
五年（2019-2023）年高考英语真题分项汇编

专题 12 阅读理解说明文（原卷版）

【2023 年高考真题题组】

【2023 新高考 I 卷】

The goal of this book is to make the case for digital minimalism, including a detailed exploration of what it asks and why it works, and then to teach you how to adopt this philosophy if you decide it's right for you.

To do so, I divided the book into two parts. In part one, I describe the philosophical foundations of digital minimalism, starting with an examination of the forces that are making so many people's digital lives increasingly intolerable, before moving on to a detailed discussion of the digital minimalism philosophy.

Part one concludes by introducing my suggested method for adopting this philosophy: the digital declutter. This process requires you to step away from optional online activities for thirty days. At the end of the thirty days, you will then add back a small number of carefully chosen online activities that you believe will provide massive benefits to the things you value.

In the final chapter of part one, I'll guide you through carrying out your own digital declutter. In doing so, I'll draw on an experiment I ran in 2018 in which over 1,600 people agreed to perform a digital declutter. You'll hear these participants' stories and learn what strategies worked well for them, and what traps they encountered that you should avoid.

The second part of this book takes a closer look at some ideas that will help you cultivate (培养) a sustainable digital minimalism lifestyle. In these chapters, I examine issues such as the importance of solitude (独处) and the necessity of cultivating high-quality leisure to replace the time most now spend on mindless device use. Each chapter concludes with a collection of practices, which are designed to help you act on the big ideas of the chapter. You can view these practices as a toolbox meant to aid your efforts to build a minimalist lifestyle that works for your particular circumstances.

8. What is the book aimed at?

- A. Teaching critical thinking skills. B. Advocating a simple digital lifestyle.
C. Solving philosophical problems. D. Promoting the use of a digital device.

9. What does the underlined word "declutter" in paragraph 3 mean?

- A. Clear-up. B. Add-on. C. Check-in. D. Take-over.

10. What is presented in the final chapter of part one?

- A. Theoretical models. B. Statistical methods.
C. Practical examples. D. Historical analyses.

11. What does the author suggest readers do with the practices offered in part two?

- A. Use them as needed. B. Recommend them to friends.
C. Evaluate their effects. D. Identify the ideas behind them.

【2023·新高考 I 卷】

On March 7, 1907, the English statistician Francis Galton published a paper which illustrated what has come to be known as the “wisdom of crowds” effect. The experiment of estimation he conducted showed that in some cases, the average of a large number of independent estimates could be quite accurate.

This effect capitalizes on the fact that when people make errors, those errors aren’t always the same. Some people will tend to overestimate, and some to underestimate. When enough of these errors are averaged together, they cancel each other out, resulting in a more accurate estimate. If people are similar and tend to make the same errors, then their errors won’t cancel each other out. In more technical terms, the wisdom of crowds requires that people’s estimates be independent. If for whatever reasons, people’s errors become correlated or dependent, the accuracy of the estimate will go down.

But a new study led by Joaquin Navajas offered an interesting twist (转折) on this classic phenomenon. The key finding of the study was that when crowds were further divided into smaller groups that were allowed to have a discussion, the averages from these groups were more accurate than those from an equal number of independent individuals. For instance, the average obtained from the estimates of four discussion groups of five was significantly more accurate than the average obtained from 20 independent individuals.

In a follow-up study with 100 university students, the researchers tried to get a better sense of what the group members actually did in their discussion. Did they tend to go with those most confident about their estimates? Did they follow those least willing to change their minds? This happened some of the time, but it wasn’t the dominant response. Most frequently, the groups reported that they “shared arguments and reasoned together.” Somehow, these arguments and reasoning resulted in a global reduction in error. Although the studies led by Navajas have limitations and many questions remain the potential implications for group discussion and decision-making are enormous.

12. What is paragraph 2 of the text mainly about?

- A. The methods of estimation.
- B. The underlying logic of the effect.
- C. The causes of people’s errors.
- D. The design of Galton’s experiment.

13. Navajas’ study found that the average accuracy could increase even if _____.

- A. the crowds were relatively small
- B. there were occasional underestimates
- C. individuals did not communicate
- D. estimates were not fully independent

14. What did the follow-up study focus on?

- A. The size of the groups.
- B. The dominant members.
- C. The discussion process.
- D. The individual estimates.

15. What is the author’s attitude toward Navajas’ studies?

- A. Unclear.
- B. Dismissive.
- C. Doubtful.
- D. Approving.

【2023·新高考 II 卷】

Reading Art: Art for Book Lovers is a celebration of an everyday object — the book, represented here in almost three hundred artworks from museums around the world. The image of the reader appears throughout history, in art made long before books as we now know them came into being. In artists' representations of books and reading, we see moments of shared humanity that go beyond culture and time.

In this “book of books,” artworks are selected and arranged in a way that emphasizes these connections between different eras and cultures. We see scenes of children learning to read at home or at school, with the book as a focus for relations between the generations. Adults are portrayed (描绘) alone in many settings and poses — absorbed in a volume, deep in thought or lost in a moment of leisure. These scenes may have been painted hundreds of years ago, but they record moments we can all relate to.

Books themselves may be used symbolically in paintings to demonstrate the intellect (才智), wealth or faith of the subject. Before the wide use of the printing press, books were treasured objects and could be works of art in their own right. More recently, as books have become inexpensive or even throwaway, artists have used them as the raw material for artworks — transforming covers, pages or even complete volumes into paintings and sculptures.

Continued developments in communication technologies were once believed to make the printed page outdated. From a 21st-century point of view, the printed book is certainly ancient, but it remains as interactive as any battery-powered e-reader. To serve its function, a book must be activated by a user: the cover opened, the pages parted, the contents reviewed, perhaps notes written down or words underlined. And in contrast to our increasingly networked lives where the information we consume is monitored and tracked, a printed book still offers the chance of a wholly private, “off-line” activity.

