

2022~2023 学年高三年级模拟试卷

英 语

2023.2

本试卷分四个部分。满分 150 分，考试用时 120 分钟。

第一部分 听力(共两节，满分 30 分)

第一节(共 5 小题；每小题 1.5 分，满分 7.5 分)

听下面 5 段对话。每段对话后有一个小题，从题中所给的 A、B、C 三个选项选出最佳选项。听完每段对话后，你都有 10 秒钟的时间来回答有关小题和阅读下一小题。每段对话仅读一遍。

()1. What do the signals show today?

A. "Stop" in both ways. B. "Go" in both ways. C. "Stop" in one way.

()2. Where did the man go yesterday evening?

A. To the hotel. B. To the airport. C. To the office.

()3. What does the man probably want the woman to do?

A. Get him a new chicken sandwich.
B. Bring him a different sandwich.
C. Give him his money back.

()4. What does the woman see?

A. A bird. B. A picture. C. A tail.

()5. Where are the two speakers?

A. In the forest. B. On the beach. C. In the mountains.

第二节(共 15 小题；每小题 1.5 分，满分 22.5 分)

听下面 5 段对话或独白。每段对话或独白后有几个小题，从题中所给的 A、B、C 三个选项 中选出最佳选项。听每段对话或独白前，你将有时间阅读各个小题，每小题 5 秒钟；听完后， 各小题将给出 5 秒钟的作答时间。每段对话或独白读两遍。

听第 6 段材料，回答第 6、7 题。

()6. Why does the woman want the man to watch Bruno?

A. The man is available at any time.
B. She shares the house with the man.
C. Bruno knows the man.

()7. Who might Bruno be?

A. A dog. B. A cat. C. A mouse.

听第 7 段材料，回答第 8 至 10 题。

()8. When did the man see the fox?

A. Last night. B. This morning. C. Yesterday morning.

()9. Where was the man when he saw the fox?

A. At Jamie's house. B. At school. C. Inside his house.

()10. What did the man feel about the animal?

A. Excited. B. Uninterested. C. Sad.

听第 8 段材料，回答第 11 至 13 题。

()11. What are the speakers mainly talking about?

A. Their favorite animals. B. The development of creatures.
C. The strange behaviors of animals.

()12. Which creatures' behavior confuses the woman most?

- A. Ducks'. B. Kangaroos'. C. Camels'.
- ()13. How many types of fish does the woman mention?
A. One. B. Two. C. Three.
- 听第9段材料，回答第14至17题。
- ()14. What do we know about Fred?
A. He hasn't got over the flu. B. He has got two kids.
C. He comes to office every day.
- ()15. Who is Karen?
A. The man's wife. B. The man's co-worker. C. The man's daughter.
- ()16. How many kids does the man have?
A. One. B. Two. C. Three.
- ()17. What does the man usually do on weekends with his kids?
A. Give them piano lessons. B. Do interesting activities with them.
C. Watch a movie all night long.
- 听第10段材料，回答第18至20题。
- ()18. What is a difference between loans and grants?
A. The use of the money. B. The need for paying back.
C. The amount of availability.
- ()19. How does the website help the students?
A. By giving help on writing essays.
B. By providing a way to find proper scholarships.
C. By offering free living advice.
- ()20. What information is included in the form to fill out?
A. College majors. B. College functions.
C. Education level and experience.

第二部分 阅读(共两节，满分50分)

第一节(共15小题；每小题2.5分，满分37.5分)

阅读下列短文，从每题所给的A、B、C、D四个选项中选出最佳选项。

A

The Chinese written language originated very early. However, people began to like the art of writing, and pay attention to the creator's thinking and spirit since the period between the Late Han Dynasty and Wei Jin Dynasty. The Chinese calligraphy fonts(字体) gradually evolved from oracle, Chinese bronze inscriptions and silk manuscripts to the following five main schools:

