

2021—2022 下学期线上居家测试

英语

第一命题人：闫红芳 第二命题人：杨雪 审核人：闫红芳

注意事项：

1. 答卷前，考生务必将自己的姓名、准考证号填写在答题卡上。
2. 回答选择题时，选出每小题答案后，用铅笔把答题卡上对应题目的答案标号涂黑。如需改动，用橡皮擦干净后，再选涂其他答案标号。回答非选择题时，将答案写在答题卡上，写在试卷上无效。
3. 考试结束后，将本试卷和答题卡一并交回。

第一部分 听力（共两节，满分 30 分）

做题时，先将答案标在试卷上。录音内容结束后，你将有两分钟的时间将试卷上的答案转涂到答题卡上。

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 三个选项中选出最佳选项，并标在试卷的相应位置。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。

例：How much is the shirt?

- A. £ 19.15. B. £ 9.18. C. £ 9.15. 答案是 C。

1. Where are the speakers going to meet?
A. In a lab. B. In a cafeteria. C. In a classroom.
2. What will Jeff take to school tomorrow?
A. An apple pie. B. A carrot cake. C. A roast chicken.
3. What are the speakers talking about?
A. Visiting a neighbor. B. Getting a library. C. Attending a meeting.
4. What will Jim probably do this weekend?
A. Finish a project. B. Take a class. C. Have a rest.
5. Why does Amanda want to learn to play the guitar?
A. To record popular songs. B. To perform her own music. C. To become a guitar teacher.

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. What does the woman want to do?
A. Open a bank account. B. Cancel a credit card. C. Withdraw some money.
7. Where will the woman go?

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- A. Brown College. B. Dudley Road. C. Kingfield Street.

听第 7 段材料，回答第 8 至 10 题。

8. What does the woman do?

- A. She's a secretary. B. She's a manager. C. She's a salesperson.

9. What time will the meeting probably be over?

- A. At 1:00. B. At 2:00. C. At 3:00.

10. What does the man want to do before Friday?

- A. Meet Mr. Smith. B. Write a document. C. Move to a new office.

听第 8 段材料，回答第 11 至 13 题。

11. Whose graduation day is it today?

- A. Annie's. B. Steve's. C. Jane's.

12. What does the man suggest the woman do?

- A. Arrive early. B. Sit near the stage. C. Take some pictures.

13. What is the relationship between the speakers?

- A. Brother and sister. B. Fellow teachers. C. Schoolmates.

听第 9 段材料，回答第 14 至 17 题。

14. How does Laura sound at the beginning of the conversation?

- A. Anxious. B. Regretful. C. Surprised.

15. What do we know about Peter?

- A. He has got a new job. B. He has four children. C. He has a big house.

16. Why did Jim choose to work from home?

- A. To look after the kids. B. To get more sleep. C. To accompany his wife.

17. What is Peter going to do this afternoon?

- A. Hold a dinner. B. Give Sally a call. C. Attend a meeting.

听第 10 段材料，回答第 18 至 20 题。

18. What is Jennifer Green doing?

- A. Conducting a class. B. Presenting a speaker. C. Recommending a book.

19. What is Professor Bastian's book about?

- A. Tips for escaping unhappiness.

- B. Benefits of painful experiences.

- C. Ways to develop reading ability.

20. What is Professor Bastian going to do next?

- A. Share his stories.

- B. Discuss his plans.

- C. Explain his views.

第二部分 阅读理解 (共两节，满分 35 分)

第一节 (共 10 小题；每小题 2.5 分，满分 25 分)

阅读下列短文，从每题所给的 A、B、C 和 D 四个选项中，选出最佳选项，并在答题纸上将该项涂黑。

A

For nearly a decade now, Merebeth has been a self-employed pet transport specialist. Her pet transport job was born of the financial crisis (危机) in the late 2000s. The downturn hit the real estate (房地产) firm where she had worked for ten years as an office manager. The firm went broke and left her looking for a new job. One day, while driving near her home, she saw a dog wandering on the road,

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clearly lost. She took it home, and her sister in Denver agreed to take it. This was a loving home for sure, but 1,600 miles away. It didn't take long for Merebeth to decide to drive the dog there herself. It was her first road trip to her new job.

