

# 华中师范大学

## 二〇〇八年研究生入学考试试题

院系、招生专业：英语语言文学 050201

外国语言学及应用语言学 050211

考试时间：元月20日上午

考试科目代码及名称：基础英语 619

1. In each of the following sentences, *four words or phrases* have been underlined. Choose the one word or phrase that would **not** be appropriate in standard English. Write your choice on the **ANSWER SHEET**. (15/150)

1. There ought to be less anxiety over the perceived risk of mountain climbing than exiting in the public mind today.

A

B

C

D

2. The fact that the management is trying to reach agreement with five separate unions have led to long negotiations.

A

B

C

D

3. Being given enough time and money, the researchers would have been able to discover more in this field.

A

B

C

D

4. For some time now, world leaders had been pointing out the necessity for agreement on arms reduction.

A

B

C

D

5. Have you ever been in a situation when you know the other person is right yet you cannot agree with him?

A

B

C

D

6. If one compares the image of the woman in the women's magazine with the goods advertised by those periodicals, one realizes how useful a projected image can be commercial.

A

B

C

D

7. A country's capacity to produce wealth depends upon many factors, most of those have an effect on one another.

A

B

C

D

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8. And to make matters worse, some of the traditional Chinese irrigation methods have wasted an astonishing number of water.  
A B C D
9. AIDs is said to be the number-one killer of both men and women over the past few years in that region.  
A B C D
10. You must insist that the student gives a truthful answer consistent with the reality of the world.  
A B C D
11. It is futile to discuss the matter further, because neither you nor I are going to agree upon anything today.  
A B C D
12. That was not the first time he had betrayed us. I think it's high time we take strong actions against him.  
A B C D
13. Loudspeakers were fixed in the hall so that everyone may have an opportunity to hear the speech.  
A B C D
14. The statistics proves that living standards in the area have improved drastically in recent times.  
A B C D
15. After which seemed an endless wait, it was her turn to enter the personnel manager's office.  
A B C D

II. Find the *one choice* that best completes the sentence. Write your choice on the **ANSWER SHEET**.  
(15/150)

1. The local police are authorized to \_\_\_\_\_ anyone's movements as they think fit.  
A. halt B. repel C. pause D. keep
2. Language belongs to each member of the society, to the cleaner \_\_\_\_\_ to the professor.  
A. as far as B. as much as C. the same as D. as long as
3. The diversity of tropical plants in the region represents a seemingly \_\_\_\_\_ source of raw materials, of which only a few have been utilized.  
A. remarkable B. controversial C. inexhaustible D. exploited
4. Firms that use computers have found that the number of staff \_\_\_\_\_ is needed for quality control can be substantially reduced.  
A. as B. what C. whose D. that
5. You \_\_\_\_\_ Tom anything about it. It was none of his business.  
A. needn't have told B. mustn't have told  
C. mustn't tell D. needn't tell

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6. \_\_\_\_\_ I sympathize, I can't really do very much to help them out of the difficulties.  
A. While                      B. As                      C. As long as                      D. Even
7. Even as a girl, \_\_\_\_\_ to be her life, and theater audiences were to be her best teachers.  
A. performing by Melissa was  
B. Melissa knew that performing was  
C. it was known that Melissa's performances were  
D. knowing that Melissa's performances were
8. She managed to save \_\_\_\_\_ she could out of her wages to help her mother.  
A. how little money                      B. so little money                      C. what little money                      D. such little money
9. Time \_\_\_\_\_, the celebration will be held as scheduled.  
A. permit                      B. permits                      C. permitted                      D. permitting
10. The first two stages in the development of civilized man were probably the invention of weapons and the discovery of fire, although nobody knows exactly when he acquired the use of the \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. later                      B. latter                      C. latest                      D. last
11. Share prices on the Stock Exchange plunged sharply in the morning but \_\_\_\_\_ slightly in the afternoon..  
A. revived                      B. restored                      C. recovered                      D. regained
12. There are only ten apples left in the baskets, \_\_\_\_\_ the spoilt ones.  
A. not to count                      B. don't count                      C. not counting                      D. having not counted
13. It was \_\_\_\_\_ we had hoped.  
A. more a success than                      B. as much of a success as  
C. a success more than                      D. a success as much as
14. \_\_\_\_\_ dull he may be, he is certainly a very successful top executive.  
A. However                      B. Although                      C. As                      D. Whatever
15. Although he has become rich, he is still very \_\_\_\_\_ of his money.  
A. economic                      B. careful                      C. thrifty                      D. frugal

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III. Proofreading: (20/150): ( Do it in on the **ANSWER SHEET**)

The following passage contains **16** errors. Each line contains a maximum of one error, and **four** are free from error. In each case only one word is involved. You should proofread the passage and correct it in the following way:

For a wrong word, *underline* the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank provided at the end of the line.

