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篇 Passage 42 Bill Clinton took office (就职) on January 20, 1993 and became the 42nd U.S. President (总统). He is the first U.S. president who was born after World War II. He is also one of the youngest of all U.S. presidents. Clinton was born in a poor family. Three months before he was born, his father, William Blats, died. When he was small, his mother remarried (再婚) Norger Clinton, so the boy ' s family name was changed. In the summer of 1963, Clinton was asked to visit the city of Washington. During his visit, he met President Kennedy in the White House. At that time, he wanted to become a president, and now he is! 1. Clinton became the 42nd U.S. president when he was _____. A. thirty B. about forty C. forty-seven

D. 37 years old 2. Clinton ' s father died _____. A. after 1946 B. before Clinton was born C. before World War II D. when Clinton was young 3. Why was the boy ' s name changed? A. Because he became a president B. Because his family was very poor C. Because his father was dead D. Because his mother remarried Norger Clinton

4. In 1963 Clinton came to the city of Washington _____. A. to take part in an exam B. for his holidays C. for a visit D. to have a meeting with Kennedy 5. Which one of the following is Not right?

A. Everybody can visit the president in the White House B. All the U.S. presidents work in the White Horse C. Clinton wanted to become a president after he saw President Kennedy D. The White

House is in the city of Washington Passage 43

EVERYTHING has two sides. One side of SARS is already clear. It is a deadly disease, which causes fear. There were 2,601 cases (病例) recorded on the Chinese mainland on April 24, according to government report. 115 people have died and numbers keep rising. But, there is another side. SARS is a reminder (提醒) of how fragile life can be. Suddenly, it ' s not just the old people who are thinking about death. Everyone now realizes there might not always be a tomorrow. Wang Xinying, a student in Taiyuan, Shanxi Province came into contact (接触) with a suspected (疑似) SARS patient in mid-April. He was told to stay at home for at least two weeks. “ Watching TV about more and more SARS patients dying, I never knew that death could be so close. Life is valuable (珍贵的) and I ' m going to treasure (珍惜) every single day, ” he said. SARS teaches people to be grateful, both for their own lives and for others. Doctors and nurses, for example, have to spend all their time with infected (被感染的) patients. As a result, more than one fifth of SARS cases in China are medical workers. Xu Bing, a student of Beijing No. 5 Middle School wants to be a doctor in the future. “ Although they certainly know the dangers, doctors and nurses kept working hard on saving people ' s lives. I ' m deeply moved by what they have done. I think they are real heroes. ” he said. SARS also teaches sympathy (同情). The past few weeks have been terrible for Chinese people. But there are far worse things than SARS in this world, such as war, earthquakes and robberies. Think of the Iraqis, who have been living terrible lives for 20 years. Think of how the Americans felt on 9.11. And finally, SARS offers the chances

to grow. All different kinds of people and the governments are joining together to work in this difficult time. When this passes, China and its people will have learned great lessons. 1. What does “ Everyone now realizes there might not always be a tomorrow ” mean? It means life is easy to _____ and we must _____ our life. 2. How long was Wang Xinying told to stay at home? He was told to stay at home for about _____ a _____. 3. Why can medical workers be easily infected? Because they have to be with infected patients _____ and _____. 4. What do we learn in the difficult time? We learn nothing is difficult if we _____.

Passage 44
Marco Polo was born in Venice in 1254. He was the most famous westerner to visit Asia during the middle Ages. He wrote a book about his travels. In his book he wrote all the things he saw and heard. Many people read the book but few believed what Marco Polo said. He spoke of strange people and places that nobody knew about at that time. As a young man, Marco Polo decided to travel together with his father. It took them more than three years to travel to China. He became the Chinese emperor ' s friend. He learned the Chinese language when he traveled around and talked to many people. Before he reached the age of thirty he was made a Chinese official. After nearly seventeen years in the east, Marco and his father prepared to return home. When they finally arrived in Venice, their family and friends were surprised to see them again. They had been away for almost 25 years. 1. What made Marco Polo famous during the middle Ages? A. His travel to America. B. His travel in the west. C. His travel in Asia. D. His visit to Venice. 2. What did Marco Polo

write about in his book? A. How he traveled to China with his father. B. Something too difficult for people to understand. C. Some strange people and places D. Something that had been known to people for many years.

