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# 2009 年北京大学博士研究生入学考试英语试题

考试科目：英语

考试时间：2009 年 3 月 14 日

招生专业：全校各专业

研究方向：各研究方向

Part One: Listening Comprehension (20%)

Section A Conversations

Directions: In this section you will hear several conversations. Listen to the conversations carefully and answer the questions that follow. Then mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET.

## Conversation 1

Questions 1 to 3 are based on the following conversation. At the end of the conversation, you will be given 15 seconds to answer the questions. Now, listen.

1. When is Anne available for the meeting?  
A. The third week of May.      B. The third week of June.  
C. The eleventh of June.      D. The eleventh of May
2. In which city will their meeting probably take place?  
A. London      B. Toronto      C. Mexico City      D. Chicago
3. When is Eric calling back?  
C. Thursday morning      D. Friday morning

## Conversation 2

Questions 4 to 6 are based on the following conversation. At the end of the conversation, you will be given 15 seconds to answer the questions. Now, listen.

4. According to the women, advertisements \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. let us know the best product      B. give us sufficient information  
C. fail to convince people      D. give misleading information
5. In the woman's opinion, money spent on advertisement is paid by \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. manufacturers      B. customers      C. advertisers      D. all of them
6. Which of the following statements is INCORRECT?  
A. The woman seems to be negative about advertising.  
B. The woman appears to know more about advertising.  
C. The man is to be present at a debate on advertising.

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- D. The man has a lot to talk about on advertising.

Conversation 3

Questions 7 to 10 are based on the following conversation. At the end of the conversation, you will be given 20 seconds to answer the questions. Now, listen.

7. Mr. Brown brought with him only a few things because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. there wasn't enough space in the cupboard  
B. the hospital would provide him with everything  
C. he was to stay there for a very short time  
D. visitors could bring him other things
8. According to the hospital rules, at which of the following hours can visitors see patients?  
A. 2:00 pm      B. 5:00 pm      C. 7:00 pm      D. 6:00 pm
9. Which of the following statements is INCORRECT?  
A. Patients have breakfast at 8.      B. Patients have lunch at 12.  
C. There are special alcohol lounges. D. There are special smoking lounges.
10. Which statement best describes Mr. Brown?  
A. He knows little about hospital rules. B. He can keep alcohol in the ward.  
C. He knows when to smoke.      D. He is used to hospital life.

Section B Conversations

Directions: In this section you will hear several passages. Listen to the passages carefully and answer the questions that follow. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET.

Passage 1

Questions 11 to 13 are based on the following conversation. At the end of the conversation, you will be given 15 seconds to answer the questions. Now, listen.

11. Meeting rooms of various sizes are needed for \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. contacts with headquarter      B. relaxation and enjoyment  
C. informal talks      D. different purposes
12. Which of the following is not mentioned in the passages as part of hotel facilities for guest?  
A. Restaurants      B. Cinemas      C. Swimming pools      D. Bars.
13. Which of the following is not mentioned in the passages as part of hotel facilities for guest?  
A. convenient transportation services      B. competent office secretaries  
C. good sports and restaurant facilities      D. suitable and comfortable rooms

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### Passage 2

Questions 14 to 17 are based on the following conversation. At the end of the conversation, you will be given 20 seconds to answer the questions. Now, listen.

14. The museum aims mainly to display \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the area's technological development  
B. the nation's important historical events  
C. the area's agricultural and industrial development  
D. the nation's agricultural and industrial development
15. The following have been significant in the area's prosperity EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the motorways      B. the Roman roads      C. the canals      D. the railways
16. We know from the passage that some exhibits \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. are borrowed from workshops      B. are specially made for display  
C. reflect the local culture and customs      D. try to reproduce the scene at that time
17. The passage probably comes from \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. a conversation on the museum      B. a museum tour guide  
C. a museum booklet      D. a museum advertisement

### Passage 3

Questions 18 to 20 are based on the following conversation. At the end of the conversation, you will be given 15 seconds to answer the questions. Now, listen.