For a missing word, *mark* the position of the missing word with a “^” and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank provided at the end of the line.

For an unnecessary word, *cross out* the unnecessary word with a slash “/” and put the word in the blank provided at the end of the line.

If the line is correct, *place* a tick “√” in the blank at the end of the line.

Example: It is impossible ^ any sentence in one (1) for  
language to have exactly

the same meaning as any single sentence in (2) single

another language. It is also  
impossible for any sentence in a particular (3) √  
language to have exactly

the same meaning as the other sentence in (4) any  
that same language.

Modern people are supposed to endure a lot of  
pressure, from education, career, or family. Therefore, (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
not all people can manage to tide them over. There are (2) \_\_\_\_\_  
often reports of someone go insane or someone (3) \_\_\_\_\_  
committing suicide. Those fortunate people are not (4) \_\_\_\_\_  
intelligently poor. Yet they were doomed only because (5) \_\_\_\_\_  
they suffer troubled minds or mixed feelings. From their (6) \_\_\_\_\_  
experience, I would argue that keeping a good mood is (7) \_\_\_\_\_  
all too important.

Living in a good mood under whatsoever circumstances (8) \_\_\_\_\_  
are important in at least two ways. For one thing, it can (9) \_\_\_\_\_  
help one fostering friendly interpersonal relations. Instead (10) \_\_\_\_\_  
of treating colleagues or classmates for rivals or opponents, (11) \_\_\_\_\_  
one will try to cooperate with them and benefit on them. (12) \_\_\_\_\_  
One will work harder to keep paces with others or (13) \_\_\_\_\_  
surpass them rather than complaining or get consuming (14) \_\_\_\_\_

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by jealousy all the time. For another, good mood can help (15) \_\_\_\_\_  
 one put disappointments and frustrations on the right (16) \_\_\_\_\_  
 perspective. Thinking that failure is mother of success, (17) \_\_\_\_\_  
 one can well survive the temporary blows and look (18) \_\_\_\_\_  
 forward to the bright future. All friendship and optimism (19) \_\_\_\_\_  
 derived from keeping a good mood or mentality is  
 effective outlets for pressures whatsoever. (20) \_\_\_\_\_

#### IV. Cloze

Fill in each blank with **one** word that is logically and grammatically suitable. *Write* your answers on the **ANSWER SHEET**. (25/150)

People have been painting pictures \_\_\_\_1\_\_\_\_ at least 30,000 years. The earliest pictures were painted by people \_\_\_\_2\_\_\_\_ hunted animals. They used to paint pictures of the \_\_\_\_3\_\_\_\_ they wanted to catch and kill. Pictures of this kind have been \_\_\_\_4\_\_\_\_ on the walls of caves in France and Spain. No one knows \_\_\_\_5\_\_\_\_ they were painted there. Perhaps the painters thought \_\_\_\_6\_\_\_\_ their pictures would help them to catch these animals. Or \_\_\_\_7\_\_\_\_ human beings have always wanted to tell stories in pictures.

\_\_\_\_8\_\_\_\_ 5,000 years ago the Egyptians and other people in the near East \_\_\_\_9\_\_\_\_ to use pictures as a kind of writing. They drew simple pictures or signs \_\_\_\_10\_\_\_\_ represent things and ideas, and also to represent the sounds of \_\_\_\_11\_\_\_\_ language. The signs these people used became a kind of alphabet.

The Egyptians used to \_\_\_\_12\_\_\_\_ information and to tell stories by putting pictures-writing and pictures together. When \_\_\_\_13\_\_\_\_ important person died, scenes and stories from his life were painted \_\_\_\_14\_\_\_\_ carved on the walls of the places where he was \_\_\_\_15\_\_\_\_. Some of these pictures are like modern comic-strip stories. \_\_\_\_16\_\_\_\_ has been said that Egypt is the home of the comic strip. But, \_\_\_\_17\_\_\_\_ the Egyptians, pictures still had magic power. So they did not try to \_\_\_\_18\_\_\_\_ their way of writing simple. The ordinary people could not understand \_\_\_\_19\_\_\_\_.

