

※ 注意：請用 2B 鉛筆作答於答案卡，並先詳閱答案卡上之「畫記說明」。

I. Vocabulary. 50%

For each question, choose the word that best completes the sentence.

1. I have only gone skiing once before, so I would consider myself a _____.
A. professional B. coach C. novice
2. One thing I miss about living in a big city is seeing all the _____ and stylish designs people wear.
A. fashionable B. shabby C. frayed
3. Our country is such a _____ society that people now spend a lot of time suing one another.
A. litigious B. laid-back C. lazy
4. The ability to _____ is not only very important but also a must for jazz musicians.
A. impart B. improvise C. import
5. Kenny was so hungry after getting lost in the forest and starving for 3 days that he ate like a _____ wolf after being found by rescue workers.
A. satiated B. fortified C. voracious
6. All the elementary students were very glad that summer vacation was quickly approaching. A sense of happiness and anticipation _____ the school.
A. permeated B. presented C. prevented
7. Many people often _____ outside the restrooms of an office area to gossip about their coworkers. Therefore, it is often the most crowded area of an office.
A. concern B. congregate C. combine
8. The vast range of skin care and makeup products that women find commonplace is instead very often _____ and confusing for men.
A. beginning B. brainstorming C. bewildering
9. Our native language is often called our mother _____.
A. home B. land C. tongue
10. Wearing uniforms is still _____ in most schools in Taiwan.
A. mandatory B. sanctuary C. tertiary
11. Even though Peter is very smart, the main _____ to his getting better grades is his laziness. If he can overcome this obstacle, he will achieve much success.
A. rationale B. impediment C. motivation

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12. In movies, the _____ that the protagonists' best friends are actually evil people trying to hurt them is often the climax of the story.
A. determination B. revelation C. examination
13. People always wonder how Sarah can keep her apartment so _____. Everybody knows that it takes a lot of time and energy to keep your house clean.
A. pristine B. precious C. prestigious
14. During surgeries, doctors and nurses need to act with _____. There cannot be any mistakes.
A. manipulation B. correction C. precision
15. After Ben sent in his scholarship application, he wanted to make phone calls and _____ about the status of his application. He couldn't wait to find out the result.
A. inquire B. investigate C. incorporate
16. The _____ understanding these days is that UFOs and extraterrestrial life do exist. In fact, many people believe that they have seen UFOs at one time or another.
A. precarious B. perfected C. prevailing
17. Peggy feels very passionate about jogging. She often talks _____ to her friends about the health benefits of jogging.
A. fabulously B. fervently C. fortunately
18. Derek's children are very confused by him because he makes _____ decisions all the time. The rules he makes have no basis and can change anytime.
A. adamant B. adequate C. arbitrary
19. Drunk-driving is a serious crime. Because Adam killed four people during the one time he was driving while drunk, he has been _____ for forty years now.
A. terrific B. talented C. tormented
20. More and more people around the world are now very conscious of recycling because people are worried about the _____ of the environment.
A. destination B. deterioration C. decision
21. Nobody wants to be friends with Anna because of her _____ ways. She does not know how to respect other people's privacy.
A. instant B. intrusive C. internal

22. Mark loves to watch planes take off because he loves the _____ motion that planes make.
A. attempting B. attaching C. ascending
23. Becky was jealous of Elaine and Fiona's friendship and tried very hard to _____ their relationship.
A. sabotage B. defend C. save
24. Carol thought she had lost her favorite bag on the train, but was very thankful when she was able to _____ it from the Lost and Found division of the train station.
A. retrieve B. refund C. return
25. Yvette cheated on an exam and was _____ expelled from school.
A. nonetheless B. therefore C. furthermore

II. Phrases: 20%

For each question, choose the phrase that best completes the sentence.

(I)

A. on the spot	B. in the case of	C. give it too much thought
D. make do with	E. in length	

26. Diana worries about not being able to find a job after graduating from college. Her mother told her to work hard but not to _____ because people cannot control the future.
27. Melanie decided to stop complaining and _____ whatever she had. Even though she didn't have much, it was better than having nothing at all.
28. Patrick wrote an essay that was 20000 words _____. His teacher said it was too long and too repetitive and asked him to re-write.
29. The teacher wrote a very difficult math problem on the blackboard. Of the 83 students, only Mary was able to calculate the correct answer _____ in just 10 seconds.
30. Most people hate going to the dentist. However, _____ John, because his mom is a dentist, he actually enjoys getting his teeth checked and examined.