8. Where is the text most probably taken from?

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A. An introduction to a book. | B. An essay on the art of writing. |
| C. A guidebook to a museum. | D. A review of modern paintings. |

9. What are the selected artworks about?

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| A. Wealth and intellect. | B. Home and school. |
| C. Books and reading. | D. Work and leisure. |

10. What do the underlined words “relate to” in paragraph 2 mean?

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| A. Understand. | B. Paint. |
| C. Seize. | D. Transform. |

11. What does the author want to say by mentioning the e-reader?

- A. The printed book is not totally out of date.
- B. Technology has changed the way we read.
- C. Our lives in the 21st century are networked.
- D. People now rarely have the patience to read.

As cities balloon with growth, access to nature for people living in urban areas is becoming harder to find. If you're lucky, there might be a pocket park near where you live, but it's unusual to find places in a city that are relatively wild.

Past research has found health and wellness benefits of nature for humans, but a new study shows that wildness in urban areas is extremely important for human well-being.

The research team focused on a large urban park. They surveyed several hundred park-goers, asking them to submit a written summary online of a meaningful interaction they had with nature in the park. The researchers then examined these submissions, coding (编码) experiences into different categories. For example, one participant's experience of "*We sat and listened to the waves at the beach for a while*" was assigned the categories "sitting at beach" and "listening to waves."

Across the 320 submissions, a pattern of categories the researchers call a "nature language" began to emerge. After the coding of all submissions, half a dozen categories were noted most often as important to visitors. These include encountering wildlife, walking along the edge of water, and following an established trail.

Naming each nature experience creates a usable language, which helps people recognize and take part in the activities that are most satisfying and meaningful to them. For example, the experience of walking along the edge of water might be satisfying for a young professional on a weekend hike in the park. Back downtown during a workday, they can enjoy a more domestic form of this interaction by walking along a fountain on their lunch break.

"We're trying to generate a language that helps bring the human-nature interactions back into our daily lives. And for that to happen, we also need to protect nature so that we can interact with it," said Peter Kahn, a senior author of the study.

12. What phenomenon does the author describe at the beginning of the text?

- A. Pocket parks are now popular.
- B. Wild nature is hard to find in cities.
- C. Many cities are overpopulated.
- D. People enjoy living close to nature.

13. Why did the researchers code participant submissions into categories?

- A. To compare different types of park-goers.
- B. To explain why the park attracts tourists.
- C. To analyze the main features of the park.
- D. To find patterns in the visitors' summaries.

14. What can we learn from the example given in paragraph 5?

- A. Walking is the best way to gain access to nature.
- B. Young people are too busy to interact with nature.
- C. The same nature experience takes different forms.
- D. The nature language enhances work performance.

15. What should be done before we can interact with nature according to Kahn?

- A. Language study.
- B. Environmental conservation.

- C. Public education.
- D. Intercultural communication.

【2023·全国甲卷】

I was about 13 when an uncle gave me a copy of Jostein Gaarder's *Sophie's World*. It was full of ideas that were new to me, so I spent the summer with my head in and out of that book. It spoke to me and brought me into a world of philosophy (哲学).

That love for philosophy lasted until I got to college. Nothing kills the love for philosophy faster than people who think they understand Foucault, Baudrillard, or Confucius better than you — and then try to explain them.

Eric Weiner's *The Socrates Express: In Search of Life Lessons from Dead Philosophers* reawakened my love for philosophy. It is not an explanation, but an invitation to think and experience philosophy.

Weiner starts each chapter with a scene on a train ride between cities and then frames each philosopher's work in the context (背景) of one thing they can help us do better. The end result is a read in which we learn to wonder like Socrates, see like Thoreau, listen like Schopenhauer, and have no regrets like Nietzsche. This, more than a book about understanding philosophy, is a book about learning to use philosophy to improve a life.

He makes philosophical thought an appealing exercise that improves the quality of our experiences, and he does so with plenty of humor. Weiner enters into conversation with some of the most important philosophers in history, and he becomes part of that crowd in the process by decoding (解读) their messages and adding his own interpretation.

The Socrates Express is a fun, sharp book that draws readers in with its apparent simplicity and gradually pulls them in deeper thoughts on desire, loneliness, and aging. The invitation is clear: Weiner wants you to pick up a coffee or tea and sit down with this book. I encourage you to take his offer. It's worth your time, even if time is something we don't have a lot of.

28. Who opened the door to philosophy for the author?

- A. Foucault.
- B. Eric Weiner.
- C. Jostein Gaarder.
- D. A college teacher.

29. Why does the author list great philosophers in paragraph 4?

- A. To compare Weiner with them.
- B. To give examples of great works.
- C. To praise their writing skills.
- D. To help readers understand Weiners book.

30. What does the author like about *The Socrates Express*?

- A. Its views on history are well-presented.
- B. Its ideas can be applied to daily life.
- C. It includes comments from readers.
- D. It leaves an open ending.

31. What does the author think of Weiners book?

- A. Objective and plain.

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- B. Daring and ambitious.
 - C. Serious and hard to follow.
 - D. Humorous and straightforward.

【2023▪全国甲卷】

Grizzly bears, which may grow to about 2.5 m long and weigh over 400 kg, occupy a conflicted corner of the American psyche—we revere (敬畏) them even as they give us frightening dreams. Ask the tourists from around the world that flood into Yellowstone National Park what they most hope to see, and their answer is often the same: a grizzly bear.

“Grizzly bears are re-occupying large areas of their former range,” says bear biologist Chris Servheen. As grizzly bears expand their range into places where they haven’t been seen in a century or more, they’re increasingly being sighted by humans.

