

# 汕头大学 2018 年攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试试题

科目代码：624

科目名称：基础英语

适用专业：英语语言文学

## 考生须知

答案一律写在答题纸上，答在  
试题纸上的不得分！请用黑色字迹  
签字笔作答，答题要写清题号，不  
必抄原题。

### I. Vocabulary and structure (1-5: 1 point each; 6-15: 1.5 points each. Total: 20 points)

#### Part A: Multiple choice of vocabulary.

1. The medical experts warned the authorities of the danger of diseases in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the earthquake.  
A. consequence      B. aftermath      C. result      D. effect
2. Our office has recently \_\_\_\_\_ to a new computer system.  
A. altered      B. converted      C. transformed      D. modified
3. "Look at those beautiful ladies' gowns" is \_\_\_\_\_ because it is not clear whether the girls or the skirts are "pretty".  
A. ambiguous      B. hidden      C. indirect      D. indistinct
4. Personal computers are no longer something beyond the ordinary people; they are \_\_\_\_\_ available these days.  
A. promptly      B. instantly      C. readily      D. quickly
5. Representatives from the companies indicated that they should go on working together in \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. unity      B. entity      C. partners      D. partnership

#### Part B: Choose one word to complete each of the following sentences:

A. anecdotes    B. anarchy    C. apathy    D. abyss    E. anonymous

6. Grandfather would tell us his \_\_\_\_\_ each evening in front of the fireplace, the topic of which ranged from his days as a soldier to his life as a fisherman.
7. The informant wishes to remain \_\_\_\_\_, so she will sit behind a curtain while giving testimony.
8. Their difference on the issue has deepened and the two parties are now worlds apart. The \_\_\_\_\_ is unlikely to be bridged anytime soon.

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9. The roaring fire quickly spread to the auditorium. Out of fear, the crowd lost all control. In the \_\_\_\_\_ two people died.
10. Carl's boss fired him for he was doing things half-heartedly and customers were complaining about his \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Part C: Multiple choice of syntactic knowledge:**

11. Which of the following sentences is INCORRECT?
- A. New machinery were introduced in the factory.
  - B. Poultry are very expensive in the city.
  - C. The police are investigating the murder case.
  - D. The militia were called out to rescue flood victims.
12. Which of the following italicized phrases indicates a subject-predicate relation?
- A. *Mr. Smith's passport* has been issued.
  - B. *The visitor's arrival* was reported in the news.
  - C. *John's travel details* have not been finalized.
  - D. The new bookstore sells *children's stories*.
13. Which of the following sentences indicates "probability"?
- A. The stadium can be emptied in four minutes.
  - B. I can speak a little French as well as Japanese.
  - C. She can't have slept through all that noise.
  - D. You can take the car if you want.
14. Which of the following italicized parts is used as an object complement?
- A. Have you got everything *ready* for the journey?
  - B. Don't marry *young*.
  - C. This fruit can be eaten *raw*.
  - D. *Alone and broke*, Hamas struggles to rule.
15. The following sentences have an indirect object EXCEPT
- A. Our teacher tells us some stories.
  - B. Mr. Smith gave a watch to me.
  - C. My grandma told him the truth last night.
  - D. We consider him to be a good teacher.

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### II. Reading Comprehension (40 points)

*Read the following passages and choose the best answer to each question.*

#### Passage 1 (10 points)

As falling house prices and tightening credit squeeze America's economy, some worry that the country may suffer a decade of stagnation, as Japan did after its bubble burst in the early 1990s. Japan's property bubble was also fuelled by cheap money and financial liberalisation and—just as in America—most people assumed that property prices could not fall nationally.

Most dismiss the idea that America could suffer the same fate as Japan, but some of the differences are overstated. For example, some claim that Japan's bubble was much bigger than America's. Yet average house prices nationwide rose by 90% in America between 2000 and 2006, compared with a gain of 51% in Japan between 1985 and early 1991, when Japanese home prices peaked (see left-hand chart). Prices in Japan's biggest cities rose faster, but nationwide figures matter more when gauging the impact on the economy. Japanese home prices have since fallen by just over 40%. American prices are already down by 20%, and many economists reckon they could fall by another 10% or more.