Merebeth's pet delivery service satisfies her wanderlust. It has taken her to every state in the US except Montana, Washington and Oregon, she says proudly. If she wants to visit a new place, she will simply find a pet with transport needs there. She travels in all weathers. She has driven through 55 mph winds in Wyoming, heavy flooding and storms in Alabama and total whiteout conditions in Kansas.

This wanderlust is inherited from her father, she says. He moved their family from Canada to California when she was one year old, because he wanted them to explore a new place together. As soon as she graduated from high school she left home to live on Catalina Island off the California coast, away from her parents, where she enjoyed a life of sailing and off-road biking.

It turns out that pet transporting pays quite well at about \$30,000 per year before tax. She doesn't work in summer, as it would be unpleasantly hot for the animals in the car, even with air conditioning. As autumn comes, she gets restless — the same old wanderlust returning. It's a call she must handle alone, though. Merebeth says, "When I'm on the road I'm just in my own world. I've always been independent-spirited and I just feel strongly that I must help animals."

21. Why did Merebeth change her job?

- | | |
|---|--|
| A. Her former employer was out of business. | B. She was tired of working in the office. |
| C. Her sister asked her to move to Denver. | D. She wanted to work near her home. |

22. The word "wanderlust" in paragraph 2 means a desire to _____.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| A. make money | B. try various jobs |
| C. travel to different places | D. be close to nature |

23. What can we learn about Merebeth in her new job?

- | | |
|---|---|
| A. She has chances to see rare animals. | B. She relies on herself the whole time. |
| C. She works hard throughout the year. | D. She earns a basic and tax-free salary. |

B

The United States rose to global power on the strength of its technology, and the lifeblood of 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 Who Invented Modern America*. Klein, a noted historian of technology, spins a narrative (叙述) 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 possibilities they put it to more uses than anyone else."

Meanwhile, over the course of the 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 (白炽灯泡) 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 (交流电), which soon became the major form of power delivery.

To frame his story, Klein creates the character of Ned, a fictional witness to the progress brought about by the steam 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 will come to an end sooner or later.
- B. It began earlier than people thought.
- C. It is a little-studied period of history.
- D. It is closely linked to the steam age.

25. What can be inferred about Ned?

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

26. What is the text?

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

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

Lead researcher Dr Helena Hördér, 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 tired out 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 with a capacity of 120 watts or higher, while 92 women were in the medium fitness category. A total of 59 were of low fitness level, with a peak workload of 80 watts or less, or having their tests stopped because of health 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," said Hördér. "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. Exercises suitable for the middle-aged.
- B. Positive effects of doing exercise.
- C. Experimental studies on dementia.
- D. Advantages of sporty women over men.

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

- A. To assess their cardiovascular capacity.

- B. To predict their maximum heart rate.
C. To change their habit of working out.
D. To detect their potential health problems.
29. What do we know about Dr Hörder's study?
A. It aimed to find a cure for dementia.
B. The results were far from satisfactory.
C. Some participants withdrew from it.
D. Data collection was a lengthy process.
30. Which of the following is the best title for the text?
A. Fit Women Are Less Likely to Develop Dementia
B. Middle-Aged Women Need to Do More Exercise
C. More Women Are Exercising to Prevent Dementia
D. Biking Improves Women's Cardiovascular Fitness

第二节（共 5 小题；每小题 2 分，满分 10 分）

根据短文内容，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。

I have the same 24 hours in a day as you do, but I have made specific choices that allow me to make the most of every day, and still feel happy and relaxed. 31

- Pick the most important.

32 Focus on spending time that for you is fun and productive. I chose the life of an adviser because I like to work with companies, but don't want the life of a big company CEO. My choices are based on the lifestyle I want.

- Combine your activities.

Many people go crazy trying to figure out how to spend time with friends, family, work, play, etc. 33 Find ways to enjoy them in a combined manner. Build your social life around people in your work environment. Find people in your company who share common interests and develop your career (职业) around the people and activities you love.

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You would think learning takes more time from you, but actually there are always new ways of doing things that can save you time on daily tasks, freeing you up for the most important. Always be looking for a new way to gain back an hour here or there.

- Lighten up.

The world won't come to an end in most cases just because you left a few things undone. Celebrate progress and keep refining (改进) toward a happy productive existence. 35 Every completion is a small victory that adds up in a big way.

