

南投縣第三屆縣長盃高中學生
英文閱讀測驗暨引導式寫作比賽
測驗試題

本測驗分兩部份，第一部份 閱讀理解測驗 和 第二部份 引導式寫作，作答時間 60 分鐘。

第一部份 閱讀理解測驗：共 20 題，每題 2.5 分，滿分 50 分。

說明：本部份包括 [A]–[D] 四段短文，每段短文後有 5 個相關問題，試題本均提供 (A)、(B)、(C)、(D) 四個選項，請從中選出最適合者，標示在答案紙上。

[A]

[1] To get a meal, we line up to wait; to check out at supermarkets, we line up to wait; to board the MRT train, we line up to wait. Waiting in line seems to be an inevitable and often unpleasant part of our daily life. We do spend a terrifying amount of time standing in line. Americans are said to wait in line for 37 billion hours every year, or roughly 118 hours per person. Is there anything that can be done about it? Actually, the way people wait in line is not quite the same as it used to be. Waiting in line has been the subject of careful studies, and various measures have been taken to shorten waiting time. However, the experience of waiting is affected not just by how long we must wait but also by how we feel about it. Findings from psychological research have contributed to improving people's perceptions of waiting.

[2] One way to better the waiting experience is to give clear information to people waiting. Not knowing how long the wait will be or whether you are in the correct line makes the waiting feel worse and longer. That is why, for example, train stations display and announce the arrival and platform number of the next train. Telling people how long they have to wait and where to form a line is a must in helping people cope with waiting.

[3] To reduce “empty” time is another useful way. Most people feel ill at ease if they have nothing to distract their minds while waiting. Time seems to pass quickly when they have something to do. Many hospitals and clinics, therefore, provide magazines for patients to browse through, and some restaurants give their customers menus while they are waiting to be seated.

[4] Another way to upgrade the waiting experience is to give due respect to a sense of fairness and social justice. It is irritating when someone who comes later gets served first. This can happen when there are several lines to choose from, so having only one line enforces the “first come, first served” principle.

[5] Amusement parks are an excellent example of how the solutions above can be incorporated. They inform visitors of the amount of time they must wait. They provide interactive games and entertainers in costume to keep the guests amused. They also have the visitors form a single line so that the latecomers do not get served first by chance. Moreover, they show a longer waiting time than estimated, knowing that people will feel better if the wait is actually shorter than expected. They even try to arrange the line in such a way that guests cannot see its entire length, so the long line will not scare them away. Because visitors spend so much time in line, amusement parks consider the psychological effects of waiting very seriously.

[6] All of these examples show that the experience of waiting in line can be significantly improved when the psychological aspects of waiting are taken into account. Researchers will no doubt continue to come up with more ideas to enhance the quality of our waiting time. On our part, if we learn to change our own attitudes toward waiting, our experience in lines may improve even more. It seems that our society has become increasingly impatient and we have come to expect quick results. Perhaps we will all benefit if we learn to slow down a bit more. Besides, waiting time can be both productive and pleasurable: we can chat with our friends, check text messages on our cell phones, or listen to our favorite music. Waiting will remain an unavoidable part of our life, but it is possible to change it into a more pleasant experience.

1. According to paragraph [1], _____.

- (A) falling short of actual waiting time is the key solution
- (B) waiting in line is becoming more and more disappointing
- (C) there leaves little room for improvement in how we wait
- (D) the practice of waiting in line has changed over the years

2. One of the findings NOT mentioned in paragraphs [2]-[4] is that _____.
- (A) it angers us greatly when the service is poor after a long wait
 - (B) we feel uneasy if we are in the dark about how long we must wait
 - (C) we become all the more displeased if not served in order
 - (D) it bores us a lot when there is nothing to do while waiting
3. According to paragraph [5], in the amusement park, _____.
- (A) entertainers give performances during waiting time
 - (B) the guests are allowed to make their own lines
 - (C) some lines are arranged so as not to appear too long
 - (D) the guests often wait longer under psychological effects
4. In paragraph [6], the author suggests that we should _____.
- (A) avoid waiting in line as much as we can
 - (B) seek quick results to adjust to our high-speed society
 - (C) wait for better solutions to the problems of waiting
 - (D) recognize the positive aspects of waiting time
5. The above passage mainly states that _____.
- (A) lines must be regulated on the basis of social justice
 - (B) there are various ways to improve our waiting experience
 - (C) psychological studies have reduced waiting time
 - (D) effective time management helps us avoid wasting time

[B]

[1] People are often curious about why some entrepreneurs are more successful in business than others. Is it habits, connections, luck, work ethic or any other factor? I believe the root cause of success is willpower. Willpower is simply the ability to control yourself. It is a strong determination that allows you to deal with something difficult. This is a behavior we are not born with but rather one we learn; however, it is possible not only to learn it but also to build it up with constant exercise.