3. Marco Polo worked as a Chinese official in _____.

A. 1254 B. 1284 C. 1271 D. 1279

4. Which of the following is the right order during Marco ' s travel?

a. traveled with his father b. was made a Chinese official c. wrote a book about his travel d. became Chinese emperor ' s friend e. returned to Venice

A. c-a-d-b-e B. c-a-b-d-e C. a-b-d-e-c D. a-d-b-e-c

Passage 45

Typhoons (台风) in the northern part of the world have girls ' names. Sometimes they have very beautiful names. Rose is a pretty name but there was nothing pretty about Typhoon Rose. It was the worst typhoon to hit Hong Kong in ten years. It began to rain in the morning of Monday, August 16th, 1971. At ten o ' clock in the morning, Typhoon Rose was still 130 miles away but already the wind was blowing people ' s umbrella away. The wind became stronger and stronger. The typhoon shelters (避风港) were soon full of boats. Ships that were too big to go inside the shelters put down more anchors (锚). Some very big ships went out to sea. It is safer for a big ship to be at sea in a typhoon because it cannot be blown onto rocks. Kai Tak Airport closed. No planes were able to take off or land. At 9:00 in the evening, all the lights went out. No one slept well that night. It is difficult to sleep in such bad weather. In Typhoon Rose, more than one hundred people died. 229 people were hurt and 66 of these had to go to hospital. 1500 lost their homes. The people of Hong Kong will not quickly forget Typhoon Rose!

1. What ' s true

according to the passage?A. Typhoons all over the world have girls' names.B. Typhoons with pretty names are usually beautiful.C. Typhoon Rose only hit Hong Kong.D. For ten years, people in Hong Kong haven't seen a worse typhoon than Typhoon Rose.

2. What's the possible result of Typhoon Rose?A. Lots of big shops were blown onto rocks.B. More than two hundred people lost their lives and many more lost their homes.C. People didn't sleep well in such bad weather.D. People turned off the lights at 9:00 in the evening.

3. The people of Hong Kong will not quickly forget Typhoon Rose because

_____ .A. it caused the terrible losses B. they didn't sleep well that night C. Typhoon Rose wasn't as pretty as its name D.

they couldn't find their ships after the typhoon

4. Some big shops didn't go inside the shelters because _____ .A. they had more anchors B. it is safer outside C. they were out at sea and they weren't fast enough to reach the shelters when Typhoon Rose came D. it was too expensive for big shops to go inside the shelters

5. This passage is mainly about _____ .A. the names of typhoons B. typhoons in Hong King C. Typhoon Rose D. the typhoons

Passage 46

There was once a man called Mr. Flowers, and flowers were his only joy in life. He spent all his free time in one of his four glass-houses and grew flowers of every color, with long and difficult names, for competitions (比赛). He tried to grow a rose of a new color to win the silver cup (银杯) for the Rose of the Year. Mr. Flowers' glass-houses were very near to a middle school. Boys of around thirteen of age were often tempted (引诱) to throw a stone

or two at one of Mr. Flowers' glass-houses. So Mr. Flowers did his best to be in or near his glass-houses at the beginning and end of the school day. But it was not always possible to be on watch at those times. Mr. Flowers had tried in many ways to protect his glass, but nothing that he had done had been useful. He had been to school to report to the headmaster, but this had not done any good. He had tried to drive away the boys that threw stones into his garden, but the boys could run faster than he could, and they laughed at him from far away. He had even picked up all the stones that he could find around his garden, so that the boys would have nothing to throw, but they soon found others. At last Mr. Flowers had a good idea. He put up a large notice (布告) made of good, strong wood, some meters away from the glass-houses. On it he had written the words: DO NOT THROW STONES AT THIS NOTICE. After this, Mr. Flowers had no further trouble. The boys were much more tempted to throw stones at the notice than at the glass-houses.

1. It was Mr. Flowers' hope to _____.
A. build glass-houses in his free time
B. grow the Rose of the Year in a silver cup
C. win a silver cup for growing a rose of a new color
D. grow a rose with the longest name

2. Boys were often tempted to _____.
A. throw stones at Mr. Flowers' glass-house
B. throw stones at Mr. Flowers from their school
C. be in or near by Mr. Flowers' glass-houses
D. play with Mr. Flowers near his glass-houses

3. Mr. Flowers stayed in or near by his glass-houses _____.
A. at times when school-boys were walking near them
B. all the school day when there were no boys about
C. where he could not be seen by the boys passing
D. in his free

time at the beginning and end of the school day4. Mr. Flowers had tried to _____ to protect his glass. A. be on watch in his free time B. ask the headmaster for help C. pick up all the stones around his garden D. do all the above5. Mr. Flowers ' good idea was to _____. A. write some words on the glass B. put up a large notice to cover his glass-houses C. give the boys something else to throw stones at D. send for policemen

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