

Advanced English Writing #9

Hao-Li Liu, Ph.D., Department of Electrical Engineering,

Chang-Gung University

I. Writing: 原因連接詞/原因介係詞

1. *This project is dedicated to my family. It was their encouragement and support that have brought me the confidence and courage to confront all the obstacles. Without them, I could not have accomplished my studies in the United States.*
Sol: I could accomplish my studies in the United States only _____ my family; they encouraged and supported me.
2. *With her patience, advice, and professional knowledge, I successfully completed the project everyone regarded as “mission impossible.”*
Sol: _____ of my patience, advice and professional knowledge, I successfully completed the project everyone regarded as “mission impossible.”
3. Oil prices in the international market have surged _____ high that both Taiwan’s major petroleum corporations raised gasoline prices last week.
4. Wandering in herds and usually led by a cow in the wild, elephants – the largest land mammals alive nowadays – are gregarious animals, yet some are excluded from the group and live alone _____ they are belligerent.
5. Wandering in herds and usually led by a cow in the wild, elephants – the largest land mammals alive nowadays – are gregarious animals, yet some are excluded from the group and live alone _____ their belligerence.
6. Lots of people, especially females, are unhappy either with their weight or body shape or both, _____ fitness centers have appeared in large numbers and losing weight seems to have become a fashion craze.
7. Almost every year, typhoons hit the island of Taiwan during the summer and fall months _____ the location of Taiwan.
8. Tobacco smoking has been proved a main cause of lung diseases, such as lung

cancer, _____ some heavy smokers have become increasingly aware that it'd better to quit the habit for the sake of their health.

9. Some scientists believe that preserving forests is a top priority, _____ forests provide plant and animal species with habitats. (for/ because/ since, as)
10. Due to the factory's dumping of toxic pollutants into nearby rivers, _____ people drinking the water from the rivers got sick and gave birth to babies either with mental disorders or physical disabilities.



Section One

Listening Comprehension

Part I: Picture Questions

Audio/MP3 Track 22

For each picture, you will hear four short statements. Choose the statement that best describes what you see in the picture.

1.



2.



3.



Part II: Question and Response

Audio/MP3 Track 23

You will hear a question followed by three responses. They will not be printed in your test book. You are to choose the best response to each question or statement.

4-10. Mark your answer on your answer sheet.

Part III: Short Conversations

Audio/MP3 Track 24

You will hear some conversations between two people. The conversations will not be printed in your test book. You will be asked to answer three questions about what the speakers say in each conversation. You are to choose the best answer to each question.

11. Why is the woman going to St. Louis?

- (A) To meet a coworker
- (B) To meet her husband
- (C) To meet her boss
- (D) To meet a client

12. What does the woman imply about the person she will meet?

- (A) He is very tall.
- (B) He works for the government.
- (C) He has a lot of power.
- (D) He has children.

13. What does the man say about the meeting?

- (A) He hopes there will be good news.
- (B) He wonders what Jeff Rice can do.
- (C) He thinks the woman is wasting her time.
- (D) He would like to go with her.