By the year 1,000 BC, people who lived in the \_\_\_\_20\_\_\_\_ around the Mediterranean Sea had developed a simpler system of \_\_\_\_21\_\_\_\_. This was because each sign, or letter, represented only \_\_\_\_22\_\_\_\_ sound in their language. The Greeks developed this system and formed the \_\_\_\_23\_\_\_\_ of the Greek alphabet. The Romans copied the idea, and Roman alphabet is now \_\_\_\_24\_\_\_\_ all over the world.

These days, we can write down a \_\_\_\_25\_\_\_\_, or record information, without using pictures. But we still need pictures of all kinds.

#### V. Fill in each blank with **the best answer** from the four choices given under the correspondent number.

Write your choice on the **ANSWER SHEET**. (25/150)

## (A)

Movie makers feared for a while that they might be put 1 by TV. Recently, 2, more and more people have been going to the movies. This may be 3 because the economic situation in America has become 4. In the movies, you forget your troubles as you get 5 in the story on the screen. Also, directors have been producing pictures that 6 numbers of people want to see.

Americans 7 the millions are returning to a love affair with the movies. Motion picture makers see two main 8 for this: an increased need of Americans to 9 from economic worries and a large number of movies attracting broad 10.

Movies makers admit that their 11 popularity is partly the result of poor economic conditions, which traditionally bring an increase in film-goers. "When people are fearful 12 the future, they look for escape." 13 Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America. In a cinema, with a 65-foot screen, you lose 14 for two and a half hours. People find this 15.

- |     |                    |                |               |                 |
|-----|--------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | A. out of business | B. out of duty | C. off duty   | D. on business  |
| 2.  | A. still           | B. therefore   | C. besides    | D. however      |
| 3.  | A. wholly          | B. partly      | C. certainly  | D. absolutely   |
| 4.  | A. better          | B. favorable   | C. worse      | D. satisfactory |
| 5.  | A. involved        | B. closed      | C. indulged   | D. enrolled     |
| 6.  | A. few             | B. small       | C. big        | D. large        |
| 7.  | A. from            | B. within      | C. of         | D. by           |
| 8.  | A. evidence        | B. reasons     | C. factors    | D. elements     |
| 9.  | A. prevent         | B. avoid       | C. escape     | D. decline      |
| 10. | A. listener        | B. watchmen    | C. viewer     | D. audience     |
| 11. | A. declining       | B. falling     | C. rising     | D. raising      |
| 12. | A. for             | B. about       | C. with       | D. at           |
| 13. | A. comments        | B. complains   | C. recommends | D. mentions     |
| 14. | A. worry           | B. heart       | C. temper     | D. confidence   |
| 15. | A. effective       | B. beneficial  | C. useful     | D. unhealthy    |

## (B)

There must be few questions on which responsible opinion is so utterly divided as 16 that of how much sleep we ought to 17. There are some who think we can leave the body to 18 these matters for itself. "The answer is easy," says Dr. A. Burton. "With the 19 amount of sleep you should wake up fresh and alert five minutes before the alarm 20. If he is right many people must be 21, including myself. But we must remember that some people have a 22 inertia than others. This is not meant rudely. They switch on slowly, and they are 23 to switch off. They are alert at bedtime and 24 when it is time to get up, and this may have nothing to do with how 25

their bodies are, or how much sleep they must take to lose their fatigue.

- |                     |                  |              |             |
|---------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| 16. A. on           | B. to            | C. by        | D. from     |
| 17. A. have         | B. make          | C. get       | D. keep     |
| 18. A. regulate     | B. make          | C. work      | D. decide   |
| 19. A. insufficient | B. sufficient    | C. right     | D. wrong    |
| 20. A. sounds       | B. goes          | C. rings     | D. rises    |
| 21. A. oversleeping | B. undersleeping | C. sleepy    | D. tired    |
| 22. A. poorer       | B. greater       | C. less      | D. smaller  |
| 23. A. delighted    | B. reluctant     | C. eager     | D. unhappy  |
| 24. A. fresh        | B. agile         | C. excited   | D. sleepy   |
| 25. A. strong       | B. weak          | C. energetic | D. fatigued |

VI. Reading comprehension: (25/150)

A. Read the following passages carefully and choose *the one best answer* to each question from the four choices given. Write your choice on the **ANSWER SHEET**.