18. According to the passage, safety in dormitory means that you \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. insure all your expensive things      B. lock doors when going out  
C. lock windows at night      D. take all necessary precaution
19. What does the speaker suggest girls do when they are going to be out late?  
A. Call their friends      B. Stay with their friends      C. Avoid walking in streets      D. Always take a taxi
20. What is the speaker's last advice?  
A. To take a few self-defense classes.      B. To stick to well-lit streets at night.  
C. To avoid walking alone at night.      D. To stay with their friends

### Section C Outline

Directions: The following passage is about a new computer technology called biometric. You'll hear the

passage TWICE. While listening focus on the major points and then complete the following outline by filling in the blanks numbered from C1 and C20 with key words. There's a 50-second pause between the first and second reading. Write your answers on the ANSWER SHEET (2). Now listen.

## Outline

## I. Biometric devices

A. function: used to C1 and C2 C3

### B. working procedure

1. reading a C4 signal (e.g. the C5 of a person's voice, the C6 of a person's hand, or the design of C7 C8 in a person's eyes)

2. opening the door if the signal is C9

## II. Disadvantages and biometric devices.

A. They are C10; some cost as much as C11 (dollars)

B. none of the devices works C12

### III. Advantages of biometric devices

A. they make C13 or C14 C15 C16 unnecessary

B. C17 biometric computers is faster.

C. Each computer can read C18 of signals.

D. C19 the computer with a C20 signal is difficult.

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## Part Two: Structure and Written Expression (20%)

Directions: For each question decide which of the four choices given will most suitably complete the sentence if inserted at the place marked. Mark your choices on the ANSWER SHEET.

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- [C] unlike any Elvis Presley collectible never released  
[D] unlike any Elvis Presley collectible ever released
24. \_\_\_\_\_, the Short is in some ways not really new.  
[A] Like many another new things      [B] Like much other new things  
[C] Like many other new things      [D] Like many another new thing
25. One of the recurrent frustrations and tragedies in the history of thought is caused by the uncertainty \_\_\_\_\_ to solve a given problem by traditional methods previously applied to problems which seem to be of the same nature.  
[A] that is possible      [B] that it is possible  
[C] whether it is possible      [D] about what is possible
26. Kepler reconciled astronomy with physics, and substituted for fictitious clockwork a universe of material bodies not unlike the earth, freely floating and turning in space, moved by forces \_\_\_\_\_.  
[A] acted on them    [B] being acted on it    [C] acting on them    [D] having acted on it
27. Experimental sciences, based on the observation of the external world, cannot aspire to completeness; the nature of things, and the imperfection of our organs, \_\_\_\_\_.  
[A] are likely opposing it      [B] are opposed to it and the like  
[C] are alike opposed it      [D] are opposing it likewise
28. Boris Yeltsin, Russia's \_\_\_\_\_ present, died. His funeral in Moscow was attended by a bevy of world leaders past and present.  
[A] prior      [B] past      [C] former      [D] late
29. Some economists fret that share prices are moving far \_\_\_\_\_ companies' earnings, to a degree scarily reminiscent of Japan in the late 1980s just before its crash.  
[A] ahead of      [B] back of      [C] independent of      [D] abreast of
30. Australia is struggling to cope with the consequences of a devastating drought. As the world warms up, other counties should pay \_\_\_\_\_.  
[A] heel      [B] heal      [C] heed      [D] head
31. Facing the danger, they were quite \_\_\_\_\_ themselves.  
[A] in case of      [B] in name of      [C] in possession of      [D] in charge of
32. Before turning to writing, I spent eight years as a lawyer \_\_\_\_\_ about how life would be with a prominent father blazing my trail  
[A] fantasizing      [B] fascinating      [C] facilitating      [D] finalizing
33. At first, movies were little more than amusing \_\_\_\_\_ — pictures that appeared to move.  
[A] novels      [B] novelties      [C] notices      [D] novices
34. \_\_\_\_\_ commutation via the telegraph began in the 1840s, just before the Civil War, and via the

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telephone just afterward (1870s).