- A. Make choices about what is meaningful in your life.
- B. The things you do well usually give you greater joy.
- C. Speed up.
- D. Be an active learner.
- E. This is why making lists is important in any productivity handbook.
- F. Stop trying to balance time between them all.
- G. Perhaps these tips will help you make the most of your time.

第三部分 语言运用（共两节，满分 45 分）

第一节（共 20 小题；每小题 1.5 分，满分 30 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，并在答题卡上将该项涂黑。

When Beverley Burdeyney turned seventy-four last year, she started having problems with her 36, notably dryness and discomfort.

"I was simply 37 a terrible experience," Ms. Burdeyney said at her home in Toronto. "I felt so helpless and insecure because the quality of my 38 was affected."

Ms. Burdeyney talked to some friends who had 39 problems and discovered that they were largely suffering in 40. "Nobody chooses to talk about it because it seems so 41," she said. "But more and more are suffering and lives are being 42."

Eventually, Ms. Burdeyney learned about plans for an eye research 43 at Tel Aviv University in Israel. The research team 44 Canadian doctor Allan Slomovic, who has done 45 work on eye care using stem cells. Seeing a ray of hope, Ms. Burdeyney began raising 46 for the project with a friend, Toronto businessman Meyer Zeifman. 47, she has raised \$110,000 with another \$40,000 48.

"I'm trying to get more and more people to 49 that there are solutions (解决办法)," said Ms. Burdeyney, a trained nurse who is still working as a personal trainer after 50. "I say there is no old 51, there's only neglect (忽视). Don't stand 52, do something about it."

Ms. Burdeyney 53 that she was hoping to do more for the research project. "I just want to bring 54 into people's eyes and this is just the 55. There is still a long way to go."

- | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 36. A. throat | B. skin | C. lungs | D. eyes |
| 37. A. getting over | B. going through | C. holding on | D. passing down |
| 38. A. story | B. treatment | C. life | D. relationship |
| 39. A. similar | B. various | C. personal | D. special |
| 40. A. turn | B. peace | C. vain | D. silence |
| 41. A. unbearable | B. abnormal | C. insignificant | D. disturbing |
| 42. A. compromised | B. forgotten | C. substituted | D. separated |
| 43. A. course | B. program | C. paper | D. conference |
| 44. A. informed | B. doubted | C. included | D. dismissed |
| 45. A. part-time | B. controversial | C. voluntary | D. ground-breaking |
| 46. A. money | B. standards | C. awareness | D. questions |
| 47. A. As ever | B. So far | C. In return | D. Once again |
| 48. A. wasted | B. donated | C. expected | D. earned |
| 49. A. imagine | B. confirm | C. remember | D. understand |
| 50. A. retirement | B. childbirth | C. graduation | D. marriage |
| 51. A. time | B. rule | C. age | D. tale |
| 52. A. straight | B. still | C. firm | D. alone |
| 53. A. commented | B. learned | C. reminded | D. added |
| 54. A. light | B. joy | C. color | D. beauty |
| 55. A. future | B. beginning | C. truth | D. meaning |

第 II 卷 (共 55 分)

注意: 将答案写在答题页上。写在本试卷上无效。

第二节 语法填空 (共 10 小题, 每小题 1.5 分, 共 15 分)

阅读下面材料, 在空白处填入适当的内容 (1 个单词) 或括号内单词的正确形式。

Kim Cobb, a professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta, is one of a small but growing minority of academics 56 are cutting back on their air travel because of climate change. Travelling to conferences, lectures, workshops, and the like — frequently by plane — 57 (view) as important for scientists to get together and exchange information. But Cobb and others 58 (be) now questioning that idea — pushing conferences to provide more chances to participate remotely and 59 (change) their personal behavior to do their part in dealing with the climate change crisis. On a website called No Fly Climate Sci, for example, 60 (rough) 200 academics — many of them climate scientists — 61 (promise) to fly as little as possible since the effort started two years ago.

Cobb, for her part, started to ask conference organizers who invited her to speak 62 she could do so remotely; about three-quarters of 63 time, they agreed. When the answer was no, she declined the 64 (invite). That approach brought Cobb's air travel last year down by 75%, and she plans 65 (continue) the practice. "It has been fairly rewarding," she says — "a really positive change."

