

exchanges across the region and there are so many farmers from neighbouring villages that visit me for advice on good quality seeds to plant," Sawadogo says. "I've chosen not to keep my farming methods as secrets to myself".

Today, Sawadogo is facing serious problems. Wars and conflict caused social unrest. An expansion project in the area has taken up a part of his forest. In addition, the entire family is on guard to protect the area from people wanting to steal wood. However, all these haven't stopped the farmer's hope.

24. How did the villagers react to Sawadogo's behavior at first?

- A. They teased him.
- B. They copied his example.
- C. They offered help to him.
- D. They were grateful to him.

25. What can we know about Sawadogo?

- A. He led the villagers to earn money.
- B. He got people's recognition.
- C. He quarrelled with others sometimes.
- D. He set up prizes to reward others.

26. What is Sawadogo's wish?

- A. To keep his secret.
- B. To exchange his crops.
- C. To set up a program.
- D. To invent a technique like zai.

27. What is mainly talked about in the passage?

- A. An ancient farming practice.
- B. A farmer stopping the desert.
- C. Ways to tackle dry problems.
- D. An effective way to improve desert.

While a sea turtle(海龟) may be protected by its shell, they have other struggles to deal with. They are unable to closely adjust their body temperatures. Since their body temperature is closely related to the environment, if the water temperature falls below 50 °F, sea turtles are at risk of becoming unconscious.

Such was the case with 24 turtles rescued from Cape Cod beaches by Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, which began in November 2022 and went into January 2023. The turtles were just put back into the wild.

"Sea turtles in extremely cold water become **lethargic** and are eventually unable to swim, causing them to float senselessly at the surface and putting them at the mercy of the sea. Wind and/or tides may wash them onto the shore," explains the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). "If temperatures remain low or turtles are not rescued, they can develop secondary health problems or die."

Cold-related danger can happen anywhere but regularly happens in a number of places, including Cape Cod Bay in Massachusetts.

Thankfully for the Cape Cod turtles, Mass Audubon steps up to the task with all hands on deck during such conditions. More than 170 trained volunteers search the shore, "sometimes in the middle of the night, usually in uncomfortable conditions." In the 2022 season, more than 70% of the sea turtles found were alive. Once the turtles are processed at the Sanctuary, volunteers drive the turtles to the New England Aquarium for treatment.

"Getting the turtles back to their ocean home is why we do this, in hopes that each one of these turtles helps their population grow back from the possibility of extinction," said Adam Kennedy, Director of Rescue and Rehabilitation.

The NOAA notes that cold-stunning events have been documented since the late 1800s. In Massachusetts, the number of sea turtles getting shock with cold water varies per year from around 50 in 2000 to about 900 in 2022—making it the third-busiest season on record. Scientists have predicted that by 2031, these events will bring thousands of sea turtles to our shores annually.

28. When might turtles lose consciousness?
 A. On sunny days. B. On windy days. C. On storm night. D. On freezing night.
29. What does the underlined word "lethargic" in paragraph 3 probably mean?
 A. Small. B. Faint. C. Heavy. D. Adventurous.
30. How will volunteers deal with the turtles washed onto the shore?
 A. Collect and sell them. B. Keep them at home.
 C. Treat and send them to the sea. D. Raise them in the aquarium.
31. What can we infer about turtles from the last paragraph?
 A. Cold-related events have been rising.
 B. Massachusetts is suitable for turtles to live.
 C. Sea turtles will gradually change their habitats.
 D. The NOAA is to blame for the reduce of turtles.

D

Artificial Intelligence(AI) models are everywhere. The vast majority of these models work using artificial neural networks, or ANNs, which are a popular form of machine learning.

Most ANNs can learn to perform one task just fine. But when it comes to learning a new task, they have a problem that human brains don't. They either fail to learn the new task, or they learn the new thing but erase most of what they knew about their original task. But this problem doesn't tend to affect the human brains.

"How do our new memories get into the pool of old memories without erasing them?" Pavel Sanda wondered. Sanda is a computer scientist who is also part of a research team that used a computer model to explore how sleep helps a brain learn. As our brains sort through new experiences during sleep, he knew, they replay those events many times, so he decided to experiment with this aspect of human sleep in an AI model.

