

Unit 1

Nine to five

Passage 1

Directions: Read the following passage with 10 statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter.

▶▶ 长篇阅读自测表

阅读和练习实际用时	
正确答题数	

Job fairs

- A) If you are planning on heading out to a job fair, most likely you are either currently looking for a new job opportunity, or considering a change in your present career path. Job fairs provide valuable networking avenues (途径) with actual employers, their hiring managers, recruiters, and even other job seekers.
- B) The companies, employers and recruiters wouldn't be there if they were not searching for the next potential employee to add as an asset to their staff. By realizing that they are scanning the room for potential candidates, just as you are scanning for new job opportunities, you will have already taken a step closer to beginning a new phase in your career development. The best things happen to those who are proactive (主动的) in setting and reaching goals, so you will get more out of the event if you prepare as much as possible beforehand.
- C) Highlight some of the companies that you may be interested in. Then, research each company and make a few notes that you can review prior to your visit with them. By looking up organizations online, and reading about their services, products, mission, values, corporate goals and career development opportunities, you will sound well-informed when you approach employers to inquire about current vacancies. Time will be limited with representatives, but you can use that time effectively by being prepared with key comments and questions. This strategy will immediately help you stand out from the other job seekers who just stop by for a brochure, having no particular goal or clear idea of what they are looking for.
- D) If you are seeking a particular position, make sure you know everything there is to know about

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it and be prepared to demonstrate your knowledge. Once you identify a particular area of interest, you must also know the job description, the industry and how to depict to the hiring authority that you are the best pick for the job. On the other hand, if you are not sure what your career goals are, make notes and obtain employer information so that you can research opportunities and follow up with employers within a few days after the event. It isn't wise to waste your time, the employer's time, or hinder the goals of others who have mapped out their objectives.

- E)** Look at this opportunity as a potential on-the-spot interview. Make sure you have your resume updated, and numerous copies available. You may also have business cards that you can leave with employers or other job seekers after meeting with them. Sometimes the best opportunities come along when we are not actually looking for them; and to have an unexpected opportunity pass you by because you were unprepared to provide your resume or contact information will be a big mistake. Take the time to be outgoing, open, friendly, and converse with other job seekers you meet. They may have come in contact with a representative looking for someone with your qualifications, and kind consideration for their interests may prove beneficial.
- F)** To be successful at a job fair, you have to approach it as if you were scheduled for an interview. Appropriate attire (服装) will indicate to observers that you are a serious candidate. Business dress is the only choice. If you are not properly dressed for an unexpected job fair, refrain from attending until you are prepared. The first impression you make will be the one that you leave behind, and it will be hard to compensate for in the future. The representatives will probably remember you and the first impression will stand.
- G)** Just as you are seeking opportunities for growth and advancement, the company recruiters will be seeking outstanding applicants to fill their vacancies. They will be motivated to select the best candidates: those who appear to be professional, motivated, enthusiastic and eager to work. If you don't make a good first impression on the day of the job fair, you have little chance of being invited to interview with that employer. No matter how impressive your resume and credentials (证明) may be, they won't matter to the hiring authority if you lack enthusiasm or are apathetic in your job search. Try your best to be cheerful, positive, and leave each representative with the impression that you came to the job fair just for the opportunity to make contact with their company.
- H)** As outlined above, your attitude and the way you approach the representatives of these companies will leave a lasting impression. Treat each recruiter as if they are the hiring authority or the business owner. Making impressions and being competitive is the name of the game. You must also assume that company representatives talk to each other and walk through the aisles just as you do, so negative comments about a specific company or representative may fall on the wrong set of ears. Approach the event as if your behavior is being recorded throughout, and will be reviewed by the potential employers at a later time.
- I)** Compile information from each employer you visit. Gather the brochures, business cards, and other information that you may need in the future, especially if you have left a copy of your

resume or professional portfolio in their possession. There are several reasons for having as much information as possible. You can score points with the organizations that really interest you by writing a thank-you letter to express your appreciation for the opportunity to introduce yourself and learn about the employer's needs. You will need the names and points of contact to assist you in a follow-up. By obtaining the brochure or business card, you will have not only the properly spelled names, but the address, location and contact numbers of the company representatives. Imagine the frustration of not knowing whom to contact, or with whom you spoke as you prepare to follow up in the future; not to mention how unprofessional it may appear to others when you cannot identify the person later.

