



2024 年招收攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试试题(B 卷)

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招生专业与代码：050205 日语语言文学、050203 法语语言文学

考试科目名称及代码：241 基础英语

考生注意：所有答案必须写在答题纸（卷）上，写在本试题上一律不给分。

**Part I Cloze (10 points)**

**Directions:** *There are 20 blanks in the following passage. For each blank there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You should choose the ONE that best fits into the passage and write the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet.*

Kevin Kwan’s career as an observer of class, privilege, and wealth began when he was in first grade. He attended the private Anglo-Chinese School which   1   Singapore’s ruling class. Kwan’s great-grandfather was one of the founders of the nation’s oldest bank, and his family   2   to ACS for generations. Back in his great-grandfather’s day, the island was a port in the then-sprawling British empire. By the late 1970s, when Kwan was in first grade. Singapore was sovereign, and its banks were   3   capital. Money, serious money, was showing up everywhere.

At Kwan’s school, students were getting   4   in Benzes and Bentleys, expensive watches on their slender wrists. This was all new to Kwan. Not the wealth exactly, but its   5  . His family’s house was old and grand and packed with dusty antiques,   6   the glitzy high-rises where his friends lived. He didn’t really consider what the wealth he was seeing at school might mean   7   it caused a scandal in the community.

Kwan still remembers the article today: “The Little Horrors of ACS,” read the headline. The “school of snobs” had made its way into a national   8  . Once the story   9  , ACS held an emergency assembly. “I remember the principal crying at the podium, saying, ‘This is such a   10   on our history and heritage,’” Kwan told me. The school forbade students from wearing anything with a logo on it, and insisted that the chauffeured drop-offs happen   11  . Of course, the restrictions only made the status symbols even   12   coveted. For Kwan, it was like a switch had been flipped. “I didn’t know about any of these things, he recalled. “Until, suddenly, I did.”

It was the beginning of Kwan’s   13   fascination with snobbery-that strange, sometimes tragic, often funny dance people   14   to prove they’re richer or smarter or better-stationed than someone else. Thirty years later, it was this milieu   15

provided the backdrop for Kwan’s first novel, *Crazy Rich Asians*, which has sold more than 5 million copies and been translated into 36 languages. The 2018 film adaptation was also a huge hit, 16 \$239 million world-wide and featuring one of the first all—Asian principal casts in a major Hollywood film since 1993’s *The Joy Luck Club*.

Kwan’s new novel, *Sex and Vanity*, which will be released in July, is a departure, insofar as he’s left Singapore and the Youngs behind. 17, Kwan draws more directly from the 16 years he worked in New York media, his “forays into the WASP world” while there, and the old British and American novels that he grew up reading and still loves. The plot is dishy and delightful, 18 all sorts of bad behavior performed in couture. But as loose and fun and 19 readable as they are, Kwan’s novels are also very clearly the work of someone who spends much of his social time paying extremely close attention. I am not a creative person, Kwan said. “I’m an observer. I just see things, and I 20 things.”

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|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. A. turned down    | B. took up        | C. cleared out      | D. catered to     |
| 2. A. has been going | B. had been going | C. had gone         | D. has gone       |
| 3. A. flush with     | B. drained of     | C. lacking of       | D. dried up       |
| 4. A. picked out     | B. picked at      | C. dropped off      | D. dropped down   |
| 5. A. display        | B. recognize      | C. rail             | D. preserve       |
| 6. A. similar to     | B. compared with  | C. in contrast with | D. the same as    |
| 7. A. as             | B. until          | C. that             | D. when           |
| 8. A. taboo          | B. people         | C. picture          | D. tabloid        |
| 9. A. ruined         | B. wrecked        | C. crashed          | D. broke          |
| 10. A. blight        | B. bloom          | C. bless            | D. blast          |
| 11. A. line of sight | B. out of sight   | C. at first sight   | D. in plain sight |
| 12. A. little        | B. few            | C. more             | D. less           |
| 13. A. lifelong      | B. awful          | C. brief            | D. tedious        |
| 14. A. look for      | B. break out      | C. turn against     | D. participate in |
| 15. A. if            | B. that           | C. when             | D. who            |
| 16. A. glaring       | B. pleasing       | C. grossing         | D. distressing    |
| 17. A. Moreover      | B. Instead        | C. Finally          | D. Meanwhile      |
| 18. A. filled with   | B. filled up      | C. filled out       | D. filled in      |
| 19. A. independently | B. voluntarily    | C. compulsively     | D. weakly         |
| 20. A. soak up       | B. cast off       | C. drip at          | D. eject out      |

