

2015 年全国大学生英语竞赛样题(B 级)

2015 National English Competition for College Students (Level B - Sample)

(Total: 150 marks Time: 120 minutes)

Part I: Listening Comprehension (30 marks)

Section A (5 marks)

In this section, you will hear five short conversations. Each conversation will be read only once. At the end of each conversation, there will be a fifteen-second pause. During the pause, read the question and the four choices marked A, B, C and D, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the answer sheet with a single line through the centre.

1. What does the woman imply?
 - A. The man should take his vacation somewhere else.
 - B. She doesn't know when her semester ends.
 - C. She suggests the man to quit the course.
 - D. The man may have to reschedule his trip.
2. How is Gary's application going?
 - A. He is one of the last few candidates' choices.
 - B. He has been eliminated.
 - C. He is writing an essay in order to be employed.
 - D. He has already been taken on.
3. Why is Amy learning Italian?
 - A. She plans to work as an architect in Rome.
 - B. She wants to travel in Rome.
 - C. She plans to take some courses in Rome.
 - D. She wants to be a language teacher.
4. How old does the boy have to be to get his membership to the gym?
 - A. 20 years old.
 - B. 18 years old.
 - C. 16 years old.
 - D. 12 years old.
5. What's the possible relationship between the two speakers?
 - A. Salesperson and customer.
 - B. Husband and wife.
 - C. Teacher and student.
 - D. IT employer and employee.

Section B (10 marks)

In this section, you will hear two long conversations. Each conversation will be read only once. At the end of each conversation, there will be a one-minute pause. During the pause, read the questions and the four choices marked A, B, C and D, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the answer sheet with a single line through the centre.

Conversation I

6. Who is the woman?

- A. A Journalist.
- B. A plastic surgeon.
- C. A college professor.
- D. President of the student union.

7. What have been ignored by most parents in the United States?

- A. Send their children to school as early as possible.
- B. Call for routine reading to their young children.
- C. Stimulate their children's early physical development.
- D. Buy as many books as they could afford.

8. Why does the woman urge parents to read aloud to their children?

- A. Because it is a real communication between parents and children.
- B. Because many children are not interested in reading.
- C. Because many children are short of books.
- D. Because it will improve children's healthy conditions.

9. Which period is so crucial for a child's later development?

- A. During his/her kindergarten.
- B. During his/her childhood.
- C. During his/her fourth grade.
- D. During his/her fifth grade.

10. How should doctors incorporate this activity into practice?

- A. Assess the child's development through reading.
- B. Teach the child one by one.
- C. Provide more information to low-income families.
- D. Make a high-quality children's book available.

Conversation II

11. What's the woman's profession?

- A. A librarian.
- B. A bookseller.
- C. A student.
- D. A shop assistant.

12. According to the woman, why didn't the man recognize her?

- A. Because she changed the color of her hair.
- B. Because they haven't seen each other for five years.

- C. Because she changed her job.
D. Because she dressed like an agent.
13. What's the relationship probably between the man and woman?
A. They are couples. B. They are old friends.
C. They are strangers. D. They are colleagues.
14. What does the woman's name stand for?
A. Peaceful. B. Merciful. C. Funny. D. Ridiculous.
15. How does the woman feel about the man's response?
A. Very skeptical. B. Somewhat curious.
C. Really excited. D. Quite irritated.

Section C (5 marks)

In this section, you will hear five short news items. After each item, which will be read only once, there will be a fifteen-second pause. During the pause, read the question and the four choices marked A, B, C and D, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the answer sheet with a single line through the centre.

16. Which of the following statements best describe the condition of the passengers?
A. No one was hurt during the accident. B. Someone was killed during the accident.
C. 23 people were trapped in the train. D. No one was fatally injured.
17. Where is the Monash University located?
A. Austria. B. Russia. C. Australia. D. America.
18. What problem is US government now faced with?
A. How to reduce the Government's debt. B. How to cope with campus violence.
C. How to raise tax on high incomes. D. How to avoid the fiscal cliff.
19. Who was Charles Schulz?
A. He was a writer. B. He was a comic painter.
C. He was a newspaper editor. D. He was a reporter.
20. How about letting children get a little dirty in life?
A. It might be good for their health later in life.
B. It might be harmful for children to form good habits.
C. It is more likely to develop allergies and asthma.
D. It is more likely to make children happy.

