## 1998年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

### Section I Structure and Vocabulary

### Part A

### Directions:

Beneath each of the following sentences, there are four choices marked [A], [B], [C] and [D]. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Mark your answer on the **ANSWER SHEET 1** by blackening the corresponding letter in the brackets with a pencil. (5 points)

Example:

I have been to the Great Wall three times \_\_\_\_\_ 1979.

- [A] from
- [B] after
- [C] for
- [D] since

The sentence should read, "I have been to the Great Wall three times since 1979." Therefore, you should choose [D].

1. I worked so late in the office last night that I hardly had time \_\_\_\_\_ the last bus.

- [A] to have caught
- [B] to catch
- [C] catching
- [D] having caught
- 2. As it turned out to be a small house party, we \_\_\_\_\_ so formally.
- [A] needn' t dress up
- [B] did not need have dressed up

- [C] did not need dress up
- [D] needn' t have dressed up
- 3. I apologize if I \_\_\_\_\_ you, but I assure you it was unintentional.
- [A] offend
- [B] had offended
- [C] should have offended
- [D] might have offended
- 4. Although a teenager, Fred could resist \_\_\_\_\_ what to do and what not to do.
- [A] to be told
- [B] having been told
- [C] being told
- [D] to have been told

5. Greater efforts to increase agricultural production must be made if food shortage \_\_\_\_\_\_ avoided.

[A] is to be

- [B] can be
- [C] will be
- [D] has been

6. Doing your homework is a sure way to improve your test scores, and this is especially true \_\_\_\_\_ it comes to classroom tests.

[A] before

- [B] as
- [C] since

[D] when

7. There are over 100 night schools in the city, making it possible for a professional to be reeducated no matter \_\_\_\_\_ he does.

[A] how

[B] where

[C] what

[D] when

8. I' ve kept up a friendship with a girl whom I was at school \_\_\_\_\_\_ twenty years ago.

[A] about

[B] since

[C] till

[D] with

9. He wasn' t asked to take on the chairmanship of the society, \_\_\_\_\_ insufficiently popular with all members.

[A] being considered

[B] considering

[C] to be considered

[D] having considered

10. \_\_\_\_\_ for the timely investment from the general public, our company would not be so thriving as it is.

[A] Had it not been

[B] Were it not

[C] Be it not

[D] Should it not be

### Part B

### Directions:

Each of the following sentences has four underlined parts marked [A], [B], [C] and [D]. Identify the part of the sentence that is incorrect and mark your answer on **ANSWER SHEET 1** by blackening the corresponding letter in the brackets with a pencil. (5 points)

Example:

В

С

A number of [A] foreign visitors were taken [B] to the industrial exhibition, which [C] they saw [D] many new products.

Part [C] is wrong. The sentence should read, "A number of foreign visitors were taken to the industrial exhibition, where they saw many new products." So you should choose [C].

11. According to Darwin, random changes that enhance <u>a species'</u> ability <u>A</u>
<u>for surviving are</u> naturally selected and passed on <u>to succeeding</u> generations.

12. Neither rain nor snow <u>keeps</u> the postman from delivering our letters <u>which</u> we A B
<u>so much</u> look forward <u>to receive.</u>
D

13. If they <u>will not accept</u> a check, we <u>shall have</u> to pay <u>the cash</u>, though it A
B
C
would be much trouble for both sides.
D

14. <u>Having been robbed off</u> economic importance, those states are <u>not</u> likely to A B C
count for <u>very much</u> in international political terms.

15. The message will be that neither the market nor the government is capable of A B dealing with all of their uncontrollable practices. C D 16. The logic of scientific development is <u>such</u> that <u>separates</u> groups of men A B
working <u>on</u> the same problem in <u>far-scattered</u> laboratories are likely to arrive at C D
the same answer at the same time.
17. Yet not all of these races are <u>intellectual inferior to</u> the European races, A

 $\frac{\text{and}}{B}$  some may even have  $\frac{a}{C}$  freshness and vitality that can renew the  $\frac{\text{energies}}{D}$  of more advanced races.

