

试卷代号:22156

座位号

国家开放大学2024年春季学期期末统一考试

英语阅读(2) 试题

2024年7月

学 号: _____

姓 名: _____

考点名称: _____

注意事项:

1. 将你的学号、姓名及考点名称填写在试题和答题纸的规定栏内。考试结束后,把试题和答题纸放在桌上。试题和答题纸均不得带出考场。待监考人员收完试题和答题纸后方可离开考场。
2. 仔细阅读题目的说明,并按题目要求答题。所有答案必须写在答题纸的指定位置上,写在试题上的答案无效。
3. 用蓝、黑圆珠笔或钢笔(含签字笔)答题,使用铅笔答题无效。

Part I

Questions 1—10 are based on Passage 1. (30 points, 3 points each)

Passage 1

Changing Living Things?

People use biotechnology to change living things. People have used biotechnology for thousands of years. In the past, they have used it to create new plants, animals, and microbes that make cheese, yogurt, bread, beer, and wine. Biotechnology advanced very quickly when DNA was discovered in 1953. Every living cell has DNA. DNA is made up of genes. Today, scientists who work in biotechnology can change genes and change living cells.

Farmers have been changing the genes of crops like corn, wheat, and rice for thousands of years, and today we grow better and better crops. In the 1960s, scientists made new kinds of crops. These crops grew faster, bigger, and were more resistant to disease. In 1992, an American company changed the genes in some cotton plants. The change made the leaves poisonous to certain kinds of insects that eat cotton plants. In this way, farmers grow more crops and do not need to use harmful insecticides.

Our fruits and vegetables are also changing. When we go to the supermarket today, we may see many kinds of tomatoes. They have different colors and sizes. Some tomatoes are long-life types, meaning they stay fresh longer. They are red and have a perfect shape, but they don't get soft. Scientists have changed the genes of these tomatoes. We do not know if changing the genes of plants we eat will be good for our health. Likewise, we do not know what will happen to other natural plants that grow near these plants.

At the same time, we have improved breeds of animals over many years. For example, we have created faster horses for horse racing and cows that give more milk. Scientists now use the process of biotechnology to continue to create animals that are useful to humans. In 1994, scientists in Australia invented a way of removing the wool from sheep without cutting it off. They gave the sheep a special hormone and wrapped a hairnet around the sheep. After three weeks, they could peel the wool off by hand. Scientists have used pigs to help humans receive heart transplants. Pigs and humans have different genes. However, the heart of a pig is similar to the human heart in size and shape. Scientists put human genes into pigs. This makes it possible for the human body to accept the heart of a pig in a transplant operation.

Scientists are also using biotechnology to clean up dangerous places. When oil from ships or factories spills into the sea, it is poisonous. The poisons endanger plants and animals in the area. The poisons can also be passed on to the food we eat. In laboratories, scientists now grow microbes that can digest or break up the oil. In 1999, scientists in the United States developed a new microbe that eats waste material at nuclear sites and makes the sites less harmful. Sometimes there is too much arsenic, a poison, in the ground. A little arsenic is fine, but too much is dangerous to plants, animals, and people. Scientists have now created a plant that sucks up arsenic from the ground.

There are many bio-inventions, and there will be many more bio-inventions in the future. But will they be good or bad for us?

Complete these sentences with the words or phrases in the box. Note that Three of the words from the box will not be used.

cell	genes	peel	spills
crops	insecticides	resistant	wrapped

1. We grow _____ such as corn, wheat, and rice for food.
2. In 1994, in Australia, scientists _____ a hairnet around sheep to remove the wool more easily.
3. Today, some Australians don't have to cut the wool off sheep. They can _____ the wool off by hand.
4. Every living _____ has DNA.
5. The _____ in cells tell us the characteristics of the living thing.

Directions:

Decide if the following statements are True (T) or False (F).

- _____ 6. People learned to use microbes to make cheese, yogurt, and bread.
- _____ 7. Even with biotechnology, scientists cannot change living cells.
- _____ 8. Scientists made crops like corn and rice that grew faster and bigger.
- _____ 9. We do not know if changing plant genes will be good for our health.
- _____ 10. Scientists still haven't found ways to deal with arsenic.

Part II

Questions 11—20 are based on Passage 2. (30 points, 3 points each)

Passage 2

Tihar: Festival of Lights

Tihar is one of the most important festivals for Hindus in Nepal. Nepal is a small country between India and China. It has a population of about 23 million people, most of whom are Hindu. The festival of Tihar takes place in late autumn and lasts for five days. This festival is also called the Festival of Lights. It is a time when all the houses light oil lamps, and the country is full of lights and decorations. During Tihar, the people worship different animals such as the crow, the dog, and the cow. The people also worship their brothers and sisters and the goddess of wealth, Laxmi.

On the first day of the festival, people worship crows. Every family cooks a delicious meal in the morning. Before they eat, each member of the family puts some food on a plate of leaves and places it outside for the crows to eat. People believe crows are the messengers of the Lord of Death. They worship crows to keep sadness away.