School	Representative Master	Feature
Seal Script	Li Si	There are Big Zhuan and Small Zhuan. The Big Zhuan includes all the ancient Chinese calligraphy fonts before Qin Dynasty. The Small Zhuan are the characters commonly used by officials after Qin united China. These characters feature balanced left and right parts and a bit complicated structures.
Official Script	Cai Yong	A simplified form of script since seal characters were too complicated for officials to use when copying

		documents.
Regular Script	Ouyang Xun, Yan Zhenqing, Liu Gongquan	Also named Zhenshu or Zhengshu, Kaishu is regular with a tight structure and fluent strokes.
Cursive Hand	Zhang Xu, Huai Su	Caoshu is characterized by sketchy, simplified forms of characters, often distorted or exaggerated to achieve an internal rhythmic appearance within the compositions of characters.
Running Hand	Wang Xizhi, Yan Zhenqing, Su Shi	Xingshu is something between the regular script and the cursive scripts in the initial period and now is between the official script and cursive(草写体的) hand. Chinese masters have always compared the three styles of writing, Kaishu, Xingshu, Caoshu to people standing, walking and running respectively.

()21. The difference between Seal Script and Official Script lies in _____.

- A. the difficulty to write B. their function in use
C. who often wrote them D. how cursive they are

()22. Which school is compared to people walking according to the text?

- A. Official Script. B. Running Hand.
C. Cursive Hand. D. Regular Script.

()23. If you want to practice both Regular Script and Running Hand, who is a better choice based on this article?

- A. Ouyang Xun. B. Yan Zhenqing. C. Zhang Xu. D. Wang Xizhi.

B

A small accident led to profound changes in the life of Yang Li, an artisan(手艺人), who is from the Miao ethnic group. In 2011, Yang, from Tongren city in Guizhou province, created leaf-vein(脉络) embroidery(刺绣) three months after a leaf cut her hand.

The work is a perfect combination of traditional embroidery patterns and the natural textures(纹理) of the leaves. It has a unique aesthetic appeal of traditional embroidery matched with the characteristics of contemporary craftsmanship.

As a native Miao woman with an inborn love of embroidery, Yang opened a folk culture products shop with her sister in 2011. "People are becoming less familiar with traditional handicrafts, and I want to contribute all I can to change this situation," Yang says. At first, the small shop did not earn significant income as there were many similar products on the market. She gradually realized that it was important to establish her own brand and launch products with distinct features.

That's when she was inspired by the cut. In July 2011, Yang accidentally cut her hand on a thorny leaf when she was hiking in Fanjing Mountain. A bold idea came into her head: "There are leaf-vein(叶脉) bookmarks and leaf-vein paintings. Why has nobody created leaf-vein embroidery yet?"

Obviously, the reason behind this is that embroidering on leaves requires delicate skills that few possess. The biggest technical challenge Yang faced was improving the flexibility of the leaves and making them as soft as cloth. On Oct 16, a day she will never forget, Yang finally created a shiny, thin and unbreakable piece of leaf vein. Her idea of leaf-vein embroidery came to completion

after hundreds of experiments.

Two years later, Yang opened an embroidery processing factory and offered jobs to more than 500 laid-off female workers, rural women and people with disabilities. “I will keep doing the leaf-vein embroidery for the rest of my life because it is meaningful, ” she says.

- ()24. What do we know about Yang Li's folk culture products shop?
- A. It was inspired by a cut by a leaf in her hand.
 - B. It was a failure before she began to sell similar products.
 - C. It was intended to preserve traditional Chinese handicrafts.
 - D. It perfectly combined traditional Chinese books and drawings.
- ()25. What is Yang Li's difficulty in making her leaf-vein embroidery?
- A. Finding cloth with vein-like texture.
 - B. Creating a new embroidery pattern.
 - C. Changing leaves into unbreakable cloth.
 - D. Softening up leaves for better flexibility.
- ()26. Which of the following best describes Yang Li?
- A. Ambitious and innovative.
 - B. Caring and patient.
 - C. Persistent and demanding.
 - D. Humorous and optimistic.
- ()27. What is the text mainly about?
- A. An embroidery skill.
 - B. A promising career.
 - C. A cultural shop.
 - D. An admirable artisan.