What about commercial property? Again, average prices rose by less in Japan (80%) than in America (90%) over those same periods. Thus Japan's property boom was, if anything, smaller than America's. Japan also had a stockmarket bubble, which burst a year earlier than that in property. This hurt banks, because they counted part of their equity holdings in other firms as capital. But its impact on households was modest, because only 30% of the population held shares, compared with over half of Americans.

Nor were Japanese policymakers any slower than American ones to cut interest rates and loosen fiscal policy after the bubble burst, contrary to popular misconceptions. The Bank of Japan (BoJ) began to lower interest rates in July 1991, soon after property prices began to decline. The discount rate was cut from 6% to 1.75% by the end of 1993. Two years after American house prices started to slide, the Fed funds rate has fallen from 5.25% to 2%.

America's inflation rate of above 5% is an advantage. Not only are real interest rates negative, but inflation is also helping to bring the housing market back to fair value with a smaller fall in prices than otherwise. But in another way

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America is more exposed than Japan was. When its bubble burst in 1991, Japan's households saved 15% of their income. By 2001 saving had fallen to 5%, which helped to prop up consumer spending. America's saving rate of close to zero leaves no such cushion.

**1. The word "squeeze" (Line 1, Paragraph. 1) most probably means?**

- A. bring trouble to
- B. give impetus to
- C. have influence on
- D. act as a stimulant to

**2. It can be inferred from Paragraph 2 that \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. property bubble has greater influence on America's economy
- B. America's house prices rose much faster than Japan's in 2000
- C. Japanese house prices have fallen by another 40% since 1991
- D. American house prices will reduce by 10% or more next year

**3. According to the author, the stockmarket bubble \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. is becoming bigger in Japan than in America
- B. has more influence on firms than on households
- C. is becoming smaller because of tightening credit
- D. has more influence on Americans than on Japanese

**4. When the bubble burst, both Japan and America took effective measures to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. cut interest rates
- B. reduce house prices
- C. increase share prices
- D. encourage foreign trade

**5. We can conclude from the last paragraph that \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. house prices will fall abruptly due to American inflation
- B. Americans are reluctant to deposit their money in the bank
- C. Japan's households earned less because of unemployment in 2001
- D. consumer spending is an effective way to iron out property bubble

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### Passage 2 (10 points)

On a frigid afternoon in May, I slipped through a crack in the sea ice and dropped into the Arctic Ocean. The icy water hit my face and neoprene-clad head so hard I thought I would vomit. I was diving just south of Lancaster Sound, off the northern tip of Baffin Island in the Canadian Arctic. The water was 29 degrees (-2°C), about as cold as seawater gets before it freezes.

My teeth clenched the regulator as I tried to fight back nausea. Soon my breaths slowed, my head numbed to the shock, and I swam down into the blackness. At one point I looked back up at the ice, expecting it to appear as it most often does this early in the season—blue, featureless, lifeless. But something wasn't right.

The ice was stained green and brown. It moved. I blinked and checked my depth. I tried to make sure I wasn't suffering vertigo, which can be deadly to a diver working alone under the three-foot-thick (one meter) roof of ice. Then it hit me: It wasn't ice at all—I was watching a massive cloud of amphipods (端足目动物), tiny shrimplike crustaceans, as they fed on phytoplankton that grow on the underside of the ice in spring when the sun returns to the Arctic. I was seeing the foundation of the ecosystem, the combination of ice and minute life-forms upon which all the bigger animals—polar bears, whales, birds, and seals—depend.

I've lived in the Canadian Arctic all my life and have spent most of my career photographing the edge where ice meets open sea. When I began working, sea ice seemed invulnerable: Even in the warmest months much ice remained. Ice is not just a landscape. It is part of the biology of every creature that lives in this frozen vastness. Year-round, but especially in spring, polar bears roam and hunt on the ice. Seals rest and give birth on the ice. Massive bowhead whales arrive like squadrons of submarines to feed on amphipods and copepods. Beluga whales and narwhals join them and chase arctic cod, which hide as larvae in finger-thin channels of ice. An Arctic without ice is unimaginable.