## Part II Reading Comprehension

### Section A (40 points)

*Directions: There are 4 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You should decide on the best choice and write the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet.*

*Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following passage.*

Living in an urban area with green spaces has a long-lasting positive impact on people's mental well-being, a study has suggested. UK researchers found moving to a green space had a sustained positive effect, unlike pay rises or promotions, which only provided a short-term boost. Co-author Mathew White, from the University of Exeter, UK, explained that the study showed people living in greener urban areas were displaying fewer signs of depression or anxiety. "There could be a number of reasons," he said, "for example, people do many things to make themselves happier: they strive for promotion or pay rises, or they get married. But the trouble with those things is that within six months to a year, people are back to their original baseline levels of well-being. So, these things are not sustainable; they don't make us happy in the long term. We found that for some lottery winners who had won more than £ 500,000 the positive effect was definitely there, but after six months to a year, they were back to the baseline."

Dr. White said his team wanted to see whether living in greener urban areas had a lasting positive effect on people's sense of well-being or whether the effect also disappeared after a period of time. To do this, the team used data from the British Household Panel Survey compiled by the University of Essex.

Explaining what the data revealed, he said: "What you see is that even after three years, mental health is still better, which is unlike many other things that we think will make us happy." He observed that people living in green spaces were less stressed, and less stressed people made more sensible decisions and communicated better.

With a growing body of evidence establishing a link between urban green spaces and a positive impact on human well-being, Dr. White said, "There's growing interest among public policy officials, but the trouble is who funds it. What we really need at a policy level is to decide where the money will come from to help support good quality local green spaces."

21. According to one study, what do green spaces do to people?

A. Improve their work efficiency.

- B. Add to their sustained happiness.
- C. Help them build a positive attitude towards life.
- D. Lessen their concerns about material well-being.

22. What does Dr. White say people usually do to make themselves happier?

- A. Earn more money.
- B. Settle in an urban area.
- C. Gain fame and popularity.
- D. Live in a green environment.

23. What does Dr. White try to find out about living in a greener urban area?

- A. How it affects different people.
- B. How strong its positive effect is.
- C. How long its positive effect lasts.
- D. How it benefits people physically.

24. What did Dr. White's research reveal about people living in a green environment?

- A. Their stress was more apparent than real.
- B. Their decisions required less deliberation.
- C. Their memories were greatly strengthened.
- D. Their communication with others improved.

25. According to Dr. White, what should the government do to build more green spaces in cities?

- A. Find financial support.
- B. Improve urban planning.
- C. Involve local residents in the effort.
- D. Raise public awareness of the issue.

***Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage.***

In 2011, many shoppers chose to avoid the frantic crowds and do their holiday

shopping from the comfort of their computer. Sales at online retailers gained by more than 15%, making it the biggest season ever. But people are also returning those purchases at record rates, up 8% from last year.

What went wrong? Is the lingering shadow of the global financial crisis making it harder to accept extravagant indulgences? Or that people shop more impulsively — and therefore make bad decisions — when online? Both arguments are plausible. However, there is a third factor: a question of touch. We can love the look but, in an online environment, we cannot feel the quality of a texture, the shape of the fit, the fall of a fold or, for that matter, the weight of an earring. And physically interacting with an object makes you more committed to your purchase.

When my most recent book *Brandwashed* was released, I teamed up with a local bookstore to conduct an experiment about the differences between the online and offline shopping experience. I carefully instructed a group of volunteers to promote my book in two different ways. The first was a fairly hands-off approach. Whenever a customer would inquire about my book, the volunteer would take him over to the shelf and point to it. Out of 20 such requests, six customers proceeded with the purchase.

The second option also involved going over to the shelf but, this time, removing the book and then subtly holding onto it for just an extra moment before placing it in the customer's hands. Of the 20 people who were handed the book, 13 ended up buying it. Just physically passing the book showed a big difference in sales. Why? We feel something similar to a sense of ownership when we hold things in our hand. That's why we establish or reestablish connection by greeting strangers and friends with a handshake. In this case, having to then let go of the book after holding it might generate a subtle sense of loss, and motivate us to make the purchase even more.

A recent study also revealed the power of touch, in this case when it came to conventional mail. A deeper and longer-lasting impression of a message was formed when delivered in a letter, as opposed to receiving the same message online. Brain imaging showed that, on touching the paper, the emotional center of the brain was activated, thus forming a stronger bond. The study also indicated that once touch becomes part of the process, it could translate into a sense of possession. This sense of ownership is simply not part of the equation in the online shopping experience.

26. Why do people prefer shopping online according to the author?

- A. It is more comfortable and convenient.
- B. It saves them a lot of money and time.
- C. It offers them a lot more options and bargains.
- D. It gives them more time to think about their purchase.

