

翻译硕士（英语）考试样题

Part One Vocabulary and Grammar (20 points)

Directions: *Beneath each sentence there are four words or phrases marked A, B, C and D. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence. Mark your answers on the answer sheet.*

1. Thousands of people turned out into the streets to _____ against the local authorities' decision to build a highway across the field.
A. contradict B. reform C. counter D. protest
2. The majority of nurses are women, but in the higher ranks of the medical profession women are in a _____.
A. minority B. scarcity C. rarity D. minimum
3. Professor Johnson's retirement _____ from next January.
A. carries into effect B. takes effect
C. has effect D. puts into effect
4. The president explained that the purpose of taxation was to _____ government spending.
A. finance B. expand C. enlarge D. budget
5. The heat in summer is no less _____ here in this mountain region.
A. concentrated B. extensive C. intense D. intensive
6. Taking photographs is strictly _____ here, as it may damage the precious cave paintings.
A. forbidden B. rejected C. excluded D. denied
7. Mr. Brown's condition looks very serious and it is doubtful if he will _____.
A. pull back B. pull up C. pull through D. pull out
8. Since the early nineties, the trend in most businesses has been toward on-demand, always-available products and services that suit the customer's _____ rather than the company's.
A. benefit B. availability
C. suitability D. convenience
9. The priest made the _____ of the cross when he entered the church.
A. mark B. signal C. sign D. gesture
10. This spacious room is _____ furnished with just a few articles in it.
A. lightly B. sparsely C. hardly D. rarely
11. If you explained the situation to your solicitor, he _____ able to advise you much better than I can.
A. would be B. will have been
C. was D. were

12. With some men dressing down and some other men flaunting their looks, it is really hard to tell they are gay or _____.
- A. straight B. homosexual C. beautiful D. sad
13. His remarks were _____ annoy everybody at the meeting.
- A. so as to B. such as to C. such to D. as much as to
14. James has just arrived, but I didn't know he _____ until yesterday.
- A. will come B. was coming
C. had been coming D. came
15. _____ conscious of my moral obligations as a citizen.
- A. I was and always will be B. I have to be and always will be
C. I had been and always will be D. I have been and always will be
16. Because fuel supplies are finite and many people are wasteful, we will have to install _____ solar heating device in our home.
- A. some type of B. some types of a
C. some type of a D. some types of
17. I went there in 1984, and that was the only occasion when I _____ the journey in exactly two days.
- A. must take B. must have made
C. was able to make D. could make
18. I know he failed his last test, but really he's _____ stupid.
- A. something but B. anything but
C. nothing but D. not but
19. Do you know Tim's brother? He is _____ than Tim.
- A. much more sportsman B. more of a sportsman
C. more of sportsman D. more a sportsman
20. That was not the first time he _____ us. I think it's high time we _____ strong actions against him.
- A. betrayed... take B. had betrayed... took
C. has betrayed... took D. has betrayed... take

Part Two Reading Comprehension (35 Points)

Section A (20 points, 4 points each)

Directions: Paraphrase the underlined sentences in the following passages.

Text 1

The raising of livestock is a major economic activity in semiarid lands, where grasses are generally the dominant type of natural vegetation. This economic reliance on livestock in certain regions makes large tracts of land susceptible to overgrazing. The consequences of an excessive number of livestock grazing in an area are the reduction of the vegetation cover and the trampling and pulverization of the soil. This is usually followed by the drying of the soil and accelerated erosion.

Text 2

No person receives credit for a new idea unless he publishes it for all the world to see and criticize. It is further considered advisable to announce ideas in papers read to colleagues at public gatherings that they might blast the speaker down face to face. Ever after announcement or publication, no observation can be accepted until it has been confirmed by an independent observer, and no theory is considered more than, at best, an interesting speculation until it is backed by experimental evidence that has been independently confirmed and has withstood the rigid doubts of others in the field.

Text 3

Scientists may have discovered the secret to avoiding the fiscal cliff: Happiness. Regardless of whether money can buy happiness, being happy may actually make you more money down the road, new research finds. People who express more positive emotions as teenagers and greater life satisfaction as young adults tend to have higher incomes by the time they're 29, according to a study published by the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Text 4

Social progress has done away with the need for backbreaking work and has provided time and leisure for personality development. With it, indeed because of it, today the middle-class family expects each of its members to develop his unique personality, and so does each individual, more or less, himself. This new obligation of the family to provide a setting for the development of a unique personality makes family consensus extremely difficult, if not impossible. Nothing is more problematic for a small group of quite different, unique individuals than to live in close quarters, in close harmony with each other.