Section D (10 marks)

In this section, you will hear a short passage. For questions 21–30, complete the notes using three words or fewer for each blank. The passage will be read twice. Remember to write the answers on the answer sheet.

The History of BBC

Establishment: in 1936

Headquarter: (21)_____, London

Managed by: A board of Governors and a (22)_____

Main responsibility: To provide (23)_____ broadcasting

Missions: (24)_____, (25)_____ and (26)_____

Development:

The establishment of ITA ended its (27)_____ of television broadcasting.

The establishment of two new (28)_____

The commercial operation of a series of (29)_____

The introduction of (30)_____

Part II: Vocabulary, Grammar & Cultures (15 marks)

There are 15 incomplete sentences in this section. For each blank there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the answer sheet with a single line through the centre.

Section A Vocabulary and Grammar (10 marks)

31. _____ Caroline disliked the idea of marriage, she knew that political reasons might make it necessary.
A. Though much B. Much as C. Much though D. As much
32. Doctors are often caught in a _____ because they have to decide whether they should tell their patients the truth or not.
A. perplexity B. puzzle C. dilemma D. bewilderment
33. Nobody made it to the court house and supported you in the trial, _____?
A. did they B. didn't they C. did he D. didn't he
34. At first, the _____ of color pictures over a long distance seemed impossible, but, with painstaking efforts and _____ great expense, it became a reality.
A. transmission; at B. transformation; at
C. transaction; in D. transition; in
35. She lost her house and farm in the big fire, and she asked every friend for help in vain. Now

- she was _____.
 A. at her wit end B. at her wit's end C. at length D. at the end
36. The amount of gravitational attraction between two objects depends on the mass of the objects and _____ between them.
 A. the distance is B. what is the distance
 C. the distance D. the distance what is
37. When a fire _____ at the National Exhibition in Pairs, at least twelve _____ paintings were completely destroyed.
 A. broke down; priceless B. broke out; priceless
 C. broke up; valueless D. broke off; valueless
38. By the first decade of the 21st century, international commercial air traffic is expected _____ vastly beyond today's levels.
 A. being extending B. to be extending
 C. having been extended D. to have extended
39. —Did you see the football match last night?
 —Yes, I did. I thought Owen played very well.
 —_____ I thought his first goal was fantastic. So you like football, do you?
 —I quite like it. I watch international matches and I follow my local team, but I prefer basketball.
 A. So did I. B. That's not sure. C. Not really. D. I'm happy with that.
40. —Sorry, I overslept. _____
 —Again?
 —That's right, even though I did set the alarm last night.
 —Your clock never works. Perhaps you should buy a new one.
 A. My clock worked well this morning. B. My clock didn't go off this morning.
 C. My clock moved quickly. D. My clock was lost.

Section B Cultures (5 marks)

41. The ancestors of the English and the founders of England are _____.
 A. The Anglo-Saxon B. The Normans
 C. The Vikings D. The Romans
42. The period from 1865-1914 has been referred to as the _____ in the literary history of the United States.
 A. Age of Realism B. Age of Classicalism
 C. Age of Romanticism D. Age of Renaissance

43. _____ is the UK's largest lake, and _____ in Scotland is famous for its mythical monster.
 A. Lough Neagh; Loch Lomond
 B. Lake District; Loch Ness
 C. Lough Neagh; Loch Ness
 D. Lake Windermere; Loch Ness
44. Which of the following has been called "the manifesto of American Transcendentalism"?
 A. Divinity School Address.
 B. Self-reliance.
 C. Nature.
 D. The American Scholar.
45. Which of the following is not written by the English novelist, Jane Austen?
 A. Emma.
 B. Mansfield Park.
 C. Sense and Sensibility.
 D. David Copperfield.