- J)** Many job fairs include workshops on a variety of job-search skills and other career-development topics such as resume writing, online applications, interviews, motivation, professional etiquette, and job-search strategies. Make sure you review the schedule and plan to attend any of the topics that you find interesting. This is a great opportunity to develop insight and obtain free advice from career development experts in areas that will assist you in planning your job search. Attending these brief workshops will help you keep abreast of the latest and greatest trends in job-search techniques. You may also receive valuable information and direct points of contact for future questions you may have.

(1,124 words)



- _____ 1. You should collect business cards as they contain useful information about the companies and the representatives, which will be useful when you make further contact with them.
- _____ 2. It is important that a job seeker identify his personal career goals before or after a job fair, otherwise he is wasting time.
- _____ 3. Doing research beforehand about the company you are interested in will get you well-informed about job vacancies and well-prepared for your talk with the recruiters.
- _____ 4. Don't turn your back on other job seekers, for exchanging information may be beneficial to you all.
- _____ 5. Never speak out or show your dissatisfaction with a certain company at job fairs.
- _____ 6. You may miss out an unexpected opportunity if you fail to provide your resume.
- _____ 7. You should adjust your attitude so that you look enthusiastic and professional in job seeking, even though you have a striking resume or brilliant documents.

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- _____ 8. A job seeker will gain more opportunities at a job fair if he makes good preparations.
- _____ 9. One merit of attending workshops at job fairs is to get you the latest information about job hunting techniques.
- _____ 10. It's important to be properly dressed for a job fair since the first impression counts a lot to the recruiting representatives.

Passage 2

Directions: Read the following passage with 10 statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter.

▶▶ 长篇阅读自测表

阅读和练习实际用时	
正确答题数	

The growing job crisis needs solutions now

- A)** America has always been a country that thrives on hard work, thrift and self-reliance. We have long promoted hard work and the pursuit of wealth. We have all absorbed Benjamin Franklin’s maxim “Early to bed and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise.”
- B)** Job creation has long been one of our unique historic achievements. In a literal (字面的) application of the economist Joseph Schumpeter’s notion of creative destruction, the United States lost some 44 million jobs in the last two decades of the 20th century but simultaneously created 73 million private-sector jobs. A surprising 55 per cent of the total workforce by the end of the past century was in new jobs, with some two-thirds of them in industries that paid more than the average wage.
- C)** Today, there is no evidence of job creation. Quite the opposite: Unemployment is rising, and millions of jobs have disappeared. In the place of thrift we have become a nation of debtors, staggering beneath mortgage loans that exceed the value of our homes and credit lines that exceed our ability to pay for them. But the Great Recession, as the current downturn (经济衰退) is called, has also changed the nature of unemployment.
- D)** About one-third of the 15 million workers now completely jobless have been out of work for at least six months – the highest proportion since records were first kept in 1948 – and more than half have been out of work for three months or longer. Meanwhile, those in jobs find their workweek reduced to 33 hours, again the lowest in 60 years. In the first half of this year, the increase in all private wages and salaries was merely 1.3 per cent, one third of what it was in the first half of 2007. Today, all elements of total labor income – jobs, hours, and average hourly wages – are under pressure.
- E)** Many Americans who have lost their jobs now have no way to replace their lost income. Take unemployment benefits, which pay around a third of one’s regular salary. Generally, the requirement for the benefit is to have worked full time on the last job for at least a year. But more than half of the unemployed do not qualify for the benefits because they had been

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in their jobs for only six months to a year before the ax (解雇) fell. This leaves only 43 per cent qualified for unemployment benefits. The anxiety is intense: Sixty-one per cent of the unemployed say they are concerned their benefits will expire before they find a job, and half said it was the first time they'd ever been out of work.