**Text A**

The men and women of Anglo-Saxon England normally bore one name only. Distinguishing epithets were rarely added. These might be *patronymic*, descriptive or occupational. They were, however, hardly surnames. Heritable names gradually became general in the three centuries following the Norman Conquest in 1066. It was not until the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries that surnames became fixed, although for many years after that, the degree of stability in family names varied considerably in different parts of the country.

British surnames fall mainly into four broad categories: *patronymic*, occupational, descriptive and local. A few names, it is true, will remain puzzling: foreign names, perhaps crudely translated, adapted or abbreviated; or artificial names.

In fact, over fifty per cent of genuine British surnames derive from place names, of different kinds, and so they belong to the last of our four main categories. Even such a name as Simpson may belong to this last group, and not to the first, had the family once had its home in the ancient village of that name. Otherwise, Simpson means "the son of Simon", as might be expected.

Hundreds of occupational surnames are at once familiar to us, or at least recognizable after a little thought: Archer, Carter, Fisher, Mason, Thatcher, Taylor, to name but a few. Hundreds of others are more obscure in their meanings and testify to the amazing specialization in medieval arts, crafts and functions. Such are "Day", (old English for breadmaker) and "Walker" (a fuller whose job was to clean and thicken newly made cloth).

All these vocational names carry with them a certain gravity and dignity, which descriptive names often lack. Some, it is true, like "Long", "Short" or "Little", are simple. They may be taken quite literally. Others require more thinking: their meanings are slightly different from the modern ones. "Black" and "White"

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implied dark and fair respectively. "Sharp" meant genuinely discerning, alert, acute rather quick-witted or clever.

Place-names have lasting interest since there is hardly a town or village in all England that has not at some time given its name to a family. They may be picturesque, even poetical; or they may be pedestrian, even trivial. Among the commoner names which survive with relatively little change from old-English times are "Milton" (middle enclosure) and "Hilton" (enclosure on a hill).

1. Surnames are said to be \_\_\_\_\_ in Anglo-Saxon England.  
A. common                      B. vocational                      C. descriptive                      D. unusual
  
2. We learn from the first paragraph that \_\_\_\_\_ for many years after the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
A. all family names became fixed in England  
B. family names became descriptive and occupational  
C. people in some areas still had no surnames  
D. some people kept changing their surnames
  
3. "*Patronymic*" in the second paragraph is closest in meaning to "formed from \_\_\_\_\_".  
A. the family occupation"  
B. the name of one's father"  
C. one's family home"  
D. one's family history"
  
4. Which of the following sentences is an opinion rather than a fact?  
A. "Black" and "White" implied "dark" and "fair" respectively.  
B. Vocational names carry with them a certain gravity and dignity.  
C. Every place in England has given its name to a family.  
D. Hundreds of occupational name are at once familiar to us.

#### Text B

Latino youths are upwardly mobile already. But they need better education for Arizona to take full advantage of the possibilities their exploding population offers. Arizona's fast-growing Latino population offers the state tremendous promise and a challenge. Even more than the aging of the baby boomers, the Latino boom is fundamentally reorienting the state's economic and social structure.

Immigration and natural increase have added 600,000 young Latino residents to the state's population in the past decade. Half of the population younger than 18 in both Phoenix and Tucson is now Latino. Within 20 years, Latinos will make up half of the homegrown entry-level labor pool in the state's two largest labor markets.

What is more, Hispanics are becoming key economic players. Most people don't notice it, but Latinos



born in Arizona make up much of their immigrant parents' economic and educational deficits. For example, second-generation Mexican-Americans secure an average of 12 grades of schooling where their parents obtained less than nine. That means they erase 70 percent of their parents' lag behind third-generation non-Hispanic Whites in a single generation.

All of this hands the state a golden opportunity. At a time when many states will struggle with labor shortages because of modest population growth, Arizona has a priceless chance to build a populous, hardworking and skilled workforce on which to base future prosperity. The problem is that Arizona and its Latino residents may not be able to seize this opportunity. Far too many of Arizona's Latinos drop out of high school or fail to obtain the basic education needed for more advanced study. As a result, educational deficits are holding back many Latinos—and the state as well. To be sure, construction and low-end service jobs continue to absorb tens of thousands of Latino immigrants with little formal education. But over the long term, most of Arizona's Latino citizens remain ill-prepared to prosper in an increasingly demanding knowledge economy.