C

Humans have always assumed that there is a huge gulf between animal behavior and human development. However, recent research into animals shows that animals are continuously designing innovative methods to finish their tasks. Examining the nature and results of their creativity can help us understand evolution.

Research shows that animals too can be creative. By inventing new behavioral patterns and adjusting their behavior to new contexts, as well as to changes in social and ecological environments, researchers show that animal innovation too can be diverse. For instance, chimpanzees(猩猩) use tools such as sharp spines and stalks to remove the hearts of palm vegetables from trees. Herring gulls(鲱鱼海鸥) found out quite a cruel way of killing rabbits—drowning them in the sea.

Innovative species tend to survive when they enter new places, but novel behavior cannot be recognized unless “normal” behavior is studied. Researchers can now count and document the innovations that have been created by species, which would help them to quantify their creativity. Studies also show us that all animals are not equally inventive, with primates(灵长目动物) tending to be more innovative due to their bigger brains.

The greatest scientific significance has been the innovation shown by animals such as apes, capuchins and macaques among primates. These species of primates possess the biggest brains in proportion to their body sizes. They are also heavy tool users. Their broad diets and complex forms of learning are also insightful. They indicate an evolutionary strategy that gave them new solutions to life's challenges.

However, even if these animals show innovativeness, they do not have the ability to improve upon solutions of others. Unless they share information accurately and copy each other's inventions, their creative inventions are likely to vanish before they can be innovated further. This ability can

be managed only by humans, for we are able to build on shared knowledge.

- ()28. What does the underlined word “gulf” in the first paragraph mean?
A. Difference. B. Conflict. C. Balance. D. Connection.
- ()29. Why does the author mention “chimpanzees” and “Herring gulls” in Paragraph 2?
A. They are both creative.
B. They are both heavy tool users.
C. They create innovations in different ways.
D. They kill other animals in the same cruel way.
- ()30. What can we learn about animal creativity?
A. It is equally distributed among animals.
B. It helps animals adapt to the environment.
C. Animals' innovations are easy to be identified.
D. Animals' innovations are facing huge challenges.
- ()31. What aspect of animals does the last paragraph mainly talk about?
A. Their ability to share information accurately.
B. Their willingness to learn from each other.
C. Their inability to take creativity forward.
D. Their unwillingness to cooperate effectively.

D

Personally, there is nothing I love more than asking “stupid” questions, especially the ones that have no right answers. I remember once asking some kids what time it was, at home, in Singapore, and finally on the Moon. After a long giggling silence, finally a shy girl ventured(试探地说) to say that it was “every time”, followed by an energetic Einstein who shouted it was “no time”. Both kids shared that week's Noble Prize, because no humans live in that distant world and time is a human construct.

As a matter of fact, we are all good at asking questions by nature, but sadly as we age, we get accustomed to the world around us and take things for granted. We became more results-oriented(注重结果的) and concentrate our efforts on success. If something is working, don't fix it or worry about the cause; just relax and go with the flow. Conventional wisdom may work well, but that does not mean it is always right. Throughout history, it has been those who have questioned conventional wisdom and those who have challenged our common-sense notions of the world that have been the ones to have ushered in(开启) the major advancements of human civilization.

In 500 B. C., the ancient Greeks wondered whether the Earth was round because sailors on the sea had noticed that the farther south they went, the more different stars they saw in the sky. Why was the sky changing? Nearly 2, 000 years later, the Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei became interested in this question and ended up demonstrating the “crazy” concept of heliocentrism(日心说), in which the Sun lies at the center of the universe while the Earth revolves(旋转) around it at 30 kilometers per second. But if the Earth is spinning around so quickly, why aren't we being thrown off of the surface of the planet? The answer to this question would not end up being revealed to us for another century.

People like routine, but past performance is no guarantee of future results. While those who challenge conventional wisdom tend to be subjected to abuse, the progress of humankind would have otherwise been impossible without these persistent people and their “stupid” questions.