18. The more than 50,000 nuclear weapons in the hands of various nations today are  $\stackrel{}{\rm A}$ 

<u>more than</u> ample <u>destroying</u> every city in the world several times <u>over.</u> B C D

19. The universe works in a way so far  $\underline{\text{remove}}$  from what common sense  $\underline{\text{would}}$  allow A B <u>that</u> words of any kind must necessarily be inadequate to explain  $\underline{\text{it.}}$  D

20. The integration of independent states  $\frac{\text{could best be}}{A}$  brought about by  $\frac{\text{first}}{B}$ creating a central organization  $\frac{\text{with authorities}}{C}$  over  $\frac{\text{technical}}{D}$  economic tasks.

### Part C

### Directions:

Beneath each of the following sentences, there are four choices marked [A], [B], [C] and [D]. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Mark your answer on **ANSWER SHEET 1** by blackening the corresponding letter in the brackets with a pencil. (10 points)

Example:

The lost car of the Lees was found \_\_\_\_\_ in the woods off the highway.

- [A] vanished
- [B] scattered
- [C] abandoned

[D] rejected

The sentence should read, "The lost car of the Lees was found abandoned in the woods off the highway." Therefore, you should choose [C].

21. The machine needs a complete \_\_\_\_\_\_ since it has been in use for over ten years.

[A] amending

[B] fitting

[C] mending

[D] renovating

22. There were many people present and he appeared only for a few seconds, so I only caught a \_\_\_\_\_\_ of him.

[A] glance

- [B] glimpse
- [C] look
- [D] sight

23. I don't think it's wise of you to \_\_\_\_\_ your greater knowledge in front of the director, for it may offend him.

- [A] show up
- [B] show out
- [C] show in
- [D] show off

24. The returns in the short \_\_\_\_\_ may be small, but over a number of years the investment will be well repaid.

[A] interval

[B] range

[C] span

[D] term

25. A thorough study of biology requires \_\_\_\_\_ with the properties of trees and plants, and the habit of birds and beasts.

[A] acquisition

- [B] discrimination
- [C] curiosity
- [D] familiarity

- [A] justify
- [B] testify
- [C] rectify
- [D] verify

27. I'm very glad to know that my boss has generously agreed to \_\_\_\_\_ my debt in return for certain services.

[A] take away

- [B] cut out
- [C] write off
- [D] clear up

28. Some journalists often overstate the situation so that their news may create a great \_\_\_\_\_.

[A] explosion

- [B] sensation
- [C] exaggeration
- [D] stimulation

29. According to what you have just said, am I to understand that his new post \_\_\_\_\_\_ no responsibility with it at all?

- [A] shoulders
- [B] possesses
- [C] carries
- [D] shares

30. Sometimes the student may be asked to write about his \_\_\_\_\_\_ to a certain book or article that has some bearing on the subject being studied.

- [A] comment
- [B] reaction
- [C] impression
- [D] comprehension

31. Please \_\_\_\_\_ yourself from smoking and spitting in public places, since the law forbids them.

- [A] restrain
- [B] hinder
- [C] restrict
- [D] prohibit

32. Without telephone it would be impossible to carry on the functions of \_\_\_\_\_\_ every business operation in the whole country.

- [A] practically
- [B] preferably
- [C] precisely
- [D] presumably

33. Preliminary estimation puts the figure at around \$110 billion, \_\_\_\_\_ the \$160 billion the President is struggling to get through the Congress.

[A] in proportion to

- [B] in reply to
- [C] in relation to
- [D] in contrast to

34. He is planning another tour abroad, yet his passport will \_\_\_\_\_ at the end of this month.

- [A] expire
- [B] exceed
- [C] terminate
- [D] cease

35. All the off-shore oil explorers were in high spirits as they read \_\_\_\_\_\_ letters from their families.

- [A] sentimental
- [B] affectionate
- [C] intimate
- [D] sensitive

36. Several international events in the early 1990s seem likely to \_\_\_\_\_, or at least weaken, the trends that emerged in the 1980s.

