

系級	英文學系二、三年級	考試時間	100 分鐘
科目	英文	本科總分	100 分

I. Verbal Ability: 30%

The following questions are incomplete sentences with four choices, marked A, B, C, and D. Choose the one word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

- To be really polite to others, you need to take time to think of the right way to phrase a question without sounding too _____.
(A) blunt (B) bleach (C) plain (D) fake
- The government should increase social services to enable women to _____ work and family.
(A) ratify (B) reconcile (C) communicate (D) negotiate
- It was an unbearably steamy August afternoon in Taipei, the kind of sweaty day that makes people easily _____ with discomfort.
(A) enthusiastic (B) irritated (C) energetic (D) allergic
- She has suffered from many misfortunes throughout her life, but her faith in God helped her _____.
(A) persevere (B) restore (C) acclaim (D) confront
- The average daily _____ of sugar for the children in this country is much higher than recommended.
(A) swallow (B) digestion (C) nutrition (D) consumption
- The issue of same-sex marriage is highly _____. There are pros and cons to this issue.
(A) entertaining (B) controversial (C) taboo (D) fundamental
- Around the world, immigration and refugees are a hot topic. Europe is locked in a _____ as to how to handle the millions of people who seek to migrate there.
(A) conjunction (B) climax (C) difficulty (D) debate
- The refugees provide needed services and often also give a sense of the _____ or internationalization to their host centers of employment.
(A) flare (B) exotic (C) achievement (D) flamboyant
- Embroidery is a fine art. American Indians sewed feathers, quills and beads in _____ patterns on their clothing.
(A) elaborate (B) normal (C) energetic (D) simple
- During the 1920's, jazz _____ throughout the U.S. from California to the East Coast. It was often called the "Golden Age of Jazz."
(A) dwindle (B) accelerate (C) vanish (D) flourish
- Mother's Day, on the second Sunday in May, is a special day observed around the world _____ mothers of all ages, races, cultures, nationalities, and social classes.
(A) watching (B) commemorating (C) solemnizing
(D) dating

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12. She is quite popular in the circle of her friends due to her _____ personality.

- (A) snobbish (B) depressed (C) outstanding (D) jovial

13. Einstein's genius was undeniable, and his insight into the universe was _____

- (A) unparalleled (B) mountable (C) linear (D) indistinguishable

14. In the ongoing debate over how best to protect the world's _____ numbers of plant and animal species, the term biodiversity is often heard.

- (A) diverse (B) proliferating (C) ethnic (D) dwindling

15. The new-born baby is constantly sick because he was taken care of in a condition of poor _____.

- (A) sanitation (B) salvation (C) savage (D) solitude

II. Sentence Structure: 20%

Fill in the blanks of the following two short passages based on the choices provided. Choose the one word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

Questions 1 – 5

A new study adds to evidence (1) _____ that being bilingual is good for the brain. In the study, older adults who have spoken two languages since childhood showed better mental skills than (2) _____ speak just one language. The authors of the new study say their findings provide evidence of that cognitive advantage among older and bilingual adults. In the study, the researchers asked people to sort colors and shapes in a series of simple exercises. Dr. Gold and his colleagues used brain imaging to assess (3) _____ three groups of people switched among these exercises. The groups were bilingual seniors, monolingual seniors and younger adults. "We found that seniors who are bilingual are able to activate their brain with a magnitude (4) _____ young subjects. So they don't need to expend as much effort, and yet they still (5) _____ their monolingual peers, suggesting they use their brain more efficiently."

- (A) suggest
(B) suggesting
(C) indicate
(D) suggested
- (A) that of
(B) those that
(C) those might
(D) those who

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3. (A) no matter what
(B) how many
(C) how well
(D) how much
4. (A) along with
(B) closer to
(C) of that
(D) which belongs to
5. (A) perform better
(B) better than
(C) outperform
(D) contesting

Questions 6 – 10

Britain's decision to leave the European Union (6) _____ Prime Minister David Cameron to resign and markets to fall around the world. Final results in Thursday's historic (7) _____ gave the "Leave" campaign 52 percent, while "Remain" took 48 percent. Voter turnout was reported high across Britain, (8) _____ falling in many areas. The outcome shocked many within Britain and across the world since recent opinion polls showed (9) _____ "Remain." UK Independent Party Leader Nigel Farage was the most vocal voice in the anti-EU movement. He said the "Leave" win was "our independence day." He called the results "a victory for real people, a victory for ordinary people, a victory for decent people." The close vote showed (10) _____ on issues of immigration and sovereignty that became the focus of the "Leave" campaign.

6. (A) is related to
(B) promoted
(C) promoting
(D) push
7. (A) reference
(B) democracy
(C) referendum
(D) referring to

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8. (A) even heavy rain
 (B) heavy raining
 (C) raining hard
 (D) even with heavy rain
9. (A) a growing lead for
 (B) a declining need for
 (C) an unfavorable attitude toward
 (D) no response to
10. (A) what Britons are actually are
 (B) how deeply divided Britons are
 (C) what Britons deeply concern
 (D) how happy Britons are

III. Reading Comprehension: 20%

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage:

When opponents of a game are equally matched, the team dressed in red is more likely to win, according to a new study.

British anthropologists Russell Hill and Robert Barton of the University of Durham reached that conclusion by studying the sports outcomes at the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece. When competitors were equally matched with their opponent in fitness and skill, the athletes wearing red were more likely to win.