First, he and his teammates trained this AI on a simple task. It controlled a blue dot wandering through a grid(网格) which was seeded with three types of paired green blocks. For the first task, the AI learned to seek out side-by-side pairs. Next, the team tried teaching it to find out pairs sat diagonal(对角线) from each other. However, they didn't try to teach it the new rules all at once. Instead, they let the AI system explore the grid for a brief time, then take a sleep-like break.

During the break, there was no grid and no shapes to encounter. So there was nothing to see and no actions to take. It randomly replayed the way it had travelled. Thanks to these sleep-like breaks, the network managed to learn both tasks well.

"Sleep" may not be the best way for all AI models to learn multiple tasks. However, this new research is a very important first step towards understanding the importance of sleep.

32. Which aspect do most ANNs need improving?
 A. They can't learn multiple tasks. B. They are easy to break down.
 C. They don't have the ability to learn. D. They can't perform single tasks well.
33. What did the AI do in the experiment?
 A. It picked out a blue dot on a grid.
 B. It controlled three paired green blocks.
 C. It compared dots of different shapes.
 D. It sought out pairs in different places.
34. How did scientists feel about the experiment?
 A. Disappointed. B. Puzzled. C. Satisfied. D. Shocked.

35. What can be the best title for the text?
- A. Repetition Makes Better ANNs
 - B. New AIs Are Being Tested out
 - C. "Sleep" Can Help AIs Perform Better
 - D. Human Brains Differ From ANNs in "Sleep"

第二节 (共5小题;每小题2.5分,满分12.5分)

阅读下面短文,从短文后的选项中选出能填入空白处的最佳选项。选项中有两项为多余选项。

Wonderful Benefits Having a Family Pet You Need to Know

Family pets come in all shapes and sizes. Typically, a family pet can range from dogs and cats to birds, turtles, and many more. 36 However, the payback measures boundless. In this brief article, we'll take a closer look at the positive effects and benefits that a family pet brings to any household.

Pets can help keep you fit. All dogs need daily, regular walks to stay healthy and happy, and so do people! 37 And if that sounds like you, a dog might be the perfect cure. So, rest assured that your dog will drag you out in front of the door and make you run around the park every morning.

Pets make sure you never feel alone. The beauty of owning a family pet means you'll never be alone! 38 Cats and dogs make excellent companions, always waiting for you to arrive home patiently.

39 Owning a pet can also help you make more friends. For example, dogs are naturally curious about their environment, including other people and dogs. They can also undoubtedly be the fuel for social interactions.

Having a family pet at home can lower your stress levels. As you probably know, the modern way of living causes high levels of anxiety. And it can lead to countless health problems. Fortunately, pets can help us relax. For example, watching your fish swim can make your worries fade away. 40

All in all, family pets make a great companion and positively impact your life.

- A. Owning a family pet means lots of work.
- B. A family pet can improve your social life.
- C. Pet owners tend to have lower blood pressure.
- D. It is also a good way to develop a new hobby.
- E. Nevertheless, we sometimes tend to get a bit lazy.
- F. Of course, this holds for any pet but especially dogs and cats.
- G. Similarly, patting your cats or dogs can also has the same effect.

第三部分 语言运用(共两节,满分30分)

第一节 (共15小题;每小题1分,满分15分)

阅读下面短文,从短文后各题所给的A、B、C和D四个选项中,选出可以填入空白处的最佳选项。

Ashley Liberto asked her students to use the school's 3D imaging equipment to make a prosthetic limb(假肢) for her dog Bentley.

Bentley developed cancer after one leg became swollen, which was later 41 to save his life. Ashley described this experience as "42" and "emotional".

Bentley is now healthy and still 43 all of his usual activities, but he gets 44 easily with only three legs. So Ashley brought him in to meet the school's 3D printing students, and they were excited to get to 45.

Senior Brandon led some students in designing a prosthetic limb for Bentley. Brandon said it was nice to have a(n) 46 that would improve someone's life. Bentley 47 to his new limb with ease. And the students were 48 to see their work put to such practical, real-life 49.

“Just seeing Bentley walk with four legs and seeing the 50 this project was going to have was really something special,” Brandon said.

Bentley is 51 using a temporary limb, but the final one will be ready in a few weeks. Ashley was happy that her students stepped up in such a 52 to improve her dog’s quality of life.

“53 are amazing,” she said. “They have such an imagination. They want to 54 big things in life.”

These students really got a taste of what it’s like to be true 55. Well done!

- | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 41. A. run over | B. cut off | C. checked up | D. hidden away |
| 42. A. scary | B. embarrassing | C. disappointing | D. important |
| 43. A. hosts | B. guides | C. loves | D. changes |
| 44. A. bored | B. tired | C. confused | D. lost |
| 45. A. contact | B. repair | C. work | D. adjust |
| 46. A. project | B. qualification | C. presentation | D. urge |
| 47. A. contributed | B. added | C. turned | D. adapted |
| 48. A. surprised | B. regretful | C. proud | D. selfless |
| 49. A. scene | B. use | C. image | D. level |
| 50. A. impact | B. purpose | C. relation | D. problem |
| 51. A. constantly | B. frequently | C. typically | D. currently |
| 52. A. situation | B. way | C. matter | D. case |
| 53. A. Dogs | B. Limbs | C. Students | D. Teachers |
| 54. A. discover | B. explore | C. influence | D. do |
| 55. A. inventors | B. operators | C. artists | D. pioneers |

第二节 (共10小题;每小题1.5分,满分15分)

阅读下面短文,在空白处填入1个适当的单词或括号内单词的正确形式。

Life is not only making a living, but poetry too. With this concept, Chinese film *Poetry* shines a light on the long-neglected world of poetry, 56 (explore) the tension between the ideals of poets and the hard realities of life, as well as the 57 (persevere) and passion it takes to stick to one’s beliefs.

Featuring young actor Ji Xiangning and actor Wang Bozhao, who once 58 (star) in the film *Pushing Hands*, *Poetry* tells an inspirational story of 59 young construction worker named Hailuo who dreams of becoming a poet. In the film, after saving 20,000 yuan for living expenses, Hailuo leaves his job and begins a journey 60 (change) his life. The director tells people that *Poetry* is a reminder that poetry has the power to inspire and move us, even 61 the face of adversity.

The film quotes a large number of poems, some of 62 are suggestions provided by some poetry. *Poetry* 63 (film) in 2020, when the entire world was locked down. This 64 (natural) increased the difficulty of the shoot for both the cast and crew. But the director said he was very 65 (please) to see that poets are everywhere while making the film. In his eyes, a person who can feel the beauty of life and reflect that beauty in their heart can be a poet.

第四部分 写作(共两节,满分40分)

第一节 (满分15分)

假定你是李华,你校国际部原计划于本周六进行的郊游因天气原因而推迟,请你拟一份口头通知告知学生。内容包括:

1. 表示歉意;
2. 说明原因;
3. 时间另行通知。

注意:1. 写作词数应为 80 左右;

2. 请按如下格式在答题卡的相应位置作答。

第二节 (满分 25 分)

阅读下面材料,根据其内容和所给段落开头语续写两段,使之构成一篇完整的短文。

When I set off for my first day of a new school, I was really terrified. For months after moving here, my main company had been my mother or other adults. I could only speak German and hardly spoke a word of Dutch.

"It's always difficult to start anything new but you are going to be fine with new friends," my mother comforted me.

We went into a classroom where there were about 20 children who looked extremely busy. I spotted a girl with dark hair that was almost black. I couldn't see her face, as her back was turned toward me. In that moment, she turned around and looked at me. In a flash, we recognized each other. It was the girl from the corner grocery store where we first met! We instantly rushed into each other's arms like long-separated sisters, sentences in German flowing between us like a volcano of connection. My anxiety disappeared and I smiled.

"My name is Annelies. You can call me Anne," she said.

As two little girls who didn't know Dutch, we were thrilled to find each other, and I didn't even notice when my relieved mother walked silently out of the door. Anne was also new to the school. Her family had recently arrived from Germany. I was shy. On the contrary, Anne was outgoing and optimistic, having no difficulty adapting to a new environment and getting along with others despite the language barrier.

When we went home after school, Anne and I were thrilled to discover we were also next-door neighbors. It took me less than a minute to race up to Anne's apartment, which was a floor above ours. Then every day we walked the ten minutes to school together.

Soon we became good friends and I knew a lot about Anne; she was a girl of confidence and great determination, with an aim to become a director. That was why she loved seeing films. She told me her father was a writer and would rent a projector(放映机) on her birthday. I was touched by her father's love. I was curious what her father was like.

注意:

1. 续写词数应为 150 左右;

2. 请按如下格式在答题卡的相应位置作答。

With the will to fit in, Anne and I learned new Dutch words and phrases.

On her birthday, I went to her home early not just for the film but for my curiosity.

