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選擇題請在答案卡上作答，否則不予計分。

I. Vocabulary (20%)

Choose the answer that best completes the sentence, and mark the corresponding letter A, B, C, or D on your answer card.

- According to the news report, the country's rising violent crime rate may be linked to the ready _____ of guns.
A. emission B. interface C. oppression D. availability
- To _____ air quality, you can use the high-tech device that picks up all kinds of harmful pollution and sends data to you.
A. monitor B. eliminate C. auction D. detach
- While psychotherapy can be an effective treatment for even the most seriously disturbed patients, it is certainly not a _____.
A. fidelity B. panacea C. hardship D. miscarriage
- Many people drive _____. They stick to the vehicle in front or overtake before crossroads, not respecting the speed limit.
A. exclusively B. operationally C. individually D. aggressively
- As regulated by law, every citizen over the age of 18 is _____ to vote in the country.
A. potential B. manifest C. eligible D. immune
- In the medieval times, English soldiers believed that an army attacking a castle could _____ supernatural forces to their aid if they marched counter-clockwise around the castle walls.
A. expel B. amend C. recline D. invoke
- With everyone's combined efforts and dedication, we could _____ complete the project a week ahead of schedule.
A. spontaneously B. conceivably C. rationally D. sequentially
- Despite ASEAN countries' call for peaceful resolution of disputes in the South China Sea, China has continued to claim indisputable sovereignty over the Nansha Islands and their _____ waters.
A. adjacent B. perpetual C. transitory D. judicious
- We are surrounded by so many unsung heroes. Firefighters, for example, put their lives in _____ every day to save others.
A. gutter B. peril C. exile D. debris
- It is stated in the job description that the candidate should demonstrate personal attributes that are _____ with the University's values of Integrity, Respect, Rational Inquiry and Personal Excellence.
A. imperative B. ubiquitous C. congruent D. equivocal

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II. Cloze (20%)

Read the following passages, choose for each blank the most appropriate answer, and mark the corresponding letter A, B, C, or D on your answer card.

Passage 1

The Oceans are under threat for quite a long time. A (11) ocean with beautiful coasts and vibrant ocean wildlife is becoming a distant dream as the days pass. The flow of waste, including plastics and chemicals, to the seas (12) the existence of several marine species. According to a report, wastage equivalent of a truckload enters into our oceans every minute, every day, all year long. In addition to these, human activities including the hunting of whales and non-eco-friendly fishing habits make the situation (13).

Luckily, there are a number of non-profit marine conservation organizations across the world working to save our oceans. These organizations are involved in protecting the ocean (14) all such harms and also try to restore a vibrant marine life. The Green Peace organization, one of the most successful organizations, urges big corporations to (15) to reduce their plastic footprint. It is also engaged in addressing unsustainable industrial fishing practices and ocean acidification.

11. A. neutral B. healthy C. sufficient D. perspective
 12. A. threatens B. threatening C. to threaten D. threatened
 13. A. lunatic B. shrewd C. worse D. needy
 14. A. through B. beyond C. from D. over
 15. A. perform B. cease C. flip D. act

Passage 2

The World Health Organization reports that globally, the prevalence of smoking has gone down from 27 percent in 2000 to 20 percent in 2016. (16), the WHO notes that the number of tobacco users worldwide has remained stable at 1.1 billion because of population growth. Kerstin Schotte, WHO technical officer, notes a steeper decline in the prevalence of smoking in wealthier countries, (17) to poorer ones. "And, some low-and-middle income countries even have increasing smoking prevalence rates. This is (18) the tobacco industry is going at the moment," she said. "They know a little bit that it is a lost (19) in Europe and North America, so they are going into the low-and-middle-income countries, targeting especially women and children there." The World Health Organization recommends a number of effective, low-cost measures countries can adopt to reduce tobacco consumption. These include the creation of smoke-free environments, imposing a ban (20)

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all forms of tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship.

