

关于北美考试遇到到几个常见问题解答:

1 有些在美国同学说 托福可以改分吗。我现在可以肯定的告诉你 ，改分是老黄历了，ETS 不是傻子到你们想干什么，我也相信大家都在美国，诚信在美国意味着什么 ，所以就短了那种念头。

2 有些在美国参加考试的同学 会问 为什么我的分数冻结了 review by ETS .

关于这个问题 首先是你找找自身的问题还是外在因素。我个人认为你自身的因素会更多些。

3 关于 复议 或者 出分数 不吻合

北美的考试 作文评分是一个软件叫 e-rator 的软件 去审核作文的，所以建议同学们 模式要改成为自己的模板。

如果你全部用模板，那你作文会死的很惨 13 14 分样子。

4 根据最近美国考试的状况来看，ETS 已经不是在用新题，已改往届 北美新题的策略 ，主要重复老题，或者分拆 然后整合，所以同学们 可以适当参考下往届的真题，就想 ETS 有个 185 篇作文，可以练习真题 。特别近期北美这边考试及不稳定 ，所以同学们如果有提交 DEADLINE 的 及早做打算以免耽误提交成绩。

本期主要提供一些美国原汁原味的练习题，供同学们练习，其中已经备注答案。

阅读：

Read the following passage. Then answer the questions and check your answers.

Most people can remember a phone number for up to thirty seconds. When this short amount of time **elapses**, however, the numbers are erased from the memory. How did the information get there in the first place? Information that makes its way to the short term memory (STM) does so via the sensory storage area. The brain has a filter which only allows stimuli that is of immediate interest to pass on to the STM, also known as the working memory.

There is much debate about the capacity and duration of the short term memory. The most accepted theory comes from George A. Miller, a cognitive psychologist who suggested that humans can remember approximately seven chunks of information. A chunk is defined as a meaningful unit of information, such as a word or name rather than just a letter or number. Modern theorists suggest that one can increase the capacity of the short term memory by chunking, or classifying similar information together. By organizing information, one can optimize the STM, and improve the chances of a memory being passed on to long term storage.

When making a conscious effort to memorize something, such as information for an exam, many people engage in "rote rehearsal". By repeating something over and over again, one is able to keep a memory alive. Unfortunately, this type of memory maintenance only succeeds if there are no interruptions. As soon as a person stops rehearsing the information, it has the tendency to disappear. When a pen and paper are not handy, people often attempt to remember a phone number by repeating it aloud. If the doorbell rings or the dog barks to come in before a person has the opportunity to make a phone call, he will likely forget the number instantly.*Therefore, rote rehearsal is not an efficient way to pass information from the short term to long term memory.* A better way is to practice "**elaborate** rehearsal". *This involves assigning semantic meaning to a piece of information so that it can be filed along with other pre-existing long term memories.*

Encoding information semantically also makes **it** more retrievable. Retrieving information can be done by recognition or recall. **Humans can easily recall memories that are stored in the long term memory and used often; however, if a memory seems to be forgotten, it may eventually be retrieved by prompting.** The more **cues** a person is given (such as pictures), the more likely a memory can be retrieved. This is why multiple choice tests are often used for subjects that require a lot of memorization.

Glossary:

semantic: relating to the meaning of something

Reading Comprehension questions:

1. According to the passage, how do memories get transferred to the STM?

- A) They revert from the long term memory.
- B) They are filtered from the sensory storage area.

- C) They get chunked when they enter the brain.
- D) They enter via the nervous system.

Explanation:

- Choice **A** is the **opposite** of what happens.
- Choice **C** is what a person should try to do when memorizing something.
- Choice **D** is **not mentioned**.

The correct answer is B. This is a **factual** question.

2. The word **elapses** in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to:

- A) passes
- B) adds up
- C) appears
- D) continues

The correct answer is A. This is a **vocabulary** question.

3. All of the following are mentioned as places in which memories are stored EXCEPT the:

- A) STM
- B) long term memory
- C) sensory storage area
- D) maintenance area

Explanation:

- Choice **A** is mentioned in the first paragraph.
- Choice **B** is mentioned in the second paragraph.
- Choice **C** is mentioned in the first paragraph.

