

I. Reading Comprehension (40 marks)

Passage One

At the college level, the best preparation for management is a liberal arts education. Individuals who will guide the future of their companies must broaden and deepen their understanding of the world. This means covering the whole range of the liberal arts, from science to literature to mathematics to history. Today's executives must have some grasp of economic realities and the political process, as well as some comprehension of the basic framework within which scientific and technological changes take place. They must gain an understanding of human nature, including its negative aspects, such as the sources of human conflict and the pitfalls of power.

1. What's the purpose of this passage?
 - A. To explain why all managers must go to college.
 - B. To introduce a good management program.
 - C. To explain the importance of a liberal arts education for future managers.
 - D. To advertise a liberal arts program to all students.
2. Which subject is NOT mentioned in the passage?
 - A. physical education
 - B. literature
 - C. mathematics
 - D. history
3. The underlined word "grasp" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.
 - A. understanding
 - B. communication
 - C. thinking
 - D. imagination
4. The underlined word "pitfalls" in the passage is closest in meaning to _____.
 - A. good points
 - B. stages
 - C. causes
 - D. dangers
5. From this passage we can infer that _____.
 - A. those who major in arts will be good executives in the future
 - B. knowledge of human nature will help executives manage people well
 - C. to be a good executive, one should have political ambition
 - D. without a college education, executives will end up being criminals

Passage Two

Home-stay provides English language students with the opportunity to speak English outside the classroom and the experience of being part of a British home.

What to Expect

The host will provide accommodation and meals. Rooms will be cleaned and bed-covers changed at least once a week. You will be given the house key and the host is there to offer help and advice as well as to take an interest in your physical and mental health.

Accommodation Zones

Home-stays are located in London mainly in Zones 2, 3 and 4 of the transport system. Most hosts do not live in the town centre as much of central London is commercial and not residential (居住的). Zones 3 and 4 often offer larger accommodation in a less crowded area. It is very convenient to travel in London by Underground.

Meal Plans Available

- ◇ Continental Breakfast
- ◇ Breakfast and Dinner
- ◇ Breakfast, Packed Lunch and Dinner

It's important to note that few English families still provide a traditional cooked breakfast. Your accommodation includes Continental Breakfast which normally consists of fruit juice, cereal (穀物類食品), bread and tea or coffee. Cheese, fruit and cold meat are not normally part of a Continental Breakfast in England. Dinners usually consist of meat or fish with vegetables followed by dessert, fruit and coffee.

Friends

If you wish to invite a friend over to visit, you must first ask your host's permission. You have no right to entertain friends in a family home as some families feel it is an invasion of their privacy.

Self-Catering Accommodation in Private Homes

Accommodation on a room-only basis includes shared kitchen and bathroom facilities and often a main living room. This kind of accommodation offers an independent lifestyle and is more suitable for the long-stay student. However, it does not provide the same family atmosphere as an ordinary home-stay and may not benefit those who need to practise English at home quite as much.

- The passage is probably written for _____.
 - hosts willing to receive foreign students
 - foreigners hoping to build British culture
 - travellers planning to visit families in London
 - English learners applying to live in English homes
- Which of the following will the host provide?
 - Room cleaning.
 - Medical care.
 - Free transport.
 - Physical training.
- What can be inferred from Paragraph 3?
 - Zone 4 is more crowded than Zone 2.
 - The business centre of London is in Zone 1.
 - Hosts dislike travelling to the city centre.
 - No accommodation is provided in the city centre .
- According to the passage, what does Continental Breakfast include?
 - Dessert and coffee.
 - Fruit and vegetables.
 - Bread and fruit juice.
 - Cereal and cold meat.
- Why do some people choose self-catering accommodation?
 - To experience a warmer family atmosphere.
 - To enrich their knowledge of English.
 - To entertain friends as they like.
 - To enjoy much more freedom.

Passage Three

“Luck is a matter of preparation meeting opportunity,” said the American talk show host Oprah Winfrey. I’ve never watched her show, but when a self-made billionaire gives life advice it’s probably worth listening to.

Her point is that blind luck is very rare. You may have to be lucky to find a good job these days but that does not mean you should sit at home waiting for the opportunity to come to you. If you’re a Chinese, you may already be familiar with the tale of a farmer waiting by a tree stump for a rabbit to run out and break its neck.

A book by the UK psychologist Richard Wiseman, called *The Luck Factor*, argues we can all make ourselves luckier. It’s not about going to a temple to burn some incense in hopes that the gods will give you good fortune; it’s practical advice you can follow each day.

Wiseman conducted an experiment as part of his studies. First he divided volunteers into two groups: those who said they were lucky in life and those who said they were not. He gave everyone a newspaper and asked them to look through it to count how many photographs it had inside. On average, the unlucky people took about two minutes to count the photographs while the lucky people took just seconds. Why? On the second page of the newspaper, a command, “Stop counting. There are 43 photographs in this newspaper,” was written in big letters. The unlucky people mostly did not spot the message.

It’s easy to compare this situation to a young person looking for jobs in a local paper. They might search so hard for one type of position that they miss an even better opportunity. People who are “lucky”, in fact, keep an open mind and don’t go through the same routine every day.