The western half of the U.S. was full of grizzlies when Europeans came, with a rough number of 50,000 or more living alongside Native Americans. By the early 1970s, after centuries of cruel and continuous hunting by settlers, 600 to 800 grizzlies remained on a mere 2 percent of their former range in the Northern Rockies. In 1975, grizzlies were listed under the Endangered Species Act.

Today, there are about 2,000 or more grizzly bears in the U.S. Their recovery has been so successful that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has twice attempted to delist grizzlies, which would loosen legal protections and allow them to be hunted. Both efforts were overturned due to lawsuits from conservation groups. For now, grizzlies remain listed.

Obviously, if precautions (预防) aren’t taken, grizzlies can become troublesome, sometimes killing farm animals or walking through yards in search of food. If people remove food and attractants from their yards and campsites, grizzlies will typically pass by without trouble. Putting electric fencing around chicken houses and other farm animal quarters is also highly effective at getting grizzlies away. “Our hope is to have a clean, attractant-free place where bears can pass through without learning bad habits,” says James Jonkel, longtime biologist who manages bears in and around Missoula.

32. How do Americans look at grizzlies?

- A. They cause mixed feelings in people.
- B. They should be kept in national parks.
- C. They are of high scientific value.
- D. They are a symbol of American culture.

33. What has helped the increase of the grizzly population?

- A. The European settlers’ behavior.
- B. The expansion of bears’ range.
- C. The protection by law since 1975.
- D. The support of Native Americans.

34. What has stopped the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service from delisting grizzlies?

- A. The opposition of conservation groups.

【2023·浙江 1 月卷】

According to the Solar Energy Industry Association, the number of solar panels installed(安装)has grown rapidly in the past decade, and it has to grow even faster to meet climate goals. But all of that growth will take up a lot of space, and though more and more people accept the concept of solar energy, few like large solar panels to be installed near them.

Solar developers want to put up panels as quickly and cheaply as possible, so they haven't given much thought to what they put under them. Often, they'll end up filling the area with small stones and using chemicals to control weeds. The result is that many communities, especially in farming regions, see solar farms as destroyers of the soil.

“Solar projects need to be good neighbors,” says Jordan Macknick, the head of the Innovative Site Preparation and Impact Reductions on the Environment(InSPIRE)project. “They need to be protectors of the land and contribute to the agricultural economy.” InSPIRE is investigating practical approaches to “low-impact” solar development, which focuses on establishing and operating solar farms in a way that is kinder to the land. One of the easiest low-impact solar strategies is providing habitat for pollinators(传粉昆虫).

Habitat loss, pesticide use, and climate change have caused dramatic declines in pollinator populations over the past couple of decades, which has damaged the U.S. agricultural economy. Over 28 states have passed laws related to pollinator habitat protection and pesticide use. Conservation organizations put out pollinator-friendliness guidelines for home gardens, businesses, schools, cities—and now there are guidelines for solar farms.

Over the past few years, many solar farm developers have transformed the space under their solar panels into a shelter for various kinds of pollinators, resulting in soil improvement and carbon reduction. “These pollinator-friendly solar farms can have a valuable impact on everything that’s going on in the landscape,” says Macknick.

32. What do solar developers often ignore?

- A. The decline in the demand for solar energy.
- B. The negative impact of installing solar panels.
- C. The rising labor cost of building solar farms.
- D. The most recent advances in solar technology.

33. What does InSPIRE aim to do?

- A. Improve the productivity of local farms.
- B. Invent new methods for controlling weeds.
- C. Make solar projects environmentally friendly.
- D. Promote the use of solar energy in rural areas.

34. What is the purpose of the laws mentioned in paragraph 4?

- A. To conserve pollinators.
- B. To restrict solar development.
- C. To diversify the economy.
- D. To ensure the supply of energy.

35. Which of the following is the best title for the text?

- A. Pollinators: To Leave or to Stay
- B. Solar Energy: Hope for the Future
- C. InSPIRE: A Leader in Agriculture
- D. Solar Farms: A New Development

【2022年高考真题题组】

【2022•新高考 I 卷】

The elderly residents (居民) in care homes in London are being given hens to look after to stop them feeling lonely.

The project was dreamed up by a local charity (慈善组织) to reduce loneliness and improve elderly people's wellbeing. It is also being used to help patients suffering dementia, a serious illness of the mind. Staff in care homes have reported a reduction in the use of medicine where hens are in use.

Among those taking part in the project is 80-year-old Ruth Xavier. She said: "I used to keep hens when I was younger and had to prepare their breakfast each morning before I went to school."

"I like the project a lot. I am down there in my wheelchair in the morning letting the hens out and down there again at night to see they've gone to bed."

"It's good to have a different focus. People have been bringing their children in to see the hens and residents come and sit outside to watch them. I'm enjoying the creative activities, and it feels great to have done something useful."

There are now 700 elderly people looking after hens in 20 care homes in the North East, and the charity has been given financial support to roll it out countrywide.

Wendy Wilson, extra care manager at 60 Penfold Street, one of the first to embark on the project, said: "Residents really welcome the idea of the project and the creative sessions. We are looking forward to the benefits and fun the project can bring to people here."

Lynn Lewis, director of Notting Hill Pathways, said: "We are happy to be taking part in the project. It will really help connect our residents through a shared interest and creative activities."

28. What is the purpose of the project?

- A. To ensure harmony in care homes.
- B. To provide part-time jobs for the aged.
- C. To raise money for medical research.
- D. To promote the elderly people's welfare.

29. How has the project affected Ruth Xavier?

- A. She has learned new life skills.
- B. She has gained a sense of achievement.
- C. She has recovered her memory.
- D. She has developed a strong personality.

30. What do the underlined words "embark on" mean in paragraph 7?

- A. Improve.
- B. Oppose.
- C. Begin.
- D. Evaluate.