- F)** The mix in the labor force has also changed. The number of people over age 55 who are working has grown by some 8 per cent. They have felt they had to hang on to their jobs as the net worth of their homes and stocks declined. In fact, 63 per cent of workers aged 50 to 61 expect they will have to push back their retirement, thereby restricting openings for younger workers. By contrast, during the two previous recessions of 1990-1991 and 2001, people in their mid-40s to their mid-50s continued to show employment gains, while it was younger workers who felt the biggest impact of the cutbacks. Of course, this time younger workers have not escaped either: A quarter of teenagers, or about 1.6 million of them, are without work. The unemployment rate for young Americans has skyrocketed to 52.2 per cent, a post-World War II high. In previous recessions, the unemployment rate among 16-to-24-year-olds never went above 50 per cent. This time, even employment in the 45-to-54 age group has fallen by more than 1.2 million. These are the very people who are in the prime of their wage-earning years. Because of their experience and generally higher wage requirements, it will take these older workers much longer to find jobs, and some will have to settle for considerably less pay. The other consequence of the prolonged recession is that many more men than women have been losing jobs. The women's share of the workforce may have reached a record 50 per cent last month, probably because women are still paid less and tend to occupy low-salaried jobs.
- G)** The prospects for re-employment are diminished by the fact that many jobs – in the worlds of finance and auto manufacturing, for example – may not come back. If there is any growth in jobs, it will come mostly from healthcare, education, restaurants, and hospitality services. Healthcare alone made up all the net jobs created in the past decade. Such service jobs cannot, however, support growth and innovation.
- H)** We know the skies have darkened, but now we learn the unemployment figures are worse than previously thought. The household survey, which tries to find out whether people are working by asking individuals about their job status rather than asking the companies that employ them, revealed staggering job losses for September of 785,000. It includes about 571,000 people who dropped out of the workforce last month, presumably because they despaired of finding a job. If they had kept looking, they would have been counted as unemployed.
- I)** Numbers from the Bureau of Labor Statistics are artificially low because of its definitions. For example, if people haven't looked for a job in the previous four weeks, they don't count as unemployed. If they have stopped looking for various other reasons like school or family responsibilities or healthcare issues, they are described as "marginally attached" to the labor force, representing an estimated 2.2 million workers who are also not counted in the unemployment numbers. If they had been included, the unemployment rate would be 11 per cent – not just 9.8 per cent – and this doesn't include an additional 1.8 million who have left the labor force completely, because they have either retired or become stay-at-home parents.

Nor does it include the approximately 2 million people who have entered the labor force since the recession began and are still without jobs. If it were not for the enforced shorter workweek of 33 hours, the same work could be done in the normal workweek with probably 3.5 million fewer employees, which would drive the unemployment rate up by another 2.5 percentage points.

- J)** No wonder job anxiety has soared. Surging unemployment numbers have undermined the confidence that we might be nearing the bottom of the recession. A recent Gallup Poll found that 31 per cent of workers are worried about being laid off, compared with half that a year ago; 32 per cent think their wages might be cut, double the number a year ago; and 46 per cent fear that fringe benefits (附加福利) will be cut. Fully 84 per cent of those let go received no severance package (遣散费) or other compensation from their employers.

(1,172 words)



- _____ 1. It probably takes longer for an unemployed worker around 50 to find a new job because his work experience generally demands higher pay.
- _____ 2. The collected official statistics about the unemployed usually shows a lower unemployment rate than it actually is.
- _____ 3. At present, the percentage of jobless workers is the highest while the working hours the lowest in 60 years.
- _____ 4. Statistics from an opinion poll reveal that even those who stay in jobs now show great concern about their working status and benefits.
- _____ 5. Many seniors over 55 choose to continue working so as to compensate for the loss of their property or stock value.
- _____ 6. Compared with service industries, auto manufacturing provides fewer opportunities for re-employment.
- _____ 7. A large number of the unemployed may fail to get unemployment benefits because they didn't work full time for more than a year.
- _____ 8. With the workweek reduced to 33 hours, more workers are included in the labor force and not counted as unemployed.
- _____ 9. Shocking figures from a survey indicate that the unemployment situation is more serious than what was thought before.
- _____ 10. In the last quarter of the previous century, the number of new jobs was much bigger than that of the lost jobs.