I first came to China in 2002 when it was considered a rather strange thing to do. Like many foreigners, my plan was to teach English for one year. Seven years later, and still here, I’ve had many great opportunities such as writing for newspapers and magazines. I did not dream these would have been possible. I’ve also never been sick, had an accident, got into a fight or had problems with the police. Coincidence? After reading about Professor Wiseman’s studies I think not.

As Wiseman advises, I usually trust my own judgment. Your friends and parents may give you advice based on rational thinking, but it’s important to consider how you feel about each choice you make. Your feeling acts as a warning for a potential problem.

Finally, try to turn bad luck into good. Even if you do fall down and break a leg, the time spent at home can be used wisely to study English.

- Which of the following proverbs most agrees with the writer’s point?
 - Make the best of a bad job.
 - Rome was not built in a day.
 - All is not gold that glitters.
 - A good heart conquers ill fortune.
- What do you know about Oprah Winfrey?
 - She is a British talk show host.
 - She became famous through her family background.
 - She became successful by working hard herself.
 - She was very lucky and seldom suffered setbacks in her life.
- The writer quoted the Chinese tale of a farmer in Paragraph 2 in order to show _____.
 - luck is in your own hand
 - one shouldn’t rely on blind luck
 - bad luck can turn into good
 - man can conquer nature

4. From the experiment Wiseman drew the conclusion that _____.
- A. lucky people are quick-minded B. unlucky people are slow to read
C. lucky people often are open-minded D. unlucky people are more creative
5. From the passage we can learn that _____.
- A. in many foreigners' eyes, to teach English in China was believed to be something strange in 2002
B. those who believe in blind luck never go to temples to burn some incense in hope of good luck
C. based on rational thinking, the advice of your friends usually warns you of a potential problem
D. The Luck Factor argues lucky people are more likely to go through the same routine every day

Passage Four

Read the following text and choose the most suitable heading from A-F for each paragraph. There is one extra heading which you do not need.

- A. You don't take action
B. Your goal is too general or too vague
C. You are not committed to your goal
D. You don't track your progress
E. You don't have a plan to reach your goal
F. Your goal is too difficult and not realistic

How often do you set your goal and then fail to achieve it? Do you ever reflect on the reasons why you didn't achieve your goal? There are a number of mistakes that people make when they set their goals at the start of the year. If one of these mistakes is made, then before even starting you are setting yourself up to fail. There are 5 key goal-setting mistakes that you need to avoid in 2015.

1. _____
- If you have done any kind of goal-setting before, you're bound to come across the SMART technique of goal-setting. SMART stands for Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound. If your goal is not specific and it is vague in some way, how will you know when you have actually achieved your goal? How do you actually know if you're heading in the right direction? You should be able to measure your goals and track your progress. If you can't, then it's probably not clear.
2. _____
- The SMART principle once again comes into play here. All too often people set themselves goals that are far too stretching. When the goal is beyond reachable, negative thoughts enter the mind and disbelief kicks in. This is the opposite of what a good structured goal should do. Ensure your goal is achievable and realistic. Set small targets along the way so you can track your progress. If you feel you are falling behind, reset your goal to something that you can reach.
3. _____
- Many people set certain goals in life because they feel they have to. However, on many occasions these are not the goals that the individual is actually passionate about. The goals set are not associated with their values nor are their own goals—the goals are those that their parents or society wants them to have. If you are not fully committed to your goal upfront, then you're doomed from the start. You will lack the motivation and desire to actually achieve the goal.
4. _____
- If your goal is to start an online business, that's fantastic. However, how are you actually going to achieve it? You need to plan your way towards your goal and with as much clarity as you can. Sometimes clarity can be cloudy as you may have a lack of knowledge or skill in what it is that you want to achieve. However, you can start to list the things that you can do to help you learn and grow and progress to where it is that you want to go. Besides, breaking your goals into smaller steps is essential for helping you track your progress and ensure that your goals are realistic and attainable.
5. _____
- Without taking action you won't get anywhere. Taking action is the most important part of any goal. Even if you take action and you find you're not getting anywhere, you can learn from your experience. Taking action not only progresses you towards your goals, but it helps you learn from your mistakes. They are the keys to reaching your goals in 2015.

IIa. Vocabulary and Grammar (30 marks)

Choose the answer that best completes each sentence

1. I ate _____ sandwich while I was waiting for _____ 20:00 train.
A. the; a B. the; the C. a; the D. a; a
2. Dogs have a very good _____ of smell and are often used to search for survivors in an earthquake.
A. sense B. view C. means D. idea
3. Last night Mr.Crook didn't come back at the usual time. _____, he met some friends and stayed out until midnight.