27. Why do more customers return their purchases bought online?
- A. They regretted indulging in costly items in the recession.
  - B. They changed their mind by the time the goods were delivered.
  - C. They had no chance to touch them when shopping online.
  - D. They later found the quality of goods below their expectations.
28. What is the purpose of the author's experiment?
- A. To test his hypothesis about online shopping.
  - B. To find out people's reaction to his recent book.
  - C. To find ways to increase the sale of his new book.
  - D. To try different approaches to sales promotion.
29. How might people feel after letting go of something they held?
- A. A sense of disappointment.
  - B. More motivated to own it.
  - C. A subtle loss of interest.
  - D. Less sensitive to its texture.
30. What does brain imaging in a recent study reveal?
- A. Conventional letters contain subtle messages.
  - B. A lack of touch is the chief obstacle to e-commerce.
  - C. Email lacks the potential to activate the brain.
  - D. Physical touch helps form a sense of possession.

***Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following passage.***

Until recently, the University of Kent prided itself on its friendly image. Not any more. Over the past few months it has been working hard, with the help of media consultants, to play down its cosy reputation in favour of something more academic and serious.

Kent is not alone in considering an image *revamp* (翻新). Changes to next year's funding regime are forcing universities to justify charging students up to £9 000 in fees.

Nowadays universities are putting much more of a focus on their brands and what their value propositions are. While in the past universities have often focused on student social life and attractions of the university town in recruitment campaigns, they are now concentrating on more *tangible* attractions, such as employment prospects, engagement with industry, and lecturer contact hours, making clear exactly what students are going to get for their money.

The problem for universities is that if those benefits fail to materialize, students notice. That worries Rob Behrens, who deals with student complaints. “Universities need to be extremely careful in describing what’s going to happen to students,” he says. “As competition is going to get greater for attracting gifted students, there is a danger that universities will go the extra mile.

One university told prospective engineering students they would be able to design a car and race it at Brands Hatch, which never happened, he says. Others have promised use of sophisticated equipment that turned out to be broken or unavailable. “If universities spent as much money on handling complaints and appeals appropriately as they spend on marketing, they would do better at keeping students, and in the National Student Survey returns”, he says.

Ongoing research tracking prospective 2012 students suggests that they are not only becoming more sophisticated in thinking about what they want from a university, but are also spending more time researching evidence to back up institutional claims.

Hence the growing importance of the student survey. From next September, all institutions will also be expected to publish on their website’s key information sets, allowing easier comparison between institutions, between promises and reality, and the types of jobs and salaries graduates go on to.

As a result, it is hardly surprising that universities are beginning to change the way they market themselves. While the best form of marketing for institutions is to be good at what they do, they also need to be clear about how they are different from others.

And it is vital that once an institution claims to be particularly good at something, it must live up to it. The moment you position yourself, you become exposed, and if you fail in that you are in trouble.

31. What was the University of Kent famous for?

- A. Its comfortable campus life.
- B. Its up-to-date course offerings.
- C. Its distinguished teaching staff.
- D. Its diverse academic programmes.

32. What are universities trying to do to attract students?

- A. Improve their learning environment.
- B. Offer more scholarships to the gifted.
- C. Upgrade their campus facilities.
- D. Present a better academic image.

33. What does Rob Behrens suggest universities do in marketing themselves?

- A. Publicize the achievements of their graduates.
- B. Go to extra lengths to cater to students' needs.
- C. Refrain from making promises they cannot honor.
- D. Survey the expectations of their prospective students.

34. What is students' chief consideration in choosing a university?

- A. Whether it promises the best job prospects.
- B. Whether it is able to deliver what they want.
- C. Whether it ranks high among similar institutions.
- D. Whether it offers opportunities for practical training.

35. What must universities show to win recruitment campaigns?

- A. They are positioned to meet the future needs of society.
- B. They are responsible to students for their growth.
- C. They are ever ready to improve themselves.
- D. They are unique one way or another.

***Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following passage.***

When the right person is holding the right job at the right moment, that person's influence is greatly expanded. That is the position in which Janet Yellen, who is expected to be confirmed as the next chair of the Federal Reserve Bank (Fed) in January, now finds herself. If you believe, as many do, that unemployment is the major economic and social concern of our day, then it is no stretch to think Yellen is the most powerful person in the world right now.