Passage 3

Directions: Read the following passage with 10 statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter.

▶▶ 长篇阅读自测表

阅读和练习实际用时	
正确答题数	

A career switcher looks to build a better resume

- A) Many workers who lost jobs in the hardest-hit sectors of the economy are now looking to change careers. But crafting a resume that shows the benefits of hiring an industry outsider can be challenging.
- B) In this part of *The Resume Doctor*, three recruiting experts critique a resume from a job hunter eyeing a move into facilities management from commercial construction.
- C) Mark Peterson, 47, of Woodbury, Minn., was laid off in July from a senior project manager position at a small commercial construction company where he had worked for 19 years. Though he was hired in November as a senior project manager for a rival firm, the contract job is commission-based and doesn't include medical or other benefits. He says the position is unlikely to yield a salary anywhere close to his prior annual income of around \$125,000.
- D) Mr Peterson is seeking a mid- to senior-level executive position in facilities management. Mr Peterson would like to stay in the Minneapolis metro area and is seeking a minimum annual salary of \$85,000, significantly lower than his previous salary but on par with what he expects in the current economy. If the economy were to improve, he says he would be looking for \$100,000 to \$125,000. "Any company that has a large campus or multiple buildings to manage could work well for me," he says.
- E) Offering feedback on Mr Peterson's resume are Ken Rose, a senior client partner in Chicago; Nanci D'Alessandro, a vice president and national account executive in New York; and Julia Hicks, director of human resources at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn.
- F) Mr Peterson has kept his fairly standard resume to one page. He leads with his contact information, followed by a summary statement and 11 areas of expertise. The resume goes on to describe his career in reverse chronological (按年代顺序的) order with bullet points and concludes with details of his education and training.
- G) Much of the information that hiring managers want to see, such as the size and scope of

projects he worked on and certifications he holds, is there, our experts agree. What Mr Peterson needs to do is to improve the layout so it is more pleasing to the eye and easier to quickly scan. Right now, the resume is formatted with a significant amount of white space in some areas and in other places, text is bunched together.

- H)** Most of all, he needs to direct his resume away from construction and more towards facilities management by highlighting his transferable skills when describing his former positions. “Quite frankly, I would have overlooked this resume, and it would not have made my list,” says Ms D’Alessandro. “The resume is still very much geared to construction.”
- I)** For starters, our experts recommend Mr Peterson get rid of the “Management Professional” title at the very top. “There’s really no point giving yourself a title or categorizing yourself,” says Mr Rose. “Your professional experience and training should stand on its own.”
- J)** Likewise, our experts agree Mr Peterson should revamp (修改) his summary statement. It is unclear and it doesn’t even mention facilities management, they say. “It needs to be more focused on what he is trying to achieve and it should show his strengths,” says Ms D’Alessandro. For Ms Hicks, the summary statement “needs to be more specific about what he can offer and not what he is seeking from an employer.” Mr Rose usually counsels his clients against including a summary statement. But he says he would make an exception for someone looking to change careers. “Otherwise, the person looking at his resume is going to ask, ‘Why is this drywall guy sending this to me?’” he says.
- K)** The next section of Mr Peterson’s resume features a list describing his areas of expertise. Ms D’Alessandro and Ms Hicks say they both like it, but they say it should be shortened to six bullets from the current 11. They suggest formatting the section into two or three columns rather than one to make it more visually appealing. “When the list gets too long, the reader loses focus on the most important skills he is trying to convey,” says Ms Hicks. By contrast, Mr Rose considers the list “a waste of valuable real estate” and suggests deleting it. He says he prefers resumes that highlight strengths with perceptible accomplishments in the work-history section.
- L)** For the section that lists past employers, our experts want to know more about Mulcahy Inc., where Mr Peterson spent 19 years. This is especially important for job seekers who have experience at a small or mid-size firm that might not be known outside of its particular state or region. “What kind of company is it?” says Mr Rose. “It could be a multinational, or it could be Mr Mulcahy, his son and Mark.”
- M)** Our experts also don’t like how Mr Peterson’s resume displays his past accomplishments. Ms Hicks says that Mr Peterson could have done a better job of explaining his major career accomplishments. For example, rather than listing the companies he had contracts with by name, she says she would have liked to see the different industries they’re in, because this would show his breadth of experience.
- N)** Perhaps most important, our experts say he is missing out on an opportunity to highlight experience that would prove highly relevant to a job in facilities management. In two of his