Scarcely ten years later, things have changed. The Poles are melting at an alarming rate; as global warming grinds on, the possibility of an ice-free Arctic, at least during the summer, creeps closer each day. Lancaster Sound, one of the most productive marine habitats in the world and the eastern portion of the famed Northwest Passage, may soon witness a new chapter in maritime history: The

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sound and areas around it may see a significant increase in shipping as the ice diminishes, bringing large freighters and tankers into a region they rarely traveled before. Some scientists even believe the Arctic will be void of summer ice, dooming species such as polar bears to extinction in less than a century. This is one of the most disturbing predictions I've heard.

If global temperatures continue rising, the ice will likely disappear. An Arctic without ice would be like a garden without soil.

**6. It could be inferred from the passage that the author's career is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. diver            B. scientist            C. photographer            D. writer

**7. The author was watching a massive cloud of amphipods instead of ice early in the season because \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. they have moved to south of Lancaster Sound  
B. global warming has affected the area  
C. the sun has returned to this area and the ice has melted  
D. the bigger animals in Lancaster Sound are about to be extinct

**8. According to the passage, polar bears depend on the Arctic sea ice because they \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. give birth to offspring on the ice  
B. hunt for food on the ice  
C. are not good at swimming  
D. feed on the amphipods that live on the underside of the ice

**9. The author's feeling about the predictions on the melting Arctic sea ice is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. scared            B. indifferent            C. excited            D. worried

**10. Which of the following is the best title for the passage?**

- A. The Ecosystem in Lancaster Sound            B. Vanishing Sea Ice  
C. Global Warming Grinds On            D. New Sea Route in Canadian Arctic

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### Passage 3 (10 points)

The newspaper must provide for the reader the facts, unalloyed, unslanted, objectively selected facts. But in these days of complex news it must provide more; it must supply interpretation, the meaning of the facts. This is the most important assignment confronting American journalism—to make clear to the reader the problems of the day, to make international news as understandable as community news, to recognize that there is no longer any such thing (with the possible exception of such scribbling as society and club news) as “local” news, because any event in the international area has a local reaction in manpower draft, in economic strain, in terms, indeed, of our very way of life.

There is in journalism a widespread view that when you embark on interpretation, you are entering choppy and dangerous waters, the swirling tides of opinion. This is nonsense.

The opponents of interpretation insist that the writer and the editor shall confine themselves to the “facts”. This insistence raises two questions: what are the facts? And: are the bare facts enough?

As to the first query, consider how a so-called “factual” story comes about. The reporter collects, say, fifty facts; out of these fifty, his space allotment being necessarily restricted, he selects the ten, which he considers most important. This is Judgment Number One. Then he or his editor decides which of these ten facts shall constitute the lead of the piece. This is important decision because many readers do not proceed beyond the first paragraph. This is Judgment Number Two. Then the night editor determines whether the article shall be presented on page one, where it has a large impact, or on page twenty-four, where it has little. Judgment Number Three.

Thus, in the presentation of a so-called “factual” or “objective” story, at least three judgments are involved. And they are judgments not at all unlike those involved in interpretation, in which reporter and editor, calling upon their general background, and their “news neutralism”, arrive at a conclusion as to the significance of the news.

The two areas of judgment, presentation of the news and its interpretation, are both objective rather than subjective processes—as objective, that is, as any human being can be. (Even though complete objectivity can never be achieved,

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nevertheless the ideal must always be the ultimate goal.) If an editor is intent on slanting the news, he can do it in other ways and more effectively than by interpretation. He can do it by the selection of those facts that prop up his particular plea. Or he can do it by the way he gives a story—promoting it to page one or demoting it to page thirty.

**11. Why does the reporter select only ten facts out of fifty available ones?**

- A. Because the subject is not important.
- B. Because his editor is prejudiced.
- C. Because the space is limited.
- D. Because he is entering choppy and dangerous water.

**12. What is the least effective way of “slanting” news?**

- A. Prejudice.
- B. Interpretation.
- C. Placement.
- D. Concentration.

