

2023 年中考英语时事热点阅读专练

热点 117 了解夏天里的六个节气

一、阅读理解

1

In Chinese lunar calendar, there are 24 solar terms(节气) in a year. Start of Summer means the coming of the new season—summer. And it begins on May 5 and ends on May 20 this year. The temperature rises(上升) quickly during this time. Here are three things about how Chinese greet the Start of Summer.

Checking one's weight(体重)

The habit of weighing people on the day of Start of Summer is still popular in some places of China today. It's said that this practice will bring health and good luck to the people weighed.

Eating eggs

In the old days, Chinese people believed a round egg was a symbol of a happy life and eating eggs on the day of Start of Summer was a good wish for good health. People put tea into the boiling water together with eggs to make "tea eggs". Today they have become a local snack in many places of China.

Taking care of the heart

According to the traditional Chinese medicine, Start of Summer is a key time to protect the heart. When it grows hot, heat can affect health. So people prefer food such as fruit and vegetables.

1. Which solar term does the writer talk about?

- A. 春分 B. 立夏 C. 秋分 D. 冬至

2. Why do people check their weight on the day of Start of Summer?

- A. Because it can bring them health and good luck. B. Because it can make them know their weight.
C. Because it can make them rich D. Because they want a quiet life.

3. What food did Chinese people make on the day of Start of Summer in the old days?

- A. Long noodles. B. Round cakes C. Sweet dumplings D. Tea eggs.

4. Why do people eat fruit and vegetables at the Start of Summer?

- A. To protect the eyes. B. To protect the hair. C. To take care of the ears. D. To take care of the heart.

5. We can read the passage in a _____.

- A. guidebook B. Chinese medicine newspaper
C. music book D. sports newspaper



The traditional Chinese calendar divides the year into 24 solar terms. In China, the 24 solar terms were created thousands of years ago to guide agricultural (农业的) production. But solar term culture is still useful today to guide people's lives through cultural activities.

Great Heat, the 12th solar term of year, began this year on July 22 and ended on August 6. During Great Heat, most parts of China enter the hottest season of the year. Here is something you should know about Great Heat.

Great Heat is a season of harvesting (收割). During this time, the sunshine, high temperatures, and heavy rainfall are good for the plants. But many natural disasters also happen. So, it's important to harvest and plant in time.

Sending the Great Heat ship is a tradition in Taizhou. The ship is full of all kinds of meat. More than 50 fishermen take turns carrying the ship as they walk through the streets. The ship will finally be pulled out of the port and burned at sea. People believe that is a symbol of good harvests and health.

Great Heat is a season with most crickets (蟋蟀) in the countryside. Cricket fighting is a popular game for some people in China during this period. The custom dates back over 1,000 years ago.

People in different places enjoy different food. For example, in southern Shandong, people would like to drink mutton soup. Grass jelly is very popular in Guangdong because there is a saying "Eating grass jelly in Great Heat will make you stay young".

6. Ancient Chinese people created 24 solar terms to _____.

- A. keep a healthy life B. serve different food
C. help farming D. enjoy different food

7. Great Heat lasted for _____ days this year.

- A. 6 B. 16 C. 22 D. 20

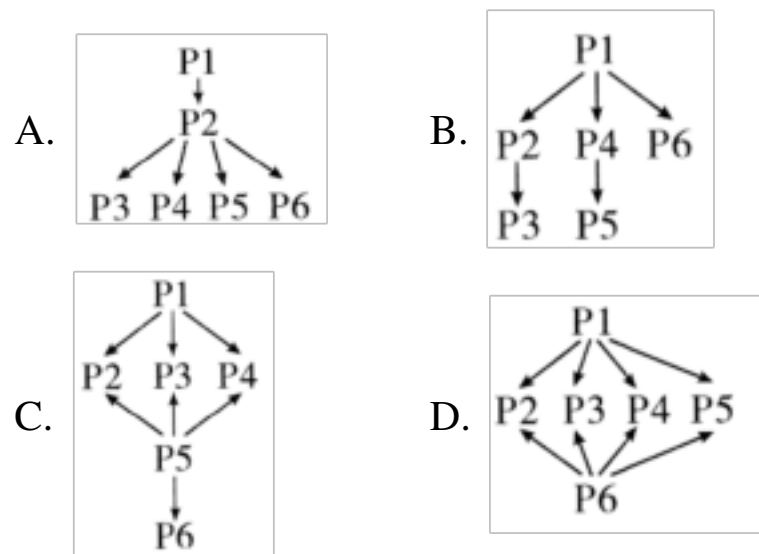
8. In Taizhou, people send the Great Heat ship _____.