31. What can we learn about the project from the last two paragraphs?

- A. It is well received.
- B. It needs to be more creative.
- C. It is highly profitable.
- D. It takes ages to see the results.

【2022·新高考 I 卷】

Human speech contains more than 2,000 different sounds, from the common “m” and “a” to the rare clicks of some southern African languages. But why are certain sounds more common than others? A ground-breaking, five-year study shows that diet-related changes in human bite led to new speech sounds that are now found in half the world’s languages.

More than 30 years ago, the scholar Charles Hockett noted that speech sounds called labiodentals, such as “f” and “v”, were more common in the languages of societies that ate softer foods. Now a team of researchers led by Damián Blasi at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, has found how and why this trend arose.

They discovered that the upper and lower front teeth of ancient human adults were aligned (对齐), making it hard to produce labiodentals, which are formed by touching the lower lip to the upper teeth. Later, our jaws changed to an overbite structure (结构), making it easier to produce such sounds.

The team showed that this change in bite was connected with the development of agriculture in the Neolithic period. Food became easier to chew at this point. The jawbone didn’t have to do as much work and so didn’t grow to be so large.

Analyses of a language database also confirmed that there was a global change in the sound of world languages after the Neolithic age, with the use of “f” and “v” increasing remarkably during the last few thousand years. These sounds are still not found in the languages of many hunter-gatherer people today.

This research overturns the popular view that all human speech sounds were present when human beings evolved around 300,000 years ago. “The set of speech sounds we use has not necessarily remained stable since the appearance of human beings, but rather the huge variety of speech sounds that we find today is the product of a complex interplay of things like biological change and cultural evolution,” said Steven Moran, a member of the research team.

32. Which aspect of the human speech sound does Damián Blasi’s research focus on?

- A. Its variety. B. Its distribution. C. Its quantity. D. Its development.

33. Why was it difficult for ancient human adults to produce labiodentals?

- A. They had fewer upper teeth than lower teeth.
B. They could not open and close their lips easily.
C. Their jaws were not conveniently structured.
D. Their lower front teeth were not large enough.

34. What is paragraph 5 mainly about?

- A. Supporting evidence for the research results.
B. Potential application of the research findings.
C. A further explanation of the research methods.
D. A reasonable doubt about the research process.

35. What does Steven Moran say about the set of human speech sounds?

- A. It is key to effective communication.
B. It contributes much to cultural diversity.
C. It is a complex and dynamic system.

D. It drives the evolution of human beings.

【2022·新高考 II 卷】

Over the last seven years, most states have banned texting by drivers, and public service campaigns have tried a wide range of methods to persuade people to put down their phones when they are behind the wheel.

Yet the problem, by just about any measure, appears to be getting worse. Americans are still texting while driving, as well as using social networks and taking photos. Road accidents, which had fallen for years, are now rising sharply.

That is partly because people are driving more, but Mark Rosekind, the chief of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, said distracted (分心) driving was "only increasing, unfortunately."

"Big change requires big ideas." he said in a speech last month, referring broadly to the need to improve road safety. So to try to change a distinctly modern behavior, lawmakers and public health experts are reaching back to an old approach: They want to treat distracted driving like drunk driving.

An idea from lawmakers in New York is to give police officers a new device called the Textalyzer. It would work like this: An officer arriving at the scene of a crash could ask for the phones of the drivers and use the Textalyzer to check in the operating system for recent activity. The technology could determine whether a driver had just texted, emailed or done anything else that is not allowed under New York's hands-free driving laws.

"We need something on the books that can change people's behavior," said Félix W. Ortiz, who pushed for the state's 2001 ban on hand-held devices by drivers. If the Textalyzer bill becomes law, he said, "people are going to be more afraid to put their hands on the cell phone."

28. Which of the following best describes the ban on drivers' texting in the US?

- A. Ineffective.
- B. Unnecessary.
- C. Inconsistent.
- D. Unfair.

29. What can the Textalyzer help a police officer find out?

- A. Where a driver came from.
- B. Whether a driver used their phone.
- C. How fast a driver was going.
- D. When a driver arrived at the scene.

30. What does the underlined word "something" in the last paragraph refer to?

- A. Advice.
- B. Data.
- C. Tests.
- D. Laws.

31. What is a suitable title for the text?

- A. To Drive or Not to Drive? Think Before You Start
- B. Texting and Driving? Watch Out for the Textalyzer
- C. New York Banning Hand-Held Devices by Drivers.
- D. The Next Generation Cell Phone: The Textalyzer.

【2022·新高考 II 卷】

As we age, even if we're healthy, the heart just isn't as efficient in processing oxygen as it used to be. In most people the first signs show up in their 50s or early 60s. And among people who don't exercise, the changes can start even sooner.

"Think of a rubber band. In the beginning, it is flexible, but put it in a drawer for 20 years and it will become dry and easily broken," says Dr. Ben Levine, a heart specialist at the University of Texas. That's what happens to

the heart. Fortunately for those in midlife, Levine is finding that even if you haven't been an enthusiastic exerciser, getting in shape now may help improve your aging heart.

Levine and his research team selected volunteers aged between 45 and 64 who did not exercise much but were otherwise healthy. Participants were randomly divided into two groups. The first group participated in a program of nonaerobic (无氧) exercise—balance training and weight training—three times a week. The second group did high-intensity aerobic exercise under the guidance of a trainer for four or more days a week. After two years, the second group saw remarkable improvements in heart health.

“We took these 50-year-old hearts and turned the clock back to 30-or 35-year-old hearts,” says Levine. “And the reason they got so much stronger and fitter was that their hearts could now fill a lot better and pump (泵送) a lot more blood during exercise.” But the hearts of those who participated in less intense exercise didn't change, he says.

