

第一部分：選擇題(60分)

一、綜合測驗

說明：下面三篇短文共有 15 題，每篇各有 5 題，為第 1-15 題，每題 2 分，共 30 分，請依短文文意，選出一個最適合該空格的答案。

▲閱讀下文，回答第 1-5 題

On February 6, 2023, at 4:17 a.m. local time, an intense shaking shattered the dreams of countless Turkish people. In an instant, the deadliest earthquake in a century claimed over 59,000 lives, with over 300,000 buildings completely collapsed or ruined, millions of residents 1 homeless.

As geologists stated, Turkey's crust had been accumulating energy for 200 years, and once released, it would cause a massive upheaval. Turkey is located at the intersection of three major tectonic plates, making it a seismic hotspot. The Turkish seismic agency had already observed the surface movement, with displacements of several meters, which was one of the reasons for the 2 . In addition to the inherent geological conditions, many buildings in the affected areas resembled early brick constructions in Taiwan, and their quality did not seem to have met proper seismic standards. 3 Turkey had strong earthquake early warning systems in place, the focus of protection was on the western side, primarily Istanbul. The eastern side did not receive an immediate earthquake warning, 4 the people of the area 4 the opportunity to take immediate precautions.

The merciless earthquake took away tens of thousands of precious lives, and survivors rescued from the rubble of destroyed houses brought 5 amidst this disaster. International attention continues to be focused on the region as Turkey's road to reconstruction remains long.

1. (A) leaving (B) left (C) to leave (D) that left
2. (A) excessive panic (B) exclusive coverage
(C) explosive scandal (D) extensive damage
3. (A) If (B) Since (C) Though (D) Unless
4. (A) alerting; to (B) depriving; of (C) providing; with (D) warning; against
5. (A) a flash of wit (B) a glimmer of hope
(C) a lack of confidence (D) a spark of interest

▲閱讀下文，回答第 6-10 題

As estimated by the United Nations, the population of India officially surpassed China in April 2023, coming close to 1.3 billion. With the highest population in the world, India may be able to 6 global economy, purchase more global goods, and have a greater impact on global affairs.

In terms of India's age distribution, the country has a very young median age of only 28 years. Economists point out that these young Indians possess some unique characteristics. This generation will become the largest consumers and labor force, making India the world's largest talent pool. India also boasts a(n) 7 workforce to become a global manufacturing hub, comparable to China. Currently, some American companies are diversifying their production and moving away from China, and the major Apple manufacturer Foxconn is considering expanding in India. Additionally, the Reserve Bank of India predicts that India will become the world's third-largest economy by 2029, following only the United States and China.

However, 8 India can effectively take advantage of its population and move towards further prosperity remains uncertain. The current major issue is low employment rates. According to data from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), only about 40% of India's working-age population is employed or actively seeking employment. In the next 20 years, it would be challenging for India to harness the massive human potential if it does not invest more in infrastructure and stimulate export-oriented growth. 9 possible significant challenge is gender equality, which deeply affects social productivity. An estimated only 10% of women in India enter the labor market, and 84% of working-age women from low-income families in India state that they need 10 from their families to work outside. These blocks must all be cleared before India can enjoy a thriving future.

6. (A) consume (B) disrupt (C) reflect (D) sustain
 7. (A) costly (B) defensive (C) infectious (D) sufficient
 8. (A) what (B) whether (C) which (D) why
 9. (A) Another (B) Other (C) The other (D) Still another
 10. (A) evidence (B) hostility (C) permission (D) strike

▲閱讀下文，回答第 11-15 題

Menstruation is a normal physiological phenomenon that accompanies every biological woman for about 30 to 40 years in life. Women not only have to endure the discomfort during their menstrual periods but also need to allocate a portion of their expenses each month to purchase menstrual products. Nonetheless, not every biological woman in the world can afford or access such 11. Instead, they turn to unconventional measures such as reducing the usage or substituting with other items like socks, tree bark, or tissue paper. This can 12 physiological and psychological health issues and the problem of “menstrual poverty.”

In fact, menstrual poverty is not exclusive to economically disadvantaged countries, but it is also a pressing global issue. Statistically, 800 million people around the world are experiencing menstrual poverty. Particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, with difficulties in going out for shopping, decreased subsidies for supplies, and greater challenges in obtaining menstrual products, the number of people experiencing menstrual poverty 13 to rise. Apart from physical and mental health, menstrual poverty can also impact the educational opportunities, employment rights, and freedom of choice for biological women, all of which are interconnected.