2022—2023 学年江西省高二下学期期末调研测试

英语参考答案及评分细则

听力材料

Text 1

W: Hi, Tom. Have you heard that two more workers will be sent to London besides Peter?

M: Oh, really? They are so lucky. I wish I could be sent there too.

Text 2

W: Why not wait here a few minutes since it's raining? I'll get my car.

M: No, thank you. Here comes the bus! It stops right at my apartment. I won't get caught in the rain.

Text 3

W: Excuse me! Does this bus go to National City Library?

M: Yes. Get off at the National City Bank and walk north for two minutes. It is right opposite the National Museum.

Text 4

W: Dad, may I have some friends over on the weekend?

M: Why?

W: For my birthday! Did you forget?

M: Oh, yes. I remember now. Of course you should have a party.

W: Thanks, Dad. That's nice of you.

Text 5

W: Weather forecast station! Can I help you?

M: Yes, I'd like to know about the weather in West London this week.

W: It will be fairly warm and there will be more sun.

M: That's great! I can walk to work.

Text 6

M: Good morning. I'm Jimmy, your tour guide. Before we set out, do you have any more questions about Ottawa?

W: Ottawa is an important agricultural province, isn't it?

M: Yes, it is. This is where the wheat comes from.

W: I see. So Ottawa is famous for its wheat.

M: It's one of the largest wheat-producing areas anyhow. About 50% of the population lives in rural areas.

Text 7

M: Hi, Alice, it's John. How are you?

W: Oh, hi, John! I was just thinking about you.

M: That's nice. I was wondering if you'd like to go to a movie tonight.

W: Sure, I'd love to! What's playing?

M: I was thinking about that new comedy *Lights Out*. What do you think?

W: Sounds great!

M: OK, I'll pick you up around 7:30. So that's around fifteen minutes later. The movie starts at 8:00.

W: See you then. Bye!

Text 8

M: Doctor, I'm afraid that I'm very ill.

W: Why do you think so?

M: I feel tired all the time, even when I wake up in the morning. I find it very difficult to do any work. My wife cooks me delicious meals but I can only eat a little.

W: I see. Please unbutton your shirt and lie down. Well, there's nothing wrong with you, I'm glad to say. You're working too hard and worrying too much. Do you take much exercise?

M: No. I spend most of time with my students and never have enough time for exercise. I start work very early in the morning and finish late in the evening. Then I can't get to sleep. Can you give me some medicine to help me to sleep?

W: You don't need any medicine. You just lack exercise.

Text 9

M: Hello, can I help you? I noticed you looking at a map of this city.

W: Yes, thank you. I'm visiting the city for the first time. What are the best things to do here?

M: Well, there are many fine shops and restaurants. The weather is usually best during the autumn, and there are concerts in the park on the weekends.

W: I think I passed one on the way here. I was attracted by the music, and now I'm not sure where I am.

M: Here, let me show you on the map. If you follow this street for five more blocks and then take a right, you will be in the main shopping district. But be careful. Many stores close at 5:00 p. m. on Sundays.

W: Oh, I'd better hurry. I only have 45 minutes before the stores close.

M: On the way, there are several restaurants. After you shop, you can walk back along this street and choose a place to eat.

W: Thank you so much! You've been very helpful.

M: You're welcome. I like people to visit my city, and I'm always happy to show them around.

Text 10

Everyone can't help smiling when they see the yellow smiley face. But do you know the story behind it?

In fact, the smiley face appeared firstly at a company in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1963. After a long hard time, the company's workers hoped to have a bright workplace. So, the company invited Harvey Ball to think of an idea to keep up people's spirits. In just 10 minutes, Ball drew a simple, smiling face on a yellow background. The price for this picture? Only \$45.

At first, the company simply printed the face on buttons to give to its workers. But the picture quickly became popular, and yellow smiley faces started appearing on everything from greeting cards to T-shirts.

Over time, many problems followed over who could truly own the popular design. But it's still widely accepted that Ball was the first to invent the yellow smiley face. Although at first Ball used it to bring happiness to the workers, the smiley face's happy message now reaches across the world.