“The sweet spot in life to start exercising, if you haven't already, is in late middle age when the heart still has flexibility,” Levine says. “We put healthy 70-year-olds through a yearlong exercise training program, and nothing happened to them at all.”

Dr. Nieca Goldberg, a spokeswoman for the American Heart Association, says Levine's findings are a great start. But the study was small and needs to be repeated with far larger groups of people to determine exactly which aspects of an exercise routine make the biggest difference.

32. What does Levine want to explain by mentioning the rubber band?

- A. The right way of exercising.
- B. The causes of a heart attack.
- C. The difficulty of keeping fit.
- D. The aging process of the heart.

33. In which aspect were the two groups different in terms of research design?

- A. Diet plan.
- B. Professional background.
- C. Exercise type.
- D. Previous physical condition.

34. What does Levine's research find?

- A. Middle-aged hearts get younger with aerobic exercise.
- B. High-intensity exercise is more suitable for the young.
- C. It is never too late for people to start taking exercise.
- D. The more exercise we do, the stronger our hearts get.

35. What does Dr. Nieca Goldberg suggest?

- A. Making use of the findings.
- B. Interviewing the study participants.
- C. Conducting further research.
- D. Clarifying the purpose of the study.

【2022·全国甲卷】

Goffin's cockatoos, a kind of small parrot native to Australasia, have been shown to have similar shape-recognition abilities to a human two-year-old. Though not known to use tools in the wild, the birds have proved skilful at tool use while kept in the cage. In a recent experiment, cockatoos were presented with a box with a nut inside it. The clear front of the box had a “keyhole” in a geometric shape, and the birds were given five differently shaped “keys” to choose from. Inserting the correct “key” would let out the nut.

In humans, babies can put a round shape in a round hole from around one year of age, but it will be another

home to Ginni.

28. Which of the following best explains “take the plunge” underlined in paragraph 2?

- A. Try challenging things.
- B. Take a degree.
- C. Bring back lost memories.
- D. Stick to a promise.

29. What made Ginni decide on the trip to Antarctica?

- A. Lovely penguins.
- B. Beautiful scenery.
- C. A discount fare.
- D. A friend’s invitation.

30. What does Ginni think about Antarctica after the journey?

- A. It could be a home for her.
- B. It should be easily accessible.
- C. It should be well preserved.
- D. It needs to be fully introduced.

31. What is the text mainly about?

- A. A childhood dream.
- B. An unforgettable experience.
- C. Sailing around the world.
- D. Meeting animals in Antarctica.

【2022•全国乙卷】

Can a small group of drones(无人机)guarantee the safety and reliability of railways and, at the same time, help railway operators save billions of euros each year? That is the very likely future of applying today’s “eyes in the sky” technology to making sure that the millions of kilometres of rail tracks and infrastructure(基础设施)worldwide are safe for trains on a 24/7 basis.

Drones are already being used to examine high-tension electrical lines. They could do precisely the same thing to inspect railway lines and other vital aspects of rail infrastructure such as the correct position of railway tracks and switching points. The more regularly they can be inspected, the more railway safety, reliability and on-time performance will be improved. Costs would be cut and operations would be more efficient(高效)across the board.

That includes huge savings in maintenance costs and better protection of railway personnel safety. It is calculated that European railways alone spend approximately 20 billion euros a year on maintenance, including sending maintenance staff, often at night, to inspect and repair the rail infrastructure. That can be dangerous work that could be avoided with drones assisting the crews’ efforts.

By using the latest technologies, drones could also start providing higher-value services for railways, detecting faults in the rail or switches, before they can cause any safety problems. To perform these tasks, drones for rail don’t need to be flying overhead. Engineers are now working on a new concept: the rail drones of the future. They will be moving on the track ahead of the train, and programmed to run autonomously. Very small drones with advanced sensors and AI and travelling ahead of the train could guide it like a co-pilot. With their ability to see ahead, they could signal any problem, so that fast-moving trains would be able to react in time.

28. What makes the application of drones to rail lines possible?

- A. The use of drones in checking on power lines.
- B. Drones’ ability to work at high altitudes.
- C. The reduction of cost in designing drones.
- D. Drones’ reliable performance in remote areas.

29. What does “maintenance” underlined in paragraph 3 refer to?

30. As for systems thinking, which would the author agree with?

- A. It may be used to justify power imbalance.
- B. It can be applied to tackle challenges.
- C. It helps to prove why hunger exists.
- D. It goes beyond human imagination.

【2022·浙江 6 月卷】

All around the world, there are small changes taking place. At the side of roads, behind school playgrounds and on all kinds of unloved pieces of land across towns and cities, tiny forests barely the size of tennis courts are appearing, making a great place for both wildlife and local people who may not normally have easy access to nature. This is the Tiny Forest movement, which aims to prove that the best things in life really do come in small packages.

Tiny forests were first pioneered as a concept in the 1970s by Dr Miyawaki, a Japanese botanist. As he went on to share his concept with others, the idea soon took off in India and other countries before eventually reaching Europe, where it became popular in places like France, Belgium and the Netherlands.

So how does it work? Louise Hartley, who is leading the Tiny Forest project in the UK, explains that the process begins by identifying areas in which a tiny forest could have the biggest influence. “We focus on urban areas where access to nature is often not that easy”, says Hartley. “We see it as a chance to try to break the growing disconnect between people and nature.”

In a Tiny Forest, there must be a minimum of 600 trees, and the trees are planted much closer together and without chemicals or fertilisers (肥料). There are usually around 30 different kinds of all-native tree species (物种). This variety, coupled with the fact that tiny forests grow up to ten times faster than standard forests, means they attract a rich abundance of wildlife. It's also thought that these places could help reduce the risk of flooding, remove carbon from the atmosphere and fight climate change, as well as improving the mental health of those living locally.

