**阅读理解20篇（一）（原卷版）**

**1**

Livestreaming is a kind of e-commerce and marketing and sales method. It combines live product demonstrations, time-limited pricing promotions, live negotiations, and instant ordering through online streaming services hosted either by an influencer studio, or online store.

Livestreaming removes barriers between brands and consumers. While it is focused on driving short term sales, livestreaming can enable firms to improve marketing efficiency by combining brand marketing and performance marketing. There are certain factors that will increase the chance of success.

Brands should not use livestreaming as a short-term sales booster but as a long-term way to remove barriers between brands and consumers. Specifically, brands could better demonstrate their products in this way, tell fuller brand stories, introduce emotional and cultural elements to their products, obtain instant feedback, conduct product trials, improve marketing efficiency by combining brand marketing and performance marketing, use different livestream hosts to build a bridge for the consumers and cultivate brand loyalty.

Of course, Livestreaming is not without drawbacks, however. For ads on TV, government has clear rules to forbid brands parading the before-and-after effects of health products. The restrictions are not clear yet for internet-based livestreaming, and health products are frequently promoted by livestreamers. We need to continue to monitor regulatory updates carefully.

As promoting products through live-streaming has been compared to “tuning clicks into cash,” some people have made illegal profits by creating false prosperity. Through the purchase of fake followers to increase shares and comments, some live streamers can falsify their rate of engagement to cheat brands and companies in an effort to win more trust and make more money. Meanwhile, live-streams have also faced issues like the return, refund and exchange of products.

1. What does the author advise the brands to do with Livestreaming?

A. To achieve as much sales as possible.

B. To focus more on brand marketing.

C. To remove barriers between brands and consumers.

D. To build a bridge between consumers and government.

2. What does the underlined word “parading” probably mean?

A. Overstating B. Comparing C. Displaying D. Describing

3. How do live streamers create false prosperity?

A. By promoting the products as hard as possible.

B. By creating fake comments and shares.

C. By speaking highly of the brands and firms.

D. By refusing the exchange and the refund of products.

4. What’s the author’s attitude towards Livestreaming?

A. Supportive B. Neutral C. Critical D. Doubtful

**2**

An easily biodegradable(可生物降解的) material that could be “part of a global answer” to single­use plastic pollution has won its inventor, British designer Lucy Hughes, the international James Dyson Award.

Hughes’ Marina Tex bioplastic is strong and flexible, making it a possible alternative for single­use packaging such as bags and sandwich wrappers. Its key ingredients are fish scales and skin, so it can break down in home food waste or compost bins.

Hughes created Marina Tex for her final­year project in the product design course at the University of Sussex. She had set out to create something using waste rather than unused materials, which led her to the UK’s fishing industry. She ran more than 100 experiments to improve the bioplastic mixture, mostly using the kitchen stove in her student accommodation.

The fish scales and skin removed during processing usually end up burnt or buried in landfill. And with “about 500,000 tonnes of such waste produced by the country’s fisheries annually”, it seems possible that Marina Tex could be used largely in industrial production. The material is low­energy to produce and doesn’t consume the earth’s natural resources considering it’s based on existing waste. It is also strong, boasting a higher tensile(可拉伸的) strength than the current material most commonly used for plastic bags.

British inventor James Dyson, who every year selects the grand prize winner in the international student design competition that bears his name, said that the material had the potential to replace traditional single­use plastics. “Marina Tex elegantly solves two problems: the ubiquity(无处不在) of single­use plastics and fish waste,” he said. “Further research and development will ensure that Marina Tex evolves further, and I hope it becomes part of a global answer to the abundance of single­use plastic waste.”

1. What do we know about Marina Tex bioplastic?

A. It can break down easily. B. It feels pretty hard.

C. It is made from fish. D. It is used globally.

2. Which of the following should be the best title for the text?

A. Existing Fish Waste B. New Bioplastic Made from Fish Waste

C. An International Student Design Competition D. Ways to Fight Plastic Pollution

3. Why did Hughes created Marina Tex?

A. To create something special. B. To run experiments.

C. To promote fishing industry. D. To finish her project at the university.

4. What does James think of the future of Marina Tex?

A. Promising. B. Costly. C. Dark. D. Uncertain.

**3**

Singapore is known as a world’s most highly developed country, with well-equipped apartments. But for one man, that couldn’t be further from the place he called home—a shelter in one of the country’s forests.