The second day, people worship dogs. They decorate dogs with garlands of flowers around their necks. They give dogs delicious food and put a red tika (a special powder) on their foreheads. They even do this to stray dogs. It is a day to respect all dogs. They pray for the dogs to guard their homes. Dogs with garlands of flowers can be seen everywhere.

The third day is the most important day of the festival. Early in the morning, people start to worship the cow. The cow is the symbol of wealth and is the most holy animal for Hindus. They put tika on the cows' foreheads and a garland of flowers around their necks. They give the cows nice things to eat. People place the cows' manure in different parts of their houses. Later, in the evening, they worship the goddess Laxmi. If people please the goddess, she will give them wealth. People clean and decorate their houses. They put oil lamps in every door and window. A female member of the family performs a special ceremony or puja. She then puts a red mud footprint on the floor entering the home and makes a trail to the room where the family worships the goddess. In this room, there are pictures and an icon of the goddess. There is also a money box where each year the family puts money away for the goddess. In the evening, girls go from door to door of their neighbors' homes and sing songs of the goddess. They receive gifts in return.

On the fourth day, people can worship different things, but most people worship the ox. They put tika on the oxen and a garland around their necks. They also give them delicious food. Hindus, who follow the god Krishna, worship the cow. They make a small hill out of cow manure, put some grass on it, and perform a special ceremony, or puja, on it. The Newar community, an ethnic group in Nepal, worship themselves.

The fifth day is the day of brothers and sisters. Sisters wish their brothers long life and prosperity. If you do not have a brother or sister, you can make one of your relatives or friends a brother or a sister. On this day, sisters will perform a puja and apply a special tika on their brothers. Then they put garlands around their brothers and give them special gifts of food. Brothers in return honor their sisters; they put garlands around their necks and give them gifts of clothes and money. Tihar finally ends after five days of cooking, decorating, eating, singing, dancing, shopping, relaxing, gift giving, and worshipping. There is no doubt that Tihar is the most popular festival in Nepal.

Directions:

Fill in each blank of the text summary with an appropriate word or phrase from the box. Please note that five words or phrases from the box will not be used.

a. guard	b. Festival	c. decorated	d. strengthens	e. perform
f. intimate	g. worshiped	h. ceremony	i. prosperity	j. apply
k. respect	l. light	m. honor	n. community	o. symbol

Tihar is also called the 11 of Lights. It is considered to be of great importance as it shows contribution to not just the humans and the gods, but also the animals like crows, cows, and dogs that maintain a(n) 12 relationship with humans. On the first day of the festival, crows are 13 by offerings of sweets and dishes placed on a plate of leaves or the roofs of houses for they believe crows can take the message of the Lord of Death. The second day is called Dog Tihar. People offer garlands, tika, and delicious food to dogs to show their 14 for dogs. On the morning of the third day, people worship the cow. In Hinduism, cow signifies 15 and wealth. On this day people show their gratefulness to the cow by garlanding and feeding them with the best grass. Houses are cleaned and the doorways and windows are 16 with garlands of flowers. In the evening, people 17 oil lamps or candles on doorways and windows to welcome prosperity and well-being. The girls enjoy dancing and visiting all the houses in the neighborhood with musical instruments. On the fourth day of Tihar, ox is worshipped by most people. Hindus worship the cow. Additionally, the majority of the Newar 18 worship themselves. On the fifth and last day of Tihar, sisters make a special wish for their brothers to live a long life. Brothers sit on the floor while their sisters 19 their puja. Brothers give tikas to their sisters in the same fashion with an exchange of gifts. This ritual is practiced regardless of whether the brother is younger or older than the sister. Those without a brother or sister join relatives or friends for tika. This festival 20 the close relationship between brothers and sisters.

Part III

Questions 21—30 are based on Passage 3. (20 points, 2 points each)

Passage 3

Have you ever heard of Paynes Prairie? It is one of the most important natural and historical areas in Florida. Paynes Prairie is located near Gainesville. It is large, 21,000 acres. This protected land is called a preserve. The Florida Park Service manages the preserve.

The Paynes Prairie basin was formed when limestone dissolved and the ground settled. It is covered by marsh and wet prairie vegetation. There are areas of open water. During brief periods it has flooded enough to be considered a lake. Except for that, the basin has changed little through time.

Man has lived on Paynes Prairie a very long time. He lived there as far back as 10000 B. C. At one time, the Seminoles lived there. The prairie is thought to have been named after King Payne, a Seminole chief. During the late 1600s, the largest cattle ranch in Florida was on Paynes Prairie. Today, Paynes Prairie is preserved land. It is occupied by visitors and Florida Park Service employees.

Willam Bartram visited Paynes Prairie. Bartram was the first person who portrayed (described) nature through personal experience as well as scientific observation. He lived 200 years ago. He visited Paynes Prairie in 1774. At that time he described it. He called Paynes Prairie the "great Alachua Savannah."

