accidents?
 - A. Alcoholic drinking may or may not relate to road accidents.
 - B. Young women drivers after drinking are less likely to be killed.
 - C. Not many people stopped for the test have drunk over the legal limit.
 - D. Drivers killed in road accidents may have drunk over the legal limit.

Reading Comprehension 7

Many a young person tells me he wants to be a writer. I always encourage such people, but I also explain that there's a big difference between "being a writer" and writing. In most cases these

individuals are dreaming of wealth and fame, not the long hour alone at a typewriter. "You've got to want to write," I say to them, "not want to be a writer."

The reality is that writing is a lonely, private and poorly-paid affair. For every writer kissed by fortune there are thousands more whose longing is never rewarded. When I left a 20-year career in the US Coast Guard to become a *freelance* (自由职业) writer, I had no *prospects* at all. What I did have was a friend who found me a room in a New York apartment building. It didn't even matter that it was cold and had no bathroom. I immediately bought a used manual typewriter and felt like a genuine writer.

After a year or so, however, I still hadn't gotten a break and began to doubt myself. It was so hard to sell a story that I barely made enough to eat. But I knew I wanted to write, I had dreamed about it for years. I wasn't going to be one of those

people who die wondering: What if ? I would keep putting my dream to the test even though it meant living with uncertainty and fear of failure. This is the shadowland of hope, and anyone with a dream must learn to live there.

1. The word “**prospects**” (Para.2) is closest in meaning to _____.
A. rich resources B. reasonable hopes C. strong desires D.enormous advantages
2. The writer mentions his 20-year career in the US Coast Guard in order to show _____.
A. his regret at leaving the army
B. his determination to realize his dream
C. his disappointment with the army life
D. his excitement with the new life in the big city
3. The writer would use all the following words to describe his life as a writer, except _____.
A. failure B. loneliness C. wealth D. hard work
4. What is the main idea of the passage?
A. One may become a writer if he loves writing.
B. One may become a writer if he keeps on writing.
C. One will surely become a writer if he works hard.
D. One will surely become a writer if he learns to write.
5. Who do you think most likely wrote this passage?
A. A poor dreamer. B. A successful writer.
C. A journal editor. D. A literature professor.

Reading Comprehension 8

Years ago, a cigarette commercial asked if you were smoking more, but enjoying it less. That describes the way many of us live today. We are doing more, but enjoying it less. And when that doesn't work, we make the problem worse. In our wild search for satisfaction, we try stuffing still more into our days, never realizing that we are taking the wrong approach. The truth is simple; so simple it is hard to believe. Satisfaction lies with less, not with more. Yet, we pursue the illusion that this thing, or that activity, will somehow provide the satisfaction we so desperately seek.

Arthur Lindman, in his *hard-hitting* (直言不讳的) book, *The Hurried Leisure Class*, described the futility (徒劳) of pursuing more. His research focused on what people did with their leisure time. He found that as income rose, people bought more things to occupy their leisure time. But, the more things they bought, the less they valued any one of them. Carried to an extreme, he predicted massive boredom in the midst of tremendous variety. That was more than twenty years ago, and his prediction seems more accurate every year.

Lindman, of course, is not the first to discover this. The writer of *Ecclesiastes* (传道书) expressed the same thought thousands of years ago. It is better, he wrote, to have less, but enjoy it

More. If you would like to enjoy life more, I challenge you to experiment with me. How could you simplify your life? What could you drop? What could you do without? What could you stop pursuing? What few things could you concentrate on?

The more I learn, the more I realize that fullness of life does not depend on things. The more I give up, the more I seem to gain. But words will never convince you. You must try it yourself.

