

2014 National English Competition for College Students
(Level D – Sample)

(Total: 150 marks Time: 120 minutes)

Part I Listening Comprehension (30 marks)

Section A (5 marks)

*In this section, you will hear **five** short conversations. Each conversation will be read only **once**. At the end of each conversation, there will be a **twenty-second** pause. During the pause, read the question and the **four** choices marked **A, B, C** and **D**, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **answer sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

1. What is the man preparing for?

A.



B.



C.



D.



2. What do they talking about?

A. A king.

B. A place.

C. A last name.

D. An ancestor.

3. Are they allowed to wear regular clothes at school?
- A. Yes, they are always allowed. B. Yes, they are allowed sometimes.
C. No, they aren't. D. They didn't mention it.
4. Whom would Amy give the plant to?
- A. The principal. B. Her English teacher.
C. Her French teacher. D. Mrs. White.
5. Which football team does the man think will win?
- A. Italian team. B. Brazilian team.
C. It's hard to say. D. The two sides break even.

Section B (10 marks)

*In this section, you will hear **two** long conversations. Each conversation will be read only **once**. At the end of each conversation, there will be a **one-minute** pause. During the pause, read the questions and the four choices marked **A, B, C** and **D**, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **answer sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

Conversation 1

6. What behavior of Ellie makes Chris worried?
- A. Snoring. B. Biting nails.
C. Sucking her thumb. D. Smoking.
7. How old is Ellie?
- A. 6. B. 12.
C. 20. D. 29.
8. When does Jessica suck her thumb?
- A. When she is thinking.
B. When she is really tired.
C. When she is watching TV.
D. When she is rather nervous.
9. Did therapy help Jessica stop sucking her thumb?
- A. Yes, it did. B. No, it didn't.
C. They didn't mention it. D. It's hard to say.



10. When did Jessica try to give up sucking her thumb?
- A. When she was a baby.
 - B. After she grew up.
 - C. Since she has graduated from the university.
 - D. Since she was called a baby at 12-year-old.

Conversation 2

11. Is Gill the type of having a holiday romance?
- A. Yes, she is.
 - B. No, she isn't.
 - C. They didn't mention it.
 - D. It's hard to say.
12. Where did Gill first met her husband?
- A. In the university.
 - B. At the airport.
 - C. On a camp.
 - D. In the park.
13. How did Gill impress Ash when she found out he had a girlfriend?
- A. She put on her little black dress.
 - B. She changed her hairstyle.
 - C. She wore an expensive suite.
 - D. She wore a heavy makeup.
14. What's the weather like when Gill and Ash first met?
- A. It's hot.
 - B. It's windy.
 - C. It's warm.
 - D. It's cold.
15. How many years have Gill and Ash been married?
- A. Four.
 - B. Five.
 - C. Six.
 - D. Seven.

Section C (5 marks)

In this section, you will hear a monologue. The monologue will be read twice. After the monologue, there will be a one-minute pause. During the pause, read the questions and the four choices marked A, B, C and D, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the answer sheet with a single line through the centre.

16. What's the vocation of El Macho?
- A. A movie star.
 - B. The mayor.
 - C. The executive editor.
 - D. A photographer.

17. Which newspaper does he work for?

- A. New York Times.
- B. The San Francisco Examiner.
- C. The Irish Independent.
- D. Wealth.

18. According to El Macho, what fact were the newspapers interested in about him?

- A. He married a movie star.
- B. He was running for mayor of San Francisco.
- C. His wife bought an Irish house.
- D. They had twins.

19. Who is El Macho's wife?

- A. Shelley Russell.
- B. Julia Roberts.
- C. Sharon Stone.
- D. Anne Hathaway.

20. According to the monologue, which of the following statements is NOT TRUE?

- A. The newspapers made up stories about him.
- B. His wife was not pregnant when they got married.
- C. The day they got back from a vacation, they didn't break up.
- D. What the newspapers write is really him.



Section D (10 marks)

*In this section, you will hear a short passage. There are **10** missing words or phrases. Fill in the blanks with the exact words or phrases you hear. The passage will be read **twice**. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.*

Surgery Changed My Life

The features I wanted were the kind of feminine ideal that's (21) _____ in plastic dolls like Barbie and Cindy. I wanted the wide eyes so I had my eyes (22) _____ as much as I could. Having my eyes done made me see that I really could change my face, so I decided to have everything done that I possibly could.