*The correct answer is **D**. This is a **negative factual** question.*

4. Why does the author mention a dog's bark?

- A) To give an example of a type of memory
- B) To provide a type of interruption
- C) To prove that dogs have better memories than humans
- D) To compare another sound that is loud like a doorbell

Explanation:

- Choice **A** is incorrect because it is not the "reason" the author mentions it.
- Choice **C** is not mentioned.
- Choice **D** distracts you because both are mentioned as examples.

*The correct answer is **B**. This is an **author purpose** question.*

5. Look at the four stars that indicate where this sentence can be added to the passage. Where would the sentence fit best?

For example, a reader engages in elaborate rehearsal when he brings prior knowledge of a subject to a text.

*The correct answer is **fourth** * This is a **insert text** question.*

6. How do theorists believe a person can remember more information in a short time?

- A) By organizing it
- B) By repeating it
- C) By giving it a name
- D) By drawing it

Explanation:

- Choice **B** is what regular people think is true.
- Choice **C** is not mentioned.
- Choice **D** is a type of cue for retrieval.

*The correct answer is **A**. This is a **factual** question.*

7. The author believes that rote rotation is:

- A) the best way to remember something
- B) more efficient than chunking
- C) ineffective in the long run
- D) an unnecessary interruption

Explanation:

- Choice **A** is contradicted by "not an efficient way".
- Choice **B** is incorrect because these two terms are not compared.
- Choice **D** is illogical.

The correct answer is C. This is a **factual** question.

8. The word **it** in the last paragraph refers to:

- A) encoding
- B) STM
- C) semantics
- D) information

The correct answer is D. This is a **reference** question.

9. The word **elaborate** in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to:

- A) complex
- B) efficient
- C) pretty
- D) regular

The correct answer is A. This is a **vocabulary** question.

10. Which of the following is NOT supported by the passage?

- A) The working memory is the same as the short term memory.
- B) A memory is kept alive through constant repetition.
- C) Cues help people to recognize information.
- D) Multiple choice exams are the most difficult.

Explanation:

- Choice **A** is mentioned in paragraph one.
- Choice **B** is mentioned in paragraph three (though an interruption will destroy it).
- Choice **C** is mentioned in the last paragraph.

The correct answer is D. This is a **negative factual** question.

11. The word **cues** in the passage is closest in meaning to

- A) questions
- B) clues
- C) images
- D) tests

The correct answer is B. This is a **vocabulary** question.

12. Which of the following best provides the important information in the highlighted sentence from the passage. Incorrect answer choices leave out essential information or change the meaning of it

- A) Prompting is the easiest way to retrieve short term memory after an extended period of time.
- B) A memory can be retrieved by prompting, in a case where it has been rarely used.
- C) It's easier to remember short term memories than long term memories due to regular prompts.
- D) Recalling a long term memory that is often used is easy, while forgotten memories often require prompting.

Explanation:

- Choice **A** changes the meaning of the information.
- Choice **B** leaves out essential information about the long term memories that are used often.
- Choice **C** changes the meaning of the information.

The correct answer is D. This is a **sentence simplification** question.

13. An introductory sentence for a summary of the passage is found below. Complete the summary by choosing the THREE answer choices that contain the most important ideas in the passage. Some sentences do not fit in the summary because they provide ideas that are not mentioned in the passage or are only minor ideas from the passage. This question is worth 2 points.

The brain stores information that a person may need in the immediate future in a place called the short term memory (STM).

1. Most people can only remember numbers for a short time.
2. Many psychologists agree that only a certain amount of information can be stored in the STM at once.
3. Some techniques for memorization don't work because of potential interruptions.

- 4) Elaborate rehearsal is generally considered less effective than rote rehearsal.
5) Assigning meaning to information makes it easier for the brain to retrieve.

Explanation:

- Choice **1.** is a minor example in the passage.
- Choice **2.** is the topic of paragraph 2.
- Choice **3.** is the topic of paragraph 3.
- Choice **4.** incorrect according to the passage.
- Choice **5.** is the topic of paragraph 4.