24. What do we know about the Tiny Forest movement?

- A. It has achieved notable success.
- B. It is led by number of schools.
- C. It began in Europe in the 1970s.
- D. It will spread to the countryside.

25. What is the purpose of the project led by Hartley in the UK?

- A. To promote eco-tourism.
- B. To improve forestry research.
- C. To popularise gardening.
- D. To get people close to nature.

26. What is special about the trees in a Tiny Forest?

- A. They are small in size.
- B. They are thickly planted.
- C. They are foreign species.
- D. They are heavily fertilised.

【2022·浙江 6 月卷】

Many people believe that working to the maximum is the secret to success, but research has found that moderation(适度) also gets results on the job.

In a study led by Ellen Langer of Harvard University, researchers asked people to translate sentences into a new a made-up language. Subjects who practiced the language moderately beforehand made fewer errors than those who practiced extensively or not at all. High levels of knowledge can make people too attached to traditional ways

of viewing problems across fields the arts, sciences, and politics. High conscientiousness is related to lower job performance, especially in simple jobs where it doesn't pay to be a perfectionist.

How long we stay on the clock and how we spend that time are under careful examination in many workplaces. The young banker who eats lunch at his desk is probably seen as a go-getter, while his colleagues who chat over a relaxed conference-room meal get dirty looks from the corner office. "People from cultures that value relationships more than ours does are shocked by the thought of eating alone in front of a computer", says Art Markman, a professor of psychology at the University of Texas, Austin. Social interaction has been shown to lift mood(情绪) and get people thinking in new directions and in ways that could help improve any post-lunch effort.

Markman also promotes off-task time. "Part of being a good thinker is experiencing things that are seemingly unrelated to what you are working on at the moment but give you fresh ideas about your work," he says. "Also, there is a lot of research showing that a positive mood leads to higher levels of productivity and creativity. So, when people do things to increase their life satisfaction, they also make themselves more effective at work."

27. What does Ellen Langer's study show?

- A. It is worthwhile to be a perfectionist
- B. Translation makes people knowledgeable.
- C. Simpler jobs require greater caution.
- D. Moderate effort produces the best result.

28. The underlined word "go-getter" in paragraph 3 refers to someone Who _____.

- A. is good at handling pressure
- B. works hard to become successful
- C. a has a natural talent for his job.
- D. gets on well with his co-workers

29. What can be inferred from the last paragraph?

- A. A good thinker is able to inspire other people.
- B. Experience unrelated to your job is useless.
- C. A cheerful mood helps make a creative mind.
- D. Focusing on what you do raises productivity.

30. What does the text seem to advocate?

- A. Middle-of-the-road work habits.
- B. Balance between work and family.
- C. Long-standing cultural traditions.
- D. Harmony in the work environment.

【2022•浙江1月卷】

The United States rose to global power on the strength of its technology, and the lifeblood that technology has long been electricity. By providing long-distance communication and energy, electricity created the modern world. Yet properly understood, the age of electricity is merely the second stage in the age of steam, which began a century earlier.

"It is curious that no one has put together a history of both the steam and electric revolutions." writes Maury Klein in his book *The Power Makers, Steam, Electricity, and the Men Invented Modern America*. Klein, a noted historian of technology, spins a narrative so lively that at times it reads like a novel.

The story begins in the last years of the 18th century in Scotland, where Watt perfected "the machine that changed the world". Klein writes, "America did not invent the steam engine, but once they grasped its passwords they put it to more uses than anyone else. "

Meanwhile, over the course of 19th century, electricity went from mere curiosity to a basic necessity. Morse

invented a code for sending messages over an electromagnetic circuit. Bell then gave the telegraph a voice. Edison perfected an incandescent bulb that brought electric light into the American home.

Most importantly, Edison realized that success depended on mass electrification, which he showed in New York City. With help from Tesla, Westinghouse's firm developed a system using alternating current, which soon became the major forms of power delivery.

To frame his story, Klein creates the character of Ned, a fictional witness to the progress brought about by the steams and electric revolutions in America during one man's lifetime. It's a technique that helps turn a long narrative into an interesting one.

24. What is Klein's understanding of the age of electricity?

- A. It is closely linked to the steam age. B. It began earlier than
proper thought.
C. It is a little-studied period of history. D. It will come to an end
sooner or later.

25. What can be inferred about Ned?

- A. He was born in New York City. B. He wrote many interesting stories,
C. He created an electricity company. D. He lived mainly in the 19th century.

26. What is the text?

- A. A biography. B. A book review. C. A short story. D. A science report.

【2022·浙江1月卷】

The benefits of regular exercise are well documented but there's a new bonus to add to the ever-growing list. New researchers found that middle-aged women who were physically fit could be nearly 90 percent less likely to develop dementia in later life, and as they did, it came on a decade later than less sporty women.

Lead researcher Dr. Helena Horder, of the University of Gothenburg in Sweden, said: "These findings are exciting because it's possible that improving people's cardiovascular (心血管的) fitness in middle age could delay or even prevent them from developing dementia. "

For the study, 191 women with an average age of 50 took a bicycle exercise test until they were exhausted to measure their peak (最大值的) cardiovascular capacity. The average peak workload was measured at 103 watts.

A total of 40 women met the criteria for a high fitness level, or 120 watts or higher. A total of 92 women were in the medium fitness category; and 59 women were in the low fitness category, defined as a peak workload of 80 watts or less, or having their exercise tests stopped because of high blood pressure, chest pain or other cardiovascular problems.

These women were then tested for dementia six times over the following four decades. During that time, 44 of the women developed dementia. Five percent of the highly fit women developed dementia, compared to 25 percent of the women with medium fitness and 32 percent of the women with low fitness.

