

(不愿意倾听的), and the most unfriendly among other peoples. Another typical character of English people is that they are the most 33 of all western peoples. If you ask a Frenchman, an Italian, a German, even an American, what he thinks about Englishmen, every one of them will have a common answer—Englishmen are so proud of themselves that it is difficult for them to accept things beyond their present conditions.

But you would find upon the other hand that nearly all nations would speak 34 of certain other English qualities—energy, courage, honour. The friendship of an Englishman once gained is more strong and true than any other. It must be acknowledged that the English character is especially well fitted for the struggle. It is neither a lovable nor an agreeable character; it is not even kindly, for kindness is an emotional 35, and the English man never likes to do things on the spur of the moment. But with all this, the character is a grand one, and its success has been the best proof of its value.

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|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| A) arrogant | F) exquisite | K) inherited |
| B) caution | G) grace | L) invariably |
| C) compelled | H) highly | M) precedents |
| D) complied | I) importance | N) resembles |
| E) ensures | J) impulse | O) suspicious |

Section B

Directions: In this section, you are going to read a passage with ten statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter. Answer the questions by marking the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 2**.

The Health Revolution known as Obamacare

- [A] The objective of America’s *Affordable Care Act* of 2010—commonly known as Obamacare—was to ensure that the 40m-plus Americans who lacked health insurance could get it. Less widely appreciated, but at least as important, are the incentives and penalties the law introduced to make the country’s terribly expensive and poorly performing health services safer and more efficient. Economists are debating on how much credit Obamacare should get for a recent moderation in the growth of health costs, and for a fall in the number of patients having to be readmitted to hospital. Whatever the answer is, many companies see the disruption unleashed by the reforms as the business opportunity of a lifetime.
- [B] One of the biggest shifts under way is to phase out the “fee for service” model, in which hospitals and doctors’ surgeries are *reimbursed*(补偿) for each test or treatment with no regard for the outcome, encouraging them to put patients through unnecessary and expensive procedures. Since Obamacare they are increasingly being paid by results—a flat fee for each successful hip replacement, say. There are also incentives for providers which meet cost or performance targets, and new requirements for hospitals to disclose their prices.
- [C] Millions of people are now looking for health insurance on the new public exchanges set up under the reforms. And Obamacare has come into effect at a time when American employers, who often provide health cover for their workers, are seeking to cut its cost by encouraging them to shop around on private exchanges, and by offering less generous plans.
- [D] The result is that there are growing numbers of consumers seeking better treatment for less money. Existing health-care providers will have to adapt, or lose business. All sorts of other businesses, old and new, are seeking either to take market share from the conventional providers, or to provide the software and other tools that help hospitals, doctors, insurers and patients make the most of this new world.
- [E] Patients are increasingly having to pay higher “*deductibles* (免赔额)” out of their own pockets, before the insurance kicks in, to keep the cost of the cover down. So for minor ailments and simple tests, it makes sense for such patients to go to one of the increasing numbers of walk-in clinics, staffed by well-qualified nurses, on the premises of retail pharmacies such as Walgreens. The prices are clear, the care is cheap and the service is quick. Walgreens has a partnership with Theranos, a diagnostics firm, which offers customers a range of tests from a tiny drop of blood. Walmart, a giant supermarket chain with many instore pharmacies, also intends to