For the reason, the educational uplift of Arizona's huge Latino population must move to the center of the state's agenda. After all, the education deficits of Arizona's Latino population will severely cramp the fortunes of hardworking people if they go unaddressed and could well undercut the states' ability to compete in the new economy. At the entry level, slower growth rates may create more competition for low-skill jobs, displacing Latinos from a significant means of support. At the higher end, shortages of Latinos educationally ready to move up will make it that much harder for knowledge-based companies staff high-skill positions.

5. By saying that "Latino youths are upwardly mobile already", the author means that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. there are more Latino youths now than any time in Arizona's history  
B. Latino youths are in better social position than their older generations  
C. there is a population explosion in Arizona owing to the immigration of Latino youths  
D. the Latino baby boomers have now grown into Latino youths
6. What promise does the fast-growing Latino population offer to Arizona?  
A. It offers the state a chance to build an adequate and skilled labor force.  
B. It is changing the state's economic and social structure.  
C. It promises to the state a new generation of hard-working people.  
D. It brings long-lasting prosperity to the fast-growing state.
7. Which of the following groups is better prepared for the knowledge economy?  
A. Third-generation non-Hispanic whites.  
B. Latino immigrants.  
C. Second-generation Mexican-Americans.  
D. Arizona born Latinos.

8. In what way may Arizona's Latinos fail to seize the present golden opportunity?
- A. Most of the young Latinos are not as hardworking as their parents..
  - B. Educational deficits may ill-prepare them for the future society.
  - C. More and more knowledge based companies refuse to hire young Latinos.
  - D. There are fewer construction and low-end service jobs than before.
9. In the last paragraph, the statement "At the entry level, slower growth rates may create more competition for low-skill jobs, ..." implies that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. there will be more Latinos competing for low-skill jobs
  - B. more and more non-Hispanic Whites will receive better education
  - C. there will be fewer low-skill job offers
  - D. more and more Latino youths will receive better education

### Text C

#### Bernard Rose's Adaptation

Having struggled through a typically "Hollywood" experience while making a botched version of *Anna Karenina*, Bernard Rose here turns his attention to another Tolstoy project. The novella *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*. The *Action* has been updated from 19<sup>th</sup>-century Russia to contemporary Los Angeles to overlay the writer-director's feeling about the movie business on Tolstoy's universal meditation on approaching mortality.

Make outside the studio system with minimalist production methods, the film is a showcase for the effects that can be achieved digitally, with a distinctive look that is strikingly different from celluloid but still effective in the creation of mood. The end result is a very good movie, but one almost no one would want to pay to sit through because of the bleakness of its themes. The film opens with an off-camera monologue as agent Ivan Beckman concludes that all life is shit, then establishes how his sudden death—from cancer, though everyone assumes it's a drugs overdose—shakes up the industry but is then almost forgotten. Sundry machinations around a greenlit project smooth over the hole made by Ivan's passing, with the mourners fighting at his funeral as his sister reads a eulogy. Then we flash back to the last weeks of Ivan's life, as he charmingly cadges a client by boosting a script he hasn't even read and pulls strings to put into production a project that has no real reason to exist.

Here, Rose seems to be in the familiar territory of *The Player*, but *ivansxtc* has even more obvious parallels with the US sitcom *Action*, a brilliantly written but swiftly cancelled Hollywood-insider series to which this film could almost be the sadistically downbeat concluding episode. *Action*, which followed a ruthless but comically neurotic producer getting an *Action* movie into production, was also oddly shot through with worries about cancer and other fatal illness—perhaps a side-effect of the thorough medical check-ups Hollywood players must undergo at the start of each film shoot for insurance purposes. The major difference with *ivansxtc* is that Rose is attempting portraiture rather than satire and refuses to make

his Hollywood power people wittier than they are monstrous.

Many of the gloomy faces on show are played by agents or producers rather than actors, and there is quite heroic self-exposure from Rose's then agent Adam Krentzman as Ivan's chilled successor and from the film's producer/co-writer Lisa Enos as Ivan's girlfriend Charlotte. Whereas Griffin Mill of *The Player* and Peter Dragon of *Action* survive their brushes with death and continue to wheel-and-deal unscathed, here Ivan, an agent rather a producer, is not magically excluded by wealth or power from his appointment in Samarra.