"Where there was a large point difference—presumably because one athlete was far superior to the other—color had no effect on the outcome," Barton said. "Where there was a small point difference, the effect of color was sufficient to tip the balance." Joanna Setchell, a primate researcher at the University of Cambridge in England, has found similar results in nature. Her work with the large African monkeys known as mandrills shows that red coloration gives males an advantage when it comes to mating. "Red seems to be the color, across species, that signals male dominance," Barton said. For example, studies by Setchell, the Cambridge primate researcher, show that dominant male mandrills have increased red coloration in their faces and rumps. In another study, scientists put red plastic rings on the legs of male zebra finches, which increased the birds' success in finding a mate.

Barton said he and Hill speculated that "there might be a similar effect in humans." Hill and Barton found their answer by viewing Olympic competitors in the ring, on the mat, and in the field. "Across a range of sports, we find that wearing red is consistently associated with a higher probability of winning," the researchers write.

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1. What is the main idea of this article?
 - (A) Athletes like to wear red uniforms in sports events.
 - (B) Wearing red clothing can give athletes a competitive advantage in sports.
 - (C) Primates tend to increase red coloration when mating.
 - (D) According to research, red is the favorite color for human beings and animals.

2. What is NOT true about the article?
 - (A) Wearing red clothing guarantees that the athletes will win.
 - (B) The researchers reached the conclusion of the study of wearing red by studying outcomes of several sports at the 2004 Summer Olympics.
 - (C) The results of the study indicate that sports men wearing red are more likely to win.
 - (D) Research has revealed a similar effect of color red both in humans and primates.

3. What does “tip the balance” mean in the article?
 - (A) To balance the tension between A and B
 - (B) To reach a balance
 - (C) To knock over the balance between A and B
 - (D) To make something more balanced

4. According to the article, when will color have an effect on the outcome of a sports event?
 - (A) When the audience pays attention to the athletes’ clothing
 - (B) When there is a little bit difference between two teams or two sports men
 - (C) When there is a large point difference
 - (D) When color red fits nicely to the sports environment

5. Why did scientists put red plastic rings on the legs of male zebra finches?
 - (A) To help increase the birds’ male dominance in mating
 - (B) To not let the birds fly away
 - (C) To stop the birds from mating
 - (D) To let male zebra finches flock together

背面尚有試題

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Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage:

For many years Americans have been drinking coffee. And for just as many years, medical researchers in this country have wondered about the effects that this immensely popular stimulant containing beverage may be having on our health. Now, a team of researchers at a university in Tennessee are gearing up to find out. However, their work will differ fundamentally from most of the studies that have been done in the past.

Most studies on the physiological effects of coffee consumption have begun from the premise that coffee drinking may be harmful, and that any harm it causes is most likely to be the result of the drink's stimulant effects. Therefore, the studies have been designed to identify these supposed harmful consequences, and have been largely focused on caffeine as the bioactive stimulant compound present in coffee. Apart from some results linking caffeine with birth defects in laboratory animals, as well as headaches, stomach discomfort and sleeplessness in humans, none of the efforts taken in this direction have yielded much indisputable evidence that coffee is harmful.

At Vanderbilt University's Institute for Coffee Studies they are beginning with a new premise and therefore adopting a new strategy. Instead of searching for the harmful consequences of consuming just one of coffee's constituent compounds, they will search for the possible benefits of the drink as a whole.

Besides caffeine, there is a host of other bioactive compounds present in the coffee bean, and for many years there have been nearly as many purported benefits to be from the coffee habit. Everything from reductions in the rate of incidence of certain cancers, to antidepressant effects, to improved memory and cognitive function, and even enhanced athletic performance have been associated with coffee. Through the efforts of the Vanderbilt team to associate the chemistry with the effects, we may rediscover something known long before the days of modern medicine. It is an interesting and relevant historical fact that, long before coffee came into common use as a beverage about seven or eight centuries ago, it was appreciated in Arab countries for its medicinal uses.

In a country that consumes more coffee than any other—2,600,000,000 pounds per year, or at least 400 million cups a day—it is only logical that there should be so much concern over its effects on our health. Given the history of this wonderful bean, and recent, highly suggestive medical findings, it is equally logical that its potential as a source of new pharmaceutical products should be investigated fully.

6. What is the main purpose of the passage?
- (A) To relate the effects of coffee on our health.
 - (B) To advocate the coffee drinking habit by purporting its merits.
 - (C) To trace the origin of the coffee habit.
 - (D) To describe a new approach to research on the effects of coffee.

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7. According to the passage, all of the following are among the disadvantages of coffee consumption EXCEPT
- (A) headaches
 - (B) stomach discomfort
 - (C) diabetes
 - (D) sleeplessness
8. According to the passage, what's new about the research conducted by the scientists at Vanderbilt University?
- (A) They have successfully disapproved some long-held ideas about caffeine.
 - (B) They are making an effort to link coffee consumption with the development of international trade.
 - (C) They are comparing coffee from different areas in terms of the amount of caffeine contained.
 - (D) They are looking for the possible benefits of coffee as a whole rather than focusing only on caffeine.
9. Look at the word **purported** in the passage. What is the word that is closest in meaning to the word purported?
- (A) Exaggerated
 - (B) Confirmed
 - (C) Rumoured
 - (D) Repudiated
10. According to the paragraph 5, which of the following can best describe the attitude of the author toward the efforts of the Vanderbilt team?
- (A) Positive
 - (B) Decisive
 - (C) Indifferent
 - (D) Skeptical

IV. Writing Ability: 30%

Tell us why you want to major in English and what can it benefit you in your life and future career? Write an expository essay of at least **250** words. Please support your explanation with specific reasons and examples.

【考生不可於文中書寫個人姓名或任何足以識別身分之文字或符號】