

大学英语六级考试参考答案

Part I Writing

Lots of banks have offered credit cards to college students, which raises a general debate. People's views on the issue vary.

Some people believe that owning credit cards not only makes students' life more convenient, but also gives them a good opportunity to develop a sound financial sense. Furthermore, it can help them establish a good credit record.

However, others think the disadvantages outweigh the advantages. They argue that credit card lures students to become lavish spenders. Students may spend well beyond their means and end up in debt that they can't pay off. What's more, since interest rates are often high and penalties are severe if one fails to pay on time, students may gradually become "credit card slaves" and can hardly focus on their academic life.

There is something true in both arguments, but the credit card in itself is neither good nor bad. Perhaps a happy medium is to get a credit card, set a proper credit limit and spend it rationally.

Part II Listening Comprehension

Section A

Conversation One

1. B 2. A 3. D 4. C

Conversation Two

5. B 6. A 7. C 8. B

Section B

Passage One

9. D 10. C 11. B

Passage Two

12. C 13. B 14. D 15. B

Section C

Recording One

16. A 17. B 18. D

Recording Two

19. D 20. D 21. A

Recording Three

22. D 23. A 24. C 25. C

Part III Reading Comprehension

Section A

26. H 27. E 28. G 29. M 30. K 31. B 32. J 33. C 34. D 35. O

Section B

36. F 37. G 38. C 39. M 40. B 41. H 42. J 43. E 44. A 45. L

Section C

Passage One

46. A 47. C 48. A 49. B 50. D

Passage Two

51. B 52. C 53. B 54. C 55. C

Part IV Translation

参考译文:

Chinese people value their way of dining very much. There is a well-known old saying that “Food is the first necessity of the people.” Delicious and nutritious food has always been regarded as the basics of everyday life. The Chinese cuisine culture, which originated from Shang and Zhou Dynasties, has a long history of about 3,500 years. Up to now, there are as many as 11,000 kinds of dishes and more than 50 ways of cooking. In the long process of development, Chinese dishes gradually developed into southern and northern tastes. In general, the southern dishes emphasize freshness and tenderness, and are cooked with carefully selected materials and fine craftsmanship. While due to the cold weather, northern dishes are relatively oily, and the use of vinegar and garlic tends to be quite popular.

听力原文

Section A

Conversation One

W: I don't know what to do. I can't seem to get anyone in the hospital to listen to my complaints and this outdated equipment is dangerous. Just look at it.

M: Hmm, uh, [1] are you trying to say that it presents a health hazard?

W: [1] Yes, I am. The head technician in the lab tried to persuade the hospital administration to replace it, but they are trying to cut costs.

M: You're pregnant, aren't you?

W: Yes, I am. [2] I made an effort to get my supervisor to transfer me to another department, but he urged me not to complain too loudly, because the administration is more likely to replace me than that x-ray equipment. I'm afraid to refuse to work, but I'm more afraid to expose my unborn child to the radiation.

M: I see what you mean. Well, as your union representative, I have to warn you that it would take quite a while to force management to replace the old machines and attempts to get you transferred may or may not be successful.

W: Oh, what am I supposed to do then?

M: Workers have the legal right to refuse certain unsafe work assignments under two federal laws, the Occupational Safety and Health Act and the National Labor Relations Act. [3] But the requirements of either of the Acts may be difficult to meet.

W: Do you think I have a good case?

M: [4] If you do lose your job, the union will fight to get it back for you along with back pay, your lost income. But you have to be prepared for a long

wait, maybe after two years.

Questions 1 to 4 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

1. What does the woman complain about?
2. What has the woman asked her supervisor to do?
3. What does the man say about the two federal laws?
4. What will the union do if the woman loses her job?

Conversation Two

M: Ms. Roth. This is David Wong from ABC Insurance Company. [5] I'd like to make an appointment to see you about our insurance plans for foreign employees.

W: Oh, how did you know my name?

M: In fact, a friend of yours is one of my clients. He thinks that you may find it helpful to know more about insurance in Hong Kong.

W: May I know who he is?

M: Well, Ms. Roth. You'll know his name soon enough if you'll just let me see you.

W: What kind of insurance are you talking about here?

M: [6] Well, it's rather comprehensive. That's why I'd like to see you personally so that I can present to you the products we have to offer.

W: [8] Sorry, Mr. Wong. My company has provided me a whole insurance package.

M: Oh, I'm glad to hear that. But as I said, [5] our insurance plans are specially designed for foreign staff like you. They are somewhat different and more beneficial to you I'm sure. [7] And our meeting won't take longer than fifteen minutes.

Will two o'clock tomorrow be convenient to you?

