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英语阅读（二）试题 课程代码：00596I. Reading

Comprehension. (50 points, 2 points for each) Directions: In this part of the test, there are five passages. Following each passage, there are five questions with four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the best answer and then write the corresponding letter on your Answer Sheet.

Passage One Today, there ' s scarcely an aspect of our life that isn ' t being upended by the torrent of information available on the hundreds of millions of sites crowding the Internet, not to mention its ability to keep us in constant touch with each other via electronic mail. "If the automobile and aerospace technology had exploded at the same pace as computer and information technology," says Microsoft, "a new car would cost about \$ 2 and go 600 miles on a thimbleful of gas. And you could buy a Boeing 747 for the cost of a pizza." Probably the biggest payoff, however, is the billions of dollars the Internet is saving companies in producing goods and serving for the needs of their customers. Nothing like it has been seen since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, when power-driven machines began producing more in a day than men could turn out in nearly a year. "We view the growth of the Internet and e-commerce as a global megatrend," says Merrill Lynch, "along the lines of printing press, the telephone, the computer, and electricity." You would be hard pressed to name something that isn

' t available on the Internet. Consider: books, health care, movie tickets, construction materials, baby clothes, stocks, cattle feed, music, electronics, antiques, tools, real estate, toys, autographs of famous people, wine and airline tickets. And even after you ' ve moved on to your final resting place, there ' s no reason those you love can ' t keep in touch. A company called FinalThoughts.com offers a place for you to store "afterlife e-mails" you can send to Heaven with the help of a "guardian angel". Kids today are so computer savvy that it virtually ensures the United States will remain the unchallenged leader in cyberspace for the foreseeable future. Nearly all children in families with incomes of more than \$75,000 a year have home computers, according to a study by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. Youngsters from ages 2 to 17 at all income levels have computers, with 52% of those connected to the Internet. Most kids use computers to play games (some for 30 hours or more a week), and many teenage girls think nothing of rushing home from school to have e-mail chats with friends they have just left. What ' s clear is that, whether we like it or not, the Internet is an ever growing part of our lives and there is no turning back. "The Internet is just 20% invented," says cyber pioneer Jake Winebaum. "The last 80% is happening now." Questions 1-5 are based on Passage One.

1. What can we learn from the Microsoft ' s remark?
A. Today ' s cars and airplanes are outrageously overpriced.
B. Information technology is developing at an amazing speed.
C. Information technology has reached the point where improvement is difficult.
D. There ' s more competition in information technology

industry than in car industry.2. According to the author, the biggest benefit of the Internet is that____.A. it saves companies huge amounts of moneyB. it accelerates the speed of profit makingC. it brings people incredible convenienceD. it provides easy access to information 3. The author gives the example of FinalThoughts.com to make the point that____.A. there are some genius ideas on the InternetB. almost anything is available on the InternetC. people can find good bargains on the InternetD. some websites provide novel services to increase hits4. What can we learn from the fourth paragraph?A. There is a link between income and computer ownership.B. Many American children don ' t put computers to good use.C. Studies show that boys are more computer savvy than girls.D. The U.S. will stay ahead in the information technology in years.5. What is the message the author intends to convey?A. The Internet is going to get firm hold of our lives some day.B. The Internet is going to change our lives even more profoundly.C. We should have a positive attitude towards the changes the Internet brings.D. Children should be well prepared for the challenges in the information age.