- [A] revolt
- [B] revolve
- [C] reverse
- [D] revive

37. I was unaware of the critical points involved, so my choice was quite \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] arbitrary
- [B] rational

[C] mechanical

[D] unpredictable

38. The local people were joyfully surprised to find the price of vegetables no longer \_\_\_\_\_\_ according to the weather.

[A] altered

[B] converted

[C] fluctuated

[D] modified

39. The pursuit of leisure on the part of the employees will certainly not \_\_\_\_\_\_ their prospect of promotion.

[A] spur

- [B] further
- [C] induce
- [D] reinforce

40. In what \_\_\_\_\_\_ to a last minute stay of execution, a council announced that emergency funding would keep alive two aging satellites.

- [A] applies
- [B] accounts
- [C] attaches
- [D] amounts

### Section II Cloze Test

### Directions:

For each numbered blank in the following passage, there are four choices marked [A], [B], [C], and [D]. Choose the best one and mark your answer on **ANSWER SHEET 1** by blackening the corresponding letter in the brackets with a pencil. (10 points)

Until recently most historians spoke very critically of the Industrial Revolution. They <u>41</u> that in the long run industrialization greatly raised the standard of living for the <u>42</u> man. But they insisted that its <u>43</u> results during the period from 1750 to 1850 were widespread poverty and misery for the <u>44</u> of the English population. <u>45</u> contrast, they saw in the preceding hundred years from 1650 to 1750, when England was still a <u>46</u> agricultural country, a period of great abundance and prosperity.

This view, <u>47</u>, is generally thought to be wrong. Specialists <u>48</u> history and economics, have <u>49</u> two things: that the period from 1650 to 1750 was <u>50</u> by great poverty, and that industrialization certainly did not worsen and may have actually improved the conditions for the majority of the populace.

- 41. [A] admitted
- [B] believed
- [C] claimed
- [D] predicted
- 42. [A] plain
- [B] average
- [C] mean
- [D] normal
- 43. [A] momentary
- [B] prompt
- [C] instant
- [D] immediate
- 44. [A] bulk

- [B] host
- [C] gross
- [D] magnitude
- 45. [A] On
- [B] With
- [C] For
- [D] By
- 46. [A] broadly
- [B] thoroughly
- [C] generally
- [D] completely
- 47. [A] however
- [B] meanwhile
- [C] therefore
- [D] moreover
- 48. [A] at
- [B] in
- [C] about
- [D] for
- 49. [A] manifested
- [B] approved
- [C] shown
- [D] speculated
- 50. [A] noted

- [B] impressed
- [C] labeled
- [D] marked

### Section III Reading Comprehension

### Directions:

Each of the passages below is followed by some questions. For each question there are four answers marked [A], [B], [C] and [D]. Read the passages carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions. Then mark your answer on the **ANSWER SHEET 1** by blackening the corresponding letter in the brackets. (40 points)

### Text 1

Few creations of big technology capture the imagination like giant dams. Perhaps it is humankind' s long suffering at the mercy of flood and drought that makes the idea of forcing the waters to do our bidding so fascinating. But to be fascinated is also, sometimes, to be blind. Several giant dam projects threaten to do more harm than good.

The lesson from dams is that big is not always beautiful. It doesn't help that building a big, powerful dam has become a symbol of achievement for nations and people striving to assert themselves. Egypt's leadership in the Arab world was cemented by the Aswan High Dam. Turkey's bid for First World status includes the giant Ataturk Dam.

But big dams tend not to work as intended. The Aswan Dam, for example, stopped the Nile flooding but deprived Egypt of the fertile silt that floods left — all in return for a giant reservoir of disease which is now so full of silt that it barely generates electricity.