()32. What is the best title of this article?

- A. Asking “stupid” questions
- B. Is conventional wisdom useless?
- C. Some major advancements of human civilization
- D. What caused them to ask conventional questions?

()33. What commonly happens to us when we grow older according to the author?

- A. We lay too much emphasis on process.
- B. We still refuse to relax and go with the flow.
- C. We start to challenge common-sense notions of the world.
- D. We gradually lose the ability to question conventional wisdom.

()34. Who might have solved the question “why aren't we being thrown off of the surface of the planet”?

- A. An ancient Greek scientist living in 500 B. C.
- B. Galileo Galilei living between 1564 and 1642.
- C. Isaac Newton living between 1643 and 1727.
- D. Albert Einstein living between 1879 and 1955.

()35. How does the author develop his writing on the whole?

- A. By comparison and contrast.
- B. By using supporting examples.
- C. By using time and space order.
- D. By generalization and definition.

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可以填入空白处的最佳选项。选项中有两项为多余选项。

According to a 2022 report, nearly a quarter of people had relationships that were negatively affected by contradictory views during COVID-19. Even in normal times, we gain and lose friends all the time. 36 And, once you do, what's the best way forward?

Be clear and responsible

Beyond conflicts over core values, there are many reasons why people stop being friends: maybe you just drifted apart after graduating; maybe one of you has hit a milestone (parenthood, say) and the other can't relate. 37 Ask yourself why you're considering ending the friendship. Next: have you told that to the other person?

When to let it fade away

38 He adds that a gradual fade can be fine—if both parties are aware it's happening. In reality, there are certain situations where ghosting is the best strategy. Friendships can take on toxic(有毒的) qualities. According to one survey, 84 per cent of women and 75 per cent of men report having had a rude friend. 39

Find a silver lining

No matter how a friendship ends, it hurts to let go of someone you love. “Struggling to accept the situation is normal, ” says Thomas. 40 Counterintuitive(违反直觉的) as it may seem, finding something to be grateful for in the former friendship can help, and it can also stop you from focusing on what you could have done differently. Thomas stresses that all relationships, at their core, are part of how we learn and grow.

- A. Forget the core of friendship.
- B. No matter the context, explaining clearly is key.
- C. After all, human beings are attachment creature.

- D. Thus, it will inevitably lead to a close friendship.
 E. But how do you decide when a friendship has run its course?
 F. In that case, prioritize your well-being and quietly cut ties without guilt.
 G. “Sometimes we can do nothing to decide the time, ” says Thomas, a psychologist.

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、D 四个选项中选出可以填入空白处的最佳选项。

I never imagined that an interstate trip could be so exciting.

But when your world has become smaller since the pandemic hit two-and-a-bit years ago, and then slowly 41, the most ordinary experience gives new 42 to life. And so it was with me when I was 43 given the chance to take my first flight in more than two years.

I'd forgotten how it felt to be among the people coming and going. I got to the airport two hours before boarding. Time for the bar and, of course, 44.

That group of young Arab women laughing and posing for photographs by the expansive windows, aircraft in the 45, lighting up the place with their happiness.

The man in the corner drinking alone. Just another one of the 70, 000 or so stories that would pass through the airport 46.

I've never been a calm flyer. But when the plane took off I was 47, in that moment of weightlessness as the wheels 48 Earth, leaning towards the window to watch everything below becoming smaller and smaller.

Is it possible that the denial of so much during the pandemic lockdown had added new 49 to what was the ordinary? I think so. The plane ride, the hotel stay, and the social occasion all now gave me a sense of 50 that might have previously only aroused in me nothing more than a certain nonchalance(若无其事) or even 51.

Last June, just ahead of the long Sydney lockdown, a friend 52 a birthday party. That experience for me would continue happily through some of the 53 months of the lockdown that would follow. 54 the repeated fear that the pandemic holds over us, the memory of that celebration still keeps its bright, warm light in my mind.