[2] Willpower is just like a muscle. In order to keep it strong, all you need to do is continuously nurture it. People with a wealth of willpower have the motivation and discipline to develop positive, successful habits and stand a much better chance of succeeding personally or professionally. Even with large amounts of talent, without the discipline and motivation to create positive habits and finish tasks, you'll have difficulty achieving success.

[3] Willpower and habits go hand in hand. Creating positive habits is the key to boosting business. When you take the actions necessary to stick to those habits day in and day out, you'll become more productive and all the more successful in business. Almost half of our daily actions come from our habits and not decisions, so once the correct habits are in place, you will automatically perform those tasks on a day-to-day basis.

[4] The best way to create and stick to a habit is to have a strong motivating factor. It's easier to change your habits to lose weight if you have a health issue, or if you want to be around longer for your kids, or if your business is something you're passionate about. Having a clear and valuable outcome associated with a habit will help you to stick to that habit permanently.

[5] The art of self-control is one that most successful individuals have mastered. Self-control enables you to avoid behaviors that don't contribute to your success while increasing those that do to achieve long-term goals. We all have desires and cravings. With stress and other daily factors, it is easy to lose control at times and give in to something that doesn't follow your plan. But knowing exactly what you want, when you want it, and how you want it helps you stay on track and keep that self-control in check so you can achieve greatness.

[6] There is a reward in delayed satisfaction associated with self-control. It is easy to get sidetracked. However, if you keep track of those small positive habits one day at a time, it becomes easier to stay strong and achieve that delayed reward that will ultimately help you master the art of self-control. Once you are rewarded, it is much easier to continue sticking to your habits. Plan clear goals and develop the habits necessary to achieve them. Only through self-control can you stick to those habits.

6. What is the best title for the above passage?

- (A) The Key to Success in Making a Will
- (B) How to Improve Your Willpower to Succeed
- (C) Old Habits and Strong Will Make the Grade
- (D) Willpower is the Sole Path to Success

7. What does the writer suggest in order to strengthen our willpower?

- (A) Practice discipline everywhere.
- (B) Take lessons from entrepreneurs.
- (C) Set goals and stay focused.
- (D) Use it for every decision.

8. What can people do to keep doing something constructive by instinct?
(A) Practice it on a day-to-day basis. (B) Expect the desired outcome.
(C) Possess large of talents. (D) Cultivate better mental health.
- 9 Which word in Paragraph 5 means “**control**”?
(A) track (B) check (C) contribute (D) stress
10. The tone of writing can influence how readers feel about what they read.
Accordingly, the tone of the above passage is _____.
(A) sympathetic (B) entertaining (C) sarcastic (D) assertive

[C]

[1] I wandered **lonely as a cloud**

That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

[2] Continuous as the stars that shine

And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in **sprightly** dance.

[3] The waves beside them danced; but they

Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a **jocund** company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

[4] For oft, when on my couch I lie

In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

--By William Wordsworth

11. What does the phrase “**lonely as a cloud**” describe?
(A) The background of the landscape. (B) The sad view from the sky.
(C) The speaker’s personal emotions. (D) The speaker’s lonesome stroll.
12. What does Wordsworth compare the daffodils to?
(A) clouds (B) hills (C) waves (D) stars
13. The word “**sprightly**” in the third stanza (段) is closest in meaning to _____.
(A) spiteful (B) joyful (C) gracious (D) forceful
14. In the last two lines of stanza 3, what does the speaker mean by using “**jocund**”?
(A) Solitary and blissed. (B) Lasting and enriching.
(C) Cheerful and lighthearted. (D) Valuable and material.
15. Which lines from the poem best express the theme that the memory of something beautiful can bring lasting joy?
(A) “They flash upon that inward eye / Which is the bliss of solitude”
(B) “I wandered lonely as a cloud / That floats on high o’er vales and hills”
(C) “Continuous as the stars that shine / And twinkle on the milky way”
(D) “A poet could not but be gay / In such a jocund company”

[D]

[1] I’d never met anyone like Athena before. Though she was an adult, she was only about one meter tall and weighed 18 kilograms. She was unusual in several other respects. She could change color and shape, taste with her skin, drool venom, spit ink, and jet about by squirting water through a siphon on the side of her head—not to mention pouring her baggy, boneless body through an opening the size of an orange. Her head wasn’t even on top of her body, like mine. That spot was occupied by a body part known as the mantle, which contained the organs of respiration, digestion, and reproduction. Her head was where you’d expect to find a torso, and her mouth was in her armpit.