And yet, the myth of controlling the waters persists. This week, in the heart of civilized Europe, Slovaks and Hungarians stopped just short of sending in the troops in their contention over a dam on the Danube. The huge complex will probably have all the usual problems of big dams. But Slovakia is bidding for independence from the Czechs, and now needs a dam to prove itself.

Meanwhile, in India, the World Bank has given the go-ahead to the even more wrong-headed Narmada Dam. And the bank has done this even though its advisors say the dam will cause hardship for the powerless and environmental destruction. The benefits are for the powerful, but they are far from guaranteed. Proper, scientific study of the impacts of dams and of the cost and benefits of controlling water can help to resolve these conflicts. Hydroelectric power and flood control and irrigation are possible without building monster dams. But when you are dealing with myths, it is hard to be either proper, or scientific. It is time that the world learned the lessons of Aswan. You don't need a dam to be saved.

51. The third sentence of Paragraph 1 implies that \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] people would be happy if they shut their eyes to reality
- $\left[B\right]$  the blind could be happier than the sighted
- [C] over-excited people tend to neglect vital things
- [D] fascination makes people lose their eyesight
- 52. In Paragraph 5, "the powerless" probably refers to \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] areas short of electricity
- [B] dams without power stations
- [C] poor countries around India
- [D] common people in the Narmada Dam area
- 53. What is the myth concerning giant dams?
- [A] They bring in more fertile soil.
- [B] They help defend the country.
- [C] They strengthen international ties.
- [D] They have universal control of the waters.
- 54. What the author tries to suggest may best be interpreted as \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] "It' s no use crying over spilt milk"
- [B] "More haste, less speed"
- [C] "Look before you leap"
- [D] "He who laughs last laughs best"

#### Text 2

Well, no gain without pain, they say. But what about pain without gain? Everywhere you go in America, you hear tales of corporate revival. What is harder to establish is whether the productivity revolution that businessmen assume they are presiding over is for real.

The official statistics are mildly discouraging. They show that, if you lump manufacturing and services together, productivity has grown on average by 1.2% since 1987. That is somewhat faster than the average during the previous decade. And since 1991, productivity has increased by about 2% a year, which is more than twice the 1978-87 average. The trouble is that part of the recent acceleration is due to the usual rebound that occurs at this point in a business cycle, and so is not conclusive evidence of a revival in the underlying trend. There is, as Robert Rubin, the treasury secretary, says, a "disjunction" between the mass of business anecdote that points to a leap in productivity and the picture reflected by the statistics.

Some of this can be easily explained. New ways of organizing the workplace -- all that re-engineering and downsizing -- are only one contribution to the overall productivity of an economy, which is driven by many other factors such as joint investment in equipment and machinery, new technology, and investment in education and training. Moreover, most of the changes that companies make are intended to keep them profitable, and this need not always mean increasing productivity: switching to new markets or improving quality can matter just as much.

Two other explanations are more speculative. First, some of the business restructuring of recent years may have been ineptly done. Second, even if it was well done, it may have spread much less widely than people suppose.

Leonard Schlesinger, a Harvard academic and former chief executive of Au Bong Pain, a rapidly growing chain of bakery cafes, says that much "re-engineering" has been crude. In many cases, he believes, the loss of revenue has been greater than the reductions in cost. His colleague, Michael Beer, says that far too many companies have applied re-engineering in a mechanistic fashion, chopping out costs without giving sufficient thought to long-term profitability. BBDO's Al Rosenshine is blunter. He dismisses a lot of the work of re-engineering consultants as mere rubbish -- "the worst sort of ambulance chasing."

55. According to the author, the American economic situation is \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] not as good as it seems
- [B] at its turning point
- [C] much better than it seems

- [D] near to complete recovery
- 56. The official statistics on productivity growth \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] exclude the usual rebound in a business cycle
- [B] fall short of businessmen's anticipation
- [C] meet the expectation of business people
- [D] fail to reflect the true state of economy

57. The author raises the question "what about pain without gain?" because

- [A] he questions the truth of "no gain without pain"
- [B] he does not think the productivity revolution works
- [C] he wonders if the official statistics are misleading
- [D] he has conclusive evidence for the revival of businesses
- 58. Which of the following statements is NOT mentioned in the passage?
- [A] Radical reforms are essential for the increase of productivity.
- [B] New ways of organizing workplaces may help to increase productivity.
- [C] The reduction of costs is not a sure way to gain long-term profitability.
- [D] The consultants are a bunch of good-for-nothings.