Economic factors aside, deficient menstrual education, a societal culture that treats menstruation as a cultural taboo, and poor sanitary conditions have 14 to menstrual poverty, too. Vanessa, the founder of Keana Menstrual Cups, known as the “Menstrual Queen” in Taiwan, has also emphasized that many ideas, including the choice of menstrual products, have been passed down from previous generations. 15 the efforts made by many countries, women are still likely to encounter menstrual poverty issues. How to comprehensively eliminate and prevent the intergenerational transmission of menstrual poverty has become a crucial issue that governments must carefully examine and devise strategies for.

11. (A) necessities (B) routines (C) tournaments (D) utensils
 12. (A) bring about (B) lie in (C) run into (D) take over
 13. (A) continue (B) continues (C) continuing (D) continued
 14. (A) appealed (B) belonged (C) contributed (D) objected
 15. (A) Judging from (B) Compared with (C) In spite of (D) With a view to

二、閱讀測驗

說明：下面三篇短文共有 15 題，每篇各有 5 題，為第 16-30 題，每題 2 分，共 30 分，請閱讀短文後，選出最適當的答案。

▲閱讀下文，回答第 16-20 題

“Buy now, pay later” (referred to as BNPL) is an emerging payment method that allows for deferred payment. It mainly involves dividing the payment into three installments and does not require a credit card. To use BNPL services, users must first register with a third-party provider, which offers a simple and quick registration process. After users complete the registration, the BNPL provider then determines the credit limit for each user through its own “credit calculation” method. ①

When consumers make purchases via BNPL, the BNPL provider charges a service fee from the seller, typically ranging from 4% to 9.5% per transaction. ② The provider pays on behalf of the consumer, and the consumer then has a specified period of time to repay the advanced payment to the provider after receiving the goods until the balance is cleared. For the seller, accepting BNPL means reaching a wider customer base and having more business opportunities. If a consumer fails to repay, it is the responsibility of the provider to pursue the payment, and the merchant is not involved in the process.

Although BNPL payment services offer convenience, there are also potential risks. Consumers must exercise caution and evaluate their own spending capacity before utilizing BNPL. As BNPL allows for delayed payment, consumers often forget the total amount they have spent or may make purchases beyond their financial means. ③ This can lead to difficulties in repaying the amount and high late payment fees. Similar to credit card payments, BNPL also considers the user’s **solvency**. BNPL users are often students or individuals with unstable income, so it is crucial to assess one’s own repayment capacity before making a purchase and determine if he or she can meet the payment deadlines. If the amount paid through BNPL cannot be repaid within the specified installment periods, the user may face consequences of overdue payments. Prior to applying for BNPL, it is important to carefully review the provider’s regulations to ensure they are reasonable. ④ If the fees exceed the mentioned range or if there are additional terms and conditions, consumers should be pretty watchful.

16. Which of the following is a feature of “BNPL”?
- (A) It allows users to extend their installment periods.
 - (B) It entails the seller pursuing an overdue payment.
 - (C) It especially attracts people without credit cards.
 - (D) It sets the same credit limit for all users.
17. Eden paid \$1,000 for a meal on BNPL. How much service fee should he pay to the provider?
- (A) \$0
 - (B) \$40
 - (C) \$100
 - (D) Varying from restaurant to restaurant
18. What is customers’ possible risk associated with using BNPL?
- (A) Difficulties in remembering the total expense.
 - (B) High interest rates on purchases.
 - (C) Limited availability of goods and services.
 - (D) Rare transactions with banks.

19. What does the word “**solvency**” in the third paragraph refer to?
 (A) ability to pay off debts (B) levels of incomes
 (C) proof of property (D) records of consumption
20. Where does the sentence “Among the domestic BNPL providers, late payment fees typically amount to around 16% of the purchase price” best fit in the passage?
 (A) ① (B) ② (C) ③ (D) ④

▲閱讀下文，回答第 21-25 題

With “human cryogenic technology,” people suffering from incurable diseases can be frozen in the hope of being healed by more advanced technology in the future. This scenario, which seemingly exists only in science fiction, is actually happening now. Currently, there are over 100 cases of cryopreserved human bodies worldwide that are waiting to be saved by future technology. These bodies enter a state of deep freezing called “cryonic preservation” after their hearts stop beating. Before cellular death occurs, their brain tissue is “paused” through a process called “vitrification,” and the body goes into an unconscious state.