*The correct answers are **2, 3, and 5.** This is a **summary** question.*

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In 1972, a century after the first national park in the United States was established at Yellowstone, legislation was passed to create the National Marine Sanctuaries Program. The intent of this legislation was to provide protection to selected coastal habitats similar to that existing for land areas designated as national parks. The designation of an area as a marine sanctuary indicates that it is a protected area, just as a national park is. People are permitted to visit and observe there, but living organisms and their environments may not be harmed or removed.

The National Marine Sanctuaries Program is administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, a branch of the United States Department of Commerce.

10) Initially, 70 sites were proposed as candidates for sanctuary status. Two and a half decades later, only fifteen sanctuaries had been designated, with half of these established after 1978. They range in size from the very small (less than 1 square kilometer) Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary in American Samoa to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary in California, extending over 15,744 square kilometers. (Student in usa ,.

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15) The National Marine Sanctuaries Program is a crucial part of new management practices in which whole communities of species, and not just individual species, are offered some degree of protection from habitat degradation and overexploitation. Only in this way can a reasonable degree of marine species diversity be maintained in a setting that also maintains the natural interrelationships that exist among these species.

20) Several other types of marine protected areas exist in the United States and other countries. The National Estuarine Research Reserve System, managed by the United States government, includes 23 designated and protected estuaries. Outside the United States, marine protected-area programs exist as marine parks, reserves, and preserves.

Over 100 designated areas exist around the periphery of the Caribbean Sea. Others range 25) from the well-known Australian Great Barrier Reef Marine Park to lesser-known parks in countries such as Thailand and Indonesia, where tourism is placing growing pressures on fragile coral reef systems. As state, national, and international agencies come to recognize the importance of conserving marine biodiversity, marine protected areas.

whether as sanctuaries, parks, or estuarine reserves, will play an increasingly important role in preserving that diversity.

1. What does the passage mainly discuss?

- (A) Differences among marine parks, sanctuaries, and reserves
- (B) Various marine conservation programs
- (C) International agreements on coastal protection
- (D) Similarities between land and sea protected environments

2. The word "intent" in line 3 is closest in meaning to

- (A) repetition
- (B) approval
- (C) goal
- (D) revision

3. The word "administered" in line 8 is closest in meaning to

- (A) managed
- (B) recognized
- (C) opposed
- (D) justified

4. The word "these" in line 11 refers to

- (A) sites
- (B) candidates
- (C) decades

(D) sanctuaries

5. The passage mentions the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (lines 13-14) as an example of a sanctuary that

(A) is not well know

(B) covers a large area

(C) is smaller than the Fagatele Bay National Marine Sanctuary

(D) was not originally proposed for sanctuary status

6. According to the passage, when was the National Marine Sanctuaries Program established?

(A) Before 1972

(B) After 1987

(C) One hundred years before national parks were established

(D) One hundred years after Yellowstone National Park was established

7. According to the passage, all of the following are achievements of the National Marine Sanctuaries Program EXCEPT

(A) the discovery of several new marine organisms

(B) the preservation of connections between individual marine species

(C) the protection of coastal habitats

(D) the establishment of areas where the public can observe marine life

8. The word “periphery” in line 24 is closest in meaning to

(A) depth

- (B) landmass
- (C) warm habitat
- (D) outer edge

9. The passage mentions which of the following as a threat to marine areas outside the United States?

- (A) Limitations in financial support
- (B) The use of marine species as food
- (C) Variability of the climate
- (D) Increases in tourism

Answers: BCADB DADD

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Questions 10-17

From their inception, most rural neighborhoods in colonial North America included at least one carpenter, joiner, sawyer, and cooper in woodworking; a weaver and a tailor for clothing production; a tanner, currier, and cordwainer (shoemaker) for fabricating leather objects; and a blacksmith for metalwork. Where stone was the local building material, a mason was sure to appear on the list of people who paid taxes. With only an apprentice as an assistant, the rural artisan provided the neighborhood with common goods from furniture to shoes to farm equipment in exchange for cash or for "goods in kind" from the customer's field, pasture, or dairy. Sometimes artisans transformed material provided by the customer

wove cloth of yarn spun at the farm from the wool of the family sheep; made chairs or tables
10) from wood cut in the customer's own woodlot; produced shoes or leather breeches from
cow, deer, or sheepskin tanned on the farm.