第四部分 写作 (共两节, 满分 40 分)

第一节 应用文写作 (满分 15 分)

假定你是李华, 在“中国——爱尔兰文化节”活动中结识了爱尔兰朋友 Chris, 现在他已回国, 请你给他写一封邮件, 内容包括:

1. 回忆活动经历;
2. 分享个人收获;
3. 希望保持联系。

注意:

1. 词数 80 左右;
2. 可适当增加细节, 以使行文连贯。

第二节 读后续写 (满分 25 分)

阅读下面短文, 根据所给情节进行续写, 使之构成一个完整的故事。

When Dr. Henderson was assigning (指定) project mates for his psychology class, I secretly hoped that he would pair me with my best friend or at least a classmate I could have some fun with. Above all, I hoped he wouldn't assign me to work with the fiercely competitive and extremely serious fellow who always wore dark clothes and apparently had a personality to match. As fate (命运) would have it, Dr. Henderson very deliberately matched everyone in class and announced that I would be working with the one person in class I wanted to avoid.

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I went up to my new teammate and introduced myself. He looked at me as though I weren't there. I felt he treated me as though I would hold him back and probably make him fail to get an A in the course. He wasn't mean or abusive; he just gave me the impression that he could do whatever project we dreamed up better if he did it alone.

Needless to say, I didn't look forward to an entire term of being brushed off, but I tried to make the best of it and didn't say anything for fear that I would make things worse.

The project required each team to develop a hypothesis (假说), set up an experiment to test the hypothesis, do the statistical analysis and present the findings. Whatever grade the team received would be shared by both students.

When my teammate and I met to discuss our project, I was uneasy. Here was this challenging student who had a reputation for single-mindedness and good grades — the exact opposite of me. I actually wanted to drop the class at one point, but stopped short because I didn't want to give him the satisfaction of my chickening out. I decided to stick to it no matter what.

After long discussions we somehow agreed to do a study on the psychological well-being of teenagers. I wasn't sure what it meant exactly, but at least we had a topic.

注意:

1. 所续写短文的词数应为 150 左右;
2. 续写部分分为两段, 每段的开头语已为你写好:

Paragraph 1

We started to meet regularly to draw up our plans. _____

Paragraph 2

One day I got word that he was admitted to hospital for a serious disease. _____

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第一部分 听力

1. B 2. A 3. B 4. C 5. B 6. A 7. B 8. A 9. G 10. A
11. C 12. A 13. C 14. C 15. B 16. A 17. C 18. B 19. B 20. C

第二部分 阅读理解

21. A 22. C 23. B 24. D 25. C 26. D 27. B 28. A 29. D 30. A
31. G 32. A 33. F 34. D 35. E

第三部分 语言运用

36. D 37. B 38. C 39. A 40. D 41. C 42. A 43. B 44. C 45. D
46. A 47. B 48. C 49. D 50. A 51. C 52. B 53. D 54. A 55. B
56. who / that 57. is viewed / has been viewed 58. are 59. changing
60. roughly 61. have promised 62. whether / if 63. the 64. invitation 65. to continue

写作第一节(15 分)

Dear Chris,

How are you doing abroad? A month has passed since we met in the last China-Ireland Culture Festival. I can not help but miss you!

With various activities we shared, the festival witnessed our development of comprehensive quality. We laughed; we collaborated. All these precious experiences led to the blossoming of friendship, which will eternally sparkle as diamonds in the heart. Not only did it enable us to further mutual understanding, but also strengthen and deepen our friendship.

Staying in touch and do hope to see you again.

Yours
Li Hua

写作第二节 (25 分)

Version 1:

Paragraph 1:

We started to meet regularly to draw up our plans. Initially, when we discussed my opinion, I felt he was eyeing me doubtfully as if to say how stupid it was. Then my competitiveness asked me not to give in. Seeing that, he would pat me on the shoulder, insisting smilingly, "Let me explain why." I had to admit his intelligence outdid me and his rigour influenced me deeply. Every time, he checked the data with great caution before leaving the lab, his face surprisingly pale and drawn.