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early positions, he mentions the field in bullet points that describe his responsibilities but doesn't elaborate. Mr Peterson "should make better use of some of that experience so he won't come across as a complete newcomer," says Mr Rose.

- O)** In the education and training section, our experts are critical of Mr Peterson for citing uncommon acronyms (首字母缩写) for all but one of the certifications he listed. Instead, they would have preferred to see these spelt out. Ms Hicks also suggests Mr Peterson show when he obtained the certifications, especially if he got any in recent years. Including dates would also show that he's "up-to-date on what's going on in the industry," adds Ms D'Alessandro.
- P)** Further, our experts note that Mr Peterson should have gone into detail about what may be the most valuable credential he has for a job in facilities management – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. Having a LEED Accredited Professional (LEED AP) designation demonstrates significant knowledge in green building practices and would transfer well to facilities management. "It could also mean the difference between Mr Peterson's resume going to the top and the bottom of the pile," says Ms D'Alessandro.
- Q)** Finally, our experts say that to fit the extra information, Mr Peterson may need to expand his resume to two pages from one, and that doing so would be acceptable for such a senior-level job hunter. "With 25 years of experience, you cannot articulate the depth of your experience in a one-page resume," says Ms D'Alessandro.

(1,183 words)



- _____ 1. Peterson's knowledge in green building practices is thought to be valuable for a position in facilities management, and therefore should be emphasized in the resume.
- _____ 2. Experts want to know more about the company where Peterson worked for 19 years, such as its size.
- _____ 3. The three experts giving advice on Peterson's resume are of different backgrounds.
- _____ 4. It is not enough for Peterson only to mention the names of the companies he once worked for if he plans to show his past achievements in the resume.
- _____ 5. Peterson lost his long-term job at a construction company and found a position at another firm with fewer benefits.
- _____ 6. Peterson is looking for a job in facilities management with an acceptable salary of \$40,000 lower than what he had as a senior project manager.
- _____ 7. According to the three experts, Peterson's resume includes the key information that potential recruiters want to see.

- _____ 8. While one of the experts has the opposite opinion, the other two insist that Peterson should keep the list of his expertise areas in the resume.
- _____ 9. Experts criticize Peterson for using uncommon acronyms when he lists his certifications he got.
- _____ 10. Mr Rose thinks that a summary statement is useless unless the resume writer is aiming to look for a job in a different field.

Passage 4

Directions: Read the following passage, and then answer the questions. For questions 1-7, choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D). For questions 8-10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.

▶▶ 长篇阅读自测表

阅读和练习实际用时	
正确答题数	

Five insider tips for job-seeking college grads

With unemployment still in the double digits, December college graduates face a severe job market. The latest data from the Labor Department shows that employers might be beginning to dip their toes back into the hiring waters, but that doesn't mean finding gainful employment will be easy for recent college graduates. It will take a combination of networking, assertiveness, and tech intelligence to land that first job.

Harrison Barnes, founder and CEO of the job search website EmploymentCrossing.com, says applying for jobs now could give winter graduates an edge. But paying much attention to some key advice – not just winging it – is still a must. “It’s not a seller’s market. It’s still a buyer’s market,” says Ed Koc, research director at the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

Here are some strategies to keep in mind.