Passage TwoMy mother used to tell my father that he was a very good mother. This was her way of praising his attendance at every concert and game, his patience and care. In those days, "good mother" was the highest domestic achievement. to have called him a good father, given how low the bar was set, wouldn ' t have done him justice.But that was long, long ago. Now fathers sing to their babies in uteri, come to birthing class, coach mom through delivery (as opposed to the days of the hospital clubs, where fathers

smoked and paced while mothers delivered their offspring). They can buy strap-on breasts, so they can share in the bonding. And baby toupees, for those sensitive about hairlessness. I can't help thinking that the increased engagement of fathers has some direct connection to the increased availability of baby gadgets, since having two fanatically engaged parents offers twice the target for retailers. The typical father spends about seven hours per week in "primary child care," which doesn't sound like a lot until you realize it's more than twice as much as in 1965. Among other things, this all means fathers are now much better positioned to write parenting books like Michael Lewis' *Home Game* and Sam Apple's *American Parent: My Strange and Surprising Adventures in Modern Babyland*. The dad diarists approach their subject like anthropologists, engaged in rational inquiry into an alien culture and the nature of nurture. Thus I learned from Apple things I never knew from reading *What to Expect When You're Expecting*, like the fact that in the 1st century Pliny the Elder recommended that women in labor drink goose semen mixed with water to ease the process along. Maybe the respectful distance men keep reflects the obvious ambivalence so many women show about male involvement. We talk about fathers like puppies tripping over their big paws, a portrait long mirrored in a culture in which *Father Knows Least*. We diminish with faint praise. Dads still get points for returning children at the end of the day with all their limbs in place. But the more engaged fathers become, the more women have to reckon with what a true parenting partnership would look like. Questions 6-10 are based on

Passage Two.6. Why did the author's mother call her father a "very good mother"?A. She said that as a joke.B. He was good with children.C. She wanted to compliment him.D. He took care of the children most of the time.7. When the author mentions the increased availability of baby gadgets, her tone is _____.A. humorous B. amusingC. sarcastic D. critical8. According to the passage, fathers are better positioned to write parenting books today because _____.A. they share more with each otherB. they are more eager to get involvedC. they are better informed in child careD. they spend more time with their children9. According to the passage, Michael Levis and Sam Apple _____.A. focus on fathers' role over mothers' in child raisingB. approach the subject of baby care with rational inquiryC. include in their books things most readers don't expectD. take unbiased attitude dealing with the subject of baby care10. What do we learn from the last paragraph?A. Children are shown safer under mothers' care.B. Fathers are not likely to be as skillful as mothers.C. Most mothers think fathers should be more involved.D. Mothers are uncertain about fathers' involvement in childcare.

Passage ThreeIn the northern part of Greenland, ice caps, permafrost and gullies dominate the landscape and there's almost no vegetation. Here became the domain of the Thule who came from Canada in 1200.The onset of the Little Ice Age in the 15th century signaled the end of the Ice Age which started 130,000 years ago. Although the Little Ice Age brought Greenland's temperatures down by merely 0.8 °C, it dealt a lethal blow on the southern regions vegetation and animals succumbed to cold, famine stroke, and

European settlements vanished. The Inuit people survived. They intermarried with the Europeans who came later and became the forefathers of Greenland's people today. The Inuit people still live in pretty much the same way as their ancestors. They make Eskimo canoes. They fish with nets. They hunt seals and sea lions. Sometimes they gut the animals and eat them right on the ice. The innards are precious gifts and are taken back to people of high status and guests. Planet Earth, a critically acclaimed documentary, tells of the impact climate change is having on the ecosystems of the Arctic from the perspective of a polar bear family. The bears are starved on the seaside since they have no sea lions and seals to hunt as glaciers are cracking. The Inuit people are meeting the same fate. Like others, Ajukutoq, a hunter, keeps on complaining to travelers that ice is fast thawing and they are losing the "platforms" they can stand on to hunt animals. They have to use modern fast boats to go further north and look for solid ice surfaces. As the whale population decreases and animals move northwards, whether or not the Inuit's traditional way of life can continue is thrown into question. Ajukutoq is an elected head of a small town. "Cold has never terrified us, but living on the welfare system of the Danish government has," he said. It's generally accepted that if the global temperature rises by 3°C, Greenland will be submerged, but outspoken opponents of diehard environmentalists argue that even if that temperature rises by 7°C, Greenland won't be wiped off the face of the earth. Such argument offers valid moral grounds for tapping the resources hidden under Greenland's ice sheet, and holds an obvious appeal for the people

of Greenland who know precious resources lie under their feet but cannot tap those resources under the watchful eyes of the Danish government and environmentalists. Questions 11-15 are based on Passage Three.

