

Advanced English Writing #14

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

Chang-Gung University

I. Writing: 虛主詞

Example:

- (1) Various theories exist.
- (2) They describe the origins of drama (use “there”).

Sol:

There are various theories for the origins of drama.

1. (1) *Something* is improper.
(2) Judge whether a person is successful in terms of his or her income. (use “it”).

Sol:

2. (1) Students who study English conscientiously on their own make *something* happen.
(2) It is much easier to score high marks on the TOFEL. (use “it”)

Sol:

3. (1) *You and your father* were very kind.
(2) You and your father offered me meals and a place to stay overnight. (use “it”)

Sol:

4. (1) Since Charles has been out of school for more than ten years, *something* will be difficult.
(2) Charles concentrates in class. (use “it”)

Sol:

5. (1) There were dozens of boys and girls in it.

(2) *The boys and girls were playing and chasing around.* (use “限定分詞片語”)

Sol:



Section One

Listening Comprehension

Part I: Picture Questions

Audio/MP3 Track 20

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



Part II: Question and Response

Audio/MP3 Track 21

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 22

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 man's garden a problem?

- (A) There have been weather problems.
- (B) He wants to sell his house next year.
- (C) He has had no money to make improvements.
- (D) He has no time to take care of it because of other projects.

12. How does the woman feel?

- (A) She understands his situation.
- (B) She disagrees about the need for money.
- (C) She wants the man to relax.
- (D) She hates gardens.

13. What else does the man like?

- (A) Having something to work on
- (B) Relaxing on his days off
- (C) Doing nothing with his free time
- (D) Summer weather

14. What time is the performance?

- (A) Morning
- (B) Afternoon
- (C) Evening
- (D) Tomorrow night

15. Why can the customer get a cheaper price?

- (A) She has a coupon.
- (B) Prices are discounted for this time of day.
- (C) She is a student.
- (D) The theater has a promotion on now.

16. How is the refund given?

- (A) No refund
- (B) In cash
- (C) By check
- (D) To her credit card

17. How does the first man feel?

- (A) Angry
- (B) Happy
- (C) Sad
- (D) Tired

18. How many times has the second man called the cleaning company this month?

- (A) Four times
- (B) Three times
- (C) Twice
- (D) Once

19. Who might Polly be?

- (A) A cleaner
- (B) The first man's wife.
- (C) The second man's daughter.
- (D) The first man's secretary.

Part IV: Short Talks

Audio/MP3 Track 23

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.

20. Which of these was NOT mentioned in the speech?

- (A) Gloves
- (B) Sunglasses
- (C) Helmet
- (D) T-shirt

21. What is the speech about?

- (A) Fashion
- (B) Accidents
- (C) Cars
- (D) Motorcycle safety

22. Why would the audience thank the speaker?

- (A) He has saved the audience time.
- (B) His advice might save them from injury.
- (C) He has bought the audience new helmets.
- (D) He has given good advice about the automobile market.

23. What time will the store close?

- (A) 8:05 p.m.
- (B) 8:30 p.m.
- (C) 8:35 p.m.
- (D) 8:50 p.m.

24. Which of the following is most likely to be discounted?

- (A) Fish
- (B) Cleaning products
- (C) Ice cream
- (D) Magazines

25. What will close in five minutes?

- (A) The car park
- (B) The café
- (C) The whole store
- (D) The fresh food section

Section Two Reading

Part V: Incomplete Sentences

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

26. There are many _____ meat from a pig, including pork chops and bacon.
- (A) type
 - (B) cuts of
 - (C) kind
 - (D) style of
27. After _____ out his application, James decided to visit the company's Web site.
- (A) filing
 - (B) filling
 - (C) write
 - (D) wrote
28. One of the secrets to a _____ marriage is communication.
- (A) successful
 - (B) greatly
 - (C) happily
 - (D) joy
29. Since 1994, there have been many _____ to change the way we see our environment.
- (A) try
 - (B) times
 - (C) attempts
 - (D) arrests
30. Joe was praised by his _____ colleagues for his punctuality.
- (A) all
 - (B) newly
 - (C) former
 - (D) pre
31. The managers predicted that the new office building _____ completed by June, 2014.
- (A) will
 - (B) can
 - (C) should
 - (D) would be
32. _____ a spate of car thefts, the police urged people to be on their guard.
- (A) Nevertheless
 - (B) Because
 - (C) Due to
 - (D) In contrast to
33. Scientists claim that babies born in the year 2012 will live until they are 85 years old _____ average.
- (A) to
 - (B) on
 - (C) by
 - (D) in
34. "Luddite" is a word that has come to mean _____ who fears changes.
- (A) somewhere
 - (B) someone's
 - (C) somebody
 - (D) sommelier
35. Emily decided it was time to _____ her position at the company.
- (A) reevaluate
 - (B) residue
 - (C) retry
 - (D) renewable

Part VI: Text Completion

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 short article:

Samson Breadstuffs was originally 36 McCall Bakeries of Denton, Texas and first debuted in 1913. When it was launched, they needed a new brand name and they decided to go with "Samson" quite 37 accident. The legend goes that a secretary who worked for the company forgot her sandwiches one morning. She said that not having her 38 sandwiches for lunch was like being "Samson without his hair" (Samson being a character in the Bible who lost his power after his hair was cut short), and the name stuck. Now every home in America eats a Samson product approximately once every four weeks.

