

09年12月英语六级模拟试卷及解析之二(文都)英语六级考试

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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/645/2021_2022_09_E5_B9_B412_E6_9C_88_c84_645304.htm gege"> Part Writing (30 minutes)

Directions: In this section you are required to write a composition on the topic "Reduce Waste on Campus". You should write at least 150

words and base your composition on the outline given in Chinese

below。 1.目前有些校园内浪费现象严重； 2.浪费的危害； 3.

从我做起，杜绝浪费。 Part Reading Comprehension

(Skimming and Scanning) (15 minutes) Some Notes on

Gender-Neutral Language General The practice of assigning

masculine gender to neutral terms comes from the fact that every

language reflects the prejudices of the society in which it evolved, and

English evolved through most of its history in a male-centered,

patriarchal society. Like any other language, however, English is

always changing. One only has to read aloud sentences from the 19th

century books assigned for this class to sense the shifts that have

occurred in the last 150 years. When readers pick up something to

read, they expect different conventions depending on the time in

which the material was written. As writers in 1995, we need to be not

only aware of the conventions that our readers may expect, but also

conscious of the responses our words may elicit. In addition, we

need to know how the shifting nature of language can make certain

words awkward or misleading。 "Man" Man once was a truly

generic word referring to all humans, but has gradually narrowed in

meaning to become a word that refers to adult male human beings.

Anglo-Saxons used the word to refer to all people. One example of this occurs when an Anglo-Saxon writer refers to a seventh-century English princess as "a wonderful man". Man paralleled the Latin word homo, "a member of the human species." not vir, "an adult male of the species." The Old English word for adult male was waepman and the old English word for adult woman was wifman. In the course of time, wifman evolved into the word "woman." "Man" eventually ceased to be used to refer to individual women and replaced waepman as a specific term distinguishing an adult male from an adult female. But man continued to be used in generalizations about both sexes. By the 18th century, the modern, narrow sense of man was firmly established as the predominant one. When Edmund Burke, writing of the French Revolution, used men in the old, inclusive way, he took pains to spell out his meaning: "Such a deplorable havoc is made in the minds of men (both sexes) in France..." Thomas Jefferson did not make the same distinction in declaring that "all men are created equal" and "governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." In a time when women, having no vote, could neither give nor withhold consent, Jefferson had to be using the word men in its principal sense of "males," and it probably never occurred to him that anyone would think otherwise. Looking at modern dictionaries indicate that the definition that links "man with males is the predominant one. Studies of college students and school children indicate that even when the broad definitions of "msn" and "men" are taught, they tend to conjure up images of male people only. We

would never use the sentence "A girl grows up to be a man," because we assume the narrower definition of the word man. The Pronoun Problem The first grammars of modern English were written in the 16th and 17th centuries. They were mainly intended to help boys from upper class families prepare for the study of Latin, a language most scholars considered superior to English. The male authors of these earliest English grammars wrote for male readers in an age when few women were literate. The masculine-gender pronouns(代詞) did not reflect a belief that masculine pronouns could refer to both sexes. The grammars of this period contain no indication that masculine pronouns were sex-inclusive when used in general references. Instead these pronouns reflected the reality of male cultural dominance and the male-centered world view that resulted. "He" started to be used as a generic pronoun by grammarians who were trying to change a long-established tradition of using "they" as a singular pronoun. In 1850 an Act of Parliament gave official sanction(批准)to the recently invented concept of the "generic" he. In the language used in acts of Parliament, the new law said, "words importing the masculine gender shall be deemed and taken to include females." Although similar language in contracts and other legal documents subsequently helped reinforce this grammatical edict in all English-speaking countries, it was often conveniently ignored. In 1879, for example, a move to admit female physicians to the all-male Massachusetts Medical Society was effectively blocked on the grounds that the societys by-laws describing membership used the pronoun he. Just as "man" is not

truly generic in the 1990s, "he" is not a true generic pronoun. Studies have confirmed that most people understand "he" to refer to men only. Sentences like "A doctor is a busy person. he must be able to balance a million obligations at once" imply that all doctors are men. As a result of the fact that "he" is read by many as a masculine pronoun, many people, especially women, have come to feel that the generic pronouns excludes women. This means that more and more people find the use of such a pronoun problematic. Solving the Pronoun Problem They as a Singular -Most people, when writing and speaking informally, rely on singular they as a matter of course: "If you love someone, set them free" (Sting). If you pay attention to your own speech, you'll probably catch yourself using the same construction yourself. "Its enough to drive anyone out of their senses" (George Bernard Shaw). "I shouldn't like to punish anyone, even if they'd done me wrong" (George Eliot). Some people are annoyed by the incorrect grammar that this solution necessitates, but this construction is used more and more frequently. He or She---Despite the charge of clumsiness, double-pronoun constructions have made a comeback: "To be black in this country is simply too pervasive an experience for any writer to omit from her or his work," wrote Samuel R. Delany. Overuse of this solution can be awkward, however. Pluralizing-A writer can often recast material in the plural. For instance, instead of "As he advances in his program, the medical student has increasing opportunities for clinical work," try "As they advance in their program, medical students have increasing opportunities for clinical work" Eliminating

Pronouns--Avoid having to use pronouns at all. instead of "a first grader can feed and dress himself," you could write, "a first grader can eat find get dressed without assistance." Further Alternatives--he she or s/he, using one instead of he, or using a new generic pronoun (thon, co, E, try, hash, hit)。

1. "Man" could be used to refer to female human being in the past。
2. In "all men are created equal" in Declaration of Independence by Thomas Jefferson, the word "men" refer to both males and females whether they have vote right or not 。
3. In 1879, Massachusetts Medical Society refused to admit more than ten female physicians because the societys by-laws describing membership used the pronoun he。
4. The first grammars of modern English were written in order to help boys from the upper class prepare for the study of Latin。
5. "Man" paralleled the Latin word "homo" which means _____。
6. Studies show that even when students are taught the broad definition of "man" and "men", they think of _____。
7. Grammarians started to use "he" as a generic pronoun because they were trying to change a tradition of using "they" as _____。
8. When most people read the word "he", they would understand it to rater to _____。
9. Although some people are annoyed by _____ of singular they, this construction is used more and more frequently to solve the pronoun problem。
10. Another way of solving the pronoun problem is to use _____ instead of the singular。

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