11. According to the passage, the Little Ice Age caused _____.
A. the extinction of several species
B. a fundamental change in the way local people lived
C. a drastic drop in temperature in a short period of time
D. the disappearance of European settlements in southern Greenland

12. What can be concluded about the Inuit people's way of life?
A. Some people consider it healthy and conservative.
B. It is given up by many young people for modern life.
C. It has remained almost unchanged for hundreds of years.
D. There is the possibility that it will become a memory in this century.

13. According to Planet Earth, the immediate danger polar bears face is _____.
A. starvation
B. loss of habitat
C. hunting activity
D. unbearable heat

14. Why does Ajukutoq keep complaining to travelers?
A. Travelers produce too much waste.
B. His fellow men have to go further north to hunt.
C. Newly built factories produce pollution.
D. Danish government doesn't treat them fairly.

15. According to the last paragraph, why does the argument appeal to some Greenlanders?
A. It may have a soothing effect on their worried minds.
B. It means that Greenland will not be submerged in the years to come.
C. It may help change the Danish government's resource exploitation policy.
D. It gives them the moral grounds for exploiting the resources under the ice sheet.

Passage Four
Frank Buonotte was going through some junk mail when he came across a postcard advertising a History Channel documentary. "That pile of mail had

been sitting there for weeks," he says. "But I noticed the movie was scheduled to air within the hour." For some reason, Buonanotte, a semiretired entrepreneur, tuned in. Into the Fire was about firefighters, and Buonanotte was fascinated. "One segment was about what it 's like to be in a fire," he recalls. "The smoke makes it impossible to see, you 're crawling along the floor, people are trapped in remote rooms." The film explained how a new technology called thermal imaging could "see" through smoke and walls so firefighters could identify victims, fallen colleagues, and the source of a fire. But the portable cameras cost more than \$10,000 each, and few fire stations could afford them. About 80,000 firefighters are injured every year in the line of duty. last year, 114 died. "But it 's not like cancer," says Buonanotte. "A cure exists. The only reason it 's not used is lack of funds. That bothered me." The documentary stuck with him. Having recently quit his day-to-day duties as founder and CEO of two companies, Buonanotte had been meeting with a life coach to figure out "what the second half of my life would be about." At first, Buonanotte thought he would simply donate a few thermal imagers. He contacted the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, and one conversation led to another. Buonanotte decided to set up and run a charity, 500 for Life (he asks for at least \$500, but he 'll accept any amount). Since its founding in 2007, the nonprofit has donated 40 cameras to fire departments in 25 states. "It 's never been easy for me to ask people for money," says Buonanotte. "But if firefighters have the courage to go into a burning house, then I need to have the courage to ask for money to get the

equipment they need." The Buonanotte family absorbs the administrative costs so that all contributions can go directly to buying new cameras. In addition, the family itself donates several cameras a year, and Buonanotte travels the country to speak, solicit money, and deliver cameras "the most rewarding part of the job." Buonanotte could not have predicted the impact that the documentary would have on him and others. "Business success is good and fulfilling," he says, "but many people end up thinking there must be more than just this. Usually, it 's giving back that makes someone feel whole and satisfies that feeling that something is missing. I 've been able to help firefighters save more lives. It doesn 't get any better than that." Questions 16-20 are based on Passage

Four.

16. Frank Buonanotte learned about thermal imager from _____.
A. a lecture
B. a friend
C. a TV program
D. an advertisement

17. We can learn from the third paragraph that Buonanotte was bothered by the fact that _____.
A. tens of thousands of firefighters are injured every year
B. firefighters ' safety risks are improperly addressed by authorities
C. thermal imaging was not yet ready to be applied in real situations
D. fire stations couldn 't afford the new technology to protect firefighters

18. What did Buonanotte do after contacting National Fallen Firefighters Foundation?
A. He donated a few thermal imagers.
B. He set up a nonprofit to raise money.
C. He talked his family into joining him to help the firefighters.
D. He arranged a meeting with the thermal imager manufacturer.