[A] Instantaneous    [B] Spontaneous    [C] Simultaneous    [D] Instinctive

35. I don't understand what you're getting so \_\_\_\_\_ about. It's really not a problem

[A] worked out    [B] worked up    [C] worked over    [D] worked against

36. The school shooting triggered a barrage of transparently irrelevant proposed solutions, tossed out without regard to their relevance to the events that supposedly \_\_\_\_\_ the proposals

[A] occasioned    [B] concerned    [C] illuminated    [D] ensued

37. \_\_\_\_\_ active in commerce or the professions, most of the wealthy were not self-made, but had inherited family fortunes.

[A] Except for    [B] Despite    [C] As    [D] Though

38. Men commit \_\_\_\_\_ motoring offences as women, according to the Home Office figures.

[A] nine times of [B] as nine times [C] nine times that of [D] nine time as many

39. \_\_\_\_\_, wireless communications will increasingly become part of the fabric of everyday life.

[A] In years to come    [B] Since coming years [C] For years to come    [D] Over coming years

40. Harvard is committed to \_\_\_\_\_ ongoing communication and cooperation as project plans are \_\_\_\_\_.

[A] maintain, shaping    [B] maintaining shaping [C] maintain, shaped    [D] maintaining, shaped

### Part Three: Reading Comprehension

I Directions: Each of the following three passages is followed by some questions or unfinished statements.

For each question or unfinished statement, four answers are given. Read the passages carefully and choose the best answer to each question. Mark your choices on the ANSWER SHEET. (10%)

#### Passage One

Why does storytelling endure across time and cultures? Perhaps the answer lies in our evolutionary roots. A study of the way that people respond to Victorian literature hints that novels act as a social glue, reinforcing the types of behaviour that benefit society.

Literature "could continually condition society so that we fight against base impulses and work in a cooperative way", says Jonathan Gottschall of Washington and Jefferson College, Pennsylvania. He and co-author Joseph Carroll at the University of Missouri, St Louis, study how Darwin's theories of evolution apply to literature. Along with John Johnson, an evolutionary psychologist at Pennsylvania State University in DuBois, the researchers asked 500 people to fill in a questionnaire about 200 classic Victorian novels. The respondents were asked to define characters as protagonists or antagonists, and then to describe their personality and motives, such as whether they were conscientious or power-hungry.

The team found that the characters fell into groups that mirrored the egalitarian dynamics of a society

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in which individual dominance is suppressed for the greater good (Evolutionary Psychology, vol 4, p 716). Protagonists, such as Elizabeth Bennett in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, for example, scored highly on conscientiousness and nurturing, while antagonists like Bram Stoker's Count Dracula scored highly on status-seeking and social dominance. In the novels, dominant behaviour is "powerfully stigmatized", says Gottschall. "Bad guys and girls are just dominance machines; they are obsessed with getting ahead, they rarely have pro-social behaviours."

While few in today's world live in hunter-gatherer societies, "the political dynamic at work in these novels, the basic opposition between communitarianism and dominance behaviour, is a universal theme", says Carroll. Christopher Boehm, a cultural anthropologist whose work Carroll acknowledges was an important influence on the study, agrees. "Modern democracies, with their formal checks and balances, are carrying forward an egalitarian ideal."

A few characters were judged to be both good and bad, such as Heathcliff in Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* or Austen's Mr. Darcy. "They reveal the pressure being exercised on maintaining the total social order," says Carroll.

Boehm and Carroll believe novels have the same effect as the cautionary tales told in older societies. "Novels have a function that continues to contribute to the quality and structure of group life," says Boehm. "Maybe storytelling—from TV to folk tales—actually serves some specific evolutionary adaptation," says Gottschall. "They're not just products of evolutionary adaptation."