**13. Why should the lead sentence present the most important fact?**

- A. Because some readers will be influenced to continue.
- B. Because it will be the best way to write.
- C. Because it will gratify the editor.
- D. Because some readers do not read beyond the first paragraph.

**14. The title that best expresses the ideas of this passage is \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. Subjective versus Objective Processes
- B. Choosing Facts
- C. Interpreting the News
- D. Everything Counts

**15. The author believed that the news must be \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. interesting.
- B. objective.
- C. concise.
- D. subjective

### Passage 4 (10 points)

Life moves on—even in Tucson. The flowers and candles are being dismantled. The fresh golf courses are filled with winter visitors. The funerals that



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marked life here for two weeks are over.

But it will be a long time before this desert community puts behind it, if it ever does, what happened in an instant on a sunny Saturday morning in front of a supermarket.

On that day, at La Toscana Village strip mall, I peered past the police tape at the blooded-smearred sidewalk and the covered bodies of the victims. I knew I had to focus and ask questions. I had to file a story. But I also had to stop for a minute to process my breaking heart.

Nineteen people, including a 9-year-old girl, a federal judge and a member of Congress, had just been gunned down in my home town.

In the past more than 25 years, I have seen the unspeakable many times. I wrote about the slaughter of 32 students inside their Virginia Tech classrooms. I reported on the random shootings of 13 people in the Washington area by two snipers. I have covered countless murders of youths on the streets of the District.

But I never expected to see this kind of tragedy here in my safe heaven. Here I breathed the clean desert air, especially intoxicating after a rain, filled with the fragrance of creosote and sage. Here I drove 15 minutes out of town to Gates Pass to watch the spectacular sunsets and then marvel at the big, starry Arizona sky. This was my city, a blend of Native American and Mexican culture, where the sun shines more days a year than anywhere else in the country.

The world is filled with cities that are touched with senseless violence. And after the streets are swept clean, life goes on. People go back to work and to play. On the surface, it appears as if nothing really changed.

But *something has*. Extreme acts of violence affect the psychological and social fabric of a community in subtle but important ways. The place where residents have felt safe doesn't feel quite so safe anymore. Insecurity creeps in. Anxieties rise.

In the days that followed, my home town was transformed into a national media spectacle, complete with a camera-ready headline: "Tragedy in Tucson." Famous television anchors flew in and set up with my beloved Santa Catalina Mountains as their backdrop.

Growth and development had long ago changed Tucson. At the end of roads where there was once only desert, there are expensive sprawling homes, luxury

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resorts and strip malls, like the one where Jared Loughner pulled out his Glock 19. Making my way around Tucson, a flood of childhood memories came back, but now superimposed on them were images from the bloodbath.

So, too, it is with those who live here. Their lives go on, but in ways big and small the city they call home is not quite the same as it was before.

**16. “The flowers and candles are being dismantled” \_\_\_\_.**

- A. to make room for more visitors
- B. as decoration for the golf courses
- C. because the funerals are over
- D. for winter is around the corner

**17. What did the author least expect?**

- A. The large number of people killed.
- B. The death of the nine-year-old girl.
- C. The fact that such shooting tragedies keep happening.
- D. The fact that the tragedy happened in his hometown.

**18. By saying that “*something has*” (Para. 8), the author means that \_\_\_\_.**

- A. his hometown has become dangerous
- B. people’s sense of security has declined subtly
- C. some changes are apparent enough to observe
- D. the changes are too subtle to specify

**19. What do we know about the Glock 19?**

- A. It was the gun with which the killer shot 19 people.
- B. It was the strip mall where the killing took place.
- C. It was a park that the author often visited as a child.
- D. It was a brand-name product sold at strip malls.

**20. What is most probably the author’s career?**

- A. A social worker.
- B. A news reporter.
- C. A thrillers writer.
- D. A police officer.

