



第十二届“叶圣陶杯”国际青少年英语大赛

省级初赛试题（高中组）

总分：100 分

I. Read the following sentences and choose the best from A. B. C. D. (each 4 scores, all 60 scores)

1. Diamond is a (n) _____ of undying love.

A. error B. alarm C. brand D. symbol

2. —Is that the document you were looking for earlier?

—Yes, it is. It was _____ under a pile of papers on my desk. I really need to be more organized.

A. dyed B. peeled C. buried D. honored

3. The _____ cultures of Egypt always attract me. I will pay a visit to the Pyramids of Giza one day.

A. amazed B. mysterious C. magician D. mystery

4. By the time Ken arrived at the classroom, the teacher _____ for thirty minutes already.

A. is lecturing B. has lectured C. has been lecturing D. had been lecturing

5. _____ alone in the dark, the little girl wailed and screamed for help.

A. Leaving B. Left C. To leave D. Having left

6. Though it rained heavily, they decided to _____ and continue their hike.

A. brave the elements B. kill two birds with one stone
C. have a frog in their throat D. throw the baby out with the bathwater

7. It is typical _____ him to be late for meeting, _____ makes us very angry.

A. of; as B. for; as C. of; which D. for; which

8. _____ Shanghai has a relatively small land area, it has a huge population.

A. Although B. But C. Despite D. However

9. Sandy's mother suffered from Amnesia. She looked at her daughter with cold eyes as if she _____ a stranger.

A. was B. were C. is D. be



10. Drunk driving, causing great damage _____ a high rate in traffic accident, is a major concern, _____ we each should pay special attention to.
A. in; that B. in; which C. at; one D. at; that
11. Daisy felt _____ on the day _____ she saw her best friend off at the airport.
A. sad; when B. sadly; when C. sad; that D. sadly; that
12. _____ Larry is, he has to stay up to finish his homework.
A. Tired as B. Tired although C. As tired D. Although tired
13. _____ is in the early morning that you can enjoy the fresh air and listen to the birds singing in the trees.
A. What B. Whether C. That D. It
14. The following are ten movies _____ over and over again.
A. worthy to watch B. worthy being watched
C. worth watching D. worth being watched
15. John can no longer stay in this country, and _____ Jack.
A. so can B. neither can C. too can't D. either can't

II. Read the following passages and choose the best from A. B. C. D. (each 4 scores, all 40 scores)

A

Are you the kind of person who hates school? Or are you more like Michael Nicholson, who can't stop learning? He has 30 degrees including 22 master's and a doctor's! If you're also crazy about studying, you might be a philomath—a person who loves to learn and study. The word comes from Greek with “phil” meaning “a lover of” and “math” meaning “learning”.

Humans are all philomaths in a way—our brain is born with curiosity. We want to learn and understand, partly to make sense of the world but also because of something called neoteny. This is a term that refers to the *juvenile* (年幼的) characteristics of some animals, including humans, being kept into adulthood. One of these characteristics is *neuroplasticity* (神经可塑性), which helps our brains stay **flexible**—this gives us the ability to learn throughout our lives. Many animals which are genetically close to us, like *primates* (灵长类),



can't do this and only learn during their youth.

★ Lots of people remember their school days as being boring or even meaningless. Why is it? Scientists have suggested that if an idea is too difficult or dull, it becomes harder to connect old and new ideas together. If that's the case, we lose interest and take in less information. This experience of education at school may lead to people avoiding learning opportunities in later life.

So, don't let a bad educational experience prevent you learning something new as an adult. We are lifelong learners by nature, so take advantage of your biology and discover your inner philomath. Who knows what you could achieve?

16. Michael Nicholson is mentioned in paragraph 1 to _____.

A. raise a question B. give an example C. make comparison D. list numbers

17. The underlined word "flexible" in paragraph 2 probably means _____.

A. active B. calm C. clear D. awake

18. Which of the following can be put in ★ ?

A. So school education is important.

B. And being a philomath is difficult.

C. And children would try hard at school.

D. But for every person who loves learning, there are plenty who can't stand it

19. According to the passage, every person _____.

A. hates school

B. is born to be curious

C. avoids learning chances

D. has a bad educational experience

20. The writer's writing purpose is to _____.

A. remind us the importance of learning

B. describe what a philomath is like

C. encourage us to be a lifelong learner

D. explain how a philomath develops



B

For this year's Fourth of July celebration, some US cities have replaced traditional fireworks with impressive *drone* (无人机) light shows. Maybe most importantly, the drones being employed by more and more cities for Fourth of July celebrations don't leave behind a blanket of smoke at a time when America's air quality is already at its worst in decades.

"Around the world, we've seen consistently that, during times when firework usage is really high, we have really bad air quality," said Pallavi Pant, the head of global health at the Health Effects Institute. And while that pollution typically disappears quickly — usually around noon on July 5th — the concentration can be high enough to worsen the condition for those with breathing problems. Cities making the switch to high-tech shows say there're plenty of other reasons why people may want to avoid traditional fireworks.

"Fireworks can be harmful to folks who suffer from *PTSD* (创伤后应激障碍) or families who have dogs. Salt Lake City has more households with dogs than we do with kids," said Lynze Twede, a manager for Salt Lake City Public Lands. "Being away from fireworks is considered by many to be the tendency of the future. Drones are reusable, while with fireworks, you have smoke, falling *debris* (碎片), and noise which especially stresses dogs and people with PTSD out."

About 12,264 fires were started by firework displays in 2021, according to the National Fire Protection Association. Those added up to around \$59 million in direct property damage. But data also shows that much of the wildfire risk comes not from grand public displays, but from the small-scale shows on sidewalks.

It may be too early to tell how this tendency may get close to smaller shows and consumers, but the price is a limiting factor.

21. What is the most important reason for US cities' giving up traditional firework shows?

- A. To reduce fire risks.
- B. To support new technology.
- C. To prevent noise pollution.
- D. To protect the environment.

22. What do fireworks especially pose a threat to people with PTSD and dogs?



- A.Their thick smoke.
B.Their falling debris.
C.Their frightening noise.
D.Their shining bright light.
- 23.What does the data from the National Fire Protection Association show?
A.Prevention of fireworks is costly.
B.Usage of fireworks is on the decrease.
C.Street fireworks present more fire threats.
D.Public fireworks win more people's favor.
- 24.Which will be a future consideration of drone light shows' wide usage?
A.Drones' safety. B.Related policy. C.Economic pressure. D.Appreciation value.
- 25.What is the text mainly about?
A.How drone shows develop in America.
B.How Americans celebrate special events.
C.What response Americans have to drone light shows.
D.Why some US cities replace fireworks with drones.