On meeting Oh Go Seng the first thing that strikes you is the bright light in his eyes. He wears his 79 years very lightly, looking in far better shape than many people half his age.

Mr. Oh grew up together with his family in Sungei Tengah—a local kampong—or village. In the 1980s however, these kampongs were knocked down, to make way for new high-rise buildings. Most kampong residents(居民) were offered new homes by the government, but Mr. Oh was unable to get a place of his own. His brother however, did get a government flat and Mr. Oh was invited to live there—but he eventually moved out as he said he did not want to impose on the family. So, he headed back to a forest close to where his old home once stood and started to spend nights in a shelter.

Upon approaching the shelter, you see ashes in the doorway from the open fire that Mr. Oh would cook on. The garden near his tent is where he would grow his own food. The towering jackfruit tree over his tent he says, provided enough shade, and he never felt uncomfortable.

Loneliness was never a problem either, he says. He kept himself busy tending his garden, although that, he adds, was made easy by the good growing conditions. The worst aspect of living in the forest, he says, was the mice. They would find their way into his shelter and bite holes in his clothes.

In February this year—on the first day of the Lunar New Year, Mr. Oh was given a new home to live in. He now works as a driver, transporting foreign workers from one job to another, and sometimes does gardening work, he says.

1. What do we know about Mr. Oh from the first two paragraphs?

A. He lives in a very good apartment. B. He loves his well-equipped shelter.

C. He looks young for his age. D. He is very fond of light clothes.

2. Why were those kampongs removed in the 1980s?

A. A new road would be built. B. They were in bad condition.

C. The residents wanted new homes. D. They had to make room for new buildings.

3. What do the underlined words “impose on” mean in paragraph 3?

A. Hurt. B. Trouble. C. Work with. D. Argue with.

4. What is Mr. Oh’s attitude towards living in the shelter?

A. Positive. B. Worried. C. Doubtful. D. Unconcerned.

**4**

The Covid-19 disaster will have many losers, but it already has one clear winner: big tech. The large digital platforms, including Alphabet and Facebook, will come out of the crisis even stronger. They should use this good chance to reset their sometimes tense relations with their users. Otherwise the government is likely to do it for them.

Demand for online services has exploded and the infrastructure behind the internet has proved to be admirably reliable. Newcomers such as Slack and Zoom, which help businesses operate remotely, have become household names. Facebook has said that messaging activity has increased by 50%in those countries hit hard by the virus. Amazon is planning to hire 100,000 new staff to keep up with higher e-commerce.

Just as the big firms are standing even taller, many of the tech industry's younger, smaller firms are being crushed since the dotcom crash 20 years ago. Even before the coronavirus hit. trouble was starting to develop .Among many firms catering to consumers, the strategy of growing at all costs had turned out to be problematic, Some firms had already started laying off people. All this will make it easier for the big firms to hire the best talent.

If that happens, it is likely that regulators will do little or nothing to stop a round of expansion. In America antitrust(反垄断) investigations against Alphabet, Google's parent. and Facebook have essentially been put on hold, as officials deal with other priorities during a crisis. A new federal privacy law seems further away than ever. Even tech skeptics in the European Union want to rethink their approach to regulating artificial intelligence(AI). In an abrupt twist, big tech's business practice is essential to deal with the virus. Yet before Covid-19,such activity would have caused howls of great anger over privacy and prejudice.

In fact, more than ever it is clear that big tech firms play vital roles. There lies the trap, because almost everywhere other big firms, such as water or electricity, are heavily regulated and have their prices and profits capped(规定限额). Once this crisis passes, concerned citizens and governments could make a push for the state to have similar control over big tech.