### Text 3

Science has long had an uneasy relationship with other aspects of culture. Think of *Gallileo's* 17th-century trial for his rebelling belief before the Catholic Church or poet William Blake's harsh remarks against the mechanistic worldview of Isaac Newton. The <u>schism</u> between science and the humanities has, if anything, deepened in this century.

Until recently, the scientific community was so powerful that it could afford to ignore its critics — but no longer. As funding for science has declined, scientists have attacked "anti-science" in several books, notably *Higher Superstition*, by Paul R. Gross, a biologist at the University of Virginia, and Norman Levitt, a

mathematician at Rutgers University; and *The Demon-Haunted World*, by Carl Sagan of Cornell University.

Defenders of science have also voiced their concerns at meetings such as "The Flight from Science and Reason," held in New York City in 1995, and "Science in the Age of (Mis) information," which assembled last June near Buffalo.

Anti-science clearly means different things to different people. Gross and Levitt find fault primarily with sociologists, philosophers and other academics who have questioned science's objectivity. Sagan is more concerned with those who believe in ghosts, creationism and other phenomena that contradict the scientific worldview.

A survey of news stories in 1996 reveals that the anti-science tag has been attached to many other groups as well, from authorities who advocated the elimination of the last remaining stocks of smallpox virus to Republicans who advocated decreased funding for basic research.

Few would dispute that the term applies to the Unabomber, whose manifesto, published in 1995, scorns science and longs for return to a pre-technological utopia. But surely that does not mean environmentalists concerned about uncontrolled industrial growth are anti-science, as an essay in *US News & World Report* last May seemed to suggest.

The environmentalists, inevitably, respond to such critics. The true enemies of science, argues Paul Ehrlich of Stanford University, a pioneer of environmental studies, are those who question the evidence supporting global warming, the depletion of the ozone layer and other consequences of industrial growth.

Indeed, some observers fear that the anti-science epithet is in danger of becoming meaningless. "The term 'anti-science' can lump together too many, quite different things," notes Harvard University philosopher Gerald Holton in his 1993 work *Science and Anti-Science*. "They have in common only one thing that they tend to annoy or threaten those who regard themselves as more enlightened."

59. The word "schism" (Line 4, Paragraph 1) in the context probably means \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] confrontation
- [B] dissatisfaction
- [C] separation
- [D] contempt

60. Paragraphs 2 and 3 are written to \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] discuss the cause of the decline of science's power
- [B] show the author's sympathy with scientists
- [C] explain the way in which science develops
- [D] exemplify the division of science and the humanities
- 61. Which of the following is true according to the passage?
- [A] Environmentalists were blamed for anti-science in an essay.
- [B] Politicians are not subject to the labeling of anti-science.
- [C] The "more enlightened" tend to tag others as anti-science.
- [D] Tagging environmentalists as "anti-science" is justifiable.
- 62. The author's attitude toward the issue of "science vs. anti-science" is
- [A] impartial
- [B] subjective
- [C] biased
- [D] puzzling

### Text 4

Emerging from the 1980 census is the picture of a nation developing more and more regional competition, as population growth in the Northeast and Midwest reaches a near standstill.

This development — and its strong implications for US politics and economy in years ahead — has enthroned the South as America's most densely populated region for the first time in the history of the nation's head counting.

Altogether, the US population rose in the 1970s by 23.2 million people -- numerically the third-largest growth ever recorded in a single decade. Even so, that gain adds up to only 11.4 percent, lowest in American annual records except for the Depression years.