That's what happens when everything old is new again, when 55 is rediscovered as a virtue.

- ()41. A. disappears B. expands C. escapes D. emerges
 ()42. A. change B. outcome C. panic D. meaning
 ()43. A. finally B. merely C. originally D. frequently
 ()44. A. book-reading B. stranger-chatting C. story-telling D. people-watching
 ()45. A. circumstance B. background C. situation D. maintenance
 ()46. A. on a daily basis B. once in a while C. in a special way D. all of a sudden
 ()47. A. anxious B. elegant C. excited D. energetic
 ()48. A. slid B. attached C. floated D. departed
 ()49. A. liberation B. company C. struggle D. appeal
 ()50. A. fear B. joy C. regret D. chaos
 ()51. A. tiredness B. happiness C. kindness D. brightness

- ()52. A. held B. cancelled C. attended D. forgot
 ()53. A. permanent B. harmonious C. difficult D. dynamic
 ()54. A. Apart from B. Despite C. Similar to D. Without
 ()55. A. opportunity B. superiority C. equality D. simplicity

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。

It was a successful afternoon all-round for France on Sunday. The team 56 (book) its ticket to the quarterfinals of the 2022 World Cup with 57 31 victory over Poland. And members of the team hit a number of historic marks.

France's goalkeeper Hugo Lloris made his 142nd appearance, 58 (come) level(平齐的) with Lilian Thuram as his country's most-capped player. Up front, Olivier Giroud became France's 59 (lead) men's scorer with his 52nd goal for Les Bleus, breaking Thierry Henry's record.

60, the star of the show on Sunday was Kylian Mbappé, 61 continued his record-setting pace with a forceful double. At just 23 years of age, Mbappé is one of the most exciting talents in world football, and 62 (consistent) delivers on the biggest stage for France.

Having helped secure the nation's second World Cup title in 2018 as a 19-year-old, he is continuing his 63 (dominate) four years later. His double in the match 64 Poland means he has scored five goals at this year's tournament(锦标赛), as he leads the race for the Golden Boot award, two goals ahead of Lionel Messi, Giroud and a host of other players.

However, more significantly, Mbappé has scored nine goals in World Cups, becoming the first player 65 (reach) that mark before his 24th birthday. Mbappé passed two footballing legends with his double. Both Diego Maradona and Cristiano Ronaldo have eight World Cup goals to their names.

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, 你在常州的英国笔友 David 邀请你下周五去参观常州博物馆, 但你因有事不能前往, 请用英语写一封回信给 David, 要点包括:

1. 谢绝邀请;
2. 解释理由;
3. 建议改期。

注意: 1. 词数不能少于 80;
 2. 可适当增加细节, 以使行文连贯。

Dear David,

Yours,

Li Hua

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。

“Where's the rest of my paper?” thundered an angry Papa Bear, storming into the living room. It didn't take him long to find Brother Bear and the sports section.

“I just borrowed it,” said Brother. Papa snatched it up and plumped down in his easy chair. Brother wandered into the kitchen looking for sympathy from Mama Bear. “Gee,” he said, “what's eating him?” “Your father looks forward to his evening paper,” Mama said, “and he has a perfect right to be annoyed when half of it is missing—and furthermore, thank you not to refer to your father as him!”

She stomped out of the kitchen.

“Why not? He's a him, isn't he? Gosh, ” said Brother, “what's eating her? ”

What was “eating” Mama was Sister Bear. Sister had been on the phone with Lizzy Bruin for almost an hour.

“But Mama! ” she protested when she was told to say good-bye.

“Don't ‘But Mama’ me! ” said Mama Bear. “This is not your private phone. You've had all day to talk to Lizzy at school, and you'll have all day to talk to her tomorrow. So hang up that phone now! ”

Sister did as she was told.

“Phew! ” breathed Brother as he fell into the seat beside Cousin Fred on the school bus.

“Tough morning? ” asked Fred.

“You better believe it! ” said Sister, taking the seat Lizzy had saved for her.