This is a rare drugs film that shows the fast-lane lifestyle as emptily unfulfilling but not especially harmful, except in the way that the party hierarchy confirms power relations between industries. Because he has the most clout, big star Don West can "direct" who takes what drug or performs which sex act at his penthouse party, emphasizing the film's analysis of "entertainment:" as something essentially joyless. As a Hollywood horror movie, this is even more gloomily nightmarish than *Muholland Dr.* , with the digital look; the carefully selected locations and sharp costuming reducing the visual palette to near-monochrome and excluding anything like warmth.

Danny Huston, best known as a director, is terrific in the lead role. Poised and charming and self-regarding, Ivan is a snakelike manipulator of the clinching deal, who would doubtless have orchestrated the chaos we see in the first reel if he had lived, but also a fragile, sensitive man on the edge. A film much easier to admire than like, without the busy charm of Mike Figgis' comparable *Timecode*, this is still a substantial and affecting piece of work.

10. Which of the following novels has been updated from 19<sup>th</sup>-century Russia to contemporary Los Angeles?

- A. *Anna Karenina*.                      B. *The Death of Ivan Ilyich*.                      C. *Action*.                      D. *The Player*.

11. Which of the following is **NOT** true according to the second paragraph of the text?

- A. The artistic effect of the film is simple and unadorned.  
B. The film setting was mostly synthesized by computer techniques.  
C. When the film begins we can see the agent Ivan Beckman in the picture while he is giving a monologue.  
D. The audiences don't like it very much due to the poorly-knit story.

12. In both *Action* and *The Player*, worries about cancer and other fatal illnesses are involved because

- A. the Hollywood players having to receive a careful medical check-up before they begin producing a new film leads to their subconscious worries about such diseases.  
B. this shows contemporary people's concern for their health problems.  
C. quite a few Hollywood players are suffering from such illnesses.  
D. this is a reflection of the worries of insurance companies.

13. Which of the following statements is true according to the passage?

- A. Bernard Rose has successfully brought universal attention to mortality.
- B. Bernard Rose has made a very good movie but not very popular.
- C. Bernard Rose has botched a version of Tolstoy's novella.
- D. Bernard Rose has applied digital approaches to achieve striking effects.

14. The commentator's attitude towards the film is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. generalizing
- B. eulogizing
- C. matter-of-fact
- D. satirical

#### Text D

Moreover, insofar as any interpretation of its author can be made from the five or six plays attributed to him, the Wakefield Master is uniformly considered to be a man of sharp contemporary observation. He was, formally, perhaps clerically educated, as his Latin and music, his Biblical and patristic lore indicate. He is, still, celebrated mainly for his quick sympathy for the oppressed and forgotten man, his sharp eye for character, a ready ear for colloquial vernacular turns of speech and a humor alternately rude and boisterous, coarse and happy. Hence despite his conscious artistry as manifest in his feeling for intricate metrical and stanza forms, he is looked upon as a kind of medieval Steinbeck, indignantly angry at, uncompromisingly and even brutally realistic in presenting the plight of the agricultural poor.

Thus taking the play and the author together, it is now fairly conventional to regard the former as a kind of intimate point in the secularization of the medieval drama. Hence much emphasis on it as depicting realistically humble manners and pastoral life in the bleak hills of the West Riding of Yorkshire on a typically cold night of December 24<sup>th</sup>. After what are often regarded as almost "documentaries" given in the three successive monologues of the three shepherds, critics go on to affirm that the realism is then testified into a burlesque mock-treatment of the Nativity. Finally as a sort of epilogue or after-thought in deference to the Biblical origins of the materials, the play slides back into an atavistic mood of early innocent reverence. Actually, as we shall see, the final scene is not only the culminating scene but perhaps the *raison d'être* of introductory "realism."

There is much on the surface of the present play to support the conventional view of its mood of secular realism. All the same, the "realism" of the Wakefield Master is of a paradoxical turn. His wide knowledge of people, as well as books indicates no cloistered contemplative but one in close relation to his times. Still, that life was after all a predominantly religious one, a time which never neglected the belief that man was a rebellious and sinful creature in need of redemption. So deeply (one can hardly say "natively" of so sophisticated a writer) and implicitly religious is the Master that he is less able (or less willing) to present actual history realistically than is the author of the Brome "Abraham and Isaac". His historical sense is even less realistic than that of Chaucer who just a few years before had done for his own time *costume romances*, such as *The Knight's Tale*, *Troilus and Cressida*, etc. Moreover Chaucer had the excuse of highly romantic materials for taking liberties with history.