Part III: Cloze (10 marks)

Read the following passage and fill in each blank with one word. Choose the correct word in one of the following three ways: according to the context, by using the correct form of the given word, or by using the given letter(s) of the word. Remember to write the answers on the answer sheet.

Do you find commercials between songs on the radio annoying? Don't TV ads that interrupt movies just at the crucial moment (46) ir _____ you? And isn't it a(n) (47) _____ when a football match is about to start play but is cut off by commercials? If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, then you probably won't be excited (48) _____ a new Swedish phone



company that is offering free calls where your calls are repeatedly interrupted by phone ads. (49) _____ the fact that most people despise commercials of any kind, students and the (50) _____ (elder) have proved to be the biggest users in this two-month trial test. These two opposite age groups don't seem to be bothered by phone interruptions. It makes sense since the young and the old are usually not (51) _____ (employ), making free phone calls a (n) rather attractive offer. What advertisers are (52) gu _____ is a captive audience. Since most ads are only ten seconds long, a caller can't go to the bathroom because the person at the other end of the line will be kept (53) _____ (wait). Future customers will be asked to provide (54) pe _____ information such as age, sex, address and material status so that different callers might hear different ads. For example, a caller in the rural north might hear an ad for a tractor, while a caller in Stockholm could listen to an ad for a local restaurant. In spite of this sounding wonderfully modern, this is just the kind of thing this writer believes the Swedish (55) _____ (need) have invented.

Part IV: Reading Comprehension (35 marks)

Read the following passages. Each passage is followed by several questions. Respond to the questions using information from the passage. Remember to write the answers on the answer sheet.

Section A (5 marks)

Questions 56–60 are based on the following passage.



In Europe men don't usually wear skirts. But the Scottish national costume for men is a kind of skirt. It is called a kilt. The Scottish like to be different. They are also proud of their country and its history, and they feel that the kilt is part of that history. That's why the men still wear kilts at old-style dances and on national holidays. They believe they are wearing the same clothes that Scottish men always used to wear.

That's what they believe. However, kilts are not really very old. Before 1730, Scottish men wore a long skirt and blanket around their shoulders. These clothes got in the way when the men started to work in factories. So, in 1730s a factory owner changed the blanket into a skirt: the kilt. That's how the first kilt was made.

Then in the late 1700s Scottish soldiers in the British Army began to wear kilts. One reason for this was national feeling: the Scottish soldiers wanted to look different from the English soldiers. The British Army probably had a different reason: a Scottish soldier in a kilt was always easy to find! The Scottish soldiers fought very hard and became famous. The kilt was part of the fame, and in the early 1800s men all around Scotland began to wear kilts.

These kilts had colourful stripes going up and down and across. In the 1700s and early 1800s, the colour of the stripes had no special meaning. Men sometimes owned kilts in several different colours. But later the colours became important to Scottish families. By about 1850, most families had special colours for their kilts. For example, men from the Campbell family had kilts with green, yellow and blue stripes. Scottish people often believe that the colours of the kilts are part of their family history. In fact, each family just chose the colours they liked best.

This is not the story you will hear today if you are in Scot-



land. Most Scottish people still believe that kilts are as old as Scotland and that the colours are as old as the Scottish families. Sometimes feelings are stronger than facts.

Questions 56 to 60: Mark each statement as either true (T) or false (F) according to the passage.

56. The Scottish are so proud of their national costume that they even wear it to work in the factory before 1730.

57. Dressed in a kilt, the Scottish soldiers always have a sense of superiority over British soldiers.

58. The colors of the kilts are part of the Scottish family history.

59. By about 1850, the Scottish families had special colours for their kilts.

60. Most people in Scotland know the true history of kilts.

Section B (10 marks)

Questions 61–65 are based on the following passage.



How much money do you leave the waiter or waitress in a restaurant? What about taxi drivers, hotel staff and hairdressers? Tipping is complex, but even more so when you're abroad.