I wanted the pert, turned-up nose, so I had my nose turned up. I wasn't happy with the first nose job—it only made it (23) _____ smaller. So I had it done again, and they took more bone out and made the nostrils smaller. Now my nose is as Barbie as it can get for my face and the rest of my (24) _____.

My chin (25) _____ me a lot too, so I had that moved back, so that it was (26) _____ the upper lip. Then there were my lips—I thought they were too thin, so I tried having collagen put in. But that wasn't good enough, so I had fat taken from my thighs and (27) _____ my lips. Then I had implants put into my cheeks to give me high cheekbones.



Before I had surgery, I was (28) _____. I have a genius IQ, and it never (29) _____. Now I get lots of (30) _____. Pretty girls just do.

Part II Vocabulary, Grammar and Cultures (15 marks)

*There are 15 incomplete sentences in this section. For each blank there are **four** choices marked **A, B, C** and **D**. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **answer sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

Section A Vocabulary and Grammar (10 marks)

31. Brian told you that there wasn't anyone in the room at that time, _____?
 A. was there B. wasn't there C. didn't he D. did he
32. My hometown has taken on a new look. _____!
 A. Great changes have been taken place B. How great change
 C. How it has changed D. How great it has changed
33. The air pollution of the city _____ by 20 percent thanks to the strict measures taken by the government.
 A. has been fallen down B. has been increased
 C. has been reduced D. has been risen

42. The capital of Wales is _____.
- A. Belfast B. Birmingham C. Cardiff. D. Edinburgh
43. Which is the highest rank among the titles of English nobility?
- A. Marquees B. Duke C. Baron D. Earl
44. The Victorian Period refers to _____.
- A. the Romantic Period B. the Neoclassical Period
- C. 1798–1832 D. 1837–1901
45. T. S. Eliot’s _____ is considered as a model of the 20th century English poetry.
- A. The Waste Land B. Poems 1909–1925
- C. The Hollow Men D. Prufrock and Other Observations

Part III Cloze (10 marks)

*Read the following passage and fill in each blank with **one** word. Choose the correct word in **one** of the following **three** ways: according to the context, by using the correct form of the given word, or by using the given letter(s) of the word. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.*

The Student–Teacher Relationship

From culture to culture, the student –teacher relationship can be very different. In many cultures, the relationship is formal. Students always use titles such as Professor or Doctor (46) w _____ addressing a teacher. They never use first names. Interaction is very polite. For (47) e _____, when a student asks a teacher about a test, the question might be something like this, “Excuse me, please, Dr. Veramani. Could you tell me (48) whet _____ we will have a test in the near future?”

In the U.S. and Canada, the student – teacher relationship is often less (49) _____. Some teachers allow students to call them by first name, for example, John, (50) i _____ of Mr. Nelson or Professor Nelson or Dr. Nelson. So, instead of something like, “Dr. Nelson, could you please tell me when our team paper is due? I would like to know when I should hand it (51) _____,” you might hear this, “Hey, John. I can’t remember the due date on our next paper. When do you want it?”



(52) _____ (informal) is most common at the university level in the United States. The university level is also where cooperation among students and faculty is perhaps the strongest. Students work with faculty members on projects and papers or in labs and clinics. The success of the work depends on the (53) _____ (collaborate) of the group. With the emphasis (54) _____ the group, stronger, less formal, and more (55) _____ (person) relationships tend to develop.

Part IV Reading Comprehension (35 marks)

*Read the following passages. Each passage is followed by several questions. Respond to the questions using information from the passage. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.*

Section A (5 marks)

Questions 56—60 are based on the following passage.

Quebec Winter Carnival

In 2005, the modern Quebec Winter Carnival turned 50 years old. It had become the leading carnival in Canada in just 50 years and the largest winter festival in the world. Each year the carnival attracts visitors and media from all over the world. Starting at the end of January, it runs till middle of February.



The modern Quebec Winter Carnival began at 1955. But French-Canadian citizens have celebrated every winter since Quebec became a French colony in 1608. Life was hard in those days, and winters were so cold that people sometimes died. The carnival was started as a way to entertain people living in Quebec City and give them hope during the winter months. Eventually it became a yearly event, entertaining not only the people of Quebec but visitors as well.

