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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/535/2021_2022_2009_E5_B9_B4_E8_80_83_c73_535515.htm Forecasters who thought the economy might have turned the corner in January after a frighteningly bad December were hoping for more good news this month . They aren ' t getting it . Barely halfway through February , the first few signs have some economists thinking that January ' s modest good news was an aberration and that the economy remains on a downward slide . “ January and December were so different that February ' s going to tell you a lot . ” says Ethan Harris , a senior economist at Lehman Bros . “ The early signs are not good . ” Retail sales , which rose in January , have fallen in February , according to Redbook numbers . So have car sales . Initial unemployment insurance claims , which fell in January , are rising again , despite a slight downtick Thursday . Prices for bellwether commodities such as lumber and computer chips have plummeted 。 a signal that demand continues to shrivel . And after roaring ahead earlier , the stock market has given up most of its gains for the year . Just Tuesday , Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan told a Senate committee that the exceptional weakness that made December ' s data so grim “ apparently did not continue in January . ” Among other things , consumers returned to malls and auto dealers in heartening numbers . “ I ' d never be so presumptuous as to second guess(Greenspan) , ” says Jason Trennert, managing director of International Strategy & Investment . “ But our own

data suggest that whatever modest acceleration in economic activity we saw in January has started to fade . ” Trennert says what happened in January was probably just a temporary bounce sparked by milder weather and aggressive discounting by retailers . Harris says both December and January were exaggerations and that February looks more like reality . “ Really , what you have is a manufacturing recession and moderate growth in the rest of the economy . ” he says . Like most analysts , Lehman Bros . is forecasting very slow growth but no recession . But economists have been revising their views a lot lately , and the indicators have been unusually confusing . Typical of a period when the economy is at a turning point . . . Despite February ’ s gloom for example , a key gauge of manufacturing activity in the Philadelphia region improved slightly Thursday , as did a national home builders survey . With consumer psychology crucial to what happens next , economists are eager to see today as University of Michigan consumer sentiment survey . Consumer confidence plunged from November ’ s 107 . 6 level to 94 . 7 in January , leading Greenspan to warn that continued erosion could open the door to recession . Though most economists expect just a slight drop for February , the downside is worrisome . Says Ian Shepherdson of High Frequency Economics : “ If the Michigan Survey drops 5 points (today) , we ’ ve got a real problem . ” [438 words] 1 . Alan Greenspan thought that _____

- A . the economy might have somewhat revived in January
- B . the economy remained on a downward slide in January
- C . there would be no recession in February
- D . there would be a slight

growth in February 2 . Few economists believe that_____ . A . there was an obvious economic growth in December B . there was a slight economic growth in January C . January ' s economic growth was abnormal D . the early economic signs for February were discouraging 3 . Jason Trennert believes that what Alan Greenspan said about the economic situation_____. A . in December was hardly credible B . in January was sensible C . in January turned out to be wrong D . in February was plausible 4 . The economists prediction about the future economic situation is based to a large extent on_____. A . the analysis of consumer confidence B . the present economic situation C . current prices for bellwether commodities D . what Alan Greenspan has warned 5 . From this passage , we learn that_____ . A . the economy is unlikely to drop in February B . the economy is likely to drop tremendously in February C . consumer confidence accounts for nothing at all D . the economy is at a turning point 难句透析

Barely halfway through February , the first few signs have some economists thinkin9 ” [that January ' s modest good news was an aberration]and ” [that the economy remains on a downward slide]

【结构】本句谓语句“ have ” 的宾语是 “ some economists ” ；现在分词短语 “ thinking... ” 是宾语补语；方括号标示的两个 “ that ” 从句是 “ thinking ” 的宾语从句。【释义】2月份刚过半个月，就有若干迹象令经济学家想到1月份经济有所好转的消息不太正常，经济仍在下滑。 Initial unemployment insurance claims , which fell in January , are rising again , despite a slight downtick Thursday . 【结构】本句的主

语是“claims”，谓语动词是“are rising”；非限制性定语从句“which...January”修饰“claims”。【释义】尽管星期四股票交易略低于前盘，1月份有所下降的初始失业保险申领目前又在上升。 Prices for bellwether commodities such as lumber and computer chips have plummeted, a signal[that demand continues to shrivel]. 【结构】本句的主语是“Prices”，谓语动词是“have plummeted”；“a signal...”是后置的名词短语，补充说明主句意思；方括号标示的“that...shrivel”是“signal”的同位语从句。【释义】诸如木材和计算机芯片这些主导商品的价格已经大幅度下降，这是需求继续萎缩的迹象。 “I’d never be so presumptuous as to second guess(Greenspan),” says Jason Trennert, managing director of International Strategy & Investment. “But our own data suggest[that(whatever modest acceleration in economic activity we saw in January)has started to fade]. 【结构】方括号标示的“that...fade”是“suggest”的宾语从句；圆括号标示的“whatever...January”是其中的主语从句。【释义】国际策略和投资部的总经理耶逊特伦耐说：“我绝对不会那么主观臆断，以至于怀疑格林斯潘的说法。但是，我们自己的资料表明，无论1月份我们见到经济有多少好转，现在已经开始回落。” But economists have been revising their views a lot lately, and the indicators have been unusually confusingtypical of a period[when the economy is at a turning point]. 【结构】本句是由“and”连接的两个分句组成的并列句；破折号后面的部分是对主句意思的补充说明；方括号标示的“when...point”用做后置定语从句，修饰“period”。【释义】但是，最

近经济学家一直在大幅度修正自己的观点，经济指标一直很令人困惑。这是经济转折阶段的典型特点。 Consumer confidence plunged from November 's 107 . 6 level to 94 . 7 in January , leading Greenspan to warn[that continued erosion could open the door to recession] . 【结构】在本句中，现在分词短语“ leading...recession ”用做伴随情况状语；方括号标示的“ that...recession ”是动词不定式“ to warn ”的宾语从句。 【释义】消费者的信心指数从11月份的107 . 6下滑到了1月份的94 . 7，以至格林斯潘警告说，持续信心下降可能会打开走向衰退之门。 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