Throughout the 2008 financial crisis and the recession and recovery that followed,



central banks have taken on the role of stimulators of last resort, holding up the global economy with vast amounts of money in the form of asset buying. Yellen, previously a Fed vice chair, was one of the principal architects of the Fed \$3.8 trillion money dump. A star economist known for her groundbreaking work on labor markets, Yellen was a kind of prophetess early on in the crisis for her warnings about the subprime (次级债) meltdown. Now it will be her job to get the Fed and the markets out of the biggest and most unconventional monetary program in history without derailing the fragile recovery.

The good news is that Yellen, 67, is particularly well suited to meet these challenges. She has a keen understanding of financial markets, an appreciation for their imperfections and a strong belief that human suffering was more related to unemployment than anything else.

Some experts worry that Yellen will be inclined to chase unemployment to the neglect of inflation. But with wages still relatively flat and the economy increasingly divided between the well-off and the long-term unemployed, more people worry about the opposite, deflation that would aggravate the economy's problems.

Either way, the incoming Fed chief will have to walk a fine line in slowly ending the stimulus. It must be steady enough to deflate bubbles and bring markets back down to earth but not so quick that it creates another credit crisis.

Unlike many past Fed leaders, Yellen is not one to buy into the finance industry's argument that it should be left alone to regulate itself. She knows all along the Fed has been too slack on regulation of finance.

Yellen is likely to address the issue right after she pushes unemployment below 6%, stabilizes markets and makes sure that the recovery is more inclusive and robust. As Princeton Professor Alan Blinder says, "She's smart as a whip, deeply logical, willing to argue but also a good listener. She can persuade without creating hostility". All those traits will be useful as the global economy's new power player takes on its most annoying problems.

36. What do many people think is the biggest problem facing Janet Yellen?

- A. Lack of money.
- B. Subprime crisis.
- C. Unemployment.
- D. Social instability.

37. What did Yellen help the Fed do to tackle the 2008 financial crisis?

- A. Take effective measures to curb inflation.
- B. Deflate the bubbles in the American economy.

- C. Formulate policies to help financial institutions.
- D. Pour money into the market through asset buying

38. What is a greater concern of the general public?

- A. Recession.
- B. Deflation.
- C. Inflation
- D. Confusion

39. What is Yellen likely to do in her position as the Fed chief?

- A. Develop a new monetary program.
- B. Tighten financial regulation.
- C. Restore public confidence.
- D. Reform the credit system.

40. How does Alan Blinder portray Yellen?

- A. She possesses strong persuasive power.
- B. She has confidence in what she is doing.
- C. She is one of the world's greatest economists.
- D. She is the most powerful Fed chief in history.

**Section B (20 points)**

**Directions:** *Read the following passage carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese.*

The number of research fields touched by artificial intelligence (AI) is rising all the time. (41) From protein folding to weather forecasting, and from medical diagnostics to science communication, the list seems to grow by the day. Meanwhile, AI has also been changing. Whereas the 2010s saw a boom in the development of machine-learning algorithms that can help to discern patterns in huge, complex scientific data sets, the 2020s have ushered in a new age of generative AI tools pre-trained on vast data sets that have much more transformative potential.

(42) But precisely how and why AI in its various forms is affecting science — and, indeed, whether or how all of the purported benefits will be realized — is itself an emerging story. A Nature survey has captured the views of more than 1,600

researchers from around the world. It marks the launch of a new series on the role of AI in science. Survey respondents told us, for example, that they are using AI to process data, write code and help them write papers. One clear benefit for many is in English-language science communication. (43) Generative-AI tools powered by large language models (LLMs), notably ChatGPT, help researchers whose first language is not English, but who need to use English to publish their research. Scientists can use LLMs to improve their writing style and grammar, and to translate and summarize other people’s work.

But respondents also reported concerns, many of which mirror those held in wider society about AI technologies. (44) These range from the lack of transparency of ‘black box’ systems, in which the underlying reasons why an AI reaches the results it does are not clear, to fears over training data including biased information. These concerns hold particular weight in science. (45) If we lose trust in primary scientific literature, we have lost the basis of humanity’s corpus of common shared knowledge.

### **Part III Writing**

#### **Section A (10 points)**

##### **Directions:**

*Write an **email** to your classmates informing them about an upcoming academic talk, providing details such as the date, time, location, and a brief introduction of the speaker. The email should be approximately **100 words** long.*

*Do not sign your own name at the end of the notice. Use “Li Ming” instead.*

*Do not write the address.*

#### **Section B (20 points)**

**Directions:** *Write an **essay** of 160 to 200 words about the following topic.*

Virtual reality experiences have become increasingly popular among young people, but its role is controversial. Some people believe that virtual reality technology can enhance learning opportunities, while others believe that virtual reality technology can lead to health and ethical concerns. **Discuss both views and give your own opinion.**