Since the science of human cryonics developed in the 1960s, there has been no successful instance of wakening cryopreserved human bodies. Still, many scientists regard it as a territory worth exploring. Recently, a research team successfully thawed a previously frozen rabbit brain. Despite being stored in cryonic suspension for several weeks, the brain stayed intact in its key structures. However, the rabbit remained deceased, and the researchers did not attempt to revitalize it further. While thawing a rabbit brain does not guarantee that this technique can be applied to humankind, some scientists believe that one day, cryonic revival procedures will become as common as treating a cold or a broken bone. It could become a widespread medical practice, offering another medical option for individuals with hopeless illnesses.

Moreover, if frozen individuals were to come back to life, it would give rise to ethical concerns that worry many people, too. These individuals could end up as a group without family or friends, turning into “cryonic refugees” in a future world. Upon returning to this world, they may lose all their previous connections, resembling refugees who flee to a foreign country. The question of how these people would survive and establish themselves has been a topic of concern among experts. Daniel Callahan, co-founder of the Hastings Center, a bioethics and life sciences research institution, envisioned that these people would enter a strange world, know nothing, and have no revenue. Due to the extended period of absence and their unfamiliarity with society, they may have a strong desire to hold onto some form of certainty, such as the people or things they once knew. In this way, they would inevitably experience profound trauma. Apparently, the revival of cryonically preserved individuals encompasses a wide range of aspects beyond just the technology of bringing a human body back to life.

21. What is the passage concerned with?
 (A) An introduction to a sci-fi story
 (B) A method of protecting life forms
 (C) A surgery to cure hopeless diseases
 (D) A technology to deal with dead bodies
22. Which of the following does **NOT** take place in the process of “cryonic preservation”?
 (A) The brain loses functions. (B) The body is frozen.
 (C) The cells keep alive. (D) The heart stops working.

23. Why is “a frozen rabbit brain” mentioned in the passage?
 (A) To explain the origin of cryogenic technology
 (B) To give a successful example of cryonics
 (C) To indicate a positive result from relevant research
 (D) To promote studies on more different animals
24. Which of the following is **NOT** a problem that “cryonic refugees” may encounter?
 (A) Being forced to live in a foreign country.
 (B) Experiencing a sense of uncertainty.
 (C) Feeling excluded from society.
 (D) Having no family or friends around.
25. What attitude does the author hold toward “human cryogenic technology”?
 (A) Favorable (B) Indifferent (C) Neutral (D) Opposed

▲ 閱讀下文，回答第 26-30 題

care2 PETITIONS

Supporting Playwrights: Demanding Fair Compensation for the Backbone of Entertainment

by: Care2 Team

recipient: Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP), Netflix, Warner Bros, Disney

27,529 SUPPORTERS **30,000** GOAL

In today’s fast-paced world, many of us chill out after a long day by indulging in our favorite TV shows. Yet, while the profits of these hit streaming series soar, the creative minds behind them are receiving a thin share of the success.

After weeks of failed contract negotiations with major studios, an overwhelming 97.85% of unionized film and TV writers have voted to go on strike, demanding better wages for their invaluable contributions. It is time to join forces and sign the petition urging “the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers” (AMPTP), which represents the majority of major film studios, to meet the writers’ demands immediately.

Writers are the architects of captivating stories that bring joy and entertainment into our lives. Without their creativity and vision, the very essence of storytelling would be lost. **These corporations are reaping billions from works that owe their existence to the imagination and dedication of writers.**





Last year, Warner Bros. Discovery paid its CEO a staggering \$250 million, while Netflix awarded its co-CEO a generous \$50.3 million in 2022 alone, representing a 32% increase from the previous year. Studios have significantly increased their budgets for TV series, investing substantial sums into our entertainment. Nevertheless, this influx of money has not translated into fair rewards for writers. Reports indicate that, on average, studios are paying screenwriters 14% less than they were paid five years ago, even after adjusting for inflation.

This strike marks the first time since 2007 that writers have taken such drastic measures again. With very little left to lose, they are prepared to hold out for as long as necessary. Sadly, members of the AMPTP have displayed little willingness to compromise, with some representatives even suggesting that the current arrangements are a stroke of luck for the writers.

Our favorite TV shows hang in the balance because major film studios are unwilling to provide fair pay. Let us unite and sign the petition demanding that Netflix, Disney, Warner Bros, and the entire AMPTP genuinely value their exceptional writers and agree to higher, fairer salaries. By standing with writers, we support the backbone of the entertainment industry and ensure that these talented individuals can keep on weaving the stories that captivate and inspire us all.