1 -5 BAABC 6 -10 ABCAA 11 -15 BCABC 16 -20 ABBCC

A

本文是一篇应用文。文章主要介绍了几部好看的科幻影片。

21. A 细节理解题。根据 *The Adam Project* 中“and the two Adams must work together to accomplish older Adam's objective: get back to 2018 to save his wife's life”可知,Adam 的目标就是去拯救他妻子的生命。

22. B 细节理解题。比较几部影片的时长可知,电影 *Belle* 时长 121 分钟,是四部影片中最长的。
23. D 细节理解题。根据最后一部影片介绍的末句“*Brian and Charles* directed by Jim Archer offers a pleasant story.”可知,这部电影讲述的是令人愉快的故事,因此观众在看完后会露出微笑。

B

本文是一篇记叙文。文章主要讲述了 Sawadogo 带领全家利用古老的非洲农业方法进行植树造林,阻止村庄沙漠化的故事。

24. A 细节理解题。根据第一段末句“*At first, farmers in his community thought he was going mad.*”可知,人们最初嘲笑他,认为他疯了。
25. B 推理判断题。根据第三段内容可知,Sawadogo 因为他开创性的工作而成为纪录片的主角并获奖,由此推断他的做法得到了人们的认可。
26. C 细节理解题。根据第四段中“*I want to design a training programme*”可知,Sawadogo 想设计一个培训项目。
27. B 主旨大意题。本文主要讲述了 Sawadogo 带领全家种树来阻止村庄荒漠化的故事,因此判断 B 选项是最佳答案。

C

本文是一篇说明文。文章主要介绍了海龟在遇到冷水后会有休克的风险,因此人们正在努力救助休克后被冲上岸的海龟。

28. D 推理判断题。根据首段末句“*if the water temperature falls below 50 °F, sea turtles are at risk of becoming unconscious*”可知,如果天气寒冷,水温变低,海龟就有休克的风险。
29. B 词义猜测题。根据画线词后内容“*causing them to float senselessly at the surface*”可知,在寒冷的海水中的海龟会被冻得休克,失去意识,由此猜测 B 选项和画线词词义接近。
30. C 细节理解题。根据第五段末句以及第六段首句可知,海龟得到救助后会被放回海里。
31. A 推理判断题。根据末段中“*the number of sea turtles getting shock with cold water varies per year from around 50 in 2000 to about 900 in 2022*”可知,每年因冷水而导致休克的海龟数量在增多,可推断海龟遇冷水而休克的事件也呈增长的趋势。

D

本文是一篇说明文。文章介绍了科学家正在通过在人工智能中模拟人类睡眠来尝试解决大多数人工智能不能同时完成多项任务的不足。

32. A 细节理解题。根据文章第二段内容以及末段首句可知,人工智能的缺陷是不能够同时学习多项任务。
33. D 细节理解题。根据第四段中“*the AI learned to seek out side-by-side pairs*”“*Next, the team tried teaching it to find out pairs sat diagonal (对角线) from each other.*”可知,在实验中人工智能需要学习找出不同位置的配对物体。
34. C 推理判断题。根据倒数第二段末句“*Thanks to these sleep-like breaks, the network managed to learn both tasks well.*”可知,这次实验是成功的,科学家是满意的。
35. C 标题归纳题。本文介绍了人工智能的不足,并介绍了科学家正尝试通过在人工智能模型中添加睡眠中的某种阶段来解决这个问题,由此推断 C 选项适合作为文章最佳标题。

本文是一篇说明文。文章介绍了养宠物对人们的积极影响和好处,比如可以帮助人们减压以及保持健康等。

36. A 根据后句表示的转折内容可知,A 选项“养宠物意味着很多工作”符合语境。
37. E 前句提到“人需要健康”,后句则指出“如果这听起来像你,养狗可能是最好的治疗方法”,由此推断 E 选项“然而,我们有时会变得有点懒”符合语境,可以承接上下文。

38. F 后句提到了养狗和猫的好处,因此 F 选项“当然,这适用于任何宠物,尤其是狗和猫”符合语境,内容和狗、猫有关。
39. B 本段通过介绍狗能够成为人们社交互动的助燃剂来说明宠物可以帮助人们改善社交生活,交更多的朋友。故 B 选项“养宠物可以改善你的社交生活”可以作为本段主题句。
40. G 前句提到了看鱼游泳会让你的忧虑消失,因此 G 选项“同样地,拍拍你的猫或狗也会有同样的效果”可以承接上文,同样说明“宠物能够帮助我们放松”这一观点。

