

I. Vocabulary (30%)

1. A gallant soldier is the nation's asset.
(A) brave (B) dastardly (C) cowardly (D) boorish
2. Nuclear means a holocaust.
(A) conflagration (B) famine (C) deluge (D) epidemic
3. Grief can manacle the mind.
(A) relieve (B) exempt (C) restrain (D) allay
4. Rock hidden by sediment spoiled the bay for diving.
(A) topping (B) flock (C) deposit (D) float
5. Come what may, we are completely unruffled.
(A) upheaval (B) composed (C) perturbed (D) unnerved
6. The hog weltered happily in the muddy puddle.
(A) throbbed (B) wallowed (C) toppled (D) tottered
7. We found his ideas extremely abhorrent.
(A) superficial (B) dangerous (C) disgusting (D) illogical
8. Very few people will drone when they can live by honest labor.
(A) loaf (B) cheat (C) toil (D) droll
9. The merchant sent his ships wherever profit beckoned.
(A) signaled (B) anguished (C) abdicated (D) agitated
10. Many people still believe in decree of fate.
(A) debility (B) debacle (C) dearth (D) directive
11. We must use forbearance in dealing with the boy because he is still weak from his illness.
(A) rigidity (B) vindictiveness (C) patience (D) austerity
12. His father looks august.
(A) feeble (B) imposing (C) emaciated (D) weak
13. Time blunts the edge of sorrow.
(A) dulls (B) sharpens (C) poises (D) pokes
14. Events seemed to be conspiring to bring about his downfall.
(A) unifying (B) booming (C) constructing (D) plotting
15. Their family feud lives on.
(A) partnership (B) fervor (C) cooperation (D) quarrel

II. Cloze. (50%)

Choose the most appropriate words from the given word list to fill in the blanks from questions 16 to 30 and complete the passage with a letter.

Questions 16-22

Nothing is more symbolic of the Taiwanese people's identity (16) Taiwan's folk religion. Matsu (媽祖), the sea goddess, is a case in (17). As Taiwan's favorite goddess, Matsu has been lauded by many as a "national deity." (18) Matsu's birthday in the third lunar month, many believers participate in a three-day walking pilgrimage every year. The annual Matsu pilgrimage is so popular (19) it is promoted by the government as a source of local pride.

The worship of Matsu, (20), did not originate in Taiwan, but in Meizhou (湄洲), Fujian (福建). On January 24, 1997, the Meizhou Matsu, an 800-year-old wooden statue, arrived from the Chinese mainland and visited major temples islandwide over the ensuing 100 days. On July 16-20, 2000, (21) Taiwan pilgrims flew to Fujian to pay homage to the Meizhou Matsu. (22) Matsu is to be identified as a Chinese or as a Taiwanese deity is still under debate.

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|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 16. (A) that | (B) as | (C) from | (D) than |
| 17. (A) point | (B) contact | (C) charge | (D) command |
| 18. (A) when celebrate | (B) By celebrating | (C) For celebration | (D) To celebrate |
| 19. (A) as | (B) that | (C) which | (D) so that |
| 20. (A) therefore | (B) nevertheless | (C) regardless | (D) as a result |
| 21. (A) two thousand | (B) two thousands | (C) two thousands of | (D) twos thousands |
| 22. (A) what | (B) That | (C) So | (D) whether |

Questions 23-30

Water shortages are a chronic problem in Taiwan. Though rainfall around the island is relatively (23), it is (24) concentrated in certain areas and within certain months of the year to be put into effective use. To (25) with future water demands, the government has announced a plan to build eight seawater desalination plants, a welcome addition to two such plants already existing.

The method most likely to be adopted in these plants is reverse osmosis, one of (26) methods of turning seawater into fresh water. Osmosis refers to the tendency of water to pass through a semipermeable membrane into seawater where the saline concentration is higher, thus (27) the concentrations on either side of the membrane. Reverse osmosis makes water (28) in the opposite direction. If we put the seawater (29) pressure, the pure water molecules from the seawater will pass through the membrane, leaving the larger salt molecules (30).

23. (A) scarce (B) plentiful (C) primitive (D) original
 24. (A) enough (B) nothing but (C) too (D) far
 25. (A) come up (B) cope (C) end up (D) get away
 26. (A) the little expensive (B) the less expensive
 (C) the least expensive (D) the none expensive
 27. (A) to equalize (B) equal (C) being equal (D) equalizing
 28. (A) moving (B) to move (C) have moved (D) move
 29. (A) in (B) under (C) for (D) with
 30. (A) over (B) alone (C) behind (D) on

Questions 31-40

Choose the most appropriate words from the given word list to fill in the blanks and complete the passage with the words. Each word can be used only once.

aggressive ***detained*** ***disgruntled*** ***expired*** ***freelance***
publishing ***shakier*** ***substantial*** ***turned*** ***verifying***

History, it is said, is written by the winners.