- A. Meanwhile B. However C. Instead D. Yet
4. He doesn't have _____ furniture in his room — just an old desk.
A. any B. many C. some D. much
5. There are plenty of jobs _____ in the western part of the country.
A. present B. available C. precious D. convenient
6. --- Do you need any help, Lucy?
--- Yes. The job is _____ I could do myself.
A. less than B. more than C. no more than D. not more than
7. _____ and happy, Tony stood up and accepted the prize.
A. Surprised B. Surprising C. Being surprised D. To surprise
8. --- Which of the two computer games did you prefer?
--- Actually I didn't like _____.
A. both of them B. either of them C. none of them D. all of them
9. Isn't it amazing how the human body heals _____ after an injury?
A. himself B. him C. itself D. it
10. It's surprising that your brother _____ Russian so quickly — he hasn't lived in Russia very long.
A. picked up B. looked up C. put up D. made up
11. I make \$2,000 a week, 60 surely won't make _____ difference to me.
A. that a big B. a that big C. big a that D. that big a
12. The old couple often take a walk after supper in the park with their pet dog _____ them.
A. to follow B. following C. followed D. follows
13. The performance _____ nearly three hours, but few people left the theatre early.
A. covered B. reached C. played D. lasted
14. At the age of 29, Dave was a worker, _____ in a small apartment near Boston and _____ what to do about his future.
A. living; wondering B. lived; wondering
C. lived; wondered D. living; wondered
15. I like these English songs and they _____ many times on the radio.
A. played B. have played C. are played D. have been played
16. I can't leave. She told me that I _____ stay here until she comes back.
A. can B. must C. will D. may
17. --- I'm sorry. I _____ at you the other day.
--- Forget it. I was a bit out of control myself.
A. shouldn't shout B. shouldn't have shouted
C. mustn't shout D. mustn't have shouted
18. --- Did you see a man in black pass by just now?
--- No, sir. I _____ a newspaper.
A. read B. was reading C. would read D. am reading
19. It was not until I came here _____ I realized this place was famous for not only its beauty but also its weather.
A. who B. where C. that D. before
20. Among the winners _____ father is seriously ill in hospital.
A. stand little Tom who B. stood little Tom whom
C. little Tom stands whose D. stands little Tom whose

21. While driving through the city, she showed me the building _____ she once worked as a lift operator.
A. when B. which C. by which D. in which
22. We'll have a picnic in the park this Sunday _____ it rains or it's very cold.
A. since B. if C. unless D. until
23. So sudden _____ that the enemy had no time to escape.
A. was the attack B. the attack did C. did the attack D. the attack was
24. An exhibition of paintings _____ at the museum next week.
A. are to be held B. are holding C. is holding D. is to be held
25. Mary is really good at taking notes in class. She can _____ almost every word her teacher says.
A. put out B. put down C. put away D. put together
26. _____ all the animals I've ever had, those two dogs are the most sensitive to spoken words.
A. From B. For C. Of D. With
27. I think Tom, as the head of a big department, should either study regularly or _____ his job.
A. quits B. to quit C. quitting D. quit
28. The _____ shoes were covered with mud, so I asked them to take them off before they got into _____ car.
A. girl's; Tom's B. girls'; Toms' C. girls'; Tom's D. girl's; Toms'
29. --- Michael was late for Mr. Smith's oral class this morning.
--- _____? As far as I know, he never came late to class.
A. How come B. So what C. Why not D. What for
30. --- Can I have a day off tomorrow, Mr. Johnson?
--- _____. I can manage without you.
A. Forget it B. I'm afraid not C. Of course D. It depends

Ib. Cloze (10 marks)

Nowadays, finding a summer job is important not only for the money but for the work experience. Since there is always a lot of 1, students use various means to find summer employment. Restaurants and some companies put an ad in the newspaper. Some universities have a special bulletin board for 2 summer jobs. Students also make many phone calls to companies, hotels and restaurants to ask for an interview. They start looking for a summer job at least three months 3 time. In recent years, a number of universities have started cooperative 4 especially for science students. These students undergo rigorous interviews and 5 to work on research projects. They are given 6 for their work experience and usually have to submit a report to their university. This type of summer employment is usually the most prestigious from a 7 plan point of view. Some students who can't find work in their 8 field also do another type of summer job – lifeguard, housepainter, landscaper, waitress, or worker in a retail store or supermarket. These jobs tend to pay quite well, and students can 9 enough for many college expenses. That aspect has to be weighed against the fact that they might not help students' career plans. Any summer job that requires hard work and a certain amount of 10 is good for students' resume.

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|-----|---------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | A. comparison | B. competition | C. contrast | D. contact |
| 2. | A. posing | B. pasting | C. posting | D. passing |
| 3. | A. ahead of | B. in front of | C. before | D. after |
| 4. | A. progresses | B. programs | C. processes | D. procedures |
| 5. | A. hire | B. are hired | C. fire | D. are fired |
| 6. | A. credit | B. honor | C. prize | D. praise |
| 7. | A. study | B. work | C. career | D. financial |
| 8. | A. choose | B. chose | C. chosen | D. choosing |
| 9. | A. spend | B. cost | C. take | D. save |
| 10. | A. respect | B. responsibility | C. time | D. money |

III. Composition (20 marks)

Write an essay of about 150 words on **ONE** of the following topics.

1. Difficult experiences in life become valuable lessons in life. Please give an example and explain.
2. If you could have a chance to go to the past, which period time would you go to? Why?