

慈濟大學九十二年學年度  
研究所碩士班招生考試命題紙

科目：英文

共6頁

I. Vocabulary 20%

- ( ) 1. I really \_\_\_\_\_ having a cup of good coffee.  
(1. disgust 2. depress 3. depreciate 4. appreciate)
- ( ) 2. \_\_\_\_\_ is said to have killed the cat.  
(1. Strangeness 2. Adversity 3. Curiosity 4. Activity)
- ( ) 3. In New Zealand there are many \_\_\_\_\_ producing large quantities of milk.  
(1. dairies 2. abattoirs 3. aviaries 4. orchards)
- ( ) 4. He was tired of running \_\_\_\_\_ for his wife all day.  
(1. trivia 2. errands 3. portions 4. options)
- ( ) 5. The climber found it difficult to breathe at high \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1. attitudes 2. altitudes 3. latitudes 4. longitudes)
- ( ) 6. We all admired your \_\_\_\_\_ handling of the serious situation.  
(1. dreadful 2. awful 3. veracious 4. delicate)
- ( ) 7. He has a temporary post now but he has to find a \_\_\_\_\_ one eventually.  
(1. superb 2. pensionable 3. supersonic 4. permanent)
- ( ) 8. All his hope was \_\_\_\_\_ at the terrible news about the death of his son.  
(1. dissolved 2. leaked 3. slipped 4. resolved)
- ( ) 9. I was forced to \_\_\_\_\_ that she might be right.  
(1. precede 2. proceed 3. concede 4. recede)
- ( ) 10. The signing of the agreement was a \_\_\_\_\_ to better relations between the two countries.  
(1. monologue 2. epilogue 3. dialogue 4. prologue)
- ( ) 11. The time to \_\_\_\_\_ my grandfather's death is set on this Friday.  
(1. poach 2. mourn 3. revoke 4. debase)
- ( ) 12. They didn't move the \_\_\_\_\_ until the police came.  
(1. corpse 2. corps 3. corp 4. corpsman)
- ( ) 13. Due to the high deficit, the government should try to reduce \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1. excess 2. exterior 3. expenditure 4. extinction)
- ( ) 14. The general \_\_\_\_\_ the soldier for his bravery.  
(1. commanded 2. commenced 3. commented 4. commended)
- ( ) 15. The speeding car ran over some nails and had one of its tires \_\_\_\_\_.  
(1. torn 2. punctured 3. erupted 4. replaced)
- ( ) 16. Leaves \_\_\_\_\_ softly in the gentle wind.  
(1. swish 2. whistle 3. rustle 4. ripple)

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III. Reading Comprehension 39%

Part 1

Archaeologists are still hesitant, but paleoclimatologists believe that the demise of this once-proud Mayan civilization is directly traceable to changes in solar radiation. If they are correct, it could be a harsh reminder of how delicate the balance of life on Earth may be.

Scientists have long known that there is a 206-year oscillation in solar activity. Now researchers analyzing sediments long buried at the bottom of lakes on the Yucatan Peninsula have found a remarkably similar oscillation – “one appearing every 208 years” – in the record of droughts that struck the region.

They have been able to identify bands of gypsum “calcium sulfate” that settled to the bottom of the lake in periods of drought and form a perfect record of climate in the region for the past 2,600 years. The record suggests that a massive, 100-year drought plagued the area at the time that the Mayan civilization was crumbling.

Archaeologists argue that the loss of such a broad culture would require more than simple variations in the sun, but they do agree that droughts, coupled with other social ills, may have played an essential role in the fall of Maya.

- ( ) 31. Which of the following is the most appropriate title for the passage?
- (1) Did a long drought finish off the Maya?
  - (2) Did the solar activity cause the drought?
  - (3) Did a reluctant sun finish off the Maya?
  - (4) How delicate is the balance of life in Maya?
- ( ) 32. The word harsh in 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph is closest in meaning to
- (1) cruel
  - (2) husky
  - (3) coarse
  - (4) meek
- ( ) 33. The word oscillation in 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph closest in meaning to
- (1) flutter
  - (2) bounce
  - (3) vibration
  - (4) cycle
- ( ) 34. The word plagued in 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph closest in meaning to
- (1) infected
  - (2) vexed
  - (3) provoked
  - (4) disturbed
- ( ) 35. Based on archaeologists' idea, the demise of Maya civilization is due to
- (1) the droughts and social ills
  - (2) the changes in the solar radiation
  - (3) the loss of a broad culture
  - (4) the violent changes of the climate
- ( ) 36. Paleoclimatologists believe a 206-year oscillation in solar activity causes
- (1) the plague prevailing
  - (2) the destruction of the balance on Earth
  - (3) the massive droughts
  - (4) the bands of gypsum

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Part II

In the history of American English, Noah Webster is one man in particular who can truly be said to have left an indelible mark. Webster always a man with a strong political consciousness, fought as a soldier in the Revolutionary War then studied law, and eventually became a teacher.