Paragraph 2:

One day I got word that he was admitted to hospital for a serious disease. It really startled me and filled me with regret. I shouldn't have bothered him so much. I shouldn't have complained for no reason... However, he called me and encouraged me to continue alone. I

fought back tears, promising, "Our findings must be perfect." The next weeks saw all my efforts invested in the project with his remote guidance. As fate would have it, I-no-we were awarded A by Dr. Gullickson at last!

第一步: Read for the theme and clues

文章梗概: 我被 Dr. Gullickson 分配给不苟言笑且非常自负的同学一起做项目任务, 学期末汇报成果。

如何确定 theme?

读后续写的主题都是在分析文章里的 problem 或 conflict 或 change 后才能得出来, 不可无中生有。

这篇续写涉及到 I 和 my classmate 找一找关于两人的描写:

I felt he treated me as though I would hold him back and probably cause his grade-point average to take a nosedive. He wasn't outright mean or abusive.

He just gave me the impression he could do whatever project we dreamed up better if he did it alone.

He had a reputation for single-mindedness and good grades the exact opposite of me.

总结:

我的同学是个学霸, 喜欢独立完成任务, 怀疑我会拖后腿。同时他非常固执。但这些都是我的感觉: I felt ... as though ...; he just gave me the impression ... 而我呢:

I actually wanted to drop the class at one point, but stopped short because I didn't want to give him the satisfaction of my chickening out.

总结: chicken out 退缩

我不想给人知难而退的印象。即: 我也是好强的。(competitiveness)

有了这个, 我们可以确定主题了: 我的同学不是我想象中的那样过于自我, 而是热情且严格的。这就回到了通常的主题: change, 即: 我从错误的印象到积极的看人印象。结果必须是:

我的同学和我一起完成了任务, 取得了好成绩。

如何确定线索?

线索 1: 人物的性格

线索 2: 目标的实现 (一开始老师交代的任务必须圆满完成)

线索 3: 任务本身的程序 (假设, 实验等)

不是所有线索都必须照应, 本文线索 3 就不一定要照应。

第二步: Predict the plot 情节推理

Paragraph 1:

We started to meet regularly to draw up our plans.

衔接 1: 每次碰头讨论的争论 (照应他的固执, 我的好强心)

过渡: 虽然争论不停, 但是我还是佩服他的严谨和聪明, 我的观点开始改变, 和他一起完成 project.

衔接 2: 一起做 project 的过程中, 学霸同学开始有体力不支的症状。

Paragraph 2:

One day I got word that he was admitted to hospital for a serious disease.

衔接 3: 我的焦虑和担心, 同时我的后悔

过渡: 学霸同学鼓励我坚持下去, 并提供远程指导。

主题：任务完成，拿到了等级 A。

Version B

Paragraph 1: We started to meet regularly to draw up our plans. Despite all my prejudice against him, my teammate turned out to be much more pleasant to work with than I had previously expected. This might partly resulted from my adjustment to myself by sparing no effort to make my contribution to our project. Anyway, I hated to be looked down upon. We both took the assignment seriously, and no sooner had we worked out our plan than we plunged ourselves into action, occupied with handing out questionnaires and interviewing. Everything seemed to go smoothly. As fate would have it, however, something quite unexpected happened. (94 words)

Paragraph 2: One day I got word that he was admitted to hospital for a serious disease. My heart sank at the news, but soon it dawned upon me that I had no alternative but to face the reality. In the hospital I assured him that I would carry on with our project alone, without compromising quality. From the smile on his face I could read his faith in me. So the next two weeks witnessed my devotion to collecting feedbacks of our questionnaires and analysing the data. Hard work did pay off. I was rewarded with remarkable findings and the final presentation proved to be one of the most successful. After going through all this, we harvested both perfect grades and lifelong friendship. (107 words)

听力材料：

(Text 1)

M: Professor Jackson, could I talk to you about my paper sometime today?

W: Sure. When the class is over, I need to go to the lab first, and then I'll be at the cafeteria at about twelve thirty. Let's meet there.

M: Okay. Thanks Professor Jackson.

(Text 2)

M: What are you cooking? It smells delicious.

W: I'm making a carrot cake.

M: Nice! I see a roast chicken, and an apple pie over there, too.

W: The chicken is for dinner, and the pie is for Jeff. He has to take something to school tomorrow.

(Text 3)

W: This neighborhood really needs a library. How can we get one?