(61) _____ In Australia, for example, tipping isn't common at all, and they aren't really expected in restaurants... or anywhere else as a matter of fact. It's the same in

Iceland and China. And in Japan, it can actually be considered rude to tip in a restaurant. In fact, if you leave money a waiter might even chase you to give it back. In most of Europe, tipping a waiter is fairly common.

(62) _____ In England, for example, most people tip around 10% of the bill. But in Spain people generally only leave small change. However, if there's one country where you really should tip, it's the United States. In stark contrast to Japan, a waiter will probably chase you down the street if you don't leave a tip! Not only that, but Americans usually tip up to a hefty 20% in restaurants. So, if you're saving up for a big dinner in the US, make sure you take that into account. Americans also tip for drinks. In fact, there are some bars in New York where staff earn such a big money from tips that they receive no wages.

(63) _____ Here's some advice from a travel website on how you should tip in an American hotel: \$3 for the parking attendant, \$2 for the doorman if they hail a taxi for you, and \$1 for each bag they help you with. The bellhop gets \$2 per bag, and you should leave the maids \$3 to \$5 a day. So, for two people for one weekend that's about \$20 before you've even paid for the room.

(64) _____ Well, in many cases, workers are paid below the minimum wage as they are expected to make up the difference with tips. As a result, a server could earn a decent wage on a good night, or hardly break even on a slow night. Service sector workers are even expected to pay income tax on the tips as they are considered part of their normal wages for the job they do—not just “extra” money.

(65) _____ Stained Apron has information on who's who in the world of tipping. Under the column heading "Scum", you can find a list of the bad tippers. Those on the list include AL Gore, Dan Quayle and Bridget Fonda. And under "Saints" there's a list of the generous tippers, which includes Johnny Depp, Ray Charles, Angelina Jolie and Bill Clinton.

But could anyone possibly match the late Kerry Packer (the Australian billionaire)? He was always a generous tipper, but on one occasion he casually asked the waitress serving him how big her mortgage was. The tip he left her paid it off to the last penny. Now that really is “saintly tipping”!

Of course, make sure you're a billionaire before trying that one!

Questions 61–65: Choose from the sentences A–G the one which best fits each gap of 61–65. There are two extra sentences which you do not need to use.

- A. But why is there so much tipping?
- B. The problem is that every country seems to have its own unofficial “rules”.
- C. Why is tipping so common in US?
- D. There is even a website for celebrity tippers.
- E. However, amounts vary from country to country.
- F. How much a waiter can earn largely lies in the generosity of the tipper.
- G. But it isn’t only in bars and restaurants where you’re supposed to tip.

Section C (10 marks)

Questions 66–70 are based on the following passage.

Pottery is the name given to all kinds of pots and utensils made from clay and other minerals when they have been “fired”, that is, hardened by heat in the potter’s kiln. Articles made of pottery include plates, cups and saucers, cooking dishes, wall and floor tiles, chemical storage jars, electrical insulators and ornaments for the home.



Pottery is one of the oldest crafts, which began to

be practiced as soon as man learned to control fire, and long before the melting of metals. It enabled him from very early times to make vessels for storing and cooking food, for carrying water, and for ritual burial purposes. Early vessels were shaped by hand and probably “fired” in a big bonfire by covering them over with dried grass and dead branches, which were then set alight.

A great advance in pottery followed the invention of the potter’s wheel and the kiln. It is not certainly known where the potter’s wheel was first used, but it is thought that by about 3500 B.C. potters in Central Asia were using some kind of wheel. From there its use spread west and east to Egypt, Crete, China—and then to Ancient Greece and Rome.

At first the wheel was nothing more than a small disc, turned on a pivot by hand, but later it was improved by raising it and providing it with a larger circular platform near the ground as well which could be rotated by the potter with his feet. Such a wheel was probably in use in Egypt by about 200 B.C., though this is only conjecture; but it was certainly still in use in Europe at the beginning of the nineteenth century. In the eighteenth century, however, the potter’s wheel was improved so that it could be worked by a treadle, or turned by an assistant. Modern potter’s wheels are power driven.