Like their farming neighbors, rural artisans were part of an economy seen, by one
historian, as "an orchestra conducted by nature." Some tasks could not be done in the winter,
other had to be put off during harvest time, and still others waited on raw materials that were
15) only produced seasonally. As the days grew shorter, shop hours kept pace, since few artisans
could afford enough artificial light to continue work when the Sun went down. To the best
of their ability, colonial artisans tried to keep their shops as efficient as possible and to
regularize their schedules and methods of production for the best return on their investment
in time, tools, and materials, While it is pleasant to imagine a woodworker, for example,
20) carefully matching lumber, joining a chest together without resort to nails or glue, and
applying all thought and energy to carving beautiful designs on the finished piece, the time
required was not justified unless the customer was willing to pay extra for the quality—
and few in rural areas were, Artisans, therefore, often found it necessary to employ as
many shortcuts and economics as possible while still producing satisfactory products.

10. What aspect of rural colonial North America
does the passage mainly discuss?

- (A) Farming practices
- (B) The work of artisans
- (C) The character of rural neighborhoods
- (D) Types of furniture that were popular

11. The word “inception” in line 1 is closest in meaning to

- (A) investigation
- (B) location
- (C) beginning
- (D) records

12. The word “fabricating” in line 3 is closest in meaning to

- (A) constructing
- (B) altering
- (C) selecting
- (D) demonstrating

13. It can be inferred from the passage that the use of artificial light in colonial times was

- (A) especially helpful to woodworkers
- (B) popular in rural areas
- (C) continuous in winter
- (D) expensive

14. Why did colonial artisans want to “regularize their schedules their schedules” (line 18)?

- (A) To enable them to produce high quality products
- (B) To enable them to duplicate an item many times
- (C) To impress their customers
- (D) To keep expenses low

15. The phrase “resort to” in line 20 is closest in meaning to

- (A) protecting with
- (B) moving toward
- (C) manufacturing
- (D) using

16. The word “few” in lines 23 refers to

- (A) woodworkers
- (B) finished pieces
- (C) customers
- (D) chests

17. It can be inferred that the artisans referred to in the passage usually produced products that were

- (A) simple
- (B) delicate

(C) beautifully decorated

(D) exceptionally long-lasting

Questions 18-28

Cities develop as a result of functions that they can perform. Some functions result directly from the ingenuity of the citizenry, but most functions result from the needs of the local area and of the surrounding hinterland (the region that supplies goods to the city and to which the city furnishes services and other goods). Geographers often make 5) a distinction between the situation and the site of a city. Situation refers to the general position in relation to the surrounding region, whereas site involves physical characteristics of the specific location. Situation is normally much more important to the continuing prosperity of a city. If a city is well situated in regard to its hinterland, its development is much more likely to continue. Chicago, for example, possesses an almost 10) unparalleled situation: it is located at the southern end of a huge lake that forces east-west transportation lines to be compressed into its vicinity, and at a meeting of significant land and water transport routes. It also overlooks what is one of the world's finest large farming regions. These factors ensured that Chicago would become a great city regardless of the disadvantageous characteristics of the available site, such as being prone to flooding 15) during thunderstorm activity.

Similarly, it can be argued that much of New York City's importance stems from its early and continuing advantage of situation. Philadelphia and Boston both originated at about the same time as New York and shared New York's location at the western end of one of the world's most important oceanic trade routes, but only New York possesses an 20) easy-access functional connection (the Hudson-Mohawk lowland) to the vast Midwestern hinterland. This account does not alone explain New York's primacy, but it does include

several important factors. Among the many aspects of situation that help to explain why some cities grow and others do not, original location on a navigable waterway seems particularly applicable. Of course, such characteristics as slope, drainage, power resources, river crossings, coastal shapes, and other physical characteristics help to determine city location, but such factors are normally more significant in early stages of city development than later.