[2] Athena was a giant Pacific octopus, an *Enteroctopus dofleini*. We met at the New England Aquarium in Boston when senior aquarist Scott Dowd opened the heavy lid to her tank. Standing on a low step stool, I leaned over the water. The octopus changed from a mottled brown to a bright red with excitement as she spilled her liquid body out of her rocky lair. One of her glittering, silver eyes sought mine as her eight arms **boiled up** to the surface to meet me. With Scott’s permission, I plunged my hands and arms into the numbing 8°C salt water and let her engulf my skin with her soft, questing, white suckers. She was both tasting and feeling me at the same time.

[3] Athena didn't just welcome my company; she allowed me to touch her head. She had not allowed any visitor to do this before. Once we spent time together—as she tasted me and I stroked her—she changed color again. She turned white beneath my touch, the color, I later learned, of an octopus that feels calm. It was clear to me that we had shared an illuminating exchange. Athena, to my surprise, was just as inquisitive about me as I was about her.

[4] Centuries of Western literature have portrayed octopuses as oceangoing demons. “No animal is more savage in causing the death of a man in the water,” wrote Roman philosopher and commander Pliny the Elder around A.D. 77, “for it struggles with him by coiling round him and swallows him with its sucker cups and drags him asunder.” Because they are so different from us, because some species can grow so large, and because of their enormous strength, octopuses can frighten and confuse humans—or at least those humans who don't get a chance to know one.

16. Athena lives in _____.
- (A) the Pacific (B) Rome (C) England (D) an aquarium
17. What does the phrase “**boiled up**” mean in Paragraph 2?
- (A) emerged (B) exhibited (C) explored (D) expanded
18. Which description of Athena is true?
- (A) She uses her sense of touch only to explore objects, not for tasting.
- (B) She shoots an inky fluid as a natural ability.
- (C) She has eight feet but no arms.
- (D) She has eight brains. Each controls one arm or leg.
19. The octopus can change to various colors. If it feels peaceful, it changes to ____.
- (A) gray (B) white (C) blue (D) green
20. People are frightened of octopuses because _____.
- (A) they are oceangoing demons that kill people under the sea
- (B) they would coil divers and tear them to pieces
- (C) people rarely have a chance to get a clear picture of them
- (D) their arms can figure out how to crack open an animal they meet

第二部份 引導式寫作：共 1 大題，滿分 50 分。

[題目] 考生自己訂一個題目（佔內容總分 13 分之 3 分）

[說明] 良好的團隊精神取決於團隊領導者的領導力（leadership）。下列四種定義你同意那一種說法，請舉具體事例說明。如果你都不同意，請自己下定義，並配合實例說明之。

- (1) Bill Gates: “As we look ahead into the next century, leaders will be those who empower others.”
- (2) John Maxwell: “Leadership is influence – nothing more, nothing less.”
- (3) Peter Drucker: “The only definition of a leader is someone who has followers.”
- (4) Warren Bennis: “Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.”

[評分] 內容 13 分、組織 13 分、文法 10 分、用字遣詞 10 分、標點符號和大小寫 4 分。

[注意] 請用至少 150 個英語單詞寫作，寫在「測驗答案紙」標示的位置。不要寫出自己或就讀學校的名字。

—測驗結束—

南投縣第三屆縣長盃高中學生
英文閱讀測驗暨引導式寫作比賽

參考答案

本測驗分兩部份，第一部份 閱讀理解測驗 和 第二部份 引導式寫作，作答時間
60 分鐘。

第一部份 閱讀理解測驗：共 20 題，每題 2.5 分，滿分 50 分。

[A]	1	D	2	A	3	C	4	D	5	B
[B]	6	B	7	C	8	A	9	B	10	D
[C]	11	C	12	D	13	B	14	C	15	A
[D]	16	D	17	A	18	B	19	B	20	C

第二部份 引導式寫作：共 1 大題，滿分 50 分。

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