At the center of the modern festival is a mush-loved snowman mascot (吉祥物) called Bonhomme. Dressed in the traditional red hat and red belt of the French Canadians, he visits all the traditional and modern events. These include sports and cultural activities such as dogsled races, ice-fishing competitions, and international snow sculpture event, cross-country skiing,

and even car racing on ice. These is also a “snow bath” event, held in temperatures as cold as -34°C ! Visitors can visit Bonhomme’s winter home—an ice palace built from more than 6,000 blocks of ice, each weighing around 34 kilograms.



Quebec city is often called the snow capital of the world. The winters can still be as cold as they once were, but the fun of the Winter Carnival always brings warmth to the city.

Read the passage, and then tell whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

56. The best title for the passage is Warm Festival in the Snow City. ()
57. According to the passage, why the carnival was held at first was to attract tourists and media from around the world. ()
58. The nickname of Quebec city is the snow capital of the world. ()
59. The snow bath event was held in temperatures as low as -4°C . ()
60. Bonhomme’s winter home is a wooden palace built from more than 6,000 pieces of wood, each of which weighs as heavy as 34 kilograms. ()

Section B (10 marks)

Questions 61–65 are based on the following passage.

Earth’s Largest Animals

(61) _____ It depends on where you look. On land, the largest animals are African elephants. What could possibly be larger than an elephant? Well, the blue whale is! Not only is it the largest sea animal, it is even bigger than an African elephant!

(62) _____ African elephants can be about 3.5 meters tall at the shoulder and can weigh almost 5.5 metric tons. In comparison, blue whales can be about 30 meters long and weighs about 135 metric tons. That’s a big difference! In fact, blue whales are the largest of all animals that have ever lived on Earth.

(63) _____ It means that the females of both animals produce milk to feed their babies. The body temperature of elephants and whales remains about the same no matter where they are. All mammals are covered by hair at some point in their lives, although neither

African elephants nor blue whales have very much hair. As adults, they just have a few bristles here and there.

(64) _____ Both can hear low-pitched sounds that humans cannot hear. Although whales have very good sight, they have no sense of smell. Elephants, on the other hand, have poor eyesight and a good sense of smell.



(65) _____ For example, people have hunted the whales for food and oil. Elephants have been trained to do work and are prized for their ivory tusks. Today, agreements, or laws, protect these giants so that they can continue to live in their natural habitat without facing extinction.

Fill in each blank with one of the following statements, two of which are useless. Put the letters A, B, C, D, E, F and G in each blank according to the theme development.

A. People have used both the blue whale and the African elephant as resources.

B. Have you wondered what the largest animals on Earth are?

C. Both African elephants and blue whales are mammals.

D. While African elephants are the largest land animals on Earth, they are tiny in comparison to blue whales.

E. Mammals also breathe air through lungs.

F. Both elephants and whales have a good sense of hearing.

G. Mammals are also warm-blooded.



Section C (10 marks)

Questions 66—70 are based on the following passage.

Space

Two important years in the history of space travel were 1969 and 2001. On the 20th of July 1969, the American astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon. The words he spoke as he stepped from his spacecraft will always be remembered in history, “That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind! ”

In 2001, a 60-year-old American man called Dennis Tito also made history. He didn’t go to the moon, but he did become the world’s first space tourist. He paid \$20 million to visit the International Space Station. During his vacation, he saw Earth from space and experienced being weightless. “My eight days there were the best days of my life,” he said.



There could be thousands of space tourists like Dennis Tito in the future. People are thinking of building space hotels where tourists can stay and enjoy the pleasures of being in space. Imagine looking down at Earth from a comfortable chair. Need some exercise? Handstand is easy in zero gravity. And you can forget table manners in space—just throw a cookie across the room and watch it float slowly into someone’s mouth!

The space tourists of the future will certainly have fun. But space vacations won’t be cheap. One company thinks tickets will cost around \$200,000. So if you want to follow Dennis Tito, you should start saving now. Or maybe you could try getting a job in a space hotel.

Answer the following questions according to the passage.

66. What is the main idea of the passage?
67. What does the underlined phrase “made history” in the second paragraph mean?
68. What is the probable cost of space vacation?
69. According to the passage, what kind of exercise is difficult on the earth but easy in space?

70. Which words that Neil Armstrong said as he stepped onto the moon was remembered in history?

Section D (10 marks)

Questions 71–75 are based on the following passage.