15. Which of the following statements about the Wakefield Master is NOT true?

- A. He was Chaucer's contemporary.
- B. He is remembered as the author of five or six realistic plays.
- C. He was an accomplished artist.
- D. He wrote like John Steinbeck.

16. By "patristic", the author means \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. realistic
- B. patriotic
- C. superstitious
- D. pertaining to the Christian Fathers

17. The statement about the "secularization of the medieval drama" refers to the \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. introduction of mundane matters in religious plays
- B. presentation of erudite material
- C. use of contemporary materials
- D. introduction of religious themes in the early days

18. In subsequent paragraphs, we may expect the writer of this passage to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. justify his comparison with Steinbeck
- B. present a point of view which attacks the thought of the second paragraph
- C. point out the anachronisms in the play
- D. discuss the works of Chaucer

**B. Read the following passages and fulfill the required tasks. Write your choices on the ANSWER SHEET.**

**Text E**

**An earth-shaking discovery**

The discovery of sea floor spreading is earth-shaking, yet those responsible are forgotten, says Anna Grayson.

In 1963, a paper appeared in the journal *Nature* that radically changed the way we view this planet and its resources. Its authors, Fred Vine and Drummond Matthews, did for the Earth sciences what Crick and Watson did for biology and Einstein did for physics, and new areas of scientific development are still emerging as a result.

Yet both men are largely forgotten and unrecognized. What Vine and Matthews did was to provide proof that continents really do drift across the surface of the globe. This understanding profoundly affects the way we use the planet today—it directs the way we prospect for resources such as oil and minerals; it has enabled us to predict most volcanic eruptions and to understand patterns of earthquakes. Incredibly, perhaps, an understanding of the mobile dynamic nature of the Earth is helping an understanding of

long-term global climate changes. Despite the significance of their work, neither man received great honour or fame.

The idea of continental drift was first proposed in a serious way by the German meteorologist Alfred Wegener in 1915. People had noticed the neat jigsaw-like fit between South America and Africa, but Wegener found actual fossil evidence that the two continents were once joined. No one took him seriously; in fact he was ridiculed by most of the geological community. This was partly because, not being a geologist, he was perceived as an outsider. But the main reason for the hostility, according to Vine, was that Wegener was unable to come up with an explanation as to how whole continents could possibly move even an inch, let alone dance to the music of time around the globe.

In the 1920s, the Scottish geologist Arthur Holmes hypothesized that convection currents within the Earth 'could become sufficiently vigorous to drag the two halves of the original continent apart.' In the late 1950s, an American, Harry Hess, came up with the hypotheses that new sea floor is constantly being generated at the mid-ocean ridges by hot material rising in a convection current. But neither man could find evidence to prove it. It was no more than just a hunch that it had to be right, and a hunch is not enough for science.

Vine had been fascinated by the apparent fit of the continents since the age of 14, and as a graduate student at Cambridge was assigned a project analyzing one of the new magnetic surveys of the ocean floor. He found what he describes as 'parallel zebra stripes of normal and reversed magnetism' around the mid-ocean ridge. Most significantly, these stripes were symmetrical either side of the ridge crests. There had to be a reason for this. The young Vine and his supervisor Matthews proposed that the magnetic stripes were caused by new ocean floor being formed as molten rock rose at the mid-ocean ridges and spread each side of the ridge.

As the molten rock solidified, it became weakly magnetized parallel to the Earth's magnetic field. It was just becoming recognized in the early 1960s that the Earth's magnetic field flips ever so often, so magnetic north becomes a magnetic south pole and visa versa. These flips in magnetic field were being recorded in the new sea floor. It was like a giant tape recording of the ocean floor's history. As new sea floor was made, it pushed the continents either side further apart. In other words, they had discovered the mechanism driving drifting continents that was missing from Wegener's work. The science of the Earth was never the same again.

By the end of the 1960s, confirmation of global sea floor spreading led to plate tectonics—the view of the outside of the Earth comprising just a few rigid plates which are shunted about by growing sea floor. There was a realization that mountains are formed when two plates collide, and that most volcanoes and earthquakes occur on the edges of these plates. All this was accepted as fact by all but a few die-hard dinosaurs in the geological world.