19. Which statement is true about the charity, 500 for Life?
A. The Buonanotte family takes care of its running cost.
B. The

donation it receives occasionally exceeds 500 dollars.C. It equips most fire stations in the U.S. with thermal imagers.D. It is the result of the joint effort of Buonanotte and the fire departments.20. We can infer from the passage that Buonanotte _____.

A. has set up several charities
B. gets tired of his own business
C. has strong sense of responsibility
D. has earned great fame and satisfaction

Passage Five
Originally the food of emperors, the cuisine known as kaiseki is the pinnacle of Japanese eating and few restaurants serve a more refined menu than Kikunoi, in the former imperial capital of Kyoto. Kaiseki dining is the product of centuries of cultural evolution, but though Kikunoi is high-end as the bill will indicate its cuisine is meant to be a grand elaboration of the basic Japanese home meal: rice, fish, pickles, vegetables and miso soup, artfully presented in small, healthy portions. "I believe that Japanese cuisine is something embedded in Japanese people ' s DNA," says Kikunoi ' s owner, Yoshihiro Murata. That may be true, but it ' s a legacy under assault, increasingly crowded out by fast, convenient, westernized food. These days, Murata says sadly, his college-age daughter doesn ' t see much difference between cheap restaurant food and the haute cuisine he makes. "I think that in Japan, people should eat good Japanese food," he says. "But they are faraway from it." Japan is not alone. Food and diet are the cornerstones of any culture, one of the most reliable symbols of national identity. Think of the long Spanish lunch followed by the afternoon siesta, a rhythm of food and rest perfectly suited to the blistering heat of the Iberian Peninsula in summer. Think of the Chinese meal of rice, vegetables and (only

recently) meat, usually served in big collective dishes, the better for extended clans to dine together. National diets come to incorporate all aspects of who we are: our religious taboos, class structure, geography, economy, even government. Even the traditions we learn from others we adopt and adapt in ways that make them our own. Japan received chopsticks from China and tempura from Portugal. Tomatoes, that staple of pasta and pizza, arrived in Southern Europe only as part of the Columbian Exchange. "A lot of what we think of as deeply rooted cultural traditions are really traceable back to global exchange," says Miriam Chaiken, a nutritional anthropologist at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. In an era of instant communication and accelerated trade, those cultural exchanges have exploded, leading to something closer to cultural homogenization. That 's bad for not only the preservation of national identities but the preservation of health too. Saturated fats and meats are displacing grains and fresh vegetables. Mealtimes are shrinking. McDonald 's is everywhere. From Chile to China, the risk of obesity, diabetes and heart disease is on the rise. This, in turn, is leading to a minimovement in some countries to hold fast to traditional food culture, even as their menu grows ever more international.

Questions 21-25 are based on Passage Five.

21. We can learn from the first paragraph that Kikunoi is _____.
A. an expensive restaurant
B. located in Japan 's capital city
C. well-known among old people
D. the basic Japanese home meal

22. What did Murata say about his daughter?
A. She eats too much Westernized food.
B. She can 't resist the convenience of fast food.
C. She doesn 't appreciate the

delicate dishes he makes.D. She should learn more about traditional Japanese cuisine.

23. Why is the long Spanish lunch followed by the afternoon siesta?A. It is the result of the hot weather in Spain.B. This tradition has been observed for centuries.C. Spanish people lead a rather leisure life.D. It is the result of the ever-quicken pace of life.

24. "In an era ... leading to something closer to cultural homogenization." (Para. 5)The word "homogenization" is closest in meaning to____.A. diversity B. uniformityC. localization D. globalization

25. What is the main topic of this passage?A. Food and health. B. Climate and diet.C. Cuisine and national identity. D. Cultural evolution and its effects.

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