Most of the animal life, which Bartram described, is still here. A large number of sand hill cranes, hawks and waterfowl are here in winter. The animal **diversity** is increased by the presence of pine flat woods, hammock, swamps and ponds.

The Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park is open year round. The Florida Park Service works hard so that the park will appear as it did in the past. It offers many opportunities for recreation. At the park you can camp and picnic. You can hike and bike. You can boat and fish. You can ride on horse trails. And you can see lots of nature and wildlife. You can see Florida as it was in the early days.

Paynes Prairie is a part of our Florida history. It is an example of our Florida natural resources. It is a place for recreation and an important experience of the Real Florida.

Directions:

Read passage 3 carefully and then decide whether statements 21—30 are true or false. Write T for true and F for false against the number of the item on your answer sheet.

21. The Paynes Prairie is located near Gainesville in Florida. It is large, 20,100 acres.
22. The Paynes Prairie basin was formed when limestone dissolved and the ground settled.
23. The Paynes Prairie is covered by wet prairie vegetation.
24. The Paynes Prairie has changed little through time.
25. The prairie is thought to have been named after King Payne, a Seminole God.
26. There used to be a big cattle farm on Paynes Prairie.

27. William Bartram was the first person to visit Paynes Prairie.
28. The underlined word “diversity” means “variety”.
29. The Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park is only open in summer.
30. The purpose of the passage is to call on people to protect wildlife.

Part IV

Questions 31—35 are based on Passage 4. (20 points, 4 points each)

Passage 4

London, with the River Thames flowing through it, has seen a long history and has grown into one vast urban area during the past centuries. It is the political, cultural, and financial centre of Great Britain. And there are world-famous museums and arts galleries, they are well worth seeing; admission to most is free. London today stretches for nearly thirty miles from north to south and for nearly thirty miles from east to west. This is the area known as “Greater London” with a population of nine million. The “City of London” is a very small part of the whole, and the number of people who live and sleep in “the City” is only about ten thousand.

A visit to London should always include a trip on the Thames. Many of London’s tourist sights can be seen from the river on London’s Circular Cruise from Westminster Dock. These include the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben, The London Eye, The Tower of London, Tower Bridge and so on. The Houses of Parliament are the home of Democracy in Britain. Big Ben, the bell at the top of the tower is one of the most famous landmarks in history and stands 336 feet tall. Another important building is Tower Bridge, which is an excellent example of Victorian engineering. Tower Bridge built in 1894 can be raised in 90 seconds to let vessels through. The Circular Cruise operates a hop-on/hop-off service giving you an opportunity to visit some of London’s attractions and then reboarding the boat to continue your journey. The full Circular Cruise takes approximately one hour.

Directions:

Read Passage 4 and then try to give short answers to Questions 31—35. Write your answers on the Answer Sheet.

31. What kind of roles does London play in Great Britain?
32. How many people live in the area of “Greater London”?
33. How tall is the Big Ben?
34. How long does it take to raise Tower Bridge to let vessels through?
35. What kind of special service does the Circular Cruise provide for tourists?

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国家开放大学2024年春季学期期末统一考试

英语阅读(2) 试题答案及评分标准

(供参考)

2024年7月

Part I (30 points, 3 points each)

1. crops
2. wrapped
3. peel
4. cell
5. genes
6. T
7. F
8. T
9. T
10. F

Part II (30 points, 3 points each)

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 11. b | 12. f | 13. g | 14. k | 15. i |
| 16. c | 17. l | 18. n | 19. e | 20. d |

Part III (20 points, 2 points each)

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 21. F | 22. T | 23. T | 24. T | 25. F |
| 26. T | 27. F | 28. T | 29. F | 30. F |

Part IV (20 points, 4 points each)

31. London is the political, cultural, and financial centre of Great Britain.
32. Nine million.
33. 336 feet.
34. 90 seconds.
35. The Circular Cruise provides a hop-on/hop-off service.

评分标准(教师阅卷时,可备一份试题作参考)

(1)第一部分有10道题,每小题3分,共计30分,按参考答案阅卷,每小题做对得3分,做错不得分。

(2)第二部分有10道题,每小题3分,共计30分,按参考答案阅卷,每小题做对得3分,做错不得分。

(3)第三部分有10道正误判断题,每小题2分,共计20分,按参考答案阅卷,每小题做对得2分,做错不得分。

(4)第四部分有5道简答题,每小题4分,共计20分,该部分具体评分标准如下:

得分	标准
4分	回答问题全面正确(不一定与参考答案完全一致,表达正确,拼写及标点符号全部正确)。
3分	回答比较全面,有个别语法错误。
2分	回答不够全面,有少量的语法错误。
1分	回答不全面,有较多的语法错误。
0分	回答完全错误,与问题毫无关系。

对于字母拼写、大小写等错误,每处扣0.5分,5道题累计扣分不得超过5分。