1. Why do people become increasingly busy according to the passage
 - A. Because they want to make more money.
 - B. Because they try to get more things done.
 - C. Because they want to make their life better.
 - D. Because they want to satisfy their daily needs.
2. What is Lindman's opinion on people's hard work?
 - A. It makes their life less enjoyable.
 - B. It makes their life nice and happy.
 - C. It enables them to buy more things.
 - D. It enables them to have more leisure time.
3. Which of the following is NOT true about the truth of life according to the passage?
 - A. It sounds too simple to believe.
 - B. Lindman was the first to discover the truth.
 - C. It becomes increasingly precise over the years.
 - D. The more people have, the more bored they get.
4. What does the writer suggest people do for better life?
 - A. Reflect on the nature of life.
 - B. Accept the daily challenges boldly.
 - C. Try to make life more challenging.
 - D. Follow his opinion in their daily life.
5. Which of the following can be the best title for the passage?
 - A. Work to Live
 - B. Simplify Your Life
 - C. The More, the Better
 - D. Accept My Challenge

Reading Comprehension 9

I hate driving. I hate the traffic, the confusing design of highways in my city and the long periods of sitting with nothing to do but listen to the radio. Besides, I am a nervous, slow driver, fearful of other cars and distracted drivers.

But I live in a spacious Southwestern city with limited public transportation and intense heat that makes long-distance walking or biking tough for much of the year. So driving is a fact of life for me.

My fears, though, have only been further confirmed by a sad series in the *New York Times* called "Driven to Distraction" about the dangers of using cellphones and of texting while driving. One article cited a new study, by the Virginia Tech

Transportation Institute, which found that when truck drivers texted, their collision risk was 23 times greater than when not texting.

Another article cited research which found that drivers using phones are four times as likely to cause a crash as other drivers—and that driving while talking on a cell is *akin* (类似的) to being legally drunk. Hands free devices, meanwhile, don't eliminate these risks, according to studies. In fact, they may worsen them by giving drivers a false sense of security.

Because I'm such a weak driver, I try not to talk or answer my phone on the road unless it's urgent or traffic is at a standstill (停止). But for many people, especially those with long commutes and important business to take care of, talking or texting while driving is common, and perhaps necessary. I am amazed by how many interviews I've conducted for articles with subjects talking to me while driving; I can sometimes hear the sound of horns and the music of *NPR* (美国国家公共广播电台) turned down in the background.

1. Why does the author have to drive in life although he hates driving?
 - A. He can't afford to go to work by taxi every day.
 - B. He lives in a big city with limited public transportation and bad weather.
 - C. He thinks driving is a fact of life for him.
 - D. He wants to listen to the radio while driving.
2. According to *The New York Times*, what is the most dangerous behaviour while driving?
 - A. Texting.
 - B. Making a cellphone call.
 - C. Being drunk on the road.
 - D. Talking with others.
3. The reason why the hands-free devices can't avoid risks is that _____.
 - A. they make the drivers want to make a call
 - B. they give the drivers a chance to read the text
 - C. they make the drivers feel worse than before
 - D. they give the drivers an untrue sense of safety
4. In the interviews the author is surprised to realize that _____.
 - A. some interviewees are texting while answering the author's questions
 - B. he has to answer the phone when the traffic stops
 - C. some interviewees are talking or listening to music while driving
 - D. he has to conduct the interviews while answering the phone
5. What can be inferred from the passage?
 - A. The author hates driving but he has to drive.
 - B. The author likes the design of highways in his city.
 - C. The author always uses cellphones while driving.
 - D. The author always interviews people while driving.

Reading Comprehension 10

Telephone, television, radio, and telegraph all help people communicate with each other. Because of these devices, ideas and news of events spread quickly all over the world. For example, within seconds, people can know the results of an election in another country. An international football match comes into the homes of everyone with a television set. News of a disaster such as an earthquake or flood can bring help from distant countries. Within hours, help is on the way. Because of modern technology like the satellites that travel around the world, information travels fast.

How has this speed of communication changed the world? To many people, the world has become smaller. Of course this does not mean that the world is actually physically smaller. It means that the world seems smaller. Two hundred years ago, communication between the continents took a long time. All news was carried on ships that took weeks or even months to cross the oceans. In the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, it took six weeks for news from Europe to reach Americas. This time difference influenced people's actions. For ample, one battle, in the War of 1812 between England and the United States could have been avoided. A peace agreement had already been signed. Peace was made in England, but the news of peace took six weeks to reach America. During these six weeks, the large and serious Battle of New Orleans was fought. Many people lost their lives after a peace treaty had been signed. They would not have died if news had come in time. In the past, communication took much more time than it does now