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41. According to the study mentioned in the passage, which one of the following best defines the function of literature in human society?

- [A] It helps with the evolutionary progress.
- [B] It helps advocate people's base impulse and conscientiousness.
- [C] It reinforces the types of behavior that benefit a cooperative society.
- [D] It suppresses base impulses and sets regulations for society.

42. What were the respondents in the research asked to do?

- [A] To identify protagonists and antagonists in some novels and describe them.
- [B] To group characters in novels who mirror the egalitarian dynamic of a society.
- [C] To give scores to literary character in regard to social dominance.
- [D] To tell the bad guys from the good ones in some novels.

43. What is said about the bad guys and girls in novels?

- [A] They are protagonists that are powerfully stigmatized.
- [B] They are always afraid of getting ahead of others.
- [C] They rarely have behaviors that protect the society.

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- [D] They always seek dominant status in society.
44. In the political dynamic of literature, to what is dominant behavior set opposed?
- [A] The universal theme of power. [B] The egalitarian ideal.
- [C] Modern democracies. [D] Formal checks and balances of a traditional society.

Passage Two

*Helicobacter pylori* is one of humanity's oldest and closest companions, and yet it took scientists more than a century to recognize it. As early as 1875, German anatomists found spiral bacteria colonizing the mucus layer of the human stomach, but because the organisms could not be grown in a pure culture, the results were ignored and then forgotten. It was not until 1982 that Australian doctors Barry J. Marshall and J. Robin Warren isolated the bacteria, allowing investigations of *H. pylori*'s role in the stomach to begin in earnest. Over the next decade researchers discovered that people carrying the organisms had an increased risk of developing peptic ulcers—breaks in the lining of the stomach or duodenum—and that *H. pylori* could also trigger the onset of the most common form of stomach cancer.

Just as scientists were learning the importance of *H. pylori*, however, they discovered that the bacteria are losing their foothold in the human digestive tract. Whereas nearly all adults in the developing world still carry the organism, its prevalence is much lower in developed countries such as the U.S. Epidemiologists believe that *H. pylori* has been disappearing from developed nations for the past 100 years thanks to improved hygiene, which blocks the transmission of the bacteria, and to the widespread use of antibiotics. As *H. pylori* has retreated, the rates of peptic ulcers and stomach cancer have dropped. But at the same time, diseases of the esophagus—including acid reflux disease and a particularly deadly type of esophageal cancer—have increased dramatically, and a wide body of evidence indicates that the rise of these illnesses is also related to the disappearance of *H. pylori*.

45. The author's primary purpose in writing this passage is to \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] alter people to the harm of *H. pylori* colonization of the stomach
- [B] make people aware of the harm of eradicating *H. pylori* from the stomach
- [C] suggest that the benefits of eradicating *H. pylori* from the stomach are not outweighed by the potential harm.
- [D] call attention to the consequences of eradicating *H. pylori* from the stomach
46. Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage?
- [A] Improvements in sanitation are a vital element in helping ward off peptic ulcers.
- [B] People in the developing countries are not likely to contract esophageal diseases.
- [C] Nowadays few people in the developed countries suffer from stomach cancer.

[: E]

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- [D] Scientists have long recognized *H.pylori*'s important role in the stomach, but could do nothing about it.
47. Which of the following would most probably follow the last sentence of this passage?
- [A] Furthermore, the disappearance of *H.pylori* may be a sentinel indicating the possibility of other microbial extinctions as well.
- [B] The possibility that this bacterium may actually protect people against disease of the esophagus has significant implications.
- [C] However, there has been an unexpected rise in the incidence of a new class of diseases involving the esophagus.
- [D] The rise of these diseases has occurred just as *H.pylori* has been disappearing, and it is tempting to associate the two phenomena.