The companies seem to sense this danger. Their best defence is to propose a new deal to the citizens of the world. That means clear rules on how they publish and moderate content, helping users own, control and profit from their own data, as well as fair treatment of competitors that use their platforms. This approach may even be more profitable in the long run. Today the most valuable firm in America is Microsoft, which has been more successful by building a reputation for being trustworthy.

12. The writer suggests the big techs use the outbreak of Covid-19 to \_\_\_\_

A. escape from the crisis of large digital platforms

B. improve their relationship with their users

C. ask for help from the government

D. demand more online services and reliable infrastructure

13. What has led big tech firms' business to increase rapidly?

A. The crush of the tech industry. B. The strategy of growing at all costs.

C. The stricter antitrust investigations. D. The loosened government regulations.

14. What does “that” in Paragraph 4 refer to?

A. The easier access of best tech talents to big tech firms.

B. The severe unemployment rate in companies.

C. The fast spread of the coronavirus.

D. A new round of expansion of big firms.

15. In Paragraph 6,Microsoft is used as an example of\_\_\_.

A. benefiting from good relations with its users. B. catering to consumers whatever they want.

C. sensing danger from other big firms in time. D. being heavily regulated by the government.

**5**

Dr. Faisal Zawawi, an Otolaryngologist and member of the McGill Auditory Sciences Laboratory, notes that when a person is exposed to loud noises, it can cause short­term hearing loss but that under normal circumstances the body typically is able to repair the loss of hearing within 72 hours. However, Zawawi warns that if symptoms are not reversed (倒转) in the first 72 hours the damage could become permanent. Due to findings in previous studies about it, Zawawi says that the team of researchers has suspected that something may stop this repair process. Therefore, the team set out to determine if caffeine could be a contributing cause to hearing loss. According to the Medical Daily, the researchers tested what they suspected on female guinea pigs (FGP)(豚鼠).

To perform the test, 24 female guinea pigs were split into three equal groups with each group exposed in different levels to caffeine, and loud noise. The researchers found that the guinea pigs subjected to only sound had their full hearing recovered by day eight. However, the guinea pigs that were subjected to both caffeine and loud noise never fully regained their hearing. Therefore, the researchers concluded that caffeine is a likely contributing cause to permanent hearing loss.

“This research confirms that while a cup of coffee may seem appealing after a long night at a loud concert, drinking caffeine produces more of a risk than benefit when it comes to a person’s hearing. Although further research is required to understand the effects on humans, the results are promising,” says Zawawi. If the research proves successful, the removal of caffeine from your diet following noise exposure could prevent permanent hearing loss as the body will be more able to repair itself naturally.

5. What caused the team to do the research?

A. Caffeine loving people suffering hearing loss. B. The finding that FGPs are sensitive to noise.

C. The results about hearing loss found before. D. The fact that many people drink coffee.

6. What can we learn about hearing from the text?

A. Coffee can stop it from recovering. B. Coffee can lead to quick hearing loss.

C. Loud noise causes people to lose it forever. D. Hearing loss after noise exposure is normal.

7. How does Zawawi assess the research?

A. It’s controversial. B. It’s almost successful.

C. It’s unnecessary to carry it on. D. It’s not predictable.

8. What is Zawawi’s view about temporary hearing loss?

A. Drinking coffee daily results in it.

B. Generally people can recover from it in 3 days.

C. The continuous noise exposure surely causes it.

D. The temporary hearing loss will become permanent after 3 days.

**6**

Rome can be pricey for travelers, which is why many choose to stay in a hostel (旅社). The hostels in Rome offer a bed in a dorm room for around $25 a night, and for that, you’ll often get to stay in a central location with security and comfort.

Yellow Hostel

If I had to make just one recommendation for where to stay in Rome, it would be Yellow Hostel. It’s one of the best-rated hostels in the city, and for good reason. It’s affordable, and it’s got a fund atmosphere without being too noisy. As an added bonus, it’s close to the main train station.