1. According to this passage, _____ is very important to people in a disaster area.
A. latest news B. new ideas C. fast communication D. modern technology
2. News spreads fast because of _____.
A. a peace agreement B. new technology
C. the changes of the world D. modern transportation
3. What can be inferred from the second paragraph?
A. The world is changing in size.
B. The world now seems smaller because of faster communication.
C. The world is actually smaller today.
D. The distance between England and America has changed since the War of 1812.
4. Two hundred years ago, news between the continents was carried _____.
A. by air B. by sea C. by land D. by telephone and telegraph
5. The Battle of New Orleans could have been avoided if the peace agreement had been signed _____.
A. in America B. in England C. by both sides D. in time

答案翻译

Reading Comprehension 1

1. C 从文章一开始作者就说学校生活枯燥无味, 选项中 A、B 都是正面的, 即激动人心的、有趣的, 与文章意思相悖; 选项 D 的意思是富有挑战性, 与文章意思不符。故答案为选项 C。
2. C 由文章第二段第一句可知, 一个伟大的老师也是一位伟大的艺术家, 但是正如伟大的艺术家不多那样, 伟大的老师也不多。句中 as few as 意为“一样少”。故答案为选项 C。(选项 A 的意思很容易找到伟大的艺术家和伟大的老师; 选项 B 的意思是伟大的老师不多, 但伟大的艺术家很多, 均与文章意思不符。选项 D 的意思是成为一个伟大的老师是一门艺术, 因为老师传播知识, 文章中未提及。)
3. D 文章第四段主要介绍作者的第一位好老师, 这位老师激发学生的好奇心, 激起学生的求知欲。选项 D 说的就是这个意思。故答案为选项 D。(选项 A 的意思是一个好老师应该交给学生基本的知识, 作者的第一位好老师恰恰是不教基本知识, 并因此被学校解雇的; 选项 B 的意思是一个好老师应该拘泥于话题, 对学生严格, 而这位老师恰恰是不拘泥于话题, 她的课堂是全校最喧闹的; 选项 C 的意思是一个好老师应该教给学生各种知识, 而这位老师并不教给学生各种知识, 而是让学生的思绪翱翔。因此 A、B、C 选项都不符合文章意思。)
4. B 文章最后一段提到: 这位老师最后被学校解雇, 原因是她不教授基本知识。故答案为选项 B。(选项 A 的意思是她的课堂是学校最喧闹的; 选项 C 的意思是她让学生在课堂里高喊, 并舞动书本, 这两个选项说的都是事实, 但不是她被解雇的原因; 选项 D 的意思是她不知道如何有效教授基本知识, 文章中没有提及。)
5. D 文章第一段的意思是学校生活的最大好处是可能会让人遇到一位好老师, 并引出了作者遇到的三位好老师; 第二段讲到好老师如同好的艺术家一样可遇而不可求; 第三段介绍作者三位好老师的共性; 第四段介绍作者第一位好老师的教学; 第五段重申了作者三位好老师的伟大, 他们培养了作者一种新的态度和求知欲。纵观全文, 文章主要讲的是什么是好老师, 而不是作者一生中的老师(选项 A)、怎样成为一个老师(选项 B)、在学校里教什么(选项 C)。故答案为选项 D。

Reading Comprehension 2

1. C 文章第四行 this is a composition class 故答案为选项 C。
2. A 文章倒数第六行 This class meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. 上课时间是每周的一、三、五。因为讲话人提到下次上课时间为周三, 所以此讲话

的时间为周一，故答案为选项 A。

3. B 文章第七行 A misspelled word will cost you 5 points. You'll lost 25 points if you misspell five words. If you write an incomplete sentence, you'll lost 10 points. 一个拼错词扣 5 分，一个不完整句子扣 10 分。因此这儿是 $3 \times 5 + 2 \times 10 = 35$ ；故答案为选项 B。

4. A 文章倒数第五行中明示，作为课程评估的一部分，学生必须完成八篇作文 (eight written themes) 文中确实提到学生在周三前要阅读一篇海明威的短篇小说，但与选项 B 的信息不吻合。选项 C 的信息当然可能是正确的，但该教师没有提及，故答案为选项 A。