There are three principal ways articles may be made of pottery. They may be simply shaped by hand. They may be thrown on the potter’s wheel and shaped against the spin with the fingers or some scraping tool. Thirdly, the wet clay may be put in a pre-shaped “form” of plaster-of-Paris.

After the pots have been made, they are slowly baked in the kiln. This produces chemical changes in the clay which have a hardening effect. The time taken for firing pottery varies with the size of the kiln and the type of clay. It can take anything from 24 hours to as long as 2 weeks.

If pottery is to hold water, it must be “glazed”, since clay is porous by nature. Glaze consists of the raw materials of glass, ground together and mixed with water to a creamy consistency. The glaze is sprayed on to the pot which is then heated in the kiln again until it is, in effect, covered with a very thin layer of glass. This seals the pores in the clay and gives us the versatile table and oven dishes we know so well today.

Questions 66–70: Answer the following questions with the information given in the passage.

66. What are the main purposes of early making pottery?
67. In what way did the vessels shape before the invention of the potter’s wheel?
68. When was the first potter’s wheel invented?
69. Please list the three ways that articles can be made of pottery.
70. Why is the time taken for firing pottery varies?

Section D (10 marks)

Questions 71 to 75 are based on the following passage.

Originally used to describe a third-century sect of strictly legalistic heretics, the word ‘Puritan’ is now applied unevenly to a number of Protestant churches from the late 16th century to the present. Puritan did not originally use the term for themselves. It was a term of abuse that first surfaced in the 1560s. “Precisemen” and “Precisians” were other early antagonistic terms for Puritan who preferred to call themselves “the godly”. The word “Puritan” thus always referred to a type of religious belief, rather than a particular religious sect. To reflect that the term encompasses a variety of ecclesiastical bodies and theological positions, scholars today increasingly prefer to use the term as a common noun or adjective: “puritan” rather than “Puritan”.

The single theological momentum most consistently defined by the term “Puritan” was Anabaptist and led to the founding of the Independent or Congregationalist churches. In the United States, the church and religious culture of the Puritans of the Massachusetts Bay Colony formed the basis of the post-colonial American Congregationalism, specifically the Congregational Church proper as well as Unitarianism. The term Puritan was used by the group itself mainly in the 16th century, though it seems to have been used often and, in its earliest recorded instances, as a term of abuse. By the middle of the 17th century, the group had become so divided that “Puritan” was most often used by opponents and detractors of the group, rather than by the practitioners themselves. As Patrick Collinson has noted, well before the founding of the New England settlement, “Puritanism had no content beyond what was attributed to it by its opponents”. The practitioners knew themselves as members of particular churches or movements, and not by the simple term.

Puritans who felt that the Reformation of the Church of England was not to their satisfaction but who remained within the Church of England advocating further reforms are known as non-separating Puritans. (The Non-Separating Puritans differed among themselves about how much further reformation was necessary.) Those who felt that the Church of England was so corrupt that true Christians should separate from it altogether are known as separating Puritans or simply as Separatists. Especially after the Restoration (1660), non-separating Puritans were called Nonconformists (for their failure to conform to the Book of Common Prayer) while separating Puritans were called Dissenters.

The term “puritan” is not strictly used to describe any new religious group after the 17th century, although several groups might be called “puritan” because their origins lay in the Puritan movement. “The term ‘puritan’ might be used by analogy to describe any group that shares a commitment to the Puritans” Anabaptist points.

Questions 71 -75: Complete the summary below with information from the passage, using no more than three words for each blank.

The meaning of the word “Puritan” has gone changes. It was first used in 1560s and originally referred to a third-century sect. when it came into being, it was a (71) _____ word. From the late 16th century on, it is applied equally to a member of Protestant charge-goers. Until the middle of 17th century, the term was most used by the opponents instead of (72) _____ due to the division inside. In the 17th century, the Puritans were not satisfied with the Reformation of the Church of England and (73) _____. Some thought that Christians should separate from the Church of England and they were called (74) _____. Now the term is more widely used than before and it might be used to describe anyone who has the same (75) _____ to the Puritans’ ideas.