1. Make a personal connection before the interview.

Sweeping the job search boards online and sending out dozens of applications blind might sound like a solid way to get in the game, but experts say that all that does is get you neglected or ignored. More and more employers are instead posting open positions to their own websites, so a slightly better strategy might be to decide which companies you’re specifically interested in and then apply directly through the firm. But even that method might be an exercise in uselessness.

“The trick now isn’t getting the interview and getting the job. It’s getting the interview, period,” says educational consultant Eric Yaverbaum, president of the website CollegeClickTV.com. You want to get to know, face to face, the people at the places where you’re trying to get hired, before the interview. One way to do that is to research the most prominent associations within the industry you’re interested in and then attend their events and conferences. Every industry has them, and they’re scheduled regularly.

Mark Smith, assistant vice chancellor and director of the Career Center at Washington

University in St. Louis, recommends talking shop with friends of parents and with parents of friends.

“If you know what type of work you want to do, talk to them about the industry, and ask them if there are other people you should be networking with,” says Smith. If you meet them at a party, tell them you want to learn more, and arrange to meet them for coffee or at their office. And keep the lines of communication open after that.

2. Continue to use your career center.

Most schools will not cut you off when you graduate. Many keep their doors open to graduates for at least another two years. “Some might get embarrassed about it or feel that it’s not proper, but counselors there want you to succeed, and they will gladly help you,” says Smith.

Some career centers provide online counseling as well as over-the-phone counseling, but Koc recommends making an in-person appointment to get the most out of it. “Graduates might be inclined to simply search the jobs posted to their center’s website, but they really should make full use of their services,” he says. The center’s services can include resume building and interviewing advice as well as assistance in focusing the job search.

Tasha Tompkins, a December graduate of York College of Pennsylvania, is using her school’s career development center to beef up her resume. “Graduates should definitely take advantage of their college’s resources,” she says. “I didn’t, but I’m making up for it now.”

3. If you’re undecided, look where the jobs are.

It might sound like a no-brainer, but job opportunities in some fields in particular will abound in certain years, and looking in those areas could lay the groundwork for a profitable, rewarding career down the line. *US News* recently identified 50 hot careers that offer good pay. Some of the careers open to graduates with just a bachelor’s or associate degree include computer software engineering, biomedical engineering, and a host of jobs in the healthcare sector. There is also a growing demand for special education teachers, multimedia artists, and film and video editors.

Barnes of EmploymentCrossing.com agrees that the allied health professions are very stable right now and offer diverse job opportunities. Triage Consulting Group, a San Francisco-based healthcare consulting firm, is one such company that is hiring. Principal Andy Stemmler says it expects to recruit 75 to 80 graduates in 2010, up from about 70 new recruits last year. Well-rounded candidates, with majors mostly in business and economics, will make up the bulk of their hires, he says.

4. Think hard about your priorities.

There are opposing schools of thought on whether it’s more important for your first job to be intellectually stimulating and rewarding or one that pays the bills. Yaverbaum of CollegeClickTV.com says it’s better to have a low-paying job with the best job description and title rather than a good-paying job with a bad title. But Washington University’s Smith isn’t so sure. “That’s fine if you don’t have any debt and your parents are willing to help support you,” he says. “But not everyone has that option.”

You might want to take some chances. Don't discredit volunteering opportunities, whether it's at a nonprofit company, a hospital, or for a political campaign. The experience looks great on a resume, and in some cases it can lead to a full-time paid position. Working internationally is another option. There are plenty of opportunities to teach English in overseas jobs and certification programs. And experts say social learning in a different culture can be just as important as separate job skills.

Wherever you end up, Yaverbaum says the most important thing is to focus on creating a record of achievement that will be attractive to future employers.

