



第十四届“叶圣陶杯”国际青少年英语大赛

省级初赛试题（高中组）

总分：100 分

I. Read the following sentences and choose the best from A. B. C. D. (each 4 scores, all 60 scores)

1. An investigation _____ the safety of the new building will be conducted by a professional team next week.

A. in B. by C. into D. with

2. —Is that the document you were looking for earlier?

—Yes, it is. It was _____ under a pile of papers on my desk. I really need to be more organized.

A. dyed B. peeled C. buried D. honored

3. The _____ cultures of Egypt always attract me. I will pay a visit to the Pyramids of Giza one day.

A. amazed B. mysterious C. magician D. mystery

4. By the time Ken arrived at the classroom, the teacher _____ for thirty minutes already.

A. is lecturing B. has lectured C. has been lecturing D. had been lecturing

5. _____ alone in the dark, the little girl wailed and screamed for help.

A. Leaving B. Left C. To leave D. Having left

6. Though it rained heavily, they decided to _____ and continue their hike.

A. brave the elements B. kill two birds with one stone
C. have a frog in their throat D. throw the baby out with the bathwater

7. This classroom is _____ than that one.

A. twice big B. twice bigger C. two time bigger D. two times bigger

8. At an amazing Chinese art festival, there were different stands _____ artists could demonstrate their skills and teach the visitors.

A. why B. that C. when D. where

9. _____ Shanghai has a relatively small land area, it has a huge population.



- A.Although B.But C.Despite D.However
- 10.Sandy's mother suffered from Amnesia. She looked at her daughter with cold eyes as if she _____ a stranger.
- A.was B.were C.is D.be
- 11.Drunk driving, causing great damage _____ a high rate in traffic accident, is a major concern, _____ we each should pay special attention to.
- A.in; that B.in; which C.at; one D.at; that
- 12.Daisy felt _____ on the day _____ she saw her best friend off at the airport.
- A.sad; when B.sadly; when C.sad; that D.sadly; that
13. _____ Larry is, he has to stay up to finish his homework.
- A.Tired as B.Tired although C.As tired D.Although tired
14. _____ is in the early morning that you can enjoy the fresh air and listen to the birds singing in the trees.
- A.What B.Whether C.That D.It
- 15.The following are ten movies _____ over and over again.
- A.worthy to watch B.worthy being watched
- C.worth watching D.worth being watched

II.Read the following passages and choose the best from A. B. C. D. (each 4 scores, all 40 scores)

A

Edna, who lives in Canada, has become famous for the fitness level she maintains at age 91. The mom of five, grandmother of twenty-one and great-grandmother of four still drives now. "I've always had a busy lifestyle because, let's face it, with that many children, you have to be busy," Edna said. "So, I never really thought about it. That's just the way I live." She said she only really began to focus on her fitness in her sixties, when she was forced to retire from her job at a local hospital. She had to face the fact that she was 60.

To keep herself busy, Edna began gardening again that she had to give up because of her busy work. She said she also started going to the gym in her 60s, which she still does every other day. "I have to keep my feet to the fire because it's cold in the morning in winter, and



when it's snowy or icy out there, I don't really feel like going outside," she said. "But I make myself do it and mark it on the calendar. So I cannot take any shortcuts."

Edna said she focused on walking at the gym for her heart health and also included lots of weight lifting in her schedule to keep her bone strength. "When in the gym, I don't try to break any records or compete with anyone else," Edna said. "I only push myself to do better all the time, and I only compete with myself."

When it came to her age, Edna said the people at the gym didn't realize she's 91. She prefers it that way, because when people do realize she's in her 90s, they'll surely demand to help her. "I know them well. But I don't really want help," said Edna. "It's funny to say that, but I like to be independent."

16. What made Edna leave her job in the hospital?

- A. Being the age of sixty.
- B. Looking after so many kids.
- C. Wishing to live a busy life.
- D. Suffering from a heart problem.

17. What do we know about Edna in her sixties?

- A. She manages to be a regular at the gym.
- B. She lives in a cold place all year round.
- C. She develops a new hobby for gardening.
- D. She likes to take shortcuts in her daily life.

18. What is the primary cause of Edna's going to the gym?

- A. To set personal fitness records.
- B. To improve her health and strength.
- C. To become the best in the gym.
- D. To compete with other gym-goers.

19. Which of the following best describes Edna?

- A. Competitive and busy.
- B. Humorous and demanding.
- C. Independent and determined.
- D. Cautious and Caring.

20. What can we learn from Edna's story?

- A. Experience beats youth.
- B. Age decides fitness level.
- C. The elderly can be fashionable.
- D. Fitness is fit for every age.

B

In Spain, the *siesta* (午睡) isn't just a nap; it's a cultural institution, deeply woven into the fabric of daily life. From its historical roots to its modern-day practice, the siesta holds a special place in Spanish society. Dating back to ancient civilizations, this midday break has



evolved over centuries, shaped by factors like climate, agriculture, and *societal norms* (社会准则).

Ancient civilizations like the Romans and Greeks are believed to have embraced midday naps to escape the heat and *replenish* (补充) their energy. Over time, this practice became rooted in Mediterranean cultures, including Spain. Factors like Spain's warm climate and *agrarian* (农耕的) lifestyle played a big role in shaping the siesta tradition. Farmers needed a break from *toiling* (劳作) under the sun, and the midday heat made resting a necessity.

There were plentiful references to the siesta in Spanish literature, art, and folklore. From paintings depicting people dozing under shady trees to stories of characters enjoying a midday rest, the siesta has been celebrated and romanticized throughout history.

The siesta isn't just a nap; it's a chance to **unwind** and connect with friends and family. It's a time to enjoy a leisurely meal, take a stroll, or simply relax under the warm sun. The siesta reflects Spain's laid-back approach to life and its emphasis on work-life balance. It's a reminder to *prioritize* (优先考虑) rest and relaxation among the hustle and *bustle* (忙碌) of modern life. In a culture that values family, community, and enjoying the simple pleasures, the siesta is more than just a tradition — it's a reflection of deeper cultural values.

As the world speeds up, the traditional siesta faces some hurdles. With the rise of 24/7 industries and flexible work arrangements, the traditional siesta *clashes* (冲突) with modern work schedules. Many businesses now operate around the clock, leaving little room for midday breaks. Meanwhile, in today's competitive market, businesses are under pressure to maximize productivity and efficiency. Some see the siesta as a luxury they can't afford, deciding to keep operations running non-stop to stay ahead.

As Spain evolves, so do its cultural practices. Younger generations may view the siesta differently from their ancestors, prioritizing different aspects of work-life balance.

21. According to the passage, what brought the tradition of siesta in Spain into existence?

- A. Literary influence and artistic trends.
- B. Urban development and business needs.
- C. Religious customs and royal orders.
- D. Hot climate and hard agricultural life.



22. What does the underlined word “unwind” mean in the fourth paragraph?

- A. Sleep. B. Liberate. C. Refresh. D. Sunbathe.

23. What can we infer from the passage?

- A. It is challenging for the tradition of siesta to survive.
B. The practice of siesta is expensive for many people.
C. Working schedules are beneficial to midday breaks.
D. The operation of businesses leaves much time for siesta.

24. What is the main focus of the passage?

- A. The health benefits of taking naps.
B. How ancient Romans invented the siesta.
C. Why modern Spain should abandon the siesta.
D. The cultural importance and evolution of the siesta in Spain.

25. How does the author view the siesta tradition?

- A. As a practice only useful for farmers.
B. As unimportant to modern Spanish society.
C. As an outdated habit that reduces productivity.
D. As a valuable cultural practice reflecting life balance.