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### III. Translation (40 points)

*Directions: Students are required to do the following translation by applying necessary techniques to meet the criteria of "faithfulness, expressiveness and closeness".*

*Translate the following sentences into Chinese. (20 points)*

1. He carried his age astonishingly well.
2. He was a dead shot; however, he met with his Waterloo this time.
3. The audience who attended the performance varied from tens to thousands.
4. Independent observers have commented favorably on the achievements you have made in this direction.
5. Oceans do not so much divide the world as unite it.
6. When she came to, she saw smiling faces around her.
7. If you give him an inch, he will take a mile.
8. The true joy of joys is the joy that joys in the joy of others.
9. That our environment has little, if anything, to do with our abilities, characteristics and behavior is central to this theory.
10. He could be a rash man who should venture to defy world public opinion and act arbitrarily.

*Translate the following paragraph into English. (20 points)*

1. 他们的乐观主义精神令我们大为感动。
2. 目前，公司的经营状况已有所好转。
3. 祝你百尺竿头，更进一步。
4. 此乃千载难逢的好机会，你一定要抓住。
5. 那辆出租车撞倒了一个小女孩后逃离了现场。
6. 你最好打个电话跟他约个见面时间。
7. 姊妹们一朝相见悲喜交集，自不待言。
8. 他好交游，门前总是车水马龙。
9. 不是他没有说清楚，就是我没有听明白。
10. 近朱者赤，近墨者黑。

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### IV. Writing (35 points)

*Read the following topic and write an essay of about 300 words.*

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is constantly pushing the boundaries of what machines are capable of, for instance, the so-called “machine translation” is finally coming of age. It has been reported that the Google Translate app can instantly translate text in 27 languages, and Skype is using neural network technology that mimics the human brain in order to understand human speech and instantly translate from English to Spanish. Some people think that machine translation will eventually replace human translation and thus threaten the continued existence of the professions of translator and interpreter. Others, however, believe that machine translation cannot reach human-level translation accuracy and can never replace human translation.

What do you think of the strengths and weaknesses of machine translation in comparison with human translation? Given the accelerating development of AI, what roles can human translators and interpreters still play in the future in the workplace and/or in our social life?

### V. Error correction (15 points)

*The following passage contains TEN errors. Each indicated line contains a maximum of ONE error. In each case, only ONE word is involved. You should proof-read the passage and correct it in the following way:*

For a wrong word, underline the wrong word and write the correct one in the blank provided at the end of the line.

For a missing word, mark the position of the missing word with a " ^ " sign and write the word you believe to be missing in the blank provided at the end of the line.

For an unnecessary word, cross the unnecessary word with a slash " / " and put the word in the blank provided at the end of the line.

#### Example

When ^ art museum wants a new exhibit, it [1] an  
~~never~~ buys things in finished form and hangs them on the wall. [2] never  
When a natural history museum wants an exhibition, it often builds it. [3] exhibit

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Human beings in all times and places think about their world and wonder at their place in it. Humans are thoughtful and creative, possessed of insatiable curiosity. Furthermore, human have the ability to modify the environment where they live in, thus subjecting all other life forms to their own peculiar ideas and fancies. Therefore, it is important to study humans in all their richness and diversity of a calm and systematic manner, with the hope of the knowledge resulting from such studies can lead humans to a more harmonious way of living with them and with all other life forms on this planet Earth. Anthropology is a branch of intellectual enquiry which seeks to study humans and their endeavors in the same reasoned, orderly, and systematic manners that natural scientists use for the study of natural phenomena. Anthropology makes extensive use of the comparative method in analysis. The emphasis on datas gathered firsthand, combined with a cross-cultural perspective brought to the analysis of cultures past and present, make this study a unique and distinctly important social science. Anthropological analyses rest heavily upon the concept of culture. Sir Edward Tylor's formulation of the conception of culture was one of the great intellectual achievements of 19th century science. Tylor defined culture as "...that complex whole which includes belief, art, morals, law, customs, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society." Implicit within Tylor's definition is the concept that culture is learned, shared, and patterned behavior.

[1] \_\_\_\_\_

[2] \_\_\_\_\_

[3] \_\_\_\_\_

[4] \_\_\_\_\_

[5] \_\_\_\_\_

[6] \_\_\_\_\_

[7] \_\_\_\_\_

[8] \_\_\_\_\_

[9] \_\_\_\_\_

[10] \_\_\_\_\_