16. A. However B. As a result C. Likewise D. In other words
 17. A. to compare B. comparable C. comparing D. compared
 18. A. how B. where C. when D. what
 19. A. cost B. call C. cause D. calling
 20. A. for B. in C. on D. at

III. Article Completion (10%)

Read the passage and choose the most appropriate answer for each blank. Mark the corresponding letter A, B, C, or D on your answer card.

One of the classic studies on eye contact in human communication was the study published by Adam Kendon in 1967. He found that people shared unspoken agreement which governed how long they looked at one another. (21) was by Michael Argyle. He suggested that eye contact was an important signal of the degree of intimacy which existed between two people. The more eye contact there was, (22). As a result, if someone tries to establish more eye contact with you than you think your relationship deserves then this will make you feel anxious. You will try to compensate for this (23). It is not just eye gaze which is involved here. Intimacy is also signaled by distance, the intimacy of the topic, smiling, and other non-verbal signals. A practical example of how this theory works would be (24) in a crowded lift or on a crowded tube train. Here people are squashed together. They are very close one another, which is one of the signals of intimacy. (25), everyone works very hard to avoid eye contact and avoid any other signals such as touch.

21. A. One of the authors
 B. The relevant context
 C. Among the non-verbal codes
 D. Another very important study of eye gaze
 22. A. interpersonal communication was effective
 B. the closer the relationship between the two people
 C. they were listening and speaking at the same time
 D. the speakers could observe the actions of the other person
 23. A. by decreasing the amount of eye contact
 B. to look for advice from other participants
 C. leaving a good impression on the person
 D. and explain your style of giving a speech

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24. A. the channel for conveying information
 B. the spot where arguments take place
 C. the way people behave
 D. the definition given
25. A. While no one knows how to raise a question for discussion
 B. As the passengers criticize the study on the hostile dimension
 C. With the debate over differences between male and female communication
 D. In order to make sure that none of the other passengers get some misleading ideas

IV. Reading Comprehension (20%)

Read the following passages and choose the best answer to each question. Mark the corresponding letter A, B, C, or D on your answer card.

Passage 1

Being able to tell human faces apart is a skill that almost every person has, although some are far better at it than others. But a new study out from the journal *Scientific Reports* says that this is not just a skill that humans and primates poses. Even fish can do it.

Following up on research studying different species' abilities to recognize human faces (sheep, dogs, cows, horses, and birds have all been tried), the researchers from the University of Oxford and the University of Queensland decided to pick an animal that does not have an evolved **neocortex**, the part of the brain that processes sight and sounds, and does not have a close relationship with humans. That way, there would be no reason why these test subjects would have a past history of identifying human faces. So they picked the archerfish, a reef fish variety that shoots water into the air to knock its prey out of the sky. They used this adaptation to have the fish spray water at a face on a monitor hanging over their tanks for a reward. Most of the fish were able to pick apart their learned face, even when colors were taken away or methods were used to obscure the face shapes.

This study gives more backing to the hypothesis that differentiating between faces is not just an innate skill that big-brained organisms are born with. It is possible that a good portion of recognizing faces is learned over time. The development of the **neocortex** may contribute only to quickly process a large number of faces in varying scenarios. But more work needs to be conducted to find a deeper link to this possible learned behavior. The sample size of this study was very small – only eight fish were used altogether. Also, the faces displayed on the prompter were only white, female faces from a German database, shown in a frontal view, with no expressions. Other animal trials have shown that some species, like pigeons, respond more to differing angles and varied expressions.

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26. What is the purpose of this passage?
- A. To improve an experiment design.
 - B. To reveal the differences between species.
 - C. To show that facial recognition may not be a unique ability owned by human beings.
 - D. To prove that researchers cooperate as a group can lead to great breakthroughs in natural science.

27. According to the passage, which of the following is true about the archerfish?
- A. It is big-brained.
 - B. It is the prey of birds.
 - C. It performs better than other species in the study.
 - D. It hunts for its food located above the water's surface.