Americans have been migrating south and west in larger numbers since World War II, and the pattern still prevails. Three sun-belt states -- Florida, Texas and California -- together had nearly 10 million more people in 1980 than a decade earlier. Among large cities, San Diego moved from 14th to 8th and San Antonio from 15th to 10th -- with Cleveland and Washington. D. C., dropping out of the top 10.

Not all that shift can be attributed to the movement out of the snow belt, census officials say. Nonstop waves of immigrants played a role, too -- and so did bigger crops of babies as yesterday's "baby boom" generation reached its child bearing years.

Moreover, demographers see the continuing shift south and west as joined by a related but newer phenomenon: More and more, Americans apparently are looking not just for places with more jobs but with fewer people, too. Some instances—

■Regionally, the Rocky Mountain states reported the most rapid growth rate -- 37.1 percent since 1970 in a vast area with only 5 percent of the US population.

■Among states, Nevada and Arizona grew fastest of all: 63.5 and 53.1 percent respectively. Except for Florida and Texas, the top 10 in rate of growth is composed of Western states with 7.5 million people -- about 9 per square mile.

The flight from overcrowdedness affects the migration from snow belt to more bearable climates.

Nowhere do 1980 census statistics dramatize more the American search for spacious living than in the Far West. There, California added 3.7 million to its population in the 1970s, more than any other state.

In that decade, however, large numbers also migrated from California, mostly to other parts of the West. Often they chose -- and still are choosing -- somewhat colder climates such as Oregon, Idaho and Alaska in order to escape smog, crime and other plagues of urbanization in the Golden State.

As a result, California's growth rate dropped during the 1970s, to 18.5 percent -- little more than two thirds the 1960s' growth figure and considerably below that of other Western states.

63. Discerned from the perplexing picture of population growth the 1980 census provided, America in 1970s \_\_\_\_\_.

[A] enjoyed the lowest net growth of population in history

[B] witnessed a southwestern shift of population

[C] underwent an unparalleled period of population growth

ĽνJ	brought to a standstill its pattern of migration since world war if
	The census distinguished itself from previous studies on population movement that
[A]	it stresses the climatic influence on population distribution
[B]	it highlights the contribution of continuous waves of immigrants
[C]	it reveals the Americans' new pursuit of spacious living
[D]	it elaborates the delayed effects of yesterday's "baby boom"
65.	We can see from the available statistics that
[A]	California was once the most thinly populated area in the whole US
[B]	the top 10 states in growth rate of population were all located in the West
[C]	cities with better climates benefited unanimously from migration
[D]	Arizona ranked second of all states in its growth rate of population
66.	The word "demographers" (Line 1, Paragraph 8) most probably means
[A]	people in favor of the trend of democracy
[B]	advocates of migration between states
[C]	scientists engaged in the study of population

W ... 1 .1 W

[D] conservatives clinging to old patterns of life

[D] I.

### Text 5

Scattered around the globe are more than 100 small regions of isolated volcanic activity known to geologists as hot spots. Unlike most of the world's volcanoes, they are not always found at the boundaries of the great drifting plates that make up the earth's surface; on the contrary, many of them lie deep in the interior of a plate. Most of the hot spots move only slowly, and in some cases the movement of the plates past them has left trails of dead volcanoes. The hot spots and their volcanic trails are milestones that mark the passage of the plates.

That the plates are moving is now beyond dispute. Africa and South America, for example, are moving away from each other as new material is injected into the sea floor between them. The complementary coastlines and certain geological features that seem to span the ocean are reminders of where the two continents were once joined. The relative motion of the plates carrying these continents has been constructed in detail, but the motion of one plate with respect to another cannot readily be translated into motion with respect to the earth's interior. It is not possible to determine whether both continents are moving in opposite directions or whether one continent is stationary and the other is drifting away from it. Hot spots, anchored in the deeper layers of the earth, provide the measuring instruments needed to resolve the question. From an analysis of the hot-spot population it appears that the African plate is stationary and that it has not moved during the past 30 million years.