The four compared notes on the way to school. The children agreed that while there was no doubt that their parents loved them, they were a little difficult to get along with sometimes. They nagged(唠叨); they said no a lot; and they never wanted kids to have any fun.

“Hey, ” said Brother as they got off the bus, “what are we going to do for the Parents Night Talent Show? ” “Don't know, ” said Lizzy. “Let's think about it.”

When the four searched their brains, Brother snapped his fingers and said, “I've got it! Remember what we were talking about just now? ”

“Sure, ” said Fred. “We were saying how grownups can be a big pain.”

注意:

1. 续写词数应为 150 左右;
2. 请按如下格式在相应位置作答。

“Well , ” said Brother, “let's put on a play about that, and call it ...”

Despite the difficulties in the preparation, especially costumes, their big day came finally.

2022~2023 学年高三年级模拟试卷(常州)

英语参考答案及听力材料

第一部分

1~5 ACCAB 6~10 CBACA 11~15 BABBA 16~20 CBBBC

第二部分

第一节

21~23 ABB 24~27 CDAD 28~31 ACBC 32~35 ADCB

第二节

36~40 EBGFC

第三部分

第一节

41~45 BDADB 46~50 ACDDDB 51~55 AACBD

第二节

56. booked 57. a 58. coming 59. leading 60. However/Still/Nevertheless/Nonetheless
61. who 62. consistently 63. domination/dominance 64. against/with 65. to reach/to have reached

第四部分

第一节

Dear David,

Thanks a lot for your invitation to visit Changzhou Museum. I really wish to go with you, but I'm terribly sorry to say that I can't make it.

Eager as I am to join you, it is much to my regret that I cannot make the time, because I will be sitting my final exam next Friday. Is it possible we rearrange a time after my exam for the visit?

I sincerely hope you could accept my apology and give me a reply at your earliest convenience.

Yours,

Li Hua

第二节

“Well, ” said Brother, “let's put on a play about that, and call it ...”
“The Trouble with Grownups! ” shouted all the others. “Sensational! ” said Sister as they slapped hands, delighted with the idea of showing parents how hard it is being a cub. Putting on a play is easier said than done. You have to write it, figure out who is going to play the parts, then memorize it. Then you have to worry about costumes and scenery. The cubs did all that. It was hard, but it was fun, and they did it all in secret. The four practiced their parts, and before they knew it, it was time for the big Parents Night Talent Show.

Despite the difficulties in the preparation, especially costumes, their big day came finally. The audience of parents laughed and laughed when they saw how they seemed to their cubs. Mama laughed until tears rolled down her cheeks. Papa laughed, too, but not as much as Mama. They both thought the play, which was a big surprise to them, was very well done. They admitted that it helped them understand what it was like being a cub. Later, when they were going back home, Papa said, “I have a better idea how cubs feel now.” Mama agreed. “After all, we

were cubs once ourselves, ” said Mama. “And here's a thought: You'll be grownups someday and, each probably have cubs of your own.” Brother and Sister thought about that for a moment. They looked at each other. Then they looked out into the distance and thought about it. It was something to think about.

听力材料

Text 1

M: These traffic signals aren't working properly. Yesterday they showed “stop” in both directions. The day before it was “go” in both directions. It should be “stop” in one way and “go” in the other.

W: Look at them now. They're back to how they were yesterday.

Text 2

M: I didn't see you last night at the office. Are you OK?

W: I was so busy. First I was late to meet my sister at the airport, and then we went to the hotel and it was full!

M: I hope everything's OK!

Text 3

M: I apologize. I need to return this chicken sandwich. It's totally undercooked. You can see the meat is not done.

W: I'm so sorry. I will have our kitchen make a new one.

M: It's not necessary. I just want to return it and go.

Text 4

W: Here, take a look at that one. It's in the tree across from us. I don't believe I've ever seen it before.

M: Oh, it's beautiful! According to my book, it's very special because it has a blue tail. They don't normally live around here.

