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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.

- While alcohol may provide health benefits for some people, such as a lower risk of heart disease and improved mental health, it is important to drink in _____ to avoid its adverse effects.
A) conformity B) moderation C) sentiment D) reference
- On May 24, 2022, an 18-year-old went on a murderous _____ at a Texas elementary school, adding to a gruesome series of mass killings in America.
A) gauge B) pulse C) verge D) spree
- Some experts have suggested cracking knuckles is harmful and may cause arthritis, but other experts _____ the argument, saying that the habit is neither harmful nor beneficial to your health.
A) refuted B) imposed C) pledged D) deduced
- The passage of the 2019 same-sex marriage bill in Taiwan was a _____ achievement for the country and its people; it demonstrated the open-mindedness of the Taiwanese people and made Taiwan the first country in Asia to legalize same-sex marriage.
A) catastrophic B) precarious C) monumental D) lucrative
- Since the Soviet Union dissolved and broke up into 15 separate countries, there has often been _____ among the former Soviet republics, including the current confrontation between Russia and Ukraine.
A) petition B) commission C) friction D) revelation
- Some countries, such as Australia and Singapore, make voting _____ for their citizens, and penalties might be imposed on those who fail to do so without a valid reason.
A) permissive B) reminiscent C) arbitrary D) mandatory
- Because of the _____ of Internet crimes, computer users need to learn to evaluate their search results to ensure that they are connecting to reputable websites.
A) proliferation B) hibernation C) justification D) consolation
- Smartphones have _____ changed the way we consume information. Today we can access any information we want anytime and anywhere. There is no turning back to a time when we could only rely on reading the newspaper or watching television to gather information.
A) tentatively B) irrevocably C) obliviously D) frivolously
- As heavy downpours and gusty winds are expected in the region, the public and maritime community, especially fishermen, are advised to be _____ or postpone their activities at sea and along the beach.

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A) obstinate B) vigilant C) integral D) extrinsic

10. In the story *Frankenstein*, a student creates a hideous monster in a scientific experiment and abandons it out of fear. Feeling rejected and mad, the monster _____ by murdering everyone important to its creator.

A) retaliates B) alleviates C) speculates D) intervenes

II. Cloze (20%)

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

Passage 1

Laughter Yoga, developed by physician Madan Kataria in Mumbai, India, is based on the idea that making ourselves laugh is beneficial for our health. It is a combination of breathing techniques, simple movements, and simulated laughter. Specifically, the sessions begin with exercises that mimic the physical activity of laughter. (11), the fake laughter transforms into genuine laughter. In part, this happens because hearing others laugh, even for no apparent reason, (12) us laugh, too. A study with brain scans revealed that our brains respond (13) another person's laughter by preparing our facial muscles to join in. (14), Laughter Yoga's impact on depression has been scientifically validated. Among other studies, research (15) in the International Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry found that Laughter Yoga was more effective than physical exercise in reducing the effects of depression in older women.

11. (A) Therefore (B) Subsequently (C) However (D) For example
 12. (A) making (B) to make (C) make (D) makes
 13. (A) with (B) for (C) to (D) on
 14. (A) In contrast (B) By comparison (C) Instead (D) Moreover
 15. (A) published (B) has published (C) had been published (D) was published

Passage 2

In the first half of the twentieth century, many psychologists believed that only externally observable, (16) behavior was relevant for study because the internal cognitive mechanisms that underlie behavior could not be (17) scientifically. These psychologists (18) influenced the way linguists and language educators viewed language. Language teachers believed that the mechanism behind language learning was habit formation, by which a linguistic behavior became conditioned to a particular stimulus and then generalized to other similar stimuli. The knowledge of a language

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consisted of a set of habits demonstrated by the language user. (19) this view, learning a second language essentially equaled learning a new set of habits. That is to say, language knowledge was (20) _____ a set of linguistic habits, and learning a second language simply meant replacing one set of habits with another.

