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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/107/2021_2022_2006_E5_B9_B4_E5_BA_A6_c69_107783.htm Reading Comprehension (55 minutes, 40 points) Directions: There are 5 passages in this part. 4 of the passages are followed by 4 questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are 4 choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the best one and mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET. For the 5th passage, there are 4 questions. You should answer those questions in your own words and put your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. Passage One Many of the most damaging and life-threatening types of weather, such as torrential rains and severe thunderstorms, begin quickly, strike suddenly, and disappear rapidly, destroying small regions while leaving neighboring areas untouched. Conventional (常规的) computer models of the atmosphere have limited value in predicting short-lived local storms because the available weather data are generally not detailed enough to allow computers to see clearly the small atmospheric changes that come before these storms. In most nations, for example, weather-balloon observations are taken just once every twelve hours at locations typically separated by hundreds of miles. With such limited data, conventional forecasting models do a much better job predicting general weather conditions over large regions than they do forecasting specific local events. Until recently, the observation-intensive approach needed for accurate, very short-range forecasts, or "Nowcasts," was impracticable. The cost of

equipping and operating many thousands of conventional weather stations was extremely high, and the difficulties involved in rapidly collecting and processing the raw weather data from such a network were beyond overcoming. Fortunately, scientific and technological advances have overcome most of these problems. Radar systems, automated weather instruments, and satellites are all capable of making detailed, nearly continuous observations over large regions at a relatively low cost. Communication satellites can transmit data around the world cheaply and immediately, and modern computers can quickly compile and analyze this large volume of weather information. Meteorologists (气象学家) and computer scientists now work together to design computer programs and video equipment capable of transforming raw weather data into words, symbols, and vivid graphic displays that forecasters can interpret easily and quickly. As meteorologists have begun using these new technologies in weather forecasting offices, nowcasting is becoming a reality. (291w)

31. What is the best title of the passage? A. Severe Thunderstorm 's and Damages B. Weather Forecasting and Life-threatening Damages C. Science Advances and Nowcasts D. Available Data and Nowcasts

32. Nowcasts are _____. A. local forecasts B. short-range forecasts C. medium-range forecasts D. long-range forecasts

33. Nowcasts used to be impracticable because _____. A. there were no conventional computers B. the cost of the equipping and operating was sky high C. there were no difficulties in data processing D. there were not enough meteorologists

34. Things have been changed by the following EXCEPT _____. A. the use of

radar systems and automated instruments B. the use of communication satellites and modem computers C. the joint work of meteorologists and computer scientists D. weather information volume is large enough to compile and analyze

35. The dream of nowcasts will come true when_____. A. the cost is lowered B. people need it to reduce damages C. meteorologists can make full use of the new technologies D. conventional weather forecasts are got rid of

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