W: Well, [8] I've been very busy lately.

M: Ms. Roth, as I said, [7] it'll be a short

appointment. I'm sure you'll find our products informative and useful. Perhaps when you need our service in the future, you'll know who to call. Will two tomorrow be okay to you?

W: Well, then, make it three.

M: Alright. I'll be there at your office tomorrow at three sharp.

Questions 5 to 8 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

5. What does David Wong strongly recommend to Ms. Roth?
6. Why does David Wong insist on seeing Ms. Roth in person?
7. On what condition does Ms. Roth agree to see David Wong?
8. What's the woman's attitude towards the insurance business?

Section B

Passage One

I hope you have all finished reading the assigned chapter on insurance—so that you're prepared for our discussion today. But before we start, I'd like to mention a few things your text doesn't go into.

It's interesting to note that insurance has existed in some form for a very long time. [9] **The earliest insurance policies provided shipping protection for merchants** as far back as 3000 B. C.

In general, the contracts were often no more than verbal agreements. They granted loans to merchants with the understanding that if a particular shipment of goods was lost at sea, the loan didn't have to be repaid. [10] **Interest on the loans varied according to how risky it was to transport the goods.** During periods of heavy piracy, at sea, for example, the amount of interest and the cost of the policy went up considerably. So, you can see how insurance helped encourage international trade. Even the most cautious merchants became willing to risk shipping their goods over long distances—not to mention in hazardous weather conditions—when they had this kind of protection available.

Generally speaking, [11] **the basic form of an insurance policy has been pretty much the same since the Middle Ages.** There are four points that were prominent then and remain dominant in all policies today. These were outlined in chapter six and will serve

as the basis for the rest of today's discussion.

Questions 9 to 11 are based on the passage you have just heard.

9. Who were the first insurance contracts designed to protect?
10. What determined the interest on the loans?
11. What does the speaker say about current insurance policies?

Passage Two

In many businesses, computers have largely replaced paperwork, because they are fast, flexible, and do not make mistakes. As one banker said, "Unlike humans, computers never have a bad day." And they are honest.

[12] **Obviously, computers have no reason to steal money. But they also have no conscience, and the growing number of computer crimes shows they can be used to steal.** Computer criminals don't use guns. And even if they are caught, [13] **it is hard to punish them because there are no witnesses and often no evidence.** A computer can not remember who used it; it simply does what it is told. The head teller at a New York City bank used a computer to steal more than one

and a half billion dollars in just four years. No one noticed this theft because he moved the money from one account to another. Each time a customer he had robbed questioned the balance in his account, the teller claimed a computer error, then replaced the missing money from someone else's account. [14] **This man was caught only because he was a gambler. When the police broke up an illegal gambling operation, his name was in the records.** Most computer criminals have been minor employees. [15] **Now police wonder if this is "the tip of the iceberg". As one official says "I have a feeling that there is more crime out there than we are catching.** What we are seeing now is also poorly done. I wonder what the real experts are doing—the ones who really know how a computer works."

Questions 12 to 15 are based on the passage you have just heard.

12. Why is it possible for criminals to commit a crime through computers?
13. Why is it hard to punish computer criminals?
14. How was the teller at a New York City bank exposed by the police?
15. What is the continuous concern of the police?

Section ㉓

Recording One

For more than two centuries, [16] **America's colleges and universities have been the backbone of the country's progress.** They have educated the technical, managerial and professional work force and provided generation after generation of national leaders. Today, educators from around the country are up to find many reasons for the excellence of American universities. But four historic Acts stand out as a turning point.

First education for the mass. In 1862, Congress enacted the Land Grant College Act, which essentially extended the opportunity of higher education to all Americans, including women and minorities. Each state was permitted to sell large tracts of federal land, and use the proceeds to endow at least one public college.

Second, competition breeds success. Over the years, the decentralization and diversity of the America's colleges and universities have promoted competition for students and resources. Competitive pressure first arose during the Civil War when President Lincoln created the National Academy of Science to advise Congress on any subject of science and art. The Academy's impact really grew after World War II when a landmark report commissioned by the then president argued that [17] **it was the federal government's responsibility to provide adequate funds for basic research.** Instead of being centralized in government laboratories, scientific research became decentralized in American universities and generated increasing investment. It also gave graduate students research opportunities and helped spread scientific discoveries far and wide, to the benefit of industry, medicine and society as a whole.

Thirdly, investing in the future. The end of World War II saw the passage of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944. [18] **The law, which provided for a college or vocational education for returning veterans,** made the higher education system accessible in ways that were inconceivable in Europe, opening the doors of best universities to men and women who had never dreamed of going to college.