16. (A) limbo (B) outward (C) backflash (D) excerpt
 17. (A) investigated (B) engineered (C) created (D) received
 18. (A) significantly (B) affably (C) vulnerably (D) serendipitously
 19. (A) Despite (B) Contrary to (C) According to (D) Except for
 20. (A) mandatory for (B) complacent about (C) susceptible to (D) synonymous with

III. Article Completion (10%)

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

The metaverse, first described in author Neal Stephenson's novel "Snow Crash" published in 1992, has become a concept used to describe 3D (three-dimensional), VWs (virtual worlds) (21) _____. The first metaverse was CitySpace, which was active from 1993 to 1996. Subsequently, (22) _____. The most popular of these was Second Life (SL, www.secondlife.com), developed by Linden Lab in 2003. With SL, the doors of the web-based VWs were opened to game enthusiasts. SL promised its users (23) _____, the limits of which depend only on one's imagination. In this world, a person could socialize, buy real estate, design, and even realize all kinds of fiction, up to university education. SL created its own economy, (24) _____. Moreover, the Swedish government opened an embassy in SL, where many cities, universities, artists, and individuals created virtual assets. In the game world, the examples of metaverses such as Roblox (www.roblox.com), Sandbox (www.sandbox.game), and Fortnite (epicgames.com/fortnite) are increasing day by day. However, with the press release of Mark Zuckerberg (25) _____, wider audiences began to explore what the metaverse is. As of October 2021, according to google trend reports, there has been a severe increase of searches on Metaverse in the google search engine. (Adopted from Narin, N. G. 2021)

- (A) in which he announced that he changed the company name to Meta
 (B) and even had the Linden Dollar currency
 (C) in which people interact with each other and their environment without the physical limitations of the real world
 (D) a second world where they can create their own avatars and determine all features of them
 (E) numerous metaverses such as Active Worlds and There (www.there.com) emerged.

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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

Have you been sniffing, sneezing and snorting? Assuming you do not have COVID-19, there is a good chance you are suffering from spring allergies. You may have seen television commercials for a wide variety of symptomatic treatments. There are oral antihistamines such as loratadine (Claritin) and levocetirizine (Xyzal). The Claritin commercials, for example, promote spring as the “Most Wonderful Time of the Year.” As the family comes rushing downstairs to embrace the great outdoors, the announcer says, “Claritin provides non-drowsy symptom relief from over 200 indoor and outdoor allergens day after day.” However, there is one drawback to using antihistamines for the entire allergy season: stopping them suddenly after months of use can lead to unbearable itching that may last six weeks or longer.

Then there are corticosteroid nasal sprays. Products such as fluticasone (Flonase) and triamcinolone (Nasacort) have been joined on over-the-counter shelves by mometasone (Nasonex). In the Flonase commercial, an enormous green monster rises out of the earth, while the narrator tells us, “Allergies don’t have to be scary.” Apparently, one person on Earth got that message. He watches with interest while the others scream and flee. That’s because he sprayed Flonase in his nose before leaving home. Such steroid nasal sprays are effective against allergy symptoms. However, they can cause side effects of their own, including changes in the sense of smell or taste. Long-term use may increase the risk for cataracts.

One kind of allergy medicine that you probably won’t see advertised on television is cromolyn (NasalCrom). This drug works differently from steroids as well as antihistamines. Rather than counteracting histamine after its release or calming chemicals in the nose with cortisone-like compounds, cromolyn stabilizes mast cells. That keeps them from reacting to allergens and discharging inflammatory agents. The origins of this medication are in a natural remedy called **Ammi visnaga**. The prescription drug NasalCrom was introduced in 1983. It went over the counter in 1997. Not all pharmacies stock NasalCrom, but it is available online. The drug is considered quite safe, although some people experience temporary sneezing or irritation. The biggest downside is that the instructions say it should be used three or four times a day, which can be inconvenient.

26. What is the main purpose of this passage?

- (A) To inform that spring allergies and COVID-19 have similar symptoms.

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- (B) To discuss the power of television commercials in promoting drugs.
 (C) To explain why every allergy medication has its side effects.
 (D) To introduce an alternative drug for spring allergies.