The significance of hot spots is not confined to their role as a frame of reference. It now appears that they also have an important influence on the geophysical processes that propel the plates across the globe. When a continental plate come to rest over a hot spot, the material rising from deeper layers creates a broad dome. As the dome grows, it develops deep fissures (cracks); in at least a few cases the continent may break entirely along some of these fissures, so that the hot spot initiates the formation of a new ocean. Thus just as earlier theories have explained the mobility of the continents, so hot spots may explain their mutability (inconstancy).

67. The author believes that \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] the motion of the plates corresponds to that of the earth's interior
- [B] the geological theory about drifting plates has been proved to be true
- [C] the hot spots and the plates move slowly in opposite directions
- [D] the movement of hot spots proves the continents are moving apart
- 68. That Africa and South America were once joined can be deduced from the fact that
- [A] the two continents are still moving in opposite directions
- [B] they have been found to share certain geological features
- [C] the African plate has been stable for 30 million years
- [D] over 100 hot spots are scattered all around the globe
- 69. The hot spot theory may prove useful in explaining \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] the structure of the African plates

- [B] the revival of dead volcanoes
- [C] the mobility of the continents
- [D] the formation of new oceans
- 70. The passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] the features of volcanic activities
- [B] the importance of the theory about drifting plates
- [C] the significance of hot spots in geophysical studies
- [D] the process of the formation of volcanoes

### Section IV English-Chinese Translation

### Directions:

# *Read the following passage carefully and then translate the underlined sentences into Chinese. Your translation must be written clearly on the* **ANSWER SHEET 2**. (15 points)

They were, by far, the largest and most distant objects that scientists had ever detected: a strip of enormous cosmic clouds some 15 billion light-years from earth. 71) <u>But even more important, it was the farthest that scientists had been able to</u> <u>look into the past, for what they were seeing were the patterns and structures that</u> <u>existed 15 billion years ago.</u> That was just about the moment that the universe was born. What the researchers found was at once both amazing and expected: the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration' s Cosmic Background Explorer satellite -- Cobe -- had discovered landmark evidence that the universe did in fact begin with the primeval explosion that has become known as the Big Bang (the theory that the universe originated in an explosion from a single mass of energy).

72) <u>The existence of the giant clouds was virtually required for the Big Bang, first</u> <u>put forward in the 1920s, to maintain its reign as the dominant explanation of the</u> <u>cosmos.</u> According to the theory, the universe burst into being as a submicroscopic, unimaginably dense knot of pure energy that flew outward in all directions, emitting radiation as it went, condensing into particles and then into atoms of gas. Over billions of years, the gas was compressed by gravity into galaxies, stars, plants and eventually, even humans.

Cobe is designed to see just the biggest structures, but astronomers would like to see much smaller hot spots as well, the seeds of local objects like clusters and superclusters of galaxies. They shouldn't have long to wait. 73) <u>Astrophysicists</u>

working with ground-based detectors at the South Pole and balloon-borne instruments are closing in on such structures, and may report their findings soon.

74) If the small hot spots look as expected, that will be a triumph for yet another scientific idea, a refinement of the Big Bang called the inflationary universe theory. Inflation says that very early on, the universe expanded in size by more than a trillion trillion trillion fold in much less than a second, propelled by a sort of antigravity. 75) Odd though it sounds, cosmic inflation is a scientifically plausible consequence of some respected ideas in elementary particle physics, and many astrophysicists have been convinced for the better part of a decade that it is true.

71.

72.

73. \_\_\_\_\_

74. \_\_\_\_\_

75. \_\_\_\_\_

## Section V Writing

# Directions:

[A] Study the following cartoon carefully and write an essay in no less than 150 words.

- [B] Your essay must be written clearly on the ANSWER SHEET 2. (15 points)
- [C] Your essay should meet the requirements below:
  - 1. Write out the messages conveyed by the cartoon.
  - 2. Give your commentsn.



如此承诺

各行各业兴承诺 欢迎监督不推托 原本皆为份内事 何须高唱"文明歌"