Hostel Alessandro Palace

If you love social hostels, this is the best hostel for you in Rome. Hostel Alessandro Palace is fun. Staff members hold plenty of bar events for guests like free shots, bar crawls and karaoke. There’s also an area on the rooftop for hanging out with other travelers during the summer.

Youth Station Hostel

If you’re looking for cleanliness and a modern hostel, look no further than Youth Station. It offers beautiful furnishings and beds. There are plenty of other benefits, too; it doesn’t charge city tax; it has both air conditioning and a heater for the rooms; it also has free Wi-Fi in every room.

Hotel and Hostel Des Artistes

Hotel and Hostel Des Artistes is located just a 10-minute walk from the central city station and it’s close to all of the city’s main attractions. The staff is friendly and helpful, providing you with a map of the city when you arrive, and offering advice if you require some. However, you need to pay 2 euros a day for Wi-Fi.

1．What is probably the major concern of travelers who choose to stay in a hostel?

A．price B．surroundings C．convenience D．location

2．Which hotel best suits people who enjoy surfing the Internet for long?

A．Yellow Hostel. B．Hostel Alessandro Palace.

C．Youth Station Hostel. D．Hotel and Hostel Des Artistes.

3．What is the advantage of Hotel and Hostel Des Artistes?

A．It charges less except for Wi-Fi. B．It’s conveniently located.

C．It is close to the subway station. D．Its staff is kind and honest.

**7**

In 4-H Club, you’ve developed your passion. You’ve found your purpose. You’ve inspired others and now you’re moving forward. The 4-H Youth in Action program shows various stories and the leadership of 4-H youth who are making a difference in their communities every day. It is an excellent community of 4-H’ers who are preparing for their future while showing how 4-H change their lives and equip them to change the lives of others.

Awards &amp; Recognition

All Youth in Action program applicants (申请人) will receive storytelling training from national 4-H professionals, and get admission into our national 4-H story database. For the four award winners, they will receive a scholarship for higher education, to be paid directly to the institution (机构), including two-year and four-year colleges, trade schools or other advanced learning opportunities. Besides, the winners can get a year of national opportunities to serve as a spokesperson and key thought leader in their program area.

Application Requirements

Applicants should be between ages 14-19. Respond to short-answer questions regarding your 4-H story. Two aspects should be included in your application: Describe how 4-H affected you and describe a project, program, 4-H activity or series of activities in which you showed leadership. Your story should highlight (突出) a description of experiences, not just a list of achievements.

Selection Process

Online Application: Applications will open on January 29th and should be submitted (提交) no later than April 1st.

Finalist Selection &amp;Virtual Interview: National 4-H Council will review all applications and select finalists for the scholarship program. Finalists will be required to participate in a virtual 1: 1 interview on May 20.

Award Winner Selection: Finalists will be reviewed by a selection committee and will be informed of their status by National 4-H Council on July 6.

1．What can every applicant get?

A．Local community acceptance. B．Special events invitation from 4-H Club.

C．A scholarship for two-year higher education. D．Storytelling training and access to a database.

2．What is required of the applicants?

A．Being no less than 18 years old. B．Highlighting their achievements.

C．Giving a speech about a 4-H project. D．Answering questions about their 4-H experience.

3．When is the interview conducted?

A．On January 29th. B．Before April 1st.

C．On May 20th. D．After July 6th.

**8**

Opera at Music Hall

It’s on 1243 Elm Street. The season runs June through August, with additional performances in March and September. The opera honors enjoy the membership discounts.

Phone: 241-2742.

*http://www.cityopera.com.*

Chamber Orchestra

The orchestra plays at Memorial Hall at 1406 Elm Street, which offers several concerts from March through June.

Call 723-1182 for more information.

*http://www.chamberorch.com.*

Symphony Orchestra

At Music Hall at Riverbend, the regular season runs September through May at Music Hall in summer.

For ticket sales, call 381-3300.

*http://www.symphony.org/home.asp.*

College Conservatory of Music (CCM)

Performances are usually held at Patricia Cobbett Theater. CCM organizes a variety of events. Students with their student ID cards can attend the events for free.

For more information, call 556-4183.

*http://www.ccm.uc.