5. Don't cop out (逃避) for graduate school.

Applying to law school because you've always wanted to be a lawyer is one thing, but experts advise against pursuing it because you don't know what to do with that anthropology or English degree, or because the job search is leading you nowhere. "The only reason to go to grad school is because you want to go to grad school, not because you can't find a job," says Smith. "Graduate and professional school can increase your debt load without increasing job prospects."

Don't go to graduate school unless you know why you are going, where it leads, and that you want that career. It is smart to take the entrance exams – like the LSAT, GRE, or GMAT – within a year of graduating, but those schools will always be there, and racking up some real-world experience, and digging yourself out of debt, will put you in a much better position to apply for graduate school a few years later.

(1,124 words)



1. What does the recent Labor Department data indicate?
 - A) The employment situation is getting better.
 - B) Unemployment is still in the double digits.
 - C) Employers have stopped hiring college grads.
 - D) College grads are likely to find jobs easily.

2. What do we know about Ed Koc?
 - A) He is a research director of a job website.
 - B) He is the CEO of a national association.
 - C) He argues it is employers who have a lot of choices.
 - D) He believes it is the right time for graduates to apply for jobs.

3. What is one recommended to do before an interview?
 - A) To search for job information online.
 - B) To send out dozens of applications.
 - C) To look at the target company's website.
 - D) To attend industry conferences.

4. To make connections with friends of your parents, you may _____.
 - A) ask them to introduce other people to you
 - B) tell them you need help looking for a job
 - C) arrange to have coffee with them
 - D) ask your parents to help you

5. Koc recommends making full use of your career centre by _____.
 - A) making an over-the-phone inquiry
 - B) making in-person appointments
 - C) using online counselling
 - D) getting advice by post

6. If you have no idea what job to take, _____.
 - A) pay attention to hot fields
 - B) focus on highly-paid careers
 - C) choose computer software engineering
 - D) get into the allied health professions

7. What people is Andy Stemmler going to recruit?
 - A) Multimedia artists.
 - B) Film and video editors.
 - C) Healthcare consultants.
 - D) Special education teachers.

8. Eric Yaverbaum agrees that your first job can be low-paying but should have _____.

9. Sometimes a full-time paid position results from _____.

10. According to Mark Smith, graduate school might increase your financial stress rather than _____.

Unit 2

A good read

Passage 1

Directions: Read the following passage with 10 statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter.

▶▶ 长篇阅读自测表

阅读和练习实际用时	
正确答题数	

Reading: luxury or necessity?

- A)** “People say that life is the thing, but I prefer reading,” a statement by Logan Pearsall Smith, says it all. In the modern world, new technologies and innovations cause people to lose sight of traditionally important values. Now that more of a younger person’s time is spent on the Internet, it may seem that reading books has been pushed more and more beyond the interests of teenagers, but it definitely still exists as an essential part of young lives. Almost one fourth of kids “read books for fun every day, and more than half of all kids read books for fun at least two to three times a week” (Yankelovich). Reading does not only provide entertainment or an escape from reality, but also allows adolescents (青少年) to relate texts to their own lives, earn higher scores on standardized tests, and, furthermore, achieve higher success in their adult lives.
- B)** One of the largest sources teenagers study to gain knowledge of how they should live their lives is the media. Although it is unfortunate, teens often model themselves after ideal images found in movies, television, and magazines. In a recent Scholastic survey, it was found that “older teens are more likely to read magazines than books” (Yankelovich). They feel that they can relate to the images of young people portrayed in these magazines even though characters in books probably offer a more realistic representation of the average teenager. Classic books, especially *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, are relevant examples of why books should be kept around. Bradbury’s main purpose in writing his work, other than to present a comically extreme outlook on the future, was to give an example of how becoming more dependent on technology, rather than finding simple joys in living, like reading, could lead to an unsatisfying

Unit 2 A good read

life. In the book, the main character, Guy Montag, is persistently searching for the meaning of his life through literature.