As an educator, Webster was one of the first to recognize the serious lack of textbooks written in and about American English. This was a situation he quickly set about to rectify. His attempts to fill this gap resulted in the publication of a series of three reference works, one of which, *The American Spelling Book*, was outstandingly popular in its time, and based on sales volume, would have been even in ours. Eventually, over 60 million copies were purchased. Another of Webster's works – *The American Dictionary of the English Language* – was to become the definitive lexicographical reference work on American English. Considering its size alone, it was an impressive accomplishment. Containing over 12,000 entries, it surpassed by 40,000 definitions the size of any preceding dictionary of the English language. The publication of an ongoing series of new versions has continued right up to the present day.

But Webster was more than just a lexicographer. He was a political activist as well. A member of the Federalist Party, he was actively engaged in advocating the acceptance of the then yet to be ratified US Constitution. Webster's passions for language and politics were to merge in another aspect of his life – his career as a newspaper publisher. During a short period in the 1790's, while he was residing in New York City, he founded two newspapers, one a daily called *The Minerva*, the other a semi-weekly called *The Herald*. Both of these papers clearly leaned in favor of the Federalist political platform.

Despite his political passions, Webster's activities in that area never succeeded in diverting him completely away from his enthusiasm for promoting education. For ten years, from 1812 to 1822, Webster resided in the town of Amherst Massachusetts. There, he helped to establish Amherst College.

For all of the pursuits to which he devoted his considerable energies, Webster is best remembered for his dictionaries. We can count among the innovations he incorporated in them the first listing of various word senses in the chronological order in which they evolved. His was also the first dictionary to include scientific and technical terms, creating a precedent for the modern comprehensive dictionary.

- ( ) 37. Which of the following would be the best title for this passage?
- (1. Webster's Contribution to the Modern Comprehensive Dictionary
  - (2. Webster's Life and Career
  - (3. Webster and the Revolutionary War
  - (4. Webster's Role in the Evolution of the US Constitution

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- ( ) 38. The phrase left an indelible mark in 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph is closest in meaning to  
(1. exerted lasting influence                      2. made an unforgettable remark  
3. had a vivid, lively character                4. been famous for)
- ( ) 39. According to the article, all of the following were parts of Webster's career EXCEPT  
(1. being a newspaper publisher                2. being a teacher  
3. being a lexicographer                        4. being a translator)
- ( ) 40. The word definitive in the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph is closest in meaning to  
(1. inconclusive    2. most reliable                      3. infinite                      4. definite)
- ( ) 41. According to the article, which of the following is true of Webster?  
(1. He was politically sympathetic with the Federalist cause.  
(2. He is the best remembered for his enthusiasm for educational reform.  
(3. His dictionary has been out of print since 1822.  
(4. He was one of the original designers of the Constitution.
- ( ) 42. It can be inferred from the article that  
(1. Webster's political activities were never successful.  
(2. The papers he published indicated his strong political ideas.  
(3. *The Herald* was funded by the Federalist Party.  
(4. *The Minerva* was published twice a month.
- ( ) 43. According to the article, which of the following is true about Webster's dictionary?  
(1. It was not the most complete dictionary of American English.  
(2. It included many new political terms.  
(3. It incorporated scientific and technical language.  
(4. It was first compiled while he resided in Amherst.

IV. Translation 31%

- (1) Although many cooperative learning methods advocate grouping students heterogeneously in order to maximize the diversity of perspectives, skills, and backgrounds.
- (2) Past researches show that heterogeneous grouping generally benefits low-ability students but doesn't necessarily benefit high-ability students.
- (3) This study investigates the effects of group ability composition (homogeneous versus heterogeneous) on group processes and outcomes for high-ability students completing science performance assessments.

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- (4) High-ability students working in homogeneous groups uniformly performed well, and high-ability students in some heterogeneous groups performed as well as high-ability students in homogeneous groups; but high-ability students in other heterogeneous groups did not perform as well.
- (5) The quality of group functioning served as the strongest predictor of high-ability students' performance and explained much of the effect of group composition.