(II)

A. in the absence of	B. in common	C. play around with
D. draw out	E. every now and then	

31. Even if you are very busy, you should still exercise _____. Even exercising once a week is better than never exercising at all.
32. The police often have to think of many creative strategies in order to _____ the truth from criminals.
33. Many inventions result from people who like to _____ common things. In other words, inventions sometimes come about accidentally.

34. Even though Dana and Diana are twins, they have nothing _____. They are unlike in every way.
35. Michelle decided that _____ of a better method, she would just have to take her mother's suggestion.

III. Cloze. 20%

For each question, choose the word that best completes the sentence.

Hillary Rodham Clinton delivered on Saturday her boldest remarks ___36___ on race and gun violence, topics that have quickly become some of the most prominent and divisive in the presidential campaign, particularly after Wednesday's ___37___ shooting in Charleston, S.C.

"It's tempting to dismiss a tragedy like this as an isolated incident, to believe that in today's America bigotry is largely behind us, that institutionalized racism ___38___ exists," Mrs. Clinton said in a speech in San Francisco. "But despite our best efforts and our highest hopes, America's long struggle with race is ___39___ finished."

Invoking President Obama at times, Mrs. Clinton called for a "common sense" approach to gun laws, pledging to take swift action if elected. She did not, ___40___, make clear how she would navigate the divide in Congress that has undercut Mr. Obama's own efforts to pass gun laws.

"The president is right. The politics on this issue have been poisoned," Mrs. Clinton said. "But we can't give up. The ___41___ are too high. The costs are too dear. And I am not and will not be afraid to keep fighting for common sense reforms."

Mrs. Clinton's strongly worded stance on the issue could help her make a contrast with Senator Bernie Sanders, who has been drawing large crowds in early voting states, where recent polls show him ___42___ the gap with Mrs. Clinton. Mr. Sanders, a socialist from Vermont also seeking the Democratic nomination, has a decidedly mixed record on gun control, which may pose problems for his campaign as it seeks to ___43___ itself as a more liberal alternative to Mrs. Clinton.

Saturday was not the first time that Mrs. Clinton's Democratic campaign, still in its infancy, ___44___ itself having to address race and racism in the wake of violence. Her first major campaign speech, at Columbia University in April, ___45___ with widespread unrest in Baltimore after the death of a black man, Freddie Gray, who had been injured in police custody. Mrs. Clinton used that occasion to advocate an overhaul of the criminal justice system, saying it was "time for honesty about race and justice in America."

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| 36. A. now | B. whence | C. hence | D. yet |
| 37. A. mass | B. majority | C. massage | D. master |
| 38. A. since then | B. no longer | C. as yet | D. up until |
| 39. A. farther than | B. far from | C. from then on | D. first and foremost |

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|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 40. A. since | B. however | C. albeit | D. although |
| 41. A. stakes | B. steaks | C. states | D. stations |
| 42. A. narrow | B. narrowed | C. narrower | D. narrowing |
| 43. A. believe | B. bill | C. bind | D. beat |
| 44. A. founded | B. was found | C. has found | D. had found |
| 45. A. in touch | B. in step | C. coincided | D. confounded |

IV. Reading Comprehension. 10%

Read the article below entitled *The Horror of Amazon's New Dash Button* and answer the questions that follow.

Amazon's new Dash Button, which will allow shoppers to reorder frequently used domestic products like laundry detergent or paper towels with the click of a real-life button, is not a joke. Many people assumed it was, mostly because the announcement came the day before April Fool's, but also because the idea seemed to poke fun at Amazon's omnipresence, making it visibly manifest with little plastic one-click shopping buttons adhered to surfaces all over your home.

There was also something slightly off about the promotional video. It opens with a montage of repeated household tasks—squeezing a tube of moisturizer, running a coffee maker, microwaving a container of Easy Mac, starting a washing machine—that gets interrupted when a woman reaches for a coffee pod, only to discover that there are none left. She leans forward and exhales, resigned. It's going to be a long day. But then, thanks to Dash, the montage starts up again, with those familiar Amazon boxes arriving continuously in the mail—and in them a supply of coffee, lotion, and macaroni and cheese for as many days as we may live to need them. "Don't let running out ruin your rhythm," a voiceover tells us.

As propaganda, the video seems more like a condemnation of consumption than a celebration of it. All that stuff, the same stuff, used and discarded day after day. It's the kind of montage that a movie director would use to show just how sad and soulless a character's life was. And the idea of shopping buttons placed just within our reach conjures an uneasy image of our homes as giant Skinner boxes, and of us as rats pressing pleasure levers until we pass out from exhaustion. But according to Amazon, these products represent the actual rhythm of life, any interruption of which might lead not only to inconvenience but to the kind of coffee-deprived despair that we see when the woman realizes that she has run out of K-cups. That's the real dystopia: not that our daily lives could be reduced to a state of constant shopping but that we might ever have to, even for a moment, *stop* shopping.