Part V: Translation (15 marks)

Section A (5 marks)

Translate the following paragraph into Chinese. Remember to write the answers on the answer sheet.

76. No one's born being good at all things. You become good at things through hard work. You're not a varsity athlete the first time you play a new sport. You don't hit every note the first time you sing a song. You've got to practice. The same principle applies to your schoolwork. You might have to do a math problem a few times before you get it right. You might have to read something a few times before you understand it. You definitely have to do a few drafts of a paper before its good enough to hand in.

Section B (10 marks)

Translate the following sentences into English by using the hints given in brackets. Remember to write the answers on the answer sheet.

77. 处于压力下的人容易发挥自己的全部潜力。(range)
78. 与去年同期相比,第一季度的总产量增长了4个百分点。(compare with)
79. 不能信赖的人对于社会,正如朽木对于房子一样。(trust)
80. 专家表示,随着海归人数的大幅增加,他们的就业优势已经不再明显。(sharply)
81. 有证据证明,出生仅6个月的婴儿能辨认一定的语音。(recognize)

Part VI: Error Correction (10 marks)

Proofread the passage as required. Each indicated line contains a maximum of one error. Correct the passage in the following way: for a correct line, put the sign “√” in the corresponding blank; for a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in

the blank; for a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with the sign “^” and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank; for an unnecessary word, cross the unnecessary word with the sign “\” and put the word with the sign in the blank. Remember to write the answers on the answer sheet.

For example:

One of my favourite writers <u>are</u> Charlotte Brontë. She was born in the early	<u>is</u>
nineteenth century when women had far fewer opportunities ^ they have now.	<u>than</u>
She lived in a small village in Yorkshire and she took great pleasure in walking	<u>✓</u>
on the moors where near her home.	where

You may think that gesturing during a conversation makes it easier for your listener to understand which you are saying. But according to a recent research, 82. _____

your hand motions help you more than your audiences. “Your gesture more 83. _____

frequent when you try to express abstract thoughts,” says psychologist 84. _____

Frances H, Rauscher. In her study, Rauscher found that when participants 85. _____

were refrained of gesturing while speaking, they had more difficulty keeping 86. _____

a conversation going and find specific words. Gesturing seems to signify 87. _____

confidence or intelligence, notes D. McNeil. “People whose verbal ability is 88. _____

high, gesture more frequently,” you are less likely to gesture in informal situations 89. _____

when you are guarded and tentative because you want to make good impression, 90. _____

but that’s just when you need gesture—hand movement is been interpreted by 91. _____

others as a sign of confidence and articulation.

Part VII: IQ Test (5 marks)

There are five IQ questions in this part. Write your answers on the answer sheet.

92. What is pronounced like one letter, written with three letters, and belongs to all animals?

93. What is the four-letter word that can replace the dots to make five new words?

(...)keeper / lifter / worn/ front / window

94. Change the position of three words only in the sentence below in order for it to make complete sense.

Because housing is necessary for everyone, the problem of providing adequate individuals as long been a concern, not only of shelter but also of governments.

95. () is better than the god.

() is worse than the evil.

If you eat (), you will die.

Work out which word fits the blank. (In three blanks, there is the same word, and it is an

indefinite pronoun.)

96. Blake William was born on December 13th, yet his birthday is always in summer. How is this possible?

Part VIII: Writing (30 marks)

I (10 marks)

“Save our playing field” campaign!

The playing field next to our dormitory is the only place nearby where we can play sports. In the summer, the field is also used for festivals, and the popular “world music” concert. Now it is to be sold to a developer so that a new shopping centre can be built! Don’t let this happen!

You have read the above announcement on posters in your campus. Write to your local newspaper expressing your opinions about the importance of the playing field. You should write about 100 words in an appropriate style. Write the letter on the answer sheet.

II (20 marks)

Write about the following topic.

The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for circumstances they want, and if they cannot find them, make them.

—Bernard Shaw

Write an essay of no less than 160 words in which you discuss the meaning of the quotation and express your own views on the subject. Write the article on the answer sheet.