本文是一篇记叙文。文章讲述了学生们用 3D 打印技术帮助截肢的小狗打印并安装假肢的故事。

41. B 考查动词短语。根据下文的“three legs”可知,小狗因患癌而不得已被截肢。
42. A 考查形容词。从情理可知,小狗被截肢后的一段时间会害怕、情绪不稳定。
43. C 考查动词。根据语义可知,现在小狗 Bentley 仍然喜欢玩它以前喜爱的活动。
44. B 考查形容词。根据转折内容可知,小狗 Bentley 因为只有三条腿,所以非常容易疲惫。
45. C 考查动词。根据本句内容可知,在听到这个任务后,学生们立即行动起来。
46. A 考查名词。根据下文出现的“project”可知,学生们非常喜欢这个帮助他人的项目。
47. D 考查动词。从后句内容判断,小狗很容易地适应了假肢。
48. C 考查形容词。孩子们看到他们的作品被应用到现实生活中会非常骄傲。
49. B 考查名词。学生们设计的假肢真正发挥了作用,put sth. to use 意为“把……付诸实践、利用”。
50. A 考查名词。小狗利用假肢能够行动自然,所以孩子们看到了他们的劳动对他人产生的积极影响。
51. D 考查副词。根据后句内容可知,目前小狗戴的假肢只是暂时的,最终的假肢将在几周之后制作完成。
52. B 考查名词。句意:阿什利很高兴她的学生们用这样的方式提高了她的狗狗的生活质量。根据句意可知,此处是固定短语:in a way“以这样的方式”。
53. C 考查名词。通过后句内容可以判断这句话是老师对自己学生的赞叹、感激。
54. D 考查动词。通过语境可知,老师认为学生们还会在人生中做更大的事情。
55. A 考查名词。孩子们为小狗设计并制作假肢,因此他们是小发明家。

本文是一篇说明文。文章通过介绍一部名为《诗》的电影展示了诗歌对人们的激励作用以及该电影的导演对诗人的定义。

56. exploring 考查非谓语动词。在句中 shines 是谓语动词,所以判断 explore 应该用非谓语动词形式;且逻辑主语和 explore 之间是主动关系,可以判断应用现在分词作状语。
57. perseverance 考查名词。根据空前的冠词 the 以及 and 后面的名词 passion 可以判断应该填名词形式。
58. starred 考查时态。从句中缺少谓语动词,根据“once”判断应该用动词的一般过去式。
59. a 考查冠词。根据句意可知,此处表示“一个”,是泛指概念。故填 a。
60. to change 考查非谓语动词。设空处在句中作目的状语。故填不定式 to change。
61. in 考查介词。固定短语:in the face of 意为“面对”。
62. which 考查定语从句。前后两个句子间没有连词,因此判断后句是“介词+关系代词”引导的定语从句,先行词是 poems。故填 which。
63. was filmed 考查时态语态。句子缺少谓语动词,根据句意以及时间状语“in 2020”可以判断填一般过去时的被动语态,主语是单数。故填 was filmed。
64. naturally 考查副词。设空处在句中修饰动词 increased,故判断用副词作状语。
65. pleased 考查形容词。根据句意可知,此处表示“人感到高兴”。故填 pleased。

One possible version :

Boys and girls,

May I have your attention, please?

On behalf of the Students' Union, I'm sorry to tell you that the spring outing originally scheduled this Saturday will have to be put off. This morning we checked the weather forecast and found there would be a storm on that day. Then we contacted the staff at the local weather station who confirmed that information and also warned us not to go out in such weather. So please forgive us for bringing you the inconvenience. As for when we will go on the outing, I'm afraid that you have to wait with patience for further notice. If you have any question, please be free to contact me.

Thank you for your attention!

One possible version :

With the will to fit in, Anne and I learned new Dutch words and phrases. Anne worked harder and made greater progress than me. Very quickly we could speak fluent Dutch. Over time, we felt like Dutch girls and became friends with other children. One morning on our way to school, Anne pressed an envelope into my hands with my name on it. "What's this?" I asked with curiosity. She smiled and asked me to open it. It was an invitation to her birthday party on Sunday. "Father's renting a film projector again on my birthday," Anne said excitedly.

On her birthday, I went to her home early not just for the film but for my curiosity. I was curious what a great writer looked like. As I entered the living room, I spotted the projector in a back corner and noticed a man on a wheelchair behind it. Seeing my surprised look, Anne explained to me that was her father, who lost his legs in an accident but didn't let the disability stop him living a meaningful life. Suddenly, I realized the reason for Anne's optimism and determination. From that day on, I changed, becoming more hard-working and grateful to life.