18. What does the passage mainly discuss?

- (A) The development of trade routes through United States cities
- (B) Contrasts in settlement patterns in United States
- (C) Historical differences among three large United States cities
- (D) The importance of geographical situation in the growth of United States cities

19. The word "ingenuity" in line 2. is closest in meaning to

- (A) wealth
- (B) resourcefulness
- (C) traditions
- (D) organization

20. The passage suggests that a geographer would consider a city's soil type part of its

- (A) hinterland
- (B) situation
- (C) site
- (D) function

21. According to the passage, a city's situation is more important than its site in regard to the city's.

- (A) long-term growth and prosperity
- (B) ability to protect its citizenry
- (C) possession of favorable weather conditions
- (D) need to import food supplies

22. The author mentions each of the following as an advantage of Chicago's location EXCEPT its.

- (A) hinterland
- (B) nearness to a large lake
- (C) position in regard to transport routes
- (D) flat terrain

23. The word "characteristics" in line 14 is closest in meaning to

- (A) choices
- (B) attitudes
- (C) qualities
- (D) inhabitants

24. The primary purpose of paragraph 1 is to

- (A) summarize past research and introduce anew study
- (B) describe a historical period
- (C) emphasize the advantages of one theory over another
- (D) define a term and illustrate it with an example

25. According to the passage, Philadelphia and Boston are similar to New York City in

- (A) size of population
- (B) age
- (C) site
- (D) availability of rail transportation

26. The word “functional” in line 20 is closest in meaning to

- (A) alternate
- (B) unknown

- (C) original
- (D) usable

27. The word "it" in line 21 refers to

- (A) account
- (B) primacy
- (C) connection
- (D) hinterland

28. The word "significant" in line 26 is closest in meaning to

- (A) threatening
- (B) meaningful
- (C) obvious
- (D) available

Answers: BCADB DADDB CADDD CADBC ADCDB DAB

THE NEXT STEP I WEILL SHOW YOUR GUYS HOW TO GET HIGH SCORE IN SPEAKING .

TOEFL Speaking Samples

An easy way to get a high score on the TOEFL independent speaking tasks is to think of your answer as a mini essay. Of course, you have only 45 seconds in total, so your introduction and conclusion may be only one line each. Even so, by including them, you provide a complete answer.

INTRODUCTION: The introduction should immediately answer the question asked in the task. State clearly what you are going to speak about or what you prefer. This is like the thesis statement in an essay.

BODY: The body is where you provide the reasons, details or examples to explain or support your answer.

CONCLUSION: Your last sentence allows you to conclude in a logical, powerful and convincing way.

Let's look at some sample TOEFL speaking tasks below. You can practice for your exam by reading the answers aloud. In this way, you'll have a better idea how to structure your own answer on exam day.

SAMPLE 1 - TASK 1

Describe something that you do to reduce stress. Explain why it is helpful. Include details and examples to support your answer.

Introduction

Reading books helps me to relieve stress like nothing else can.

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Body

This is true for several reasons. First, when I read a book I mentally enter the world of ideas. I can forget my day-to-day worries.

Second, from an emotional angle, reading is a solitary act. It enables me to spend time alone, away from others. This helps me feel more peaceful.

Third, from a physical perspective, reading allows me to stop working and relax my body. At home, I like to read while lying in bed or on the sofa.

Conclusion

The act of reading transports me to another world. That's why books are good friends and why reading is such an effective way of reducing my level of stress.

Independent Speaking Samples - Task 2

TASK 2 - SAMPLE 1

Do you like to try new kinds of food or eat the same kind of food all the time? Use details and examples to support your answer.

Introduction

I prefer to eat the food I know most of the time.

Body

From the time I was young, I was always a bit fussy and finicky about eating. I don't really know the reason why. I never liked to feel an unfamiliar taste in my mouth. It's almost as if I could tell how foods tasted without trying them, and so I restricted my diet to those foods I really enjoyed. As I got older, I realized that I was actually very healthy, even if I was a little thin. So I continued to eat the foods I loved, when I was at home or in restaurants. I never enjoyed going to people's homes for dinner because the choices would be limited and I didn't know in advance what they were going to cook.