Text 5

The prolonged controversy concerning scientific misconduct may be better understood if we take care to define our terms, frames of reference, and points of prejudice. Our ignorance of the impact of scientific ethics on the efficiency of doing successful research is equaled only by our failure to study how people get to be good scientists. We probably know as much as is necessary about the incidence of serious misconduct, but know very little about the prevalence of other practices, good or bad. It is necessary to educate the consumer about the idiosyncrasies of science, and the practitioners of science about their art.

Section B (15 points)

Directions: Write a summary for the following text. The summary is supposed to be about one-third of the text in length.

In developing a model of cognition, we must recognize that perception of the external world does not always remain independent of motivation. While progress toward maturity is positively correlated with differentiation between motivation and cognition, tension will, even in the mature adult, militate towards a narrowing of the

range of perception and in the lessening of the objectivity of perception.

Cognition can be seen as the first step in the sequence of events leading from the external stimulus to the behavior of the individual. The child develops from belief that all things are an extension of its own body to the recognition that objects exist independent of his perception. He begins to demonstrate awareness of people and things which are removed from his sensory apparatus and initiates goal directed behaviors. He may, however, refuse to recognize the existence of barriers to the attainment of his goals, despite the fact that his cognition of these objects has been previously demonstrated.

In the primitive being, goal-directed behavior can be very simply motivated. The presence of an attractive object will cause an infant to reach for it; its removal will result in the cessation of that action. Studies have shown no evidence of the infant's frustration; rather, it appears that the infant ceases to desire the object when he cannot see it. Further indications are that the infant's attention to the attractive object increases as a result of its not being in his grasp. In fact, if he holds a toy and another is presented, he is likely to drop the first in order to clutch the second. Often, once he has the one desired in his hands, he loses attention and turns to something else.

The impact of the socialization process, particularly that parental and social group ideology, may reduce cognitively directed behavior. The tension this produced, as for instance the stress of fear, anger, or extreme emotion, will often be the overriding influence.

Part Three Answering Questions (20 points)

Directions: *Read the following two passages and then answer IN COMPLETE SENTENCES the questions which follow each passage.*

Questions 1~3

For 40 years the sight of thousands of youngsters striding across the open moorland has been as much an annual fixture as spring itself. But the 2,400 school pupils who join the grueling Dartmoor Ten Tors Challenge next Saturday may be among the last to take part in the May tradition. The trek faces growing criticism from environmentalists who fear that the presence of so many walkers on one weekend threatens the survival of some of Dartmoor's internationally rare bird species.

The Ten Tors Challenge takes place in the middle of the breeding season, when the slightest disturbance can jeopardize birds' chances of reproducing successfully. Experts at the RSPB and the Dartmoor National Park Authority fear that the walkers could frighten birds and even crush eggs. They are now calling for the event to be moved to the autumn, when the breeding season is over and chicks should be well established. Organisers of the event, which is led by about 400 Territorial Army volunteers, say moving it would be impractical for several reasons and would mean pupils could not train properly for the 55-mile trek. Dartmoor is home to 10 rare species of ground-nesting birds, including golden plovers, dunlins and lapwings. In some cases, species are either down to their last two pairs on the moor or are facing a nationwide decline.

Emma Parkin, South-west spokeswoman for the PASPB, took part in the challenge as a schoolgirl. She said the society had no objections to the event itself but simply

wanted it moved to another time of year. “It is a wonderful activity for the children who take part but, having thousands of people walking past in one weekend when birds are breeding is hardly ideal,” she said. “We would prefer it to take place after the breeding and nesting season is over. There is a risk of destruction and disturbance. If the walkers put a foot in the wrong place they can crush the eggs and if there is sufficient disturbance the birds might abandon the nest.” Helen Booker, an RSPB upland conservation officer, said there was no research into the scale of the damage but there was little doubt the walk was detrimental. “If people are tramping past continually it can harm the chances of successful nesting. There is also the fear of direct trampling of eggs.” A spokesman for the Dartmoor National Park Authority said the breeding season on the moor lasted from early March to mid-July, and the Ten Tors Challenge created the potential for disturbance for March, when participants start training.

To move the event to the autumn was difficult because children would be on holiday during the training period. There was a possibility that some schools in the Southwest move to a four-term year in 2004, “but until then any change was unlikely. The authority last surveyed bird life on Dartmoor two years ago and if the next survey showed any further decline, it would increase pressure to move the Challenge,” he said.

Major Mike Pether, secretary of the army committee that organises the Challenge, said the event could be moved if there was the popular will. “The Ten Tors has been running for 42 years and it has always been at this time of the year. It is almost in tablets of stone but that’s not to say we won’t consider moving if there is a consensus in favour. However, although the RSPB would like it moved, 75 per cent of the people who take part want it to stay as it is,” he said. Major Pether said the trek could not be moved to earlier in the year because it would conflict with the lambing season, most of the children were on holiday in the summer, and the winter weather was too harsh.