But what happens when the losers have their own (31) system as well? Speaking truth to power has never been easier through the use of new media, publishing the foundations of traditional media (32) than ever.

After President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad dismissed protesters of the election results in Iran as (33) soccer fans and as “dust,” one demonstrator responded with this Twitter message: “Ahmadinejad called us Dust, we showed him a sandstorm.”

As the week wore on and reporters from organizations like The New York Times, the BBC and CNN were been forced to leave the country as their visas (34), the story was being left in the hands of Iranians brave enough to take cellphone pictures and videos, post updates on Twitter and blog about the protest movement. With the state in control of television and newspapers, Iranians (35) to Facebook and text messaging to learn about the protests. When those outlets were shut down as well, Twitter was all they had left.

But there is a downside to these nontraditional media, including the difficulty of (36) sources and the threat to personal safety. The risks—taken by independent journalists and citizens who do not have the support of a large organization that can wield influence in critical situations—are (37), Brian Stelter wrote in The Times.

Two Americans from the startup news channel Current TV learned that lesson the hard way when they were (38) by North Korean border guards in March and sentenced in early June to 12 years of hard labor.

“There’s an impetus with any upstart news organization that you have to be bolder and you have to be more (39) than other news organizations to get attention for your stories,” Kevin Sites, a (40) journalist who covered conflicts for Yahoo, told Mr. Stelter. “That also has a real inherent risk in it.”

III. Reading Comprehension. (10%)

The economic downturn is forcing a return to a culture of thrift that many economists say could last well beyond the inevitable recovery.

This is not because Americans have suddenly become more financially virtuous or have learned the error of their free-spending ways. Instead, these experts say, Americans may have no choice but to continue saving.

This shift back to thrift may seem to be a healthy change for a consumer class known for spending more than it earns, but there is a downside: American businesses have become so dependent on consumer spending that any pullback sends ripples through the economy.

Add the decline in consumer spending to the planned expiration of government stimulus spending, and a painful readjustment in demand for goods and services could occur, economists say. The effect would be felt in America and all over the world, as many developing economies also depend on America's big-spending ways.

Fearful of job losses and anxious over housing and stock declines, Americans are saving more of their paychecks than they were before the recession. In the last year, the savings rate—the percentage of after-tax income that people do not spend—has risen to above 4 percent, from virtually zero.

This happens in nearly every recession, and the effect is usually fleeting. Once the economy recovers, Americans revert to more spending and less saving. Over the last 30 years, the savings rate has fluctuated from over 14 percent in the 1970s to negative 2.7 percent in 2005, meaning Americans were spending more than they made.

This time is expected to be different, because the forces that enabled and even encouraged consumers to save less and spend more—easy credit and skyrocketing asset values—could be permanently altered by the financial crisis that spun the economy into recession.

“I expect that the savings rate will end up at the end of this recession higher than it was going into it,” said Jonathan A. Parker, a finance professor at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University in Illinois. “It’s hard to see how it wouldn’t.”

41. The best title for this passage is

- (A) The economy is recovering.
- (B) Buying Slows As Businesses Fret.
- (C) Saving Rate Will End Up Higher.
- (D) Businesses Fret As Buying Slows.

42. The antonym of thrift is

- (A) robbery.
- (B) stinginess.
- (C) saving.
- (D) charity.

43. Which of the following is not true?
- (A) The effect of recession is usually temporary.
 - (B) Even if the economy recovers, Americans will not resume their habitual way of spending
 - (C) Over the last three decades, the savings rate was between over 14 percent to negative 2.7 percent.
 - (D) Americans used to spend more than they made.
44. The recession happens
- (A) globally.
 - (B) locally.
 - (C) in the developing countries.
 - (D) in the developed countries.
45. To promote the downturn of economy, which of the following is not a good policy?
- (A) Government advises people to cut their expenditure.
 - (B) Government tries to boost spending.
 - (C) Urge the business sectors to keep their employees.
 - (D) To provide prudent loans to whoever needs one.

IV. English-Chinese and Chinese-English Translation: (10%)

1. By switching off at the main power button, or even unplugging it, you can cut down on energy costs. Items left on standby use up to eighty-five percent of the energy they would use if fully switched on. (5%)
2. 倘若不能一舉成功，你做過的努力也就無關緊要；這似乎是哈佛大學商學院一個團隊最近準備的一篇研討會論文的訊息。這項研究發現，論到用創投基金創業，成功是唯一算數的經驗。(5%)