### Passage Three

Under the Bush administration, America has gone from a policy of “dual containment” of Iran and Iraq to one approaching dual failure. It removed the iron rule of Saddam Hussein, but created an anarchic void in Iraq into which Iran has extended its influence. Exhausted by the insurgency in Iraq, America now struggle to deal with the more acute threat of weapons of mass destruction posed by Iran’s nuclear programme. America’s Arab allies may be terrified by the strengthening of Iran, but they are even more terrified by the prospect of American military action to destroy Iran’s nuclear facilities.

A longitudinal study is one that measures a behavior or a characteristic of an individual over a period of time, perhaps decades. An example of such a study is the Berkeley Growth Study begun in 1928 by Nancy Bayley. The study focused on a group of 74 white, middle-class newborns. As they grew older, extensive measures of their intellectual, personality, and motor development were recorded. The subjects were studied for more than thirty years.

In Europe there is a degree of acceptance that, sooner or later, the world may have to deal with a nuclear-armed Iran. Some in the Bush administration, though, regard that prospect as even more horrendous than the consequences of attacking Iran, which may include more instability in Iraq and elsewhere, more terrorism and the disruption of oil from the Persian Gulf. There is no certainty, moreover, about how far military strikes can set back the nuclear programme, if at all.

George Bush has repeatedly said that “all opinions” remain on his table, by which he means the use of military force. But the one option he has seemed less keen on is the idea, advocated by many, of seeking a “grand bargain” with Iran on a whole range of disputes, from the nuclear question to peace with Israel. When America was strong, it felt it did not need to deal with Iran. Now it is worried by the prospect of looking weak.

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Nevertheless, there has been a real change of policy since the days when Mr. Bush said Iran was part of the “axis of evil”. His administration has offered to join nuclear talks if Iran suspends uranium enrichment. Ray Takeyh, an expert on Iran, argues in the latest issue of Foreign Affairs says; better to deal with the pragmatists, and strengthen them, rather than give free rein to the radicals. He may or may not be right.

48. According to the passage, America failed to \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] contain either Iran or Iraq [B] extend its influence in Iran  
[C] created an anarchic void in Iraq [D] remove the rule of Saddam Hussein

49. The phrase “that prospect”(Line 2, Para 2) refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] American military action on Iran.  
[B] setback in Iran’s nuclear program  
[C] an Iran armed with nuclear weapons

50. Ray Takeyh urged the America government to \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] stop seeing Iran as part of “the axis of evil”  
[B] hold nuclear talks with Iran with no conditions  
[C] suspend the uranium enrichment program in Iran  
[D] adopt a pragmatic rather radical approach to Iran

II. Directions: Read the following passage carefully and then explain in your own English the exact meaning of the numbered and underlined parts. Put your answers on ANSWER SHEET (2). (10%)

The year of 2009 will bring an avalanche of books, lectures, television programs and articles on Charles Darwin. (II-1) It is 200 years since he was born and 150 years since he was pushed to publish his on the origin of species earlier than he intended by the arrival of a letter from Alfred Russel Wallace, the naturalist who, independently, had the same theory of natural selection that Darwin had supposed all his own.

Since Darwin wasn’t alone in thinking up the theory of natural selection or in assembling evidence in support of evolution, are we right to make such a song and dance of his anniversary? The short answer is “yes”. (II-2) On the Origin of Species is the most important biology book yet written and Darwin has done as much as anyone, including Copernicus, Newton, Marx and Freud, to change how we see ourselves.

Why does Darwinian worldview matters more than ever? Above all, Darwin decenters humanity. In this he completes the work that Copernicus and Galileo began. We are not the centre of the Universe. The Universe existed long before we came on the scene. (II-3) This decentering does not, of course, mean that we matter any the less. Rather, it helps us to appreciate that we do not sit in a distinct category from the

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Part Four: Cloze Test (15%)

Directions: Read the following passage carefully and then fill in each numbered blank with ONE suitable word to complete the passage. Put your answers on ANSWER SHEET (2).

