

U-2-4

I. Unity of a paragraph. 10%

A. For the following questions, choose the topic sentence that best fits the paragraph.

1. The term *spices* is a pleasant one, whether it connotes fine French cuisine or a down-home, cinnamon-flavored apple pie. _____. In the past, individuals traveled the world seeking exotic spices for profit and, in searching, have changed the course of history. Indeed, to gain control of lands harboring new spices, nations have actually gone to war.
 - A. The taste and aroma of spices are the main elements that make food such a source of fascination and pleasure.
 - B. The term might equally bring to mind Indian curry made thousands of miles away and those delicious barbecued ribs sold on the corner.
 - C. It is exciting to find a good cookbook and experiment with spices from other lands—indeed, it is one way to travel around the globe!
 - D. The history of spices, however, is another matter altogether, and at times, it can be filled with danger and intrigue.

2. _____. It has created poetry and music, planned and executed horrific wars, and devised intricate scientific theories. It thinks and dreams, plots and schemes, and easily holds more information than all the libraries on Earth.
 - A. The human brain is made of gelatinous matter and contains no nerve endings.
 - B. The science of neurology has found a way to map the most important areas of the human brain.
 - C. The human brain is the most mysterious and complex object on Earth.
 - D. However, scientists say that each person uses only 10% of his or her brain over the course of a lifetime!

B. For the following questions, a topic sentence is given. Please choose the sentence that best develops or supports it.

 3. Cosmetic plastic surgery is one of the fastest-growing segments of U.S. medicine.
 - A. Cosmetic plastic surgery can have dangerous side effects, some of which can be fatal.
 - B. Americans are eager to make their bodies as perfect as possible and to minimize the visible signs of aging.
 - C. The price of cosmetic plastic surgery is also on the rise.
 - D. This increase in cosmetic plastic surgery says something quite disturbing about our culture.

 4. The "lead" inside the common pencil is actually not lead at all.
 - A. Lead is commonly mined in Africa.
 - B. Pencils were invented in 1603 by William Ledbelly.
 - C. Even when sharpened, a pencil may not write as well as a pen.
 - D. The substance used in pencils today is graphite.

 5. Parents play an important role in their children's academic success.
 - A. Video games have a negative impact on children's academic success.
 - B. Studies show that children of parents who regularly assist with homework and show an active interest in their child's studies bring home better grades.
 - C. Studies show that watching less television and spending less time playing video games help children get better grades.
 - D. Children who are avid readers get much better grades than their peers.

II. Use of words and phrase: Choose the best answer for each blank. 20%

Children all around the world love to read comic books. Maybe they like to read the kind of 6 come out once a month, like *Spiderman* or *Batman*, or maybe they like manga-style comic books. Traditional comic books usually continue the story from one book to the next, 7 now a different type of comic book called a graphic novel is becoming more popular with kids and even some adults. Graphic novels are a little different 8 they have a beginning, a middle, and an end all in one book.

All three types of comic books described above have their fans, and usually these fans are young. This means that publishers that make comic books need to keep in touch with the things young people like to do or are interested in. One thing that many young people today are interested in is computers, so of course kids want to read digital comic books on their computers and other electronic devices.

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|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------|------------|
| 6. A. comic books, which | B. comic books that | | |
| C. comic books that they | D. comic books those | | |
| 7. A. and | B. for | C. but | D. so |
| 8. A. because | B. due to | C. because of | D. so that |

One thing that makes digital comics interesting to people is that computers, and in particular the Internet, make different kinds of comics more accessible. Take Japanese manga, 9. There are many people around the world who enjoy reading manga. 10, in the past it was difficult to find translated versions of manga in comic book stores. But that did not stop manga fans! Some fans who could translate Japanese into their own language started translating manga themselves. Then they scanned the pages of manga books and uploaded the scanned pages to the Internet with their translations. This practice has become so popular that people in the comic book industry made up a name for it. Combining the words *scan* and *translation*, they call it "scanlation," and it is a big problem today. The people who do scanlation usually share their manga for free, so readers do not buy manga books. Writers, artists, and publishers all end up losing money because of scanlations.

9. A. above all B. for example C. as a result D. in general
10. A. In other words B. In particular C. In consequence D. However

Problems of comic books due to the Internet are not limited to scanlations. 11 problem is piracy. This is similar to the problems faced by the video and music industries 12 illegal copies of movies and songs have been sold or shared by pirates online. In the comic book industry, illegal copies of old and brand-new comics alike have been hurting comic book sales.

11. A. Another B. Other C. This D. Second
12. A. due to B. resulting in C. where D. because of

Luckily, comic book publishers have learned a few lessons from the online problems of other industries. Comic book companies are exploring ways to make it possible for comic book fans to easily find legal copies of digital comics. 13, some publishers offer discounted prices for digital versions of comics when people buy a copy of the same comic book in a store. This way, the buyer can have a hard copy of the comic for his or her collection along with a digital copy to read on an electronic device.

People can read digital formats of comics on their computers, tablets, e-reader devices, or smartphones wherever they go. Of these devices, comic book fans have responded most positively to digital comics displayed on tablets. The size of the device is closest to that of a hard copy comic book, 14 comics can be displayed in full-color and with special features 15 additional information, even video.

13. A. Furthermore B. For example C. In contrast D. On the other hand
14. A. consequently B. either C. and D. accordingly
15. A. as an example B. such like C. for instance D. such as

III. Use of Grammar: Choose the best answer. 20%

16. _____, I wouldn't have missed the bus.
A. If I have got up a little earlier B. If I were to get up a little earlier
C. Had I got up a little earlier D. If I got up a little earlier
17. A. Half a year has passed since I saw you last time.
B. Half a year has passed since I have seen you last time.
C. Half a year have passed since I saw you last time.
D. Half a year have passed since I have seen you last time.
18. This is just a note to let you know that _____ in her office at 10 tomorrow morning.
A. she is looking forward to see you B. she is looking forward to seeing you
C. she is looking out to see you D. she is looking out to seeing you
19. _____ to avoid anything that would cause trouble to his wife.
A. It was too careful of him B. He was too careful
C. It was careful for him D. He was careful

20. _____ the competition.

A. There were only five people entered

B. Only five people that entered

C. There were only five people that entered

D. Only five people entering

21. _____ near Yangmingshan National Park.

A. Chinese Culture University is locating

B. Chinese Culture University is located

C. Chinese Culture University locates

D. Chinese Culture University located

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22. The title "My Grandmother, the Bag Lady" makes me think of homeless older women _____ alone on city streets.
A. that surviving B. survive C. that survives D. who survive
23. As we sat down, _____.
A. the lights dimmed, and the crowd grew silent.
B. the lights dimmed, and the crowd grew silently.
C. the lights are dimming, and the crowd grew silently.
D. the lights become dimming, and the crowd grew silent.
24. _____, does not want to come to the party.
A. Jane, her brother is visiting from New York
B. Jane, because of her brother is visiting from New York
C. Jane, whose brother is visiting from New York
D. Jane, with her brother is visiting from New York
25. My work included spending time with Navajo elders, _____.
A. observe their activities, and record the things they said
B. to observe their activities, and to record the things they said
C. observed their activities, and recorded the things they said
D. observing their activities, and recording the things they said.

IV. Writing Task. 50%

Good leaders are required in all walks of life. In your opinion, what are some of the qualities of a good leader? Please use specific details and examples to explain why these qualities are important.