"However, this study does not show cause and effect between cardiovascular fitness and dementia, it only shows an association. More research is needed to see if improved fitness could have a positive effect on the risk of dementia and also to look at when during a lifetime a high fitness level is most important." She also admitted that a relatively small number of women were studied, all of whom were from Sweden, so the results might not be

applicable to other groups.

27. What is on the ever-growing list mentioned in the first paragraph?

- A. Positive effects of doing exercises.
- B. Exercises suitable for the middle-aged.
- C. Experimental studies on diseases.
- D. Advantages of sporty woman over man

28. Why did the researchers ask the woman to do bicycle exercise?

- A. To predict their maximum heart rate.
- B. To assess their cardiovascular capacity
- C. To change their habits of working out
- D. To detect their potential health problems

29. What do we know about Dr Horder's study?

- A. It aimed to find a cure for dementia.
- B. Data collection was a lengthy process.
- C. Some participants withdrew from it.
- D. The results were far from satisfactory.

30. Which of the following is the best title for the text?

- A. More Women Are Exercising to Prevent Dementia
- B. Middle-Aged Women Need to Do More Exercise
- C. Fit Women Are Less Likely to Develop Dementia
- D. Biking Improves Women's Cardiovascular Fitness

【2022·天津卷】

Is it true that our brain alone is responsible for human cognition(认知)? What about our body? Is it possible for thought and behavior to originate from somewhere other than our brain? Psychologists who study Embodied Cognition(EC) ask similar questions. The ECtheory suggests our body is also responsible for thinking or problem-solving. More precisely, the mind shapes the body and the body shapes the mind in equal measure.

If you think about it for a moment, it makes total sense. When you smell something good or hear amusing sounds, certain emotions are awakened. Think about how newborns use their senses to understand the world around them. They don't have emotions so much as needs—they don't feel sad, they're just hungry and need food. Even unborn babies can feel their mothers' heartbeats and this has a calming effect. In the real world, they cry when they're cold and then get hugged. That way, they start to as-sociate being warm with being loved.

Understandably, theorists have been arguing for years and still disagree on whether the brain is the nerve centre that operates the rest of the body. Older Western philosophers and mainstream language researchers believe this is fact, while EC theorises that the brain and body are working together as an organic supercomputer, processing everything and forming your reactions.

Further studies have backed up the mind-body interaction. In one ex-periment, test subjects(实验对象) were asked to judge people after being handed a hot or a cold drink. They all made warm evaluations when their fingertips perceived warmth rather than coolness. And it works the other way too; in another study, subjects'

fingertip temperatures were measured after being “included” in or “rejected” from a group task. Those who were included felt physically warmer.

For further proof, we can look at the metaphors(比喻说法) that we use without even thinking. A kind and sympathetic person is frequently referred to as one with a soft heart and someone who is very strong and calm in difficult situations is often described as solid as a rock. And this kind of metaphorical use is common across languages.

Now that you have the knowledge of mind-body interaction, why not use it? If you’re having a bad day, a warm cup of tea will give you a flash of pleasure. If you know you’re physically cold, warm up before making any interpersonal decisions.

46. According to the author, the significance of the EC theory lies in _____.

- A. facilitating our understanding of the origin of psychology
- B. revealing the major role of the mind in human cognition
- C. offering a clearer picture of the shape of human brain
- D. bringing us closer to the truth in human cognition

47. Where does the new borns’ understanding of their surroundings start from?

- A. Their personal looks.
- B. Their mental needs.
- C. Their inner emotions.
- D. Their physical feelings.

48. The experiments mentioned in Paragraph 4 further prove _____.

- A. environment impacts how we judge others
- B. how body temperature is related to health
- C. the mind and the body influence each other
- D. how humans interact with their surroundings

49. What does the author intend to prove by citing the metaphors in Paragraph 5?

- A. Human speech is alive with metaphors.
- B. Human senses have effects on thinking.
- C. Human language is shaped by visual images.
- D. Human emotions are often compared to natural materials.

50. What is the author’s purpose in writing the last paragraph?

- A. To share with the reader ways to release their emotions.
- B. To guide the reader onto the path to career success.
- C. To encourage the reader to put EC into practice.
- D. To deepen the reader’s understanding of EC.

【2021年高考真题题组】

【2021•新高考 I 卷】

When the explorers first set foot upon the continent of North America, the skies and lands were alive with an astonishing variety of wildlife. Native Americans had taken care of these precious natural resources wisely. Unfortunately, it took the explorers and the settlers who followed only a few decades to decimate a large part of these resources. Millions of waterfowl (水禽) were killed at the hands of market hunters and a handful of overly ambitious sportsmen. Millions of acres of wetlands were dried to feed and house the ever-increasing populations, greatly reducing waterfowl habitat (栖息地).

In 1934, with the passage of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act (Act), an increasingly concerned nation took firm action to stop the destruction of migratory (迁徙的) waterfowl and the wetlands so vital to their survival. Under this Act, all waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and over must annually purchase and carry a Federal Duck Stamp. The very first Federal Duck Stamp was designed by J.N. “Ding” Darling a political cartoonist from Des Moines, Iowa, who at that time was appointed by President Franklin Roosevelt as Director of the Bureau of Biological Survey. Hunters willingly pay the stamp price to ensure the survival of our natural resources.

About 98 cents of every duck stamp dollar goes directly into the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund to purchase wetlands and wildlife habitat for inclusion into the National Wildlife Refuge System — a fact that ensures this land will be protected and available for all generations to come. Since 1934, better than half a billion dollars has gone into that Fund to purchase more than 5 million acres of habitat. Little wonder the Federal Duck Stamp Program has been called one of the most successful conservation programs ever initiated.

28. What was a cause of the waterfowl population decline in North America?

- A. Loss of wetlands.
- B. Popularity of water sports.
- C. Pollution of rivers.
- D. Arrival of other wild animals.