14. What is the location of this conversation?

- (A) A jewelry store
- (B) A bank
- (C) An antique store
- (D) A restaurant

15. What is the second woman's opinion of the place?
- (A) They have some great furniture.
 - (B) They have some great food.
 - (C) Everything is too old.
 - (D) The staff isn't helpful.
16. What information did we learn about the man in the shop?
- (A) He's the woman's husband.
 - (B) He just bought a table.
 - (C) He's wearing a green hat.
 - (D) He has paid a deposit.
17. Who told the man about the woman's trip to Australia?
- (A) The woman
 - (B) Her sister
 - (C) Her uncle
 - (D) Her aunt
18. How does the woman seem to feel about the trip?
- (A) She thought the hotels were terrible.
 - (B) She had the trip of a lifetime.
 - (C) She had at least one bad experience.
 - (D) She doesn't want the man to go.
19. What does the man say about the summertime in Australia?
- (A) It is very hot.
 - (B) He knows it is in December.
 - (C) He recommends the summertime.
 - (D) He wants to go again.
20. What can we assume the man's job is?
- (A) Comedian
 - (B) Actor
 - (C) Magician
 - (D) Singer
21. What is the reason he says there can be no flash photography?
- (A) It could make him dizzy.
 - (B) It will make it hard to concentrate.
 - (C) The pictures will not be good.
 - (D) It may cause the audience to get scared.
22. What can we assume will happen during the show?
- (A) There are animals.
 - (B) There will be lots of people.
 - (C) The man will fly.
 - (D) There will be lots of water.
23. What is the main point of the conversation?
- (A) The company wants to spend money.
 - (B) They want to fire Richard.
 - (C) The company needs to save money.
 - (D) They are announcing the budget.
24. Who, most likely, is Richard?
- (A) An office worker
 - (B) A manager
 - (C) A secretary
 - (D) A CEO
25. What will happen in the future?
- (A) The speaker will be frightened.
 - (B) Richard will get a promotion.
 - (C) They will make fewer cuts.
 - (D) They will reevaluate the idea.

Part IV: Short Talks

Audio/MP3 Track 25

You will hear several short talks. They will not be printed in your test book. You will be asked to answer three questions about what the speaker says in each short talk. You are to choose the best answer to each question.

Section Two Reading

Part V: Incomplete Sentences

You are to choose the one word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

26. We have all _____ that it is time to renovate the office.
(A) agree
(B) disagree
(C) agreement
(D) agreed
27. When we finally _____ a new CEO, I think it will be better to hire from outside.
(A) appoint
(B) appointment
(C) appraisal
(D) anoint
28. We need _____ down on spending if we are ever going to have enough money for our trip to Europe.
(A) to try
(B) to cut
(C) for save
(D) some expenses
29. Carole _____ Milton how to use the new photocopier right after she had had her lunch.
(A) shows
(B) has showed
(C) show
(D) showed
30. As we are moving to the third floor, you can _____ many changes to the layout of reception.
(A) exact
(B) expect
(C) exalt
(D) exhaust
31. In times gone by, it was much _____ to get a credit card. Now it is much more difficult.
(A) hardly
(B) easier
(C) great ease
(D) harder
32. Mr. Goss _____ chairing a symposium in Vienna next week on best business practices; we hope you can join him.
(A) has gone
(B) can do
(C) should do
(D) will be
33. Our charity _____ to promote a sustainable future for people from all walks of life, not just those with large bank accounts.
(A) goal
(B) enjoys
(C) aims
(D) keeps
34. _____ 10 percent of the world's population is left handed.
(A) Absolutely
(B) Approximately
(C) Abundantly
(D) Affectionately
35. It is _____ a quirk of history that English became the dominant language of business.
(A) redeemed
(B) regarded as
(C) requisitioned to
(D) reminded for

Part VI: Fill in the Blanks

Read the following text. A word or phrase is missing in some of the sentences. You are to choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

Questions 36-38 refer to the following article:

One of the growing problems in the health of young people is the 36 that so many are living sedentary lives. Experts have written that, when 80 percent of school children under the age of 12 get home, the first thing they do is sit 37 of the TV or computer. A huge 38 of these children have TVs and computers in their rooms. The fact that they are no longer very active puts them at risk of cancer and heart disease in later life.

36. (A) saying
(B) true
(C) fact
(D) idea
37. (A) watching
(B) turning
(C) using
(D) in front
38. (A) quantity
(B) masses
(C) minority
(D) majority

Part VII: Reading Comprehension

You are to choose the one best answer to each question. Answer all questions following each reading selection on the basis of what is stated or implied in that section.

Questions 39-41 refer to the following advertisement :

Presenting the inaugural Fort Worth Dragon Festival, celebrating our diverse Chinese population. This festival will run from Friday 14 - Sunday 16 and you'll be able to watch Dragon dances, eat exotic foods, participate in Chinese Opera and much more.

The event will be held in Union Square from midday to 10 p.m. and a little later on Saturday (subject to change). Free admission, all you need to bring is a smile and a sense of fun.