28. What is "neocortex" mentioned in the passage?
- A. A supportive cell in the central nervous system.
 - B. The part of brain that controls the activities of the body.
 - C. The part of human brain that deals with sensory perception.
 - D. A nerve cell that carries information between the brain and the body.

29. What is the author's attitude toward the study?
- A. Cautious.
 - B. Negative.
 - C. Consistent.
 - D. Sympathetic.

30. According to the passage, which of the following is **NOT** suggested for similar studies in the future?
- A. Including more subjects.
 - B. Recruiting more male researchers.
 - C. Increasing the variety of human faces.
 - D. Showing pictures of faces taken from different angles.

Passage 2

A fungus - genetically enhanced to produce spider toxin - can rapidly kill huge numbers of the mosquitoes that spread malaria, a study suggests. Trials, which took place in Burkina Faso, showed mosquito populations collapsed by 99% within 45 days. Conducting the study, researchers at the

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University of Maryland in the US - and the IRSS research institute in Burkina Faso - first identified a fungus called *Metarhizium pingshaense*, which naturally infects the *Anopheles* mosquitoes that spread malaria. The next stage was to enhance the fungus. "They're very **malleable**, you can genetically engineer them very easily," Prof Raymond St Leger, from the University of Maryland, told BBC News. They turned to a toxin found in the venom of a species of funnel-web spider in Australia. The genetic instructions for making the toxin were added to the fungus's own genetic code so it would start making the toxin once it was inside a mosquito. Laboratory tests showed the genetically modified fungus could kill quicker, and that it took fewer fungal spores to do the job.

The next step was to test the fungus in as close to real-world conditions as possible. A 6,500-square-foot fake village - complete with huts, plants, water sources and food for the mosquitoes - was set up in Burkina Faso. It was surrounded by a double layer of mosquito netting to prevent anything escaping. In each hut, a black cloth coated in sesame oil mixed with the fungal spores hung on one wall, providing a place for the mosquitoes to rest after feeding. The mosquitoes had to land on the cloth to be exposed to the deadly fungus. The researchers started the experiments with 1,500 mosquitoes. The results showed numbers soared when the insects were left alone. But when the spider-toxin fungus was used, there were just 13 mosquitoes left after 45 days. Tests also showed the fungus was specific to these mosquitoes and did not affect other insects such as bees.

31. In which section of a newspaper would this passage most likely appear?
- A. Local News.
 - B. Business.
 - C. Education.
 - D. Health.
32. The word "**malleable**" in this passage is closest in meaning to ____.
- A. adaptable
 - B. capable
 - C. irresistible
 - D. predictable
33. Why were the black cloths coated in sesame oil used in the experiments?
- A. To allow the mosquitoes to come into contact with the fungal spores.
 - B. To make the fungal spores start producing the toxin.
 - C. To prevent the fungal spores from escaping.
 - D. To separate the mosquitoes from other insects.

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34. Which of the following statements is **NOT** true according to this passage?
- A. Malaria is transmitted from human to human by Anopheles mosquitoes.
 - B. The fungus was genetically modified to produce venom originally from a spider.
 - C. The fungus was tested in a sparsely-populated village in Burkina Faso.
 - D. It was found that the fungus only harmed the mosquitoes but not other insects.
35. What would the paragraph following this passage most likely discuss?
- A. Cases of malaria around the world.
 - B. How malaria spreads from one area to another.
 - C. The advantages and disadvantages of genetic engineering.
 - D. Other researchers' comments on the findings of the study.

V. Composition (30%)

Taiwan's birth rate has been declining in recent years. Currently, it is among the world's lowest. If this downward trend in population growth continues, Taiwan is expected to become a super-aged society by 2026. Please write an essay (within 500 words) to discuss the potential problems or challenges that may arise from this phenomenon and possible ways to tackle them.

備註	<p>一、作答於試題上者，不予計分。</p> <p>二、試題請隨卷繳交。</p>
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