Finally, promoting diversity. The creation of federal loan and subsidy programs as well as outright grants for college students brought much needed diversity to high

education and further helped to democratize access. Since its founding in 1965, the Federal Family Education Loan Program has funded more than 74 million student loans worth more than 180 billion dollars.

Questions 16 to 18 are based on the recording you have just heard.

16. What has been the backbone of America's progress?
17. Whose responsibility is to provide adequate funds for basic research?
18. Which law provided for a college or vocational education for returning veterans ?

Recording Two

The world is getting older. As more people retire each year, fewer working-age people will be there to replace them. This has effects not only in the work place but in the world finance. The bond rating agency Moody's says the aging population will lead to a drop in household savings. [19] **This could mean that total investments will fall and economic growth could slow.**

[20] **Some reports have described Japan, Italy and Germany as the world's "Super Aged" nations.** That is the name for countries in which at least 20 percent of the population is at least 65 years old.

Elena Duggar is head of Moody's Sovereign Risk Division. She says changes in many populations are taking place quickly. "The demographic transition is upon us now and its progressing quite rapidly," Duggar said.

[20] **In five years, six more countries will join the list of "Super Aged" nations.** And 34 nations will be super aged in 15 years. Elena Duggar says this will have a big influence on labor and savings. "That will translate into reductions in labor supply. At the same time aging means that the household savings rates will go down, which will negatively impact on investment. Both trends put together would mean that aging will have a significant negative impact on global growth," Duggar said. The Conference Board reports on business conditions around the world. It says an aging population could reduce world economic growth by one percent in the next ten years.

Kishore Kulkarni is with the Metropolitan State University of Denver. [21] **He says immigration is one way to reduce the effects of an aging population.**

Older adults spend money differently than younger ones. And experts say that difference affects the economies of countries. But Kishore Kulkarni believes that specialized career training and productivity gains from technology could make up for the drop in the number of workers. He says the problems of an aging population represent only a mismatching of the demand for goods. “It is a mismatching of demand rather than a total and a drastic change in the demand. And it is a challenge which we can easily accept and tackle as it comes to us,” Kulkarni said. He also says that an aging population will be less of a problem in countries where older people are highly valued. And most experts agree that younger workers will have to work longer and retire later than today’s older workers.

Questions 19 to 21 are based on the recording you have just heard.

19. What is the effect of the aging world?
20. How many countries will be super-aged in five years in total?
21. According to Kulkarni, what can reduce the effects of an aging population?

Recording Three

Air pollution is the biggest environmental health risk in the world, says the World Health Organization. Part of the problem is particulate matter, very small particles floating in the air. Particulate matter, also known as PM, may get trapped in the lungs. Scientists have long known about the harmful effects of breathing PM. [22] **The particulates are linked to an increased risk of breathing problems, heart attacks, strokes and lung cancer.**

A U.S. based team has been studying the issue. Its members are environmental engineers and public health researchers. [23] **The team recently prepared a model to show how much people would be helped if air pollution from PM is cut to the WHO’s suggested limits.** Joshua Apte is an assistant professor of environmental engineering at the University of Texas, Austin. He led the study. “About 75 percent of the total number of deaths that could be avoided from cleaner air

could come from improving air in some of the most polluted parts of the world, like India and China.” He adds that improving air quality could bring as many health benefits as when we take steps to deal with major diseases like AIDS.

The study estimates that reducing air pollution around the world could save 1.4 million people in places like India and China. But that is not an easy goal. The report says that even to reduce mortality rates in half, India and China would need to cut pollution levels by almost 70 percent from their 2010 levels. In places like New Delhi, PM levels are sometimes 10 times higher than the amount set in the WHO’s air quality guidelines. India and China are home to some of the world’s most polluted cities. [24] **Thirteen of the world’s 20 most polluted cities are in India. The capital, New Delhi, is at the top of the list.** The study also shows that even if the pollution levels stay the same, death rates would jump by over 20 percent in India and China.

[25] **Joshua Apte explains that the main reason for this increase is population changes in these countries over time.** He notes that as the population gets older over time, the number of people at risk of heart attack or stroke goes up. But it may be difficult for India and China to improve air quality since both countries still use coal for electricity. Many roads are becoming filled with vehicles owned by the growing middle class. China has done some work in cleaning the air. But experts believe that air pollution could worsen in India. They worry that India wants to increase the number of coal-powered plants to fuel the country’s economy. They expressed regret that Indian officials have taken little action to limit air pollution.

Questions 22 to 25 are based on the recording you have just heard.

22. What do we know about particulate matter?
23. For what did the research team prepare a model?
24. What do we learn about New Delhi, according to the study?
25. What mainly causes death rate to increase in China and India over time?