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(Reading in Depth) (25 minutes) Section A Directions : In this section , there is a short passage with 5 questions or incomplete statements. Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions or complete the statements in the fewest possible words on Answer Sheet 2. Questions 47 to 51 are based on the following passage. For most people, shopping is still a matter of wandering down the high street or loading a cart in a shopping mall. Soon, that will change. Electronic commerce is growing fast and will soon bring people more choice. There will, however, be a cost: protecting the consumer from fraud will be harder. Many governments therefore want to extend highstreet regulations to the electronic world. But politicians would be wiser to see cyberspace as a basis for a new era of corporate self-regulation. Consumers in rich countries have grown used to the idea that the government takes responsibility for everything from the stability of the banks to the safety of the drugs, or their rights to refund(退款) when goods are faulty. But governments cannot enforce national laws on businesses whose only presence in their country is on the screen. Other countries have regulators, but the rules of consumer protection differ, as does enforcement. Even where a clear right to compensation exists, the online catalogue customer in Tokyo, say, can hardly go to New York to extract a refund for a dud purchase. One answer is for governments to

cooperate more: to recognize each others rules. But that requires years of work and volumes of detailed rules. And plenty of countries have rules too fanciful for sober states to accept. There is, however, an alternative. Let the electronic businesses do the "regulation" themselves. They do, after all, have a self-interest in doing so. In electronic commerce, a reputation for honest dealing will be a valuable competitive asset. Governments, too, may compete to be trusted. For instance, customers ordering medicines online may prefer to buy from the United States because they trust the rigorous screening of the Food and Drug Administration. or they may decide that the FDAs rules are too strict, and buy from Switzerland instead. Consumers will need to use their judgment. But precisely because the technology is new, electronic shoppers are likely for a while to be a lot more cautious than consumers of the normal sort---and the new technology will also make it easier for them to complain noisily when a company lets them down. In this way, at least, the advent of cyberspace may argue for fewer consumer protection laws, not more.

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡2上作答。

47. What can people benefit from the fast-growing development of electronic commerce? 48. When goods are faulty, consumers in rich countries tend to think that it is _____ who takes responsibility for everything. 49. In the authors view, why do businesses place a high premium on honest dealing in the electronic world? 50. We can infer from the passage that in licensing new drugs the FDA in the United States is _____. 51. We can learn from the passage that _____ are probably

more cautious than consumers of the normal sort when buying things. 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com