27. Which of the following is **NOT** mentioned in the passage as a side effect of an allergy medication?
 (A) drowsiness
 (B) itching
 (C) temporary irritation
 (D) changes in the sense of smell
28. The words "**Ammi visnaga**" in this passage are most likely a name of _____.
 (A) an allergen
 (B) an online pharmacy
 (C) a plant
 (D) a chemical
29. According to the passage, which of the following is true about Cromolyn?
 (A) It is a newly developed drug.
 (B) It is not advertised on television because its safety has not been proven.
 (C) It prevents the release of chemicals such as histamine from the mast cells.
 (D) It is more expensive than oral antihistamines and nasal steroids.
30. According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?
 (A) Patients should continue taking antihistamines for at least six weeks after the allergy season.
 (B) All three types of allergy medications discussed can be purchased without a prescription.
 (C) Oral antihistamines are more effective than nasal steroids for symptom relief.
 (D) Cromolyn cures allergies, while antihistamines and steroids only treat allergy symptoms.

Passage 2

Los Angeles in 1947 was not a pleasing **backwater** like Miami or San Diego. The years of World War II had made the city become one of the nation's industrial powerhouses. It may have been known to the rest of the country mainly for its film studios in Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley, but the entertainment industry, however large its influence on the culture may have been, was only the tip of a huge and very different economic iceberg. Los Angeles may not have looked like Detroit, but it was just as much built around manufacturing. Movie stars weren't the typical Angelenos; machine workers in aircraft assembly

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lines were.

The core of the Los Angeles economy was in defense contracting. The city's benign climate and its large harbor to the south in San Pedro, not to mention its presence on the Pacific Rim, had made Los Angeles home to much of the U.S. aircraft industry, with Lockheed, Douglas, Northrop, and Vultee its pillars. Federal dollars poured in during the war years: between 1942 and 1945, 479 new defense plants were built in the area, and hundreds more were expanded. The Defense Plant Corporation, a federal agency charged with overseeing the use of government funds to build facilities for private contractors, invested more than \$450 million in building or expanding industrial facilities in the Los Angeles area during the war years. Employment in the region stood at 15,930 in 1938, before the war began; by 1941, spurred by manufacturing orders from overseas, it had already grown to 120,000. It would expand to employ more than 228,000 people just a few years later, at the peak of the war effort. The shipbuilding industry, almost **inconsequential** before the war, grew to become the region's second-largest economic force. Local shipyards had not constructed a major vessel for two decades preceding World War II; by the end of 1941, the California Shipbuilding Corporation, known as Calship, had become the nation's most productive shipyard, delivering 111 ships for the Defense Department in 1942. Calship employed 55,000 workers, and the rest of the shipbuilding industry in the region employed another 35,000.

31. What is the main idea of this passage?
- (A) Los Angeles' diverse economic sectors
 - (B) How World War II led to a boom in Los Angeles' manufacturing economy
 - (C) How Los Angeles became famous for its entertainment industry
 - (D) Why shipbuilding was important for the US in World War II
32. Which of the following can be inferred from the first paragraph?
- (A) San Diego and Miami were industrial powerhouses in 1947.
 - (B) Hollywood was not widely known after the years of World War II.
 - (C) In 1947, Detroit's economy heavily relied on manufacturing.
 - (D) Movie stars typically resided outside of Los Angeles in 1947.
33. Which of the following cannot be inferred from the second paragraph?
- (A) Vultee was an important company in the aircraft industry.
 - (B) Being close to the Pacific Ocean was an important reason why the shipbuilding industry was booming at that time.
 - (C) Investments from the United States federal government made a huge economic impact on Los Angeles.

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(D) The population of Los Angeles grew substantially as a result of World War II.

34. What is the meaning of the word *inconsequential* in the second paragraph?

- (A) not efficient
- (B) not important
- (C) not ethical
- (D) not complaisant

35. What is the most proper interpretation of the word *backwater* in the context of the first paragraph?

- (A) a place where the employment rate is on the rise
- (B) a place where there is a serious risk of flooding
- (C) a place where the residents are uneducated and uncivil
- (D) a place that does not see a lot of development or progress

V. Composition (30%)

Since its outbreak, COVID-19 has significantly changed our society, economies, and health care systems throughout the world. In the midst of extraordinary challenges and uncertainty posed by the pandemic, some people believe that there must be a silver lining. Please write an essay within 600 words to discuss the challenges and opportunities in the post-Covid-19 era.

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- 一、作答於試題上者，不予計分。
- 二、試題請隨卷繳交。