Text 5

M: What a great view! And the sand is like flour. It is so soft under my feet. I like it a lot.

W: I prefer this place to those mountains with rocks and little stones. It is so much nicer to wander about here.

Text 6

W: Are you available this weekend to watch Bruno? I have to go to the city and I don't want to leave him alone. He will tear apart my house.

M: I can't this weekend. I'm actually going to a music festival. I can ask my younger sister to do it.

W: Bruno doesn't do that well with strangers. That's why I asked you.

M: It's not like she would have to take him out for walks or anything. She just has to sit around your house, right? Maybe you should change a litter box and feed him, unless he fills up on a mouse or something.

W: I guess so. Wait, I don't have mice!

Text 7

M: Sarah, you'll never believe what I saw yesterday after Jamie's party!

W: What is it? You were acting like you saw a spirit.

M: It was just before midnight when I heard a noise outside. When I looked through my window, I saw a white fox running across the grassland! How lucky I was!

W: A white fox? I thought those only live in really cold places.

M: I think it was a special snowy-white animal. I looked it up on the Internet this morning just to make sure I wasn't going crazy. The foxes' white coat happens when none of their fur or skin has a certain chemical that makes the dark colors. It can happen to almost any animal!

W: I am surprised we did not learn about that in school. I am so envious! Next time you should take a picture!

Text 8

M: Isn't the development of life an amazing thing? I think it's unbelievable how creatures have adapted to their surroundings.

W: Yes, look at kangaroos and camels with their strange shapes. But one thing that puzzles me the most is how ducks can sit in freezing water and not get cold.

M: I see what you mean. They are warm-blooded, aren't they?

W: And look at fish. There is one with a sword on its nose and one with a hammer.

M: The funniest kind is the one with a fishing pole on its nose. That is so strange.

W: And we are related to monkeys. Which animal do you think I most look like?

M: I would say a little mouse rather than a monkey. What about me?

W: You are like a faithful little dog.

M: Hey, dogs aren't the most intelligent creatures. I suppose mice aren't either, but they are quite cute.

W: Once again, an intelligent conversation turns into something very silly!

Text 9

W: Morning, Jim. Fred has been out sick from the office for a few days now. Is he OK?

M: Good morning, Lisa. Fred is getting over the flu actually. I have sent his work to him through his email. I think he actually is doing better work at home, even with his two kids around.

W: Oh, no! It's wise for him to call out sick then. It would be terrible if everyone in the office got sick too. If my daughter Hannah gets ill then my husband will need to stay home with her, since I cannot take off so many days. How are your kids?

M: The kids are good. Karen is home with them while she is still on her work break from having the baby. Graham and Sarah are both starting piano lessons next week, though.

W: I'm sure Karen has her hands full at home with the twins and the baby Peter.

M: Oh, yes. Even though she is tired, she still smiles so wide when I come home. I am envious that she gets to spend so much time with kids. I always make sure our weekends are full of fun activities I can do with them, because by the time I get home they are almost ready for bed. Usually we just watch a movie together till they fall asleep.

Text 10

College can be very expensive in the U. S. Depending on their families' financial situations, students may receive financial aid in the form of loans or grants. Loans must be paid back to the lender, but grants(助学金) are usually free aid from either the government or the schools themselves to pay for educational expenses. Another form of financial help is scholarships. Like grants, they are financial assistance that does not need to be repaid. Scholarships are often given by private organizations or individuals. A student must fill out an application or write an essay to be awarded the scholarship. Scholarships are in high demand, so there is usually a lot of competition. There are different kinds of scholarships, and students often do not know what financial aid could be available to them. In order to help with the processes of searching and applying, some websites

such as FastWeb.com assist students in finding scholarships that match their abilities and interests. FastWeb.com offers free scholarship searches as well as other school and work-related help in areas like general financial aid and career planning. On the website, there is a form to fill out. This provides information like education level, interests, and experience. Another popular feature of FastWeb.com is the college search function. Students can look up colleges according to location, major, or a combination of these.