5. B 文章倒数第四行中明示，仅选项 B 的内容该教师说了，但其他选项的信息没提到，故答案为选项 B。

Reading Comprehension 3

1.C 文章第一段第一句话就说情感的产生是由于人或动物看到某种好的或不好的东西，故答案为选项 C。(选项 A 的意思是当人感觉到危险时，这只说到了情感产生的一部分原因 B 的意思是人在外部世界碰到的事情，意思不够确切；D 的意思是人努力逃避现实，不符合文章意思。)

2.A 文章第二段第二句话意为：“许多心理学家认为，婴儿生来是没有情感的。”故答案为选项 A。(选项 B 的意思是情感有两种，文章第三段第一句话就说明了这一点；选项 C 的意思是孩子在成长的过程中学会各种情感，文章第二段中主要讲的就是这个意思；选项 D 的意思是人们能够应对各种负面情感，文章第三段最后一句话就是这个意思，因此都是对的。)

3.B 本文首先介绍情感是什么，然后阐释人人都有情感，接着介绍两种不同的情感以及人们如何应对负面情感。所以文章主要是给情感下定义，并对情感进行分类。故答案为选项 B。(选项 A 的意思是解释人们为什么有情感；选项 C 的意思是说明人们如何避免负面情感；选项 D 的意思是解释人们应该如何应对情感。选项 A、C、D 都不够全面。)

4.B 文章最后一段中提道，学生考试时会因担心不及格而不能正常思维，故答案为选项 B。(选项 A 的意思是他会直接放弃；选项 C 的意思是他会需要额外的精力；选项 D 的意是他会努力解决问题，都与文章意思不符。)

5.D 本题考查学生通过上下文猜测生词的能力。drain 一词意为“耗尽”，与后面的 energy 配，选项 A、B、C 的意思分别是“捆绑”、“止”、“流动”，与文章意思不符。故答案为选项 D。

Reading Comprehension 4

1.A 由文章第一段第二句话 This surprising statistic makes many people think twice before tying a knot, 此句中的 tie a knot 是比喻的用法, 意思是“结婚”, think twice 的意思是“三思”, 也就是说在结婚之前人们要三思。故答案为选项 A, 结婚前会犹豫。

2.A 从作者讲促成自己父母成功结婚的关键因素: 在第二段讲到自己的父母在整个恋爱过程中, 他们为对方做了很多表达爱意的事情, 买鲜花、写信、制造惊喜。结婚后也不中断示爱。第三段讲到另一个特点就是对彼此的要求和期待比较灵活。讲了这两个因素后, 在倒数第二段总结到: I have come to believe that their absolute commitment to each other is, more than anything else, what has caused their marriage to work. (我慢慢相信, 他们绝对的忠诚是婚姻成功的关键, 而不是其他的。因此, 忠诚是最关键的因素。) 故答案为选项 A。

3.A 从文章第三段第四句 Although Dad was soon rehired, Mom enjoyed her job so much that she decided to keep it. (虽然爸爸很快就被重新雇用了, 但因为妈妈非常喜欢她的工作, 所以她决定还是保留她的工作。) 可以判断出妈妈选择继续上班, 也就是没有放弃工作。故答案为选项 A。

4.D 从文章倒数第二段 When I asked her why she didn't, she told me that she had made a commitment to my father and she was living by that commitment. (当我问她为什么不出去玩时, 她告诉我, 她对我父亲做出了承诺, 她就是靠这种承诺生活的。) live up to 是遵守的意思。故答案为选项 D。

5.B 文章最后的这句 It's ninety-ten on both sides 应该是关键的信息。由此, 可以判断, 双方都尽量自己付出 90% 应该是婚姻成功的关键, 而不是斤斤计较地每人最多只付出 50%。故答案为选项 B。(给予多于索取。)(本题问到成功婚姻的秘籍, 尽管问题和 37 题有点类似, 但是因为一般问问题的顺序都是根据文章的先后脉络来的, 因此可以判断是应该根据文章结尾处的信息来做选择。文意最后的这句 It's ninety-ten on both sides 应该是关键的信息。根据选项中的信息, A 基本可以排除掉, 因为光做出承诺是没有用的, C、D (一起解决问题和送礼物) 是提到过, 但是不能说是成功婚姻的秘籍或关键, 因此, 可以判断, 双方都尽量自己付出 90% 应该是婚姻成功的关键, 而不是斤斤计较地每人最多只付出 50%。)