Coast to Coast

Nick Campbell sat at the side of the road and wondered what to do next. He looked at the second-hand Harley Davidson he'd bought from a back-street garage back home in Miami at the beginning of his trip six weeks before.

For years he had dreamt of crossing the United States from east to west by motorbike and he'd finally decided that it was now or never. He'd given up his job, sold his car and set off for the journey of his dreams. He'd been lucky, or so he thought, to find this old Harley Davidson and had bought it for a very reasonable price—it had cost him just \$600. But five kilometers from Atlanta, he had run out of luck. The motorbike had broken down.

He pushed the bike into town and found a garage. The young mechanic told him to leave the bike overnight and come back the next day. The following morning, to his surprise, the man asked if the bike was for sale. "Certainly not," he replied, paid his bill and hit the road.

When he got to Kansas the old machine ran out of steam again. This time Nick thought about selling it and buying something more reliable, but decided to carry on. When the bike was going well, he loved it.

However, in Denver, Colorado the bike broke down yet again so he decided to take it to a garage and offer it for sale. The mechanic told him to come back in the morning.

The next day, to his amazement, the man offered him \$2,000. Realizing the man must be soft in the head, but clearly not short of money, Nick asked for \$3,000. The man agreed and they signed the papers. Then the mechanic started laughing. In fact it was several minutes before he could speak and when he could he said, "That's the worst deal you'll ever make, boy."

Read the passage carefully and then complete each blank in the summary in a maximum of three words from the passage.

Nick Campbell had a dream of driving a motorbike to cross the U.S.A. from (71) _____, so he bought himself a (72) _____ Harley Davidson, which cost him just \$600. But the motorbike (73) _____ after 5 km from Atlanta. When he had it repaired, he was (74) _____ that the mechanic wanted to buy it. He refused and carried on his journey. (75) _____, the motorbike broke down again, so he decided to sell it to the mechanic for \$3,000 and buy a more reliable one. After they signed the contract, the mechanic laughed for several minutes and told Nick that it was the worst deal Nick would ever make.

Part V Translation (15 marks)

I (5 marks)

*Translate the following paragraph into Chinese. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.*

The Mid–Autumn Festival, which is held on the 15th day of the 8th lunar month every year, is one of the traditional Chinese holidays. Chinese legends say that the moon is at its brightest and roundest on this day. While Westerners worship the sun for its power, people in the Far East admire the moon. The moon stands for the “yin” or female principle and it is considered as a trusted friend. Chinese parents often name their daughters after the moon, in the hope that they will be as lovely as the moon.

II (10 marks)

*Translate the following sentences into English by using the hints given in brackets. Remember to write the answers on the **answer sheet**.*

76. 不管你相不相信, 我们已经逐渐地可以用英语流利地表达自己了。(believe it or not)
77. 据报道, 我们市吸烟人数已达到 100 万。(It is reported that ...)
78. 爱好是不会让你感到厌倦的——你投入的时间越长, 乐趣越多。(the more ... , the more; devote to)
79. 计算机使人们即使身处世界的不同角落也能面对面地交流, 这彻底改变了我们的生活。(make ... possible; even if)
80. 虽然他自己并没有觉得做了什么特殊的事情, 他的同事们却对他交口称赞。(think highly of)

Part VI Error Correction (10 marks)

*Proofread the passage as required. Each indicated line contains a maximum of one error. Correct the passage in the following ways: for a right line, put the sign “√” in the corresponding blank; for a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank; for a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with the sign “^” and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank; for an unnecessary word, cross the unnecessary word with the sign “\” and put the word with the sign in the blank. Write the answers on the **answer sheet**.*

For example:

One of my favourite writers <u>are</u> Charlotte Brontë. She was born in the early	<u>is</u>
nineteenth century when women had far fewer opportunities ^ they have now.	<u>than</u>
She lived in a small village in Yorkshire and she took great pleasure in walking	<u>√</u>
on the moors where near her home.	<u>where</u>

Sport and Teamwork

Soccer is the most popular sport on the earth. People everywhere watch it, 81. _____
talk with it, play it, and even live and die for it every single day. In fact, 82. _____
at this moment, someone somewhere is watch a soccer game. That means 83. _____
22 other people are playing it right now. For those particular 23 people, 84. _____
and millions of others worldwide, soccer is the best of both cooperation
and competition.