Dartmoor National Park occupies some 54 sq km of hills topped by granite outcrops known as “Tors” with the highest Tor-capped hill reaching 621m. The valleys and dips between the hills are often sites of bogs to snare the unwary hiker. The moor has long been used by the British Army as a training and firing range. The origin of the event stretches back to 1959 when three Army officers exercising on the moor thought it would provide a challenge for civilians as well as soldiers. In the first year 203 youngsters took up the challenges. Since then teams, depending on age and ability, face hikes of 35, 45 or 55 miles between 10 nominated Tors over two days. They are expected to carry everything they need to survive.

1. What is the Ten Tors Challenge? Give a brief introduction of its location and history.
2. Why is it suggested that the event be moved to the autumn or other seasons?
3. What are the difficulties if the event is moved to the autumn or other seasons?

Questions 4~5

Mike and Adam Hurewitz grew up together on Long Island, in the suburbs of New York City. They were very close, even for brothers. So when Adam’s liver started failing, Mike offered to give him half of his. The operation saved Adam’s life. But Mike, who

went into the hospital in seemingly excellent health, developed a complication—perhaps a blood clot—and died last week. He was 57. Mike Hurewitz's death has prompted a lot of soul searching in the transplant community. Was it a tragic fluke or a sign that transplant surgery has reached some kind of ethical limit? The Mount Sinai Medical Center, the New York City hospital where the complex double operation was performed, has put on hold its adult living donor liver transplant program, pending a review of Hurewitz's death. Mount Sinai has performed about 100 such operations in the past three years.

A 1-in-100 risk of dying may not seem like bad odds, but there's more to this ethical dilemma than a simple ratio. The first and most sacred rule of medicine is to do no harm. "For a normal healthy person a mortality rate 1% is hard to justify," says Dr. John Fung, chief of transplantation at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. "If the rate stays at 1%, it's just not going to be accepted." On the other hand, there's an acute shortage of traditional donor organs from people who have died in accidents or suffered fatal heart attacks. If family members fully understand the risks and are willing to proceed, is there any reason to stand in their way? Indeed, a recent survey showed that most people will accept a mortality rate for living organ donors as high as 20%. The odds, thankfully, aren't nearly that bad. For kidney donors, for example, the risk ranges from 1 in 2,500 to 1 in 4,000 for a healthy volunteer. That helps explain why nearly 40% of kidney transplants in the U.S. come from living donors.

The operation to transplant a liver, however, is a lot trickier than one to transplant a kidney. Not only is the liver packed with blood vessels, but it also makes lots of proteins that need to be produced in the right ratios for the body to survive. When organs from the recently deceased are used, the surgeon gets to pick which part of the donated liver looks the best and to take as much of it as needed. Assuming all goes well, a healthy liver can grow back whatever portion of the organ is missing, sometimes within a month.

A living-donor transplant works particularly well when an adult donates a modest portion of the liver to a child. Usually only the left lobe of the organ is required, leading to a mortality rate for living-donors in the neighborhood of 1 in 500 to 1 in 1,000. But when the recipient is another adult, as much as 60% of the donor's liver has to be removed. "There really is very little margin for error," says Dr. Fung. By way of analogy, he suggests, think of a tree. "An adult-to-child living-donor transplant is like cutting off a limb. With an adult-to-adult transplant, you're splitting the trunk in half and trying to keep both halves alive."

Even if a potential donor understand and accepts these risks, that doesn't necessarily mean the operation should proceed. All sorts of subtle pressures can be brought to bear on such a decision, says Dr. Mark Siegler, director of the MacLean for Clinical Medical Ethics at the University of Chicago. "Sometimes the sicker the patient, the greater the pressure and the more willing the donor will be to accept risks." If you feel you can't say no, is your decision truly voluntary? And if not, is it the medical community's responsibility to save you from your own best intentions?

Transplant centers have developed screening programs to ensure that living donors fully understand the nature of their decision. But unexamined, for the most part, is the

larger issue of just how much a volunteer should be allowed to sacrifice to save another human being. So far, we seem to be saying some risk is acceptable, although we're still vaguer about where the cutoff should be. There will always be family members like Mike Hurewitz who are heroically prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice for a loved one. What the medical profession and society must decide is if it's appropriate to let them do so.

4. Describe in your own words the liver transplant between the two brothers Mike and Adam.

5. What is the major issue raised in the article?

Part Four Writing (25 points)

Some people simply see education as going to schools or colleges, or as a means to secure good jobs; other people view education as a lifelong process. In your opinion, how important is education to people in the modern society?

Write an essay of about 500 words on your view of the topic.