Reading Comprehension 5

- 1.C 从文章第一段第三句话 He returned from his first visit to the place in late autumn, and could not get back until the snows melted in the following spring. (他必须等到来年冰雪消融后才能再去,说明他迫不及待地想过去。)故答案为选项 C。
- 2.D 从文章第一段 Then he went to the pilot of a small plane, who earned his living by carrying hunters over parts of the country where there were no roads and no railways, and asked him to take him back to his favorite piece of forest. (我们得知,冬天冰雪覆盖,无法去,他必须等到春天;并且那里没有公路和铁路,因此他才去找飞行员。)故答案为选项 D。
- 3.A 从文章第一段可知,这位飞行员的谋生手段是把猎人带到没有公路、没有铁路的地方,但并没有说他挣了很多钱,故答案为选项 A。
- 4.A 从文章中我们得知,开始这位飞行员不肯去,可是当猎人告诉他曾经有飞行员去过那里时,他就答应去了,他是一个不肯服输的人,故答案为选项 A。
- 5.C 从文章最后一段我们得知,猎人高兴地从飞机里爬出来,说明他成功地到达了他要去的的地方,故答案为选项 C。

Reading Comprehension 6

- 1.C 文章第一段第二句话的意思是“但是到底喝多少酒会达到这个酒精浓度却很难说”,这是因人而异的,跟每个人的体重、性别有关,还跟喝酒的人是否吃过东西、喝什么样的酒有关。故答案为选项 C。
- 2.C 文章第三段第一句话说喝一个标准杯,大约需要一小时彻底把体内的酒精排掉。问题问的是什么时候可以确信不受酒精影响,那么,距离喝酒的时间越远就越安全,选项 C 间隔时间最长。故答案为选项 C。
- 3.C 选项 C 的意思是:如果司机血液中的酒精浓度没有达到法律规定的极限,那他可以确信自己是无辜的,而文章第二段最后一句话就说“即使还没达到法律规定的极限,警察依然可以把你告上法庭,指控的驾驶行为受到酒精影响。”所以选项 C 是不符合文章意思的,故答案为选项 C。
- 4.B 文章第四段讲的是对职业司机的测试发现他们喝得越多,越觉得自己驾驶水平高,事实是驾驶水平越低,故答案为选项 B。
- 5.D 选项 A 的意思是“喝酒与交通事故可能有关可能无关”;选项 B 的意思是“年轻女司机酒后驾车死亡的可能性小”;选项 C 的意思是“被警察拦下测酒精浓度的司机中超过法律规定极限的人数是不多的”,均与文章意思不符。选项 D 的意思是“交通事故中死亡的司机可能是酒喝多了,超过了法律规定的极限”,文章最后一段讲的就是这个意思,所以答案是选项 D。

Reading Comprehension 7

- 1.B **prospects** 一词意为“希望”，选项 A、C、D 的意思分别是“丰富的资源”、“强烈的愿望”、“巨大的优势”故答案为选项 B。
- 2.B 该题问的是作者提到他 20 年的海岸警卫队队员的目的是什么，文章第二段、第三段都讲到作者的写作梦，作者用离开工作了二十年的海岸警卫队来衬托他的决心，故答案为选项 B。
- 3.C 文章第二段中作者讲到，有一个幸运的作者，就会有成千上万个人的努力得不到回报。最后一段又讲到他自己几乎难以自给，也就是说他作为作家没有变得富有，故答案为选项 C。
- 4.A 该问题问的是全文的大意。作者在全文中强调对写作的热爱是最重要的，故答案为选项 A。（选项 B 的意思是如果坚持，就能成为作家；选项 C 的意思是如果一个人如果努力了，就能成为作家；选项 D 的意思是如果一个人学会写作，他一定能成为作家，这些都不是作者的意思。回答该题时需要仔细区分四个选项的细微差别。）
- 5.B 问题问的是本文作者的身份。作者多年的梦想是成为作家，因此在从部队退自由撰稿人。此后无论多么艰辛，都坚持写作，因为他热爱写作。从全文尤其是文章的开始年轻人问他，以及他鼓励年轻人等信息来看，他一定是一个成功的作家；故答案为选项 B。