- A. just for fun B. to get exercise
C. with good wishes D. to celebrate the harvest


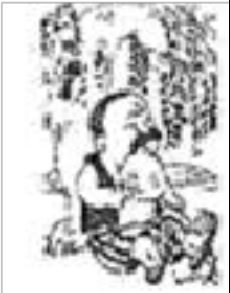

9. According to the passage, _____.

- A. Great Heat is an important time to harvest and plant
- B. cricket fighting games are getting popular in China now
- C. people in Guangdong enjoy mutton soup during Great Heat
- D. in China, people would like to drink mutton soup

10. Which of the following shows the structure of the passage? (P=Paragraph)



The traditional Chinese lunar calendar divides a year into 24 solar terms. In the ancient days, they were important instructions for the farming production as well as people's daily lives. Here are four solar terms and some details about them.

	<p>Spring Equinox</p> <p>It starts around March 21st. During this time, swallows fly back to the north. It is also a good time for people to fly kites and eat spring vegetables.</p>
	<p>Summer Solstice</p> <p>It begins around June 21st. To celebrate Summer Solstice, people often give colored fans to each other because fans can help them cool down.</p>
	<p>Autumn Equinox</p> <p>It starts around September 23rd. From Autumn Equinox, most of the areas in China will enter the cool autumn. It is a season for people to eat crabs and enjoy chrysanthemums(菊花)</p>



Winter Solstice

It begins around December 22nd. It marks the arrival of the coldest season in the year.

People usually make and eat dumplings with their family members.

11. Spring Equinox begins around_____.

- A. March 21st B. June 21st C. September 23rd D. December 22nd

12. To celebrate Summer Solstice, people_____.

- A. eat spring vegetables B. give each other colored fans
C. enjoy chrysanthemums D. make and eat dumplings

13. _____marks the arrival of the coldest season in the year.

- A. Spring Equinox B. Summer Solstice
C. Autumn Equinox D. Winter Solstice

4

Do you know “Grain in Ear”? In Chinese, it is called Mangzhong, the ninth solar term (节气) of the twenty-four solar terms, between the Grain Full (小满) and the Summer Solstice (夏至). It usually happens around June 5th and ends around June 21st.

Mangzhong is a pun (双关语) on the phrase “busy planting” in Chinese. It describes what a farmer’s life is like during this period. Farmers need to plant various crops, such as beans and sweet potatoes. They also need to harvest (收割) wheat and vegetables in time.

During this time, the Middle-Lower Yangtze River enters the rainy season. In southern China, this period is called plum rain season (梅雨季节). Plum rains often happened during June and July. Plums become ripe (熟的) during this time, so this long summer period of rainy or cloudy weather is called the plum rain season. Plum rains might be unpleasant, but plum wine has been popular among the Chinese for thousands of years. Plums are good for people’s health. However, fresh plums taste sour. Therefore, Chinese people usually make wines with them instead of eating them directly. They also use plums to make a sour plum drink and preserved plums (话梅).

The weather is getting hotter and hotter. Why not make some plum drinks to help yourself enjoy the summer?

14. When does “Grain in Ear” usually begin?

- A. July 5th. B. June 5th. C. June 21st.

15. Why is the period called plum rain season?

- A. Plums become ripe during this time. B. It often rains during this time.
C. Both A and B.

16. The underlined word “**unpleasant**” in Paragraph 3 means “_____” in English.

- A. unfriendly B. uncomfortable C. unfair

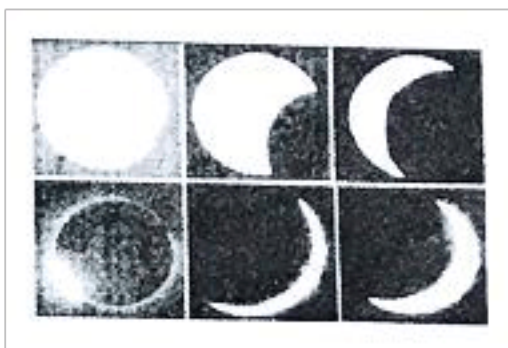
17. According to the passage, which of the following is TRUE?