In soccer, team cooperate is the key. Every player can touch the ball, and 85. _____
all players have to work together to move the ball up and down the field.

A good pass or a good corner kick goes direct to another player. A penalty 86. _____
affects the whole team. Teams may have stars, such as Maradona,
but every person on the team is vital.

Competition among teams is ferocious, however. Both the player or 87. _____
the fans are incredibly loyal to their own team and wildly against other teams.

While the team is playing a game on the field, the fans are screaming and 88. _____
yelling and even threatening the opposition. Many stadiums like
war zones. Players and referees enter with arm guards, and police patrol 89. _____

the stands to stop fights. Injury and even deaths can occur in soccer, but these are most often off the playing field, not on it.

90. _____



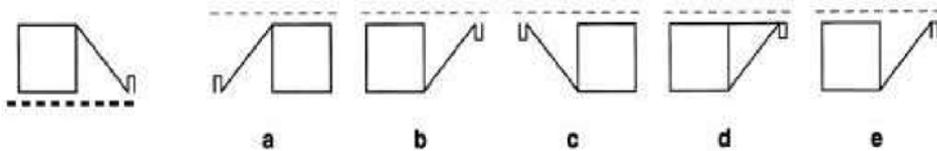
Part VII IQ Test (5 marks)

There are **five** IQ Test questions in this part. Write the answers on the **answer sheet**.

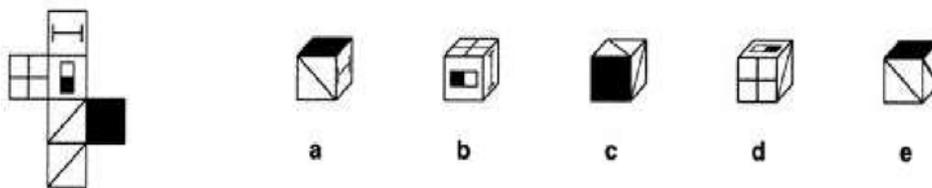
91. If the code for DUSTER is 748310, the code 30483 stands for the word _____.

92. A train leaves the local station at 7:30 and the journey to town takes 58 minutes. If the train is 17 minutes late, what time does it arrive in town? _____

93. Which shape on the right is the reflection of the shape given on the left? _____



94. Which cube cannot be made from the given net? _____



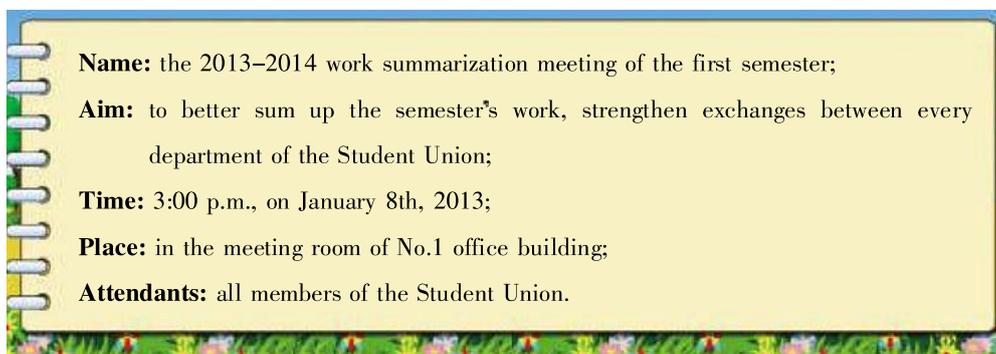
95. "Tony loves chocolate bars. Chocco bars are his favorite." According to the two statements, which of the following options must be true? _____

- A. Chocco bars are the only type of chocolate bars that Tony buys.
- B. Chocco bars are a type of chocolate bar.
- C. Tony's favorite snacks are chocolate bars.
- D. Tony eats chocolate bars most days.

Part VIII Writing (30 marks)

I (10 marks)

Your headmaster plan to hold a meeting. Please write a **NOTICE** of **80–100** words on **the answer sheet** for your school, including the following information about the meeting:



II (20 marks)

Twenty-seventh, September of every year is World Tourism Day. Of course, it is to advocate people to travel often. Nowadays, as people's living standards improve, the number and frequency of people to travel is also increasing. Why? What are the advantages of travel? Write an article of at least 120 words on the answer sheet.

2014年全国大学生英语竞赛初赛(D类)详细答案及听力原文 见

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