M: I think we should have a meeting to talk about it.

(Text 4)

W: Hi Jim. How's your new job going?

M: It's very exciting, and I'm really learning a lot, but it's also quite tiring. I feel like a good break this weekend.

(Text 5)

M: Amanda, what skill would you like to develop?

W: Well, I want to learn to play the guitar. I love writing songs, you know, and I think it would be lovely if I could play my own music and entertain people.

(Text 6)

M: Hello. City Bank. Can I help you?

W: Hi. I'm calling for information on opening a savings account.

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M: Have you had any accounts in our bank before?

W: No, I don't think so.

M: Then you'll have to go in person to one of our branches and talk to a clerk there.

W: I see. Is there a bank near Brown College?

M: We have one branch at 135 Dudley Road and one at 512 Kingfield Street.

W: I think I will go to the one on Dudley. Thank you.

(Text 7)

W: Good morning, Brink Sampson's.

M: Good morning. This is Peter Clifford from Smart Tech. Could I speak to Mr. Smith, please?

W: I'm sorry, Mr. Smith is having a meeting right now. Would you like to leave a message or call back later?

M: What time is the meeting over?

W: Well, ⁹it started at 1 o'clock, and it usually lasts about 2 hours.

M: Alright. In that case, could you please tell him to check his email? I've sent him an important document. I'm waiting for his reply.

W: Certainly. Anything else, sir?

M: Yes. ¹⁰I'd like to know what would be the best time for us to meet before Friday. I must meet him this week. Please tell him to include the time in his reply.

W: Do you want to meet him in our office or in your office, sir?

M: Oh, either is fine.

(Text 8)

M: Hi Annie! That's a very lovely bunch of flowers.

W: ¹¹It's for my sister. It's her graduation day today.

M: It must have cost you a fortune.

W: I paid sixty dollars for it, but it's worth it. ¹¹Jane worked very hard for her degree over the last four years. Today is a very important day for her, and I want it to be special.

M: That's very nice of you. ¹³I wish it were our graduation day, too.

W: Another three years, and we'll be done, too.

M: Where are they going to hold the graduation ceremony?

W: In the conference hall at 2 p.m. It'll be a big ceremony.

M: ¹²I guess you should be there early, otherwise you won't get a seat.

W: Yes, I'll try to find a seat close to the stage. I want to take some good pictures of my sister.

M: Have fun, Annie. Give Jane my best wishes.

W: Thanks. Bye, Steve.

(Text 9)

W: ¹⁴Oh, I can't believe it! Peter, I haven't seen you for ages! How are you?

M: Hi Laura! Nice to meet you here. I'm pretty good. How about you?

W: I'm fine. It's really great to see you. Do you have time to sit down?

M: I was leaving, but I can join you for a few minutes.

W: Great! So tell me, how's your family?

M: Well, it keeps getting bigger. ¹⁵We have four kids now. All boys!

W: Four boys? I suppose they keep you busy.

M: They sure do. The baby is only one month old, so Sally is not working right now. And what's new with you and Jim?

W: Believe it or not, he's home with the kids.

M: You're kidding!

W: No, I'm not. ¹⁶Jim chose to work from home, so we could spend less on childcare. I'd love it, because he does all the shopping and cleaning.

M: Good point. Yikes! It's already 12:30. I have to go now. ¹⁷I have an important meeting this afternoon. Tell Jim I said hi, and I'll call you so we can have dinner sometime.

W: Great! And say hi to Sally and the kids. See you!

M: See you!

(Text 10)

W: Good evening, everyone. I'm Jennifer Green. Thanks for joining us. ¹⁸In today's edition of "Perfect Life", our guest is Brock Bastian. A social psychologist from the University of Melbourne. Professor Bastian's research focuses on pain, happiness, and morality. ¹⁹Recently, he published a book on the role of pain in promoting pleasure. The title of the book is, "The Other Side of Happiness". In this book, he argues that as we seek to escape pain or sorrow, we are weakening ourselves, and may lose our adaptive ability to deal with pain in the future. ¹⁹Painful experiences are, in fact, vital for our development and how we face the unavoidable challenges ahead, and they play a key role in helping us develop our ability to feel truly happy. ²⁰Now, let's welcome Professor Bastian to talk about his ideas in the book.

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