- A. Grain in Ear is the ninth solar term of a year.
B. Chinese people usually eat the fresh plums directly.
C. Farmers need to plant beans, sweet potatoes and wheat during Mangzhong.

18. In which part of a magazine can we find this passage?

- A. History and Geography
B. Health and Sports
C. Science and Technology

5



Do you know what Summer Solstice (夏至) is? It is the 10th of the solar terms in China. On this day, much of the northern hemisphere (北半球) gets the most hours of daylight.

The Summer Solstice tells us the hot days of summer are coming. People have special activities during the time. People in the northern China like Shandong and Beijing have a tradition of eating cold noodles. And in the southern China, the Dragon Boat Races will be held in Shaoxing, Zhejiang on this day. Many people are excited about joining and watching the races.

Do you know this Summer Solstice in 2020? People saw another exciting view—the Solar Eclipse. It starts when the moon goes between the Earth and the sun. This year, it lasted about three and a half hours. It was first at sunrise in Africa and moved across to China before the sun goes down. In China, people in some places like Sichuan, Guizhou, Hunan, Jiangxi and Fujian could see it. Some people described it as “a ring of fire”. “The next Solar Eclipse will be on 1st June, 2030.” said the scientist.

19. The Summer Solstice _____.

A. looks like “a ring of fire”

B. gets sunlight around the world

C. isn't one of the solar terms in China

D. tells the hot days of summer start to come

20. What traditional activities may the Chinese do on the Summer Solstice?

A. Eat hot noodles.

B. Drink the mutton soup.

C. Watch the Solar Eclipse

D. Watch Dragon Boat Races.

21. We'll see the Solar Eclipse when _____.

A. the sun is between the Earth and the moon

B. the Earth is between the sun and the moon

C. the moon is between the sun and the Earth

D. the sun, the earth and the moon are in a line

22. The Africans saw the Solar Eclipse _____ but the Chinese saw it _____.

A. in the morning at night

B. at noon in the evening

C. in the morning in the afternoon

D. in the afternoon in the morning

23. Where does this passage probably come from?

A. A newspaper.

B. A story book.

C. A magazine.

D. A textbook.

二、短文填空

阅读短文，根据语篇要求填空，使短文通顺、意思完整。每空限填一词。

June 21st (or 22nd) is the summer solstice(夏至) for the northern hemisphere(北半球). The day has the longest daytime(最长的白天) of the year. It is 24 special day for many people. In the old days, many people liked 25 do some fun things on that day. People also thought it 26 a time for love and growth. Now many places around the world have parties on that day. People sing 27 dance to celebrate. The great English writer, William Shakespeare, said that dreams on that night would come true later. So have great dreams on the summer solstice! If you live 28 the northern hemisphere, enjoy the day with the sun.

三、阅读理解七选五

Six Solar Terms in Summer

Lixia

Lixia is the first solar term in summer, signifying the beginning of the hot summer. _____1_____ People usually consider Lixia as an important solar term. When it comes, the temperature rises obviously, and summer heat arrives, there is a remarkable increase in thunderstorms, and crops enter their peak season for growth.

Xiaoman and Mangzhong

During Xiaoman, summer harvest crops such as wheat already bear fruits, and their seeds are full though they are not ripe yet. Thus, the solar term is named Xiaoman. The solar term Xiaoman is in late May. Summer begins to reach all parts of the country. Rainfall begins to increase further. Mangzhong means, "wheat with awn (芒) should be harvested soon, and rice seeds with awn can be sown". _____2_____

Xiazhi

On the day of Xiazhi, the daytime in the Northern Hemisphere (半球) reaches its maximum length. _____3_____ At Xiazhi, though there is direct sunlight, it is not the hottest time in a year.

Xiaoshu and Dashu

_____4_____ Xiaoshu is minor heat, which means it's not very hot. The weather is getting increasingly hot, but not the hottest moment yet. The crops in the entire country begin to grow rapidly, and this situation requires more intensive field management. Dashu is extreme heat. Compared to Xiaoshu, it's much hotter. _____5_____ And it also marks the period with the fastest growth for crops which enjoy heat.