But what do I know? I don't have kids. I've never bought thousands of diapers and yet still constantly needed more. Now there's a Huggies button, and if it takes a drone army to get them where they need to go, then maybe that's worth it, too. So far, other than coffee, Amazon appears to be steering clear of offering addictive products with the service. There is no Cheetos

button. No Oreos button. No Knausgaard button. And the buttons are set up to place only one order at a time, no matter how many times you press them, which means that Fido or your five-year-old can't order ten thousand rolls of paper towels when you're not paying attention.

Dash fits squarely into the current age of smart-home technology, where you can tweet from your refrigerator and your sentient thermostat can help save the world. It is not simply a matter of practical efficiency but of a proactive, preemptive way of living, in which inefficiency is the worst kind of waste. The way we manage our chores is a measure of our worthiness. No one wants to live in a stupid home. No one should have to fight with his spouse over who drank the last grapefruit soda. And only a chump would ever run out of toilet paper.

But what if there is actual value in running out of things? The sinking feeling that comes as you yank a garbage bag out of the box and meet no resistance from further reinforcements is also an opportunity to ask yourself all kinds of questions, from "Do I want to continue using this brand of bag?" to "Why in the hell am I producing so much trash?" The act of shopping—of leaving the house and going to a store, or, at the very least, of one-click ordering on the Amazon Web site—is a check against the inertia of consumption, not only in personal economic terms but in ethical ones as well. It is the chance to make a decision, a choice—even if that choice is simply to continue consuming. Look, we're all going to keep using toothpaste, and the smarter consumer is the person who has a ten-pack of tubes from Costco in the closet. But shopping should make you feel bad, if only for a second. Pressing a little plastic button is too much fun.

Soon we won't even have to hit a button. Amazon is also working with companies on devices that will be able to restock themselves. As the *Wall Street Journal* explained, "Whirlpool is working on a washer and dryer that anticipate when laundry supplies are running low so they can automatically order more detergent and dryer sheets." Water purifiers could reorder their own filters; printers reorder their own ink. This is the dream of domestic life as a perfectly calibrated, largely automated system. But the doomsayer in me likes to imagine some coffee maker gone HAL 9000, making its own decisions about what kinds of coffee it thinks it should be brewing. Or a washing machine, haywire and alone in a basement somewhere, constantly reordering supplies for itself long after we've all been wiped off the Earth.

46. What is the meaning of the sentence "Don't let running out ruin your rhythm" mentioned at the end of paragraph 2?
- A. Going jogging in the middle of the day may affect your mood for working.
 - B. If the things that you need suddenly become unavailable in your home, it will affect your day. So make sure this won't happen.
 - C. Your rhythm should be established before your start running and should not change halfway through the journey.
 - D. You should remain optimistic and hopeful even when you run out of things.

47. Why does the author mention dystopia at the end of paragraph 3?
- A. To explain a world in which it would be disastrous if humans ever stop shopping.
 - B. To explain the two montages as scenarios of both utopia and dystopia.
 - C. To explain the situation when human beings are reduced to a state of constant shopping.
 - D. To explain a state in which humans face the constant dilemma of whether to continue shopping or not.
48. What does the promotional video of the Dash Button imply about people's measure of worthiness?
- A. If you do not have the Dash Button, it means you are not up-to-date with technological products.
 - B. Technology has developed to the degree that it is an inefficient way of living to actually go shopping.
 - C. People who run out of toilet paper in this age of technological advancement have the IQ of a chimpanzee.
 - D. Whether or not you are a worthy human can be simply judged by whether you can make sure you don't run out of household stuff.
49. What is the author's point in arguing that "pressing a little button is too much fun" at the end of paragraph 6?
- A. Couples would now fight to drink the last grapefruit soda in order to have fun with the Dash Button.
 - B. People may order things because they want to experience the fun of pressing a button.
 - C. People may not even feel like they are actually shopping when ordering supplies using the Dash Button.
 - D. Even washers and dryers can be programmed to experience the fun of ordering laundry supplies.
50. What is the horror of Amazon's new Dash Button?
- A. It creates the possibility that washing machines might actually reorder supplies for itself even after human beings become extinct.
 - B. It may activate a drone army.
 - C. It gives young children access and incentive to order things for their parents.
 - D. It takes away the opportunity to reflect on the act of consumption.