Conclusion

Oh well, everyone has their pet peeves and this one is mine!

TASK 2 - SAMPLE 2

Do you prefer to go out to dinner or stay home and cook a meal? Use reasons to support your response.

Introduction

I love cooking in my own home.

Body

There are so many reasons for this. First, financially, it's impossible to eat out often. You would end up spending a lot of extra money for no reason. Second, health-wise, when I cook at home, I have control and can produce much more nutritious meals. Outside, I have no idea of the quality or quantity of the ingredients they have used.

Third, emotionally, cooking at home makes me feel relaxed, happy and secure. It gives me a warm feeling to know that my home smells of the delicious food that I have cooked. I also enjoy sharing a meal with my loved ones.

Conclusion

That's why I only eat out on very special occasions or when I have no choice

TIBT Sample Essay

Model 1

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

People should sometimes do things that they do not enjoy doing.

Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Sample TOEFL essay answer:

Life is challenging. In order to be happy and successful, we need to prepare ourselves on many fronts. Although participating in enjoyable activities is always desirable, in my view it is also necessary at times to do things we do not enjoy. The bases for my view are personal, social and financial. Personally, doing things we don't care for builds character and helps us mature. For instance, when parents have their first baby they are forced to give up their freedom in order to look after the child. There are times when parents barely get enough sleep and still have to get up and go to work in the morning. Similarly, when students are in school and university, they need to spend a lot of time studying. In spite of being tempted to go out with friends and attend parties, those who have self-control and keep their priorities straight are the ones who get high grades. Through such life experiences people become stronger, wiser and more responsible.

From a social perspective, we live in an interdependent world which imposes its obligations on us. Each person belongs to diverse social groups and plays various social roles. Each of us has to attend birthday parties, weddings and funerals to show we care about our fellow human beings.

Participating in events for the sake of others teaches us to go beyond our own selfish needs and to share in the joys and sorrows of others.

Financially-speaking, people need to work - and spend - to keep the local, national and international economy growing. We need to support our own family in particular and our community in general. In fact, most of us work many more hours than we would like to work. What propels us to continue working is our financial needs, commitments and obligations. Only in this way are we able to live comfortable lifestyles and save for our retirement days.

In conclusion, life places huge demands on us. By participating in a wide variety of activities, both pleasant and unpleasant, we can discover more about our unique selves and live fuller lives.

r what we consider to be success in our own lives.

Model 2

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

Only people who earn a lot of money are successful.

Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

Sample TOEFL essay answer:

It is said that money makes the world go round. We spend the majority of our waking hours at work - earning a living, providing for our families and saving for our retirement. Although money no doubt plays a critical role in determining the quality and nature of our lifestyles, in my opinion, the size of one's paycheque is not a measure of one's success in life. The bases of my views are philosophical, social and personal.

Philosophically, success can be defined in myriad ways. For some, success is an external concept to be measured in terms of high income, huge bank balances, fancy cars, expensive mansions, luxurious holidays and so on. However, in my view, success is a reflection of internal human qualities, such as compassion, kindness, honesty, understanding and more. By this definition, the mere fact of earning a high income does not determine or define success.

Socially, success depends on how we treat other human beings. Do we regard others with respect or do we impose our will on them? Are we mindful of their needs and desires or do we behave selfishly? Do we encourage and support our friends, family and communities or do we insist they only follow the path we think best? It is clear that a critical aspect of success lies in the answers to such questions for they reveal the quality of relationships we share with our fellow human beings.

Personally, success can only be self-defined. My idea of success may not be the same as another person's vision. This is as it should be. Each of us is a product of diverse social, cultural, economic, political, religious and ideological influences. When we add to that mix the free will that each of us exercises, we can understand clearly how each of us fashions his / her own aspirations for what we consider to be success in our own lives.

In conclusion, success is a concept which can be interpreted in a million different ways. Each individual's version adds to the richness of our world and makes our planet a more delightful, amazing and colourful place to live.