- C)** Although probably not interested in discovering the meaning of life, readers can often find similarities between the characters in the books they read and themselves. Being able to relate to someone is especially important during adolescence because at this time, young people are growing physically and emotionally. Acceptance is a central issue during the teenage years, and teens can find solace in a book when they uncover the reality that they are not the only person dealing with the struggles they must face daily. Reading can therefore bring feelings of normalcy (常态) to a teen's atypical life.
- D)** Normalcy, however, does not always mean comfort, and just because reading classic literature can bring an understanding to life's issues does not mean they are not there. Nevertheless, the way characters in books resolve or deal with their problems can give teens helpful hints on how to deal with their own in real life. Depending on whether the reaction to the dilemma in the plot of the book resulted positively or negatively, the reader can decide on what or what not to do if found in the same situation. This allows young people to determine the consequences of certain reactions before they respond to happenings in their own lives, and can even lead to better decision-making.
- E)** Many young adults, as they are approaching graduation from high school, find a considerable amount of pressure on them to be accepted into college. State graduation tests and college entrance exams are very important in deciding how well-qualified a student is for post-secondary education. No matter which exam students take, they can be sure to find a reading section. How can they prepare for this portion? "The best way to prepare for the Critical Reading Section on the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) is to read." There is no other way to practice critical reading than to read and analyze a variety of literature. Even children understand the importance of reading books in preparation for the future of their education.
- F)** Not only do students need to be proficient in reading to go to college, but also to graduate. Besides the reading section of graduation tests, students are often required to complete four years of English courses to obtain a diploma. A student must earn a diploma before they can even think about attending college. A recent College Board press release warns Americans of a possible downgrade in world education standings (排名) if the number of students earning college degrees does not increase within the next 15 years: "College completion rates, once second in the world for younger workers (ages 25 to 34), the United States now ranks 11th." If the demand for college graduates is increasing, the need for students to do well on college entrance exams is also increasing, and reading is essential in preparing for these tests.
- G)** The increased pressure to obtain a college degree is just an example of how vital to a person's future reading can be. Many people believe that the only way a person will be able to attain a job in the future will be to possess a college degree. This makes reading essential to the success of a person's entire life. After all, adults must be able to read road signs, work objectives, task completion directions and much more.

- H)** The ability to read is the ability to communicate ideas, and communication in the workforce is crucial to the success of industry, technology, medicine etc. Although it is believed that it is not what a person knows, and that it is actually who a person knows, that will allow that person to climb the ladder of success, none of that will matter if that person is unable to read and communicate ideas. Therefore, reading must be introduced to each individual at a very young age, and must be encouraged throughout adolescence. Reading is fundamental to be able to begin to seek a comfortable life involving a high-paying, or even respectable, job. As a result, success in life is highly dependent on a person's capability to read.
- I)** Although there are many predictions for a decrease in publications in the future, it cannot be determined if books will be replaced or how long that will take. For the time being, there are too many people receiving direct benefits from published material, and books don't seem to be going anywhere. The benefit for teens when they make an effort to become powerful readers can be observed in their decision-making skills (derived from a relationship between themselves and the characters in the books they read), their ability to conquer graduation tests and college entrance exams, and their overall triumph in life. It may be wise for more people to follow in the footsteps of Smith and take a higher preference to reading.

(1,138 words)



- _____ 1. How characters in books deal with their problems can help young readers learn to handle their own in real life.
- _____ 2. Many people think a college degree is a must for a person to get a job in the future.
- _____ 3. The book *Fahrenheit 451* was intended to inform the reader that too much dependence on technology is no good.
- _____ 4. Though people receive direct benefits from published material, there are many predictions that there will be a decrease in publications.
- _____ 5. Important traditional values are neglected as a result of new advances and developments in technology.
- _____ 6. The US ranks much lower than before in terms of college completion rates among workers aged 25 to 34.
- _____ 7. A recent Scholastic survey revealed that older teenagers prefer magazines to books.

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- _____ 8. The best way to develop critical reading skills is to read and analyze different literature works.
- _____ 9. A person's ability to read and communicate is fundamental and crucial for their success in life and career.
- _____ 10. A sense of being accepted is especially important for a teenager's physical and emotional growth.