It is now in the impact of shifting continents on the global environment that Vine feels the most exciting and significant research lies: 'The distribution of continents and the opening and closing of ocean gates between continents has had a profound effect on climates and has caused flips from Ice-house Earth to Green-house Earth.' The recognition that the Earth's hydrosphere, atmosphere and biosphere are all

intimately linked with the drifting continents and the goings-on deep within the Earth has spawned the term 'Earth Systems Science'. It is a great oak tree of science that has grown from the acorn of truth supplied by Vine and Matthews. The holistic approach of earth systems science is very much welcomed by Vine: 'I'm rather pleased that this has come together.' He feels that the future for understanding the planet lies in an integrated approach to the sciences, rather than the isolated stance the geologists took throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century: 'There was an incredible polarization of science and I was caught between the boundaries. It was anathema to me—the whole of environmental science should be integrated.'

**Task 1: Complete each sentence with the correct choice from A—F as follows:**

- A. matters that had not received much attention for some time.
- B. something which could not possibly be true.
- C. something misunderstood at first but later seen as a breakthrough.
- D. matters beyond simply the movement of continents.
- E. something arrived at by intuition that could not be demonstrated.
- F. something arrived at by intuition that could not be demonstrated.

**Write down the appropriate letters in the blanks of 19-21 on the ANSWER SHEET.**

Example	Answer
The work done by Vine and Matthews has had implications concerning _____.	D

- 19. Wegener attempted to provide an explanation of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 20. Wegner's conclusions were greeted as \_\_\_\_\_.
- 21. The theories presented by both Holmes and Hess concerned \_\_\_\_\_.

**Task 2:** Answer the questions below using **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** for each answer. Write your answers on the **ANSWER SHEET**.

- 22. What is the name of the theory concerning the structure of the Earth that developed from the demonstration of sea floor spreading?
- 23. According to Vine, what has the movement of continents had a big influence on?
- 24. What branch of science has emerged as a result of the work done by Vine and Matthews?
- 25. Which word does Vine use to describe the way in which he believes study of the Earth should be conducted?

VII. Read the following texts and fulfill the required tasks. (25/150)

Text F

## ASK LASKAS

### YOU'VE GOT QUESTIONS, SHE'S GOT ANSWERS

1.

Q: I had a wonderful childhood, and my parents have been married 40 years. But I'm terrified of tying the knot. I've been engaged three times and backed out. Even movie weddings make me ill. Now my boyfriend of six years has proposed. I want to run. What is wrong with me?

WEIRD WOMAN

A: Dear Weird,

You aren't. People say fear of commitment is a guy thing, but plenty of women suffer from it too. Ironically, happily married parents can be stumbling block because you imagine they set an impossibly high standard. If, for example, you see Daddy as the perfect husband, how can any man ever measure up? You need professional help to untangle this. Get it now. A life of breaking hearts and backing away is a life of loneliness.

2.

Q: I've been close to an elderly aunt for years; the rest of the family dislikes her. Recently, she gave me power of attorney and made me her sole heir. She's not even in the ground, but everyone is saying her money is "family money." I want to give them something to help their kids, but I think it's unfair that I am being made to feel greedy when they haven't lifted a finger to help her in decades.

HEIR IN ERROR?

A: Dear Heir,

Your aunt decided her money should go to you. When she dies, it will be your turn to decide what to do with your money. You're like the Little Red Hen: No one's around when the work needs to be done, but everyone shows up when the bread is ready. Do what you feel is right.

3.

Q: I've never been much at sports, but I joined the basketball team at school. The guys were supportive until a new kid came to school and joined. He's good, but he laughs at me and tells others I suck. How can I deal with him or the other guys?

NOT THE MVP

A: Dear MVP,

I assume you're shooting hoops because you enjoy the game and want to learn how to get better. Athletic ability is not as set as you might think: Michael Jordan didn't make it as a starter on his high school team at first. Go to practice, do your best, and get tough enough to slough off the nasty remarks of others. Learning this now will help you long into adulthood.



**Task A:**

The following are the sentences or phrases underlined in the texts. Paraphrase them in English. Write your answers on the **ANSWER SHEET**. (3 points each)

1. ... fear of commitment is a guy thing
2. professional help
3. She's not even in the ground, ...
4. family money
5. ... tells others I suck.
6. Athletic ability is not as set as you might think: ...

**Task B:**

Fulfill the following requirement and write your answer on the **ANSWER SHEET**. (7 points)

Write in your own words the worry and problem of the WEIRD WOMAN in passage 1.