Adapted from a petition on “care2 PETITIONS”

26. What is the purpose of the passage?
- (A) To challenge major film studios' profitability.
 (B) To raise funds for screenwriters to go on strike.
 (C) To request more investment in film making.
 (D) To seek recognition for film and TV writers' protest.
27. Which of the following descriptions is **NOT** true about the petition?
- (A) The author speaks for TV writers.
 (B) It has gained more support than expected.
 (C) It is initiated by Care2 Team.
 (D) It will be sent to some major studios.
28. Which of the following sentences best paraphrases the sentence “**These corporations are reaping billions from works that owe their existence to the imagination and dedication of writers**” in the third paragraph?
- (A) Composing stories for film and TV has become a less and less profitable job in Hollywood.
 (B) It is unreasonable for the entertainment industry to rely on imaginative and productive writers to amass huge wealth.
 (C) Screenwriters should make more use of their own creativity and hard work in exchange for higher wages.
 (D) Were it not for the talents and efforts of writers, the studios would not be earning tremendous profits.
29. What can be inferred from the passage?
- (A) This is the first time that writers take to the street in history.
 (B) The film and TV industry has raised writers' pay several times.
 (C) The major film studios will face fines if not responding to the petition.
 (D) The protesters won't give up until their claims are answered.
30. Which of the following responses MOST likely represents the standpoint of “AMPTP”?

(A) 	“The success of our TV shows is the result of writers' efforts alone.”	(B) 	“We consider the writers' demands unacceptable and beyond what the industry can afford.”
(C) 	“We fully support the writers' strike and their demands for better wages.”	(D) 	“We value writers' contributions and are open to negotiations for fairer pay.”

第二部分：非選擇題(40 分)

一、翻譯測驗(第 1-4 題，每題 4 分，共 16 分)

(一) 中譯英(8 分)

說明：請將以下短文中劃底線處之中文句子譯成正確、通順、達意的英文，並將答案寫在「答案卷」上。請依序作答。每題 4 分，共 8 分。

隨著登山活動的日益商業化，攀爬世界第一高山聖母峰(Mt. Everest)已不再是遙不可及的夢想。(1) 令人遺憾的是，許多試圖征服聖母峰的登山客卻在當地遺留大量的垃圾。人們爲了減輕登山的重量，任意丟棄各式物品，甚至包括帳篷。尼泊爾當局規定山友須自行將垃圾帶下山才能取回 4,000 美元的押金。(2) 然而無論罰金再高，這座聖山還是淪爲世界最高的垃圾場。

(二) 英譯中(8 分)

說明：請將以下短文中劃底線處之英文句子譯成正確、通順、達意的中文，並將答案寫在「答案卷」上。請依序作答。每題 4 分，共 8 分。

Based on a true story, *The Last Emperor* was released in 1987. It depicts the life of China's last emperor, Pu Yi. Chosen as the last emperor of China from a young age, Pu Yi spent his early life confined within the walls of the Forbidden City. (3) As the political landscape in China underwent changes, he gradually lost his imperial status and sought to find his own identity and freedom. The entire film, portrayed in English, presents Pu Yi's journey from an emperor to an ordinary person through a Western perspective. (4) Renowned for its vivid storytelling and outstanding acting, this film holds both historical significance and artistic value.

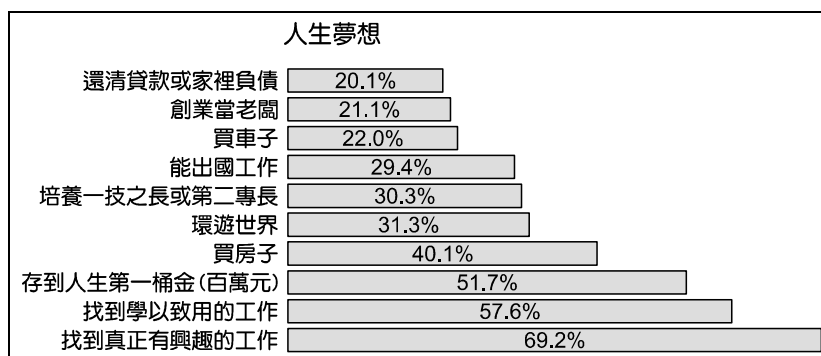
二、寫作測驗(24 分)

說明：請依提示在「答案卷」上寫一篇約 120 字的英文短文。

下圖呈現的是臺灣某知名求職網站於 2023 年進行調查所得到的結果，該調查反映了剛踏入社會 39 歲以下臺灣青年民眾所設定的人生夢想。

提示：(1) 請概述此圖表所呈現的重點，並針對這些重點作解釋分析。

(2) 簡述你個人在成爲社會新鮮人時可能會追求的梦想和期待。



【以下空白】