36. (A) installed
(B) prepared
(C) produced by
(D) inspired
37. (A) in
(B) by
(C) with
(D) for
38. (A) daily
(B) month
(C) annuals
(D) sometime

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 musical instrument introduction:

In order to learn how to play the trombone, you first need to know some basic facts. The sound that all trombones produce is made when the player vibrates his or her lips causing a vibration in the air column inside the instrument, not blowing into it as you would blow into a flute (as is commonly thought). This process is known as "embouchure."

The trombone is easily recognized by its characteristic shape — it has a telescopic slide and three valves. The word trombone is derived from the Italian word "tromba," meaning trumpet, and "one," a suffix meaning "large." The word trombone, therefore, literally means "large trumpet."

In its present incarnation, the modern trombone is mostly associated with jazz, though it has also featured in rock and popular music. However, the instrument itself is far older than it appears, dating back to the 17th century when it was used to announce the arrival of dignitaries to important feasts with the king.

These are just a few interesting facts about the trombone. Why don't you pick one up and have a go?

Questions 42-45 refer to the following article:

The Perfect Brew

Many people these days are starting to brew their own beer. Carla Goldstein meets a young hopeful who is hoping to break into the new brewing scene.

Anthony Garnett says he has been interested in food and cooking ever since he was young and even claims to have started watching cooking shows before kindergarten. For a long time Anthony focused his attention on making desserts, but after discovering there was a lot of skill involved in creating good beer, he set his sights on home brewing.

During college, he took a course in his sophomore year entitled "Beer and Its Production throughout History." Part of the course was to create two unique flavors, and Anthony passed with flying colors. Ever since, Anthony has strived to create better and more flavorful beer. His abilities recently helped him win an award at the home brewing awards in his city. His next step will be looking at brewing professionally, although he is still unsure when he will take that jump.

39. Who is this article aimed at?

- (A) Advanced students
- (B) Professionals
- (C) Beginners
- (D) Teachers

40. What is "embouchure"?

- (A) The way to make sound come from a trombone
- (B) A kind of flute
- (C) The shape of a trombone
- (D) The name of a famous Italian trombone

41. Which of these styles of music is associated with the trombone according to the article?

- (A) Country
- (B) Heavy metal
- (C) Rock
- (D) Blues

42. When did Anthony begin to watch cooking shows?

- (A) In high school
- (B) In university
- (C) Before kindergarten
- (D) After school

43. Which of the following might Anthony have made before he started brewing beer?

- (A) Chicken
- (B) Cakes
- (C) Curries
- (D) Vegetarian food

44. In which year of university did Anthony take the beer course?

- (A) First year
- (B) Second year
- (C) Third year
- (D) Final year

45. How does Anthony feel about making beer professionally?

- (A) Negative
- (B) Positive
- (C) Neutral
- (D) Hesitant

Questions 46-50 refers to the following poster and e-mail:

Attention!



Has anybody seen Rover? He is a golden Labrador about average height for a Labrador, roughly six years old and has a distinctive scar near his left eye. We were walking him on Thursday last week, and he ran away after being scared by a loud noise.

We are putting up posters here and in Goostrey Park, Langton Abbey and The Marshes because they were all on our favorite walk route. We hope that some of you fellow dog-walkers will remember him and us. If you have any information, could you please call us on 0992-818-000 or e-mail us at upwith@joneses.com. If you do spot him, please get in contact asap, as our family misses him very much!

Thank you,

The Jones Family

To: upwith@joneses.com

From: frankmoon@homerton.net

Subject: Found Rover!

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Jones:

I think I have your dog in my house. Last week, I was walking close to Goostrey Park, and I saw a very sad but friendly-looking Labrador hiding in the bushes. I knew it was a Lab as I love this breed. He looked a little thin, so I took him to a vet who confirmed he was OK. We knew he was in a good enough condition not to be a stray, so we checked for a microchip to see if he had an owner. As we couldn't find one, I decided I'd keep him until we located the owner. Now it seems I have!

When would be a good time for us to meet? I am available most days.

I'll be sad to see him go as he is a lovely dog, but I'm sure you now know the importance of getting him chipped.

Best regards,

Frank Moon

46. Why is the family putting up posters?

- (A) They have lost their dog.
- (B) They are looking for a wedding ring.
- (C) Their cat has run away.
- (D) Somebody stole their car.

47. Which of these is NOT given in the description of the lost item?

- (A) The weight
- (B) The color
- (C) The age
- (D) The size

48. Where did Frank find the lost animal?

- (A) Near to Langton Abbey
- (B) Inside The Marshes
- (C) Near Goostrey Park
- (D) At the vet's office

49. What does Frank say about himself?

- (A) He works at night.
- (B) He likes Labradors.
- (C) He is very slim.
- (D) He likes to go running.

50. What will happen now?

- (A) Frank will keep the animal.
- (B) Frank will ask the vet to get him a microchip.
- (C) Frank will meet the family to return the animal.
- (D) The family will call the police.