- A. The character *shu* means heat.
- B. It predicts the busy farming activities of farmers.
- C. The temperatures rise and summer drought begins.
- D. The more northern a place is, the longer its daytime is.
- E. People need to prepare for heat prevention and cooling.
- F. It means the end of spring, and the beginning of summer.
- G. It marks the hottest period with the highest temperatures in a year.

四、书面表达

假设你是 Li Shan, 读了 Stephen Williams 的博客 (blog) 后, 想在他的评论栏 (Comments) 分享自己的童年趣事。请根据以下写作要点, 用英文写一篇短文。

【写作要点】

事件	过“立夏”（Start of Summer）——中国二十四节气（solar term）之一
时间	六岁
地点	在乡下祖父母家
体 验 [来源: 学	人人吃茶叶蛋，希望生活幸福
	奶奶把鸡蛋装在袋子里，挂在的哦胸（chest）前，以防止夏季疾病
	玩撞鸡蛋的游戏，谁的鸡蛋不破，谁就赢
感受	有趣、难忘
	……（请陈述 1-2 点）

【写作要求】

- 1.词数 90 左右；
- 2.短文的开头和结尾已给出，不计入总词数；
- 3.文中需包括所有写作要点，但不要逐字翻译，可适当加入过渡语句，使短文通顺、连贯；
- 4.不能照抄原文，文中不能出现考生真实姓名和学校名称。

【评分标准】

语言规范，信息内容完整，篇章结构连贯。

I still remember my experience of Start of Summer, one of the 24 Chinese solar terms.

……

I wish you all will come and experience the Chinese solar terms!

Li Shan, China

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The habit of weighing people on the day of Start of Summer is still popular in some places of China today. It's said that this practice will bring health and good luck to the people weighed.

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In the old days, Chinese people believed a round egg was a symbol of a happy life and eating eggs on the day of Start of Summer was a good wish for good health. People put tea into the boiling water together with eggs to make "tea eggs". Today they have become a local snack in many places of China.

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According to the traditional Chinese medicine, Start of Summer is a key time to protect the heart. When it grows hot, heat can affect health. So people prefer food such as fruit and vegetables.

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【答案与解析】文章介绍了中国农历当中的二十四节气之一——立夏，并介绍了中国人在立夏时节的一些养生习俗。

1. 细节理解题。根据“Start of Summer means the coming of a new season—summer.”和“Here are three things about how Chinese greet the Start of Summer.”可知，本文讲的是二十四节气中的立夏。故选 B。

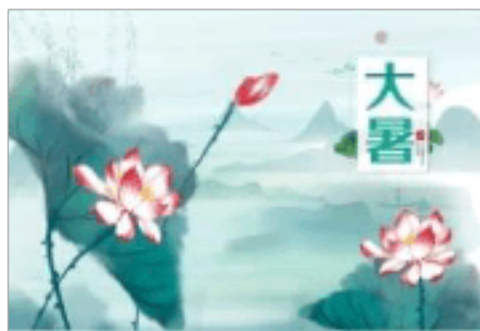
2. 细节理解题。根据“It’s said that this practice will bring health and good luck to the people weighed.”可知，这样的做法会给称重的人带来健康和好运，故选 A。

3. 细节理解题。根据“In the old days, Chinese people believed a round egg was a symbol of a happy life and eating eggs on the day of Start of Summer was a good wish for good health. People put tea into the boiling water together with eggs to make ‘tea eggs’.”可知以前中国人在立夏这一天会做茶叶蛋。故选 D。

4. 细节理解题。根据“According to the traditional Chinese medicine, Start of Summer is a key time to protect the heart. When it grows hot, heat can affect health. So people prefer food such as fruit and vegetables.”可知，立夏吃水果和蔬菜是为了保护心脏。故选 D。

5. 推理判断题。本文主要介绍了二十四节气中的立夏，并介绍了中国人在立夏时节的一些养生习俗。所以最可能在医学报纸上看到。故选 B。

2



The traditional Chinese calendar divides the year into 24 solar terms. In China, the 24 solar terms were created thousands of years ago to guide agricultural (农业的) production. But solar term culture is still useful today to guide people’s lives through cultural activities.

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