See you there!



39. Where might we see this advertisement?
(A) TV guide
(B) Lifestyle magazine
(C) Community newspaper
(D) Broadsheet newspaper
40. How many times has the festival been held?
(A) This is the first time.
(B) They have it every year.
(C) 10 times
(D) Once before
41. What is NOT mentioned in the article?
(A) Dancing
(B) Food
(C) Drink
(D) Singing

Questions 42-45 refer to the following e-mail:

To: g.arkwright@emmanuel.net

From: n.barker@ronnie.com

Subject: The New Sports Center



Dear Granville,

I have been instructed by my superiors to ask about the timeline for the opening of the new Sports Center. When we gave the contract to Emmanuel Leisure, we assumed that everything would be on time and on budget, but lately we are starting to regret this.

I visited the builders yesterday (Wednesday), and they informed me that the Olympic-sized swimming pool is already four months behind schedule with no end in sight. Every day that we remain closed is a day that we lose more money, meaning that soon the refurbishments that are taking you so long will not be a worthy investment.

We are, therefore, organizing a meeting between you and my bosses for Tuesday September 29, which you are strongly urged to attend. If you do not, we will be speaking with our legal team.

Best Regards,

Norman Barker

42. Who, most likely, is Granville?

- (A) A patron of the sports center
- (B) The boss of Emmanuel Leisure
- (C) The owner of the sports center
- (D) A builder

43. What is the tone of the letter?

- (A) Passive
- (B) Assertive
- (C) Elusive
- (D) Festive

44. What is the meaning of "no end in sight"?

- (A) The ending is well known.
- (B) The ending should be soon.
- (C) The ending is unknown.
- (D) The ending has happened.

45. How important is it that Granville attends the meeting?

- (A) Top priority
- (B) Fairly important
- (C) Not so important
- (D) Lowest priority

Questions 46-50 refer to the following obituary and e-mail:

THE RISING SUN

Obituary: Greg Ford (excerpt)

We are sad to say farewell to one of rock music's greatest pioneers: Mr. Greg Ford, who passed away yesterday at the age of 86 in his childhood home in Wyoming.

Greg started out in the early 1950s in a singing trio called The Ford-tastics where his famous falsetto voice and unique guitar playing style first began to shine. Although the group was not a success nationally, they became famous in the live music scene and Greg caught the eye of famous music producer Leonard Shaw, who would go on to lead him to international fame.

Greg toured extensively with his band Model Q in the 1960s and early 1970s and released many hit albums. His output slowed in later years, until he eventually retired from the music scene in 1989 to take up his other passion of still life painting. He is still regarded as influential by younger generations who will no doubt seek out his work after this sad news.

Greg Ford: We salute you!

To: theeditor@risingsun.com

From: m.ford@modelq.com

Subject: Thanks

Dear Editor,

I am Greg Ford's eldest daughter and want to thank you for the very sensitive obituary that was written in yesterday's edition. The wild man of rock that most of your readers knew was very different to the person that I called "Dad." He was a very quiet and thoughtful man who always wanted to know how people were getting along. As touched as he would have been, he would not have understood what all the fuss was about at his passing.

That said, I'm sure he would have appreciated this obituary, and — with that in mind — our family thank you again.

Melody Ford

46. What, most likely, is "The Rising Sun"?

- (A) Restaurant
- (B) Newspaper
- (C) Movie
- (D) Novel

47. How many members of The Ford-Tastics were there?

- (A) Just Greg Ford
- (B) Two
- (C) Three
- (D) The text doesn't make it clear.

48. What did Greg do after he retired?

- (A) Carried on playing
- (B) Moved to Wyoming
- (C) Met Leonard Shaw
- (D) Started painting

49. Based on the obituary, what is NOT true of Greg?

- (A) He was in many different groups.
- (B) His music is still popular with younger people.
- (C) He worked in music for more than 30 years.
- (D) He played the guitar.

50. Based on Melody's e-mail, which word best describes Greg?

- (A) Aggressive
- (B) Caring
- (C) Crazy
- (D) Enthusiastic