Three (51) \_\_\_\_\_ years ago Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit made his (52) \_\_\_\_\_ thermometer in his home town of Danzig (Now Gdansk in Poland). The thermometer was filled with (53) \_\_\_\_\_ and completely sealed, but it was not much use without some sort of (54) \_\_\_\_\_ to measure the temperature.

Three hundred years ago Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit made his first thermometer in his home town of Danzig (now Gdansk in Poland). The thermometer was filled with alcohol and completely sealed, but it was not much use without some sort of scale to measure the temperature.

One story goes that, during the winter of 1708-09, Fahrenheit took a measurement of 0 degrees as the coldest temperature outdoors — which would now read as minus 17.8C. Five years later he used mercury instead of alcohol for his thermometers, and made a top reference point by measuring his own body temperature as 90 degrees. Soon afterwards he became a glassblower, which allowed him to make thinly blown glass tubes that could be marked up with more points on the scale and so increase accuracy.

Eventually he took the lowest point of his temperature scale from a reading made in ice, water and salt, and a top point made from the boiling point of water. The scale was recalibrated using 180 degrees between these two points and Fahrenheit was able to make much more accurate and more consistent measurements of temperature.

But in 1742 a rival challenged the Fahrenheit scale and eventually superseded it. Anders Celsius, in Sweden, invented a scale of 100 degrees between the freezing and boiling points of water and gradually won over many countries. However, the British remained wedded to Fahrenheit until well into the 20th century.

Part Five: Proofreading (10%)

Directions: In the following passage, there are altogether 10 mistakes, ONE in each numbered and underlined part. You may have to change a word, add a word, or just delete a word. If you change a word, cross it with a slash (/) and write the correct word beside it. If you add a word, write the missing word between the words (in brackets) immediately before and after it. If you delete a word, cross it out with a slash (/). Put your answers on ANSWER SHEET (2).

Examples:

eg. 1 (66) The meeting begun 2 hours ago.

Correction put on the ANSWER SHEET (2): (66) ~~begun~~ began

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eg. 2 (67) Scarcely they settled themselves in their seats in the theatre when the curtain went up.

Correction put on the ANSWER SHEET (2): (67) (Scarcely) had (they)

eg. 3 (68) Never will I not do it again. Correction put on the ANSWER SHEET (2): (68) ~~not~~

(66) High unemployment rates, especially among young workers, have led to protests in countries as varied as Latvia, Chile, Greece, Bulgaria and Iceland and contributed to strikes in Britain and France.

(67) Last month, the government of Iceland, whose economy is expected to contract 10 percent this year, collapsed and (68) the prime minister moved up national elections after weeks of protests by Icelanders angered by soaring unemployment and rising prices.

Just last week, the new United States director of national intelligence, Dennis C. Blair, told Congress that (69) instability caused by the global economic crisis had become the biggest security threat facing the United States, outpacing terrorism.

(70) In emerging economies like those in Eastern Europe, there are fears that growing joblessness might encourage a move away from free-market, pro-Western policies. (71) while in developed countries unemployment could bolster efforts to protect local industries at the expense of global trade.

(72) Indeed, some European stimulus packages, as well as one passed Friday in the United States, include protections for domestic companies, increasing the likelihood of protectionist trade battles.

(73) Protectionist measures were an intense matter of discussion as finance ministers from the Group of 7 economies met this weekend in Rome.

(74) While the number of jobs in the United States has been falling since the end of 2007, the pace of layoffs in Europe, Asia and the developing world has caught up only recently (75) as companies that resisted deep cuts in the past follow the lead of their American counterparts.

Part Six: Writing (15%)

Directions: Read the following paragraph and then write a response paper of about 250 to 300 words. Write it neatly on ANSWER SHEET (2).

The total number of national holidays in China is stipulated by law. Yet people still argue about whether there should be “long holidays” or “short holidays”: i.e. greater number of holidays concentrated around a great festival, or holidays scattered over a number of festivals. Which do you subscribe to, and why?