29. What does the underlined word “decimate” mean in the first paragraph?

- A. Acquire.
- B. Export.
- C. Destroy.
- D. Distribute.

30. What is a direct result of the Act passed in 1934?

- A. The stamp price has gone down.
- B. The migratory birds have flown away.
- C. The hunters have stopped hunting.
- D. The government has collected money.

31. Which of the following is a suitable title for the text?

- A. The Federal Duck Stamp Story
- B. The National Wildlife Refuge System
- C. The Benefits of Saving Waterfowl
- D. The History of Migratory Bird Hunting

【2021·新高考 II 卷】

An Australian professor is developing a robot to monitor the health of grazing cattle, a development that could bring big changes to a profession that's relied largely on a low-tech approach for decades but is facing a labor shortage.

Salah Sukkarieh, a professor at the University of Sydney, sees robots as necessary given how cattlemen are aging. He is building a four-wheeled robot that will run on solar and electric power. It will use cameras and sensors

to monitor the animals. A computer system will analyze the video to determine whether a cow is sick. Radio tags (标签) on the animals will measure temperature changes. The quality of grassland will be tracked by monitoring the shape, color and texture (质地) of grass. That way, cattlemen will know whether they need to move their cattle to another field for nutrition purposes.

Machines have largely taken over planting, watering and harvesting crops such as corn and wheat, but the monitoring of cattle has gone through fewer changes.

For Texas cattleman Pete Bonds, it's increasingly difficult to find workers interested in watching cattle. But Bonds doesn't believe a robot is right for the job. Years of experience in the industry - and failed attempts to use technology - have convinced him that the best way to check cattle is with a man on a horse. Bonds, who bought his first cattle almost 50 years ago, still has each of his cowboys inspect 300 or 400 cattle daily and look for signs that an animal is getting sick.

Other cattlemen see more promise in robots. Michael Kelsey Paris, vice president of the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association, said a robot could be extremely useful given rising concerns about cattle theft. Cattle tend to be kept in remote places and their value has risen, making them appealing targets.

32. What is a problem with the cattle-raising industry?

- A. Soil pollution.
- B. Lack of workers.
- C. Aging machines.
- D. Low profitability.

33. What will Sukkarieh's robot be able to do?

- A. Monitor the quality of grass.
- B. Cure the diseased cattle.
- C. Move cattle to another field.
- D. Predict weather changes.

34. Why does Pete Bonds still hire cowboys to watch cattle?

- A. He wants to help them earn a living.
- B. He thinks men can do the job better.
- C. He is inexperienced in using robots.
- D. He enjoys the traditional way of life.

35. How may robots help with cattle watching according to Michael Kelsey?

- A. Increase the value of cattle.
- B. Bring down the cost of labor.
- C. Make the job more appealing.
- D. Keep cattle from being stolen.

【2021·全国甲卷】

Port Lympne Reserve, which runs a breeding (繁育) programme, has welcomed the arrival of a rare black rhino calf (犀牛幼崽). When the tiny creature arrived on January 31, she became the 40th black rhino to be born at the reserve. And officials at Port Lympne were delighted with the new arrival, especially as black rhinos are known for being difficult to breed in captivity (圈养).

Paul Beer, head of rhino section at Port Lympne, said: "Obviously we're all absolutely delighted to welcome another calf to our black rhino family. She's healthy, strong and already eager to play and explore. Her mother, Solio, is a first-time mum and she is doing a fantastic job. It's still a little too cold for them to go out into the open, but as soon as the weather warms up, I have no doubt that the little one will be out and about exploring and playing every day."

The adorable female calf is the second black rhino born this year at the reserve, but it is too early to tell if the calves will make good candidates to be returned to protected areas of the wild. The first rhino to be born at Port Lympne arrived on January 5 to first-time mother Kisima and weighed about 32kg. His mother, grandmother and great grandmother were all born at the reserve and still live there.

According to the World Wildlife Fund, the global black rhino population has dropped as low as 5500, giving the rhinos a “critically endangered” status.

4. Which of the following best describes the breeding programme?

- A. Costly. B. Controversial. C. Ambitious. D. Successful.

5. What does Paul Beer say about the new-born rhino?

- A. She loves staying with her mother.
B. She dislikes outdoor activities.
C. She is in good condition
D. She is sensitive to heat.

6. What similar experience do Solio and Kisima have?

- A. They had their first born in January.
B. They enjoyed exploring new places
C. They lived with their grandmothers.
D. They were brought to the reserve young

7. What can be inferred about Porn Lympne Reserve?

- A. The rhino section will be open to the public.
B. It aims to control the number of the animals.
C. It will continue to work with the World Wildlife Fund.
D. Some of its rhinos may be sent to the protected wild areas.

【2021·全国乙卷】

When almost everyone has a mobile phone, why are more than half of Australian homes still paying for a landline (座机)?

These days you'd be hard pressed to find anyone in Australia over the age of 15 who doesn't own a mobile phone. In fact plenty of younger kids have one in their pocket. Practically everyone can make and receive calls anywhere, anytime.

Still, 55 percent of Australians have a landline phone at home and only just over a quarter (29%) rely only on their smartphones according to a survey (调查). Of those Australians who still have a landline, a third concede that it's not really necessary and they're keeping it as a security blanket — 19 percent say they never use it while a further 13 percent keep it in case of emergencies. I think my home falls into that category.

More than half of Australian homes are still choosing to stick with their home phone. Age is naturally a factor (因素) — only 58 percent of Generation Ys still use landlines now and then, compared to 84 percent of Baby Boomers who've perhaps had the same home number for 50 years. Age isn't the only factor; I'd say it's also to do with the makeup of your household.

Generation Xers with young families, like my wife and I, can still find it convenient to have a home phone

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