Reading Comprehension 8

- 1.C 文章第一段第四句话说“在我们疯狂地求满足感的时候，我们试图让我们的每一天很充实”，故答案为选项 C。
- 2.A 文章第二段第一句在介绍 Lindman 的书时就用了 *futility*（徒劳）这个词，紧接又说“但是，他们买得越多，对所买的东西就越不珍惜。”故答案为选项 A。
- 3.B 文章第三段第一句话就说“Lindman 是第一个发现这个真理的人”，故答案为选项 B。
- 4.D 文章第三段中作者说“如果你想更好地享受生活，我请你跟我一起做实验。”故答案为选项 D。
- 5.B 从全文的意思来看，作者认为生活越简单越好，故答案为选项 B。

Reading Comprehension 9

- 1.B 第二段提到，作者居住在美国西南部的一个大城市里，那里的公共交通不发达，天气又极其炎热，在一年中的大部分时间里，远距离步行或骑自行车都会让人受不了，因此，开车成了他生活中的一部分。故答案为选项 B。

2.A 在第三段中，作者引用了《纽约时报》的文章来说明开车时打电话或发短信的危险，其中提到卡车司机边发短信边开车时，撞车的风险比不发短信的司机高出 23 倍。在接下来的一段中，开车时打电话的司机撞车的概率是其他司机的 4 倍，并声称打电话开车相当于酒后驾车。通过以上分析可以得出结论：开车发短信是最危险的。故答案为选项 A。

3.D 第四段倒数第二句提到，研究表明免提设备并不能消除这些风险。接下来的一句阐述了原因：事实上，免提设备可能会加剧风险，因为它们给了司机一种安全的错觉。故答案为选项 D。

4.C 第五段最后一句提到，许多次“我”进行采访时，采访对象都是一边开车一边通过电话跟“我”对答，对此我惊骇不已。有时我还能听到电话里传来对方那边的喇叭声和被调低音量的国家公共广播电台播放的音乐声。故答案为选项 C。(原文中的 subjects 和 C 中的 interviewees 都是被采访者的意思。)

5.A 本文首段指出，作者讨厌开车，并给出了一些讨厌开车的原因。第二段接着指出，作者因为生活和工作需要不得不开车，故答案为选项 A。第二段末句中的 a fact of life 意为“无法改变的事实”。

Reading Comprehension 10

1.C 由题干中的 disaster 定位至首段第五句。该句指出地震或者洪涝等灾害的消息能够帮助人们从遥远的国家获得帮助。由此可知，对于受灾地区的人们来说，快速的信息交流是很重要的，故答案为选项 C。

2.B 从第一段最后一句 Because of modern technology like the satellites that travel around the world, information travels fast. 由于现代技术，如卫星在世界各地传播，信息传播速度很快。故答案为选项 B。

3.B 由题干中的 the second paragraph 和选项中的 the world 定位至第二段前半部分。该部分指出，通讯速度的提高改变了这个世界，对很多人来说世界变小了，当然这并不是说世界真的变小了，而是说交流速度的加快使人们感觉世界像是变小了。故答案为选项 B。

4.B 由题干中的 the second paragraph 定位至第二段 Two hundred years ago, communication between the continents took a long time. All news was carried on ships that took weeks or even months to cross the oceans. (二百年前前大洲之间传播消息需要花费很长时间。所有的消息都要船运几周甚至几个月才能漂洋过海)，故答案为选项 B。

5.A 由题干中的 The Battle of New Orleans 定位至文章结尾处。从此处可知，作者用这场战争作为例子，用以说明二百年前的洲际通讯速度非常缓慢，影响

到了人们的行为。由此可以推断，如果和平协议是在美国签署，就无须花费漫长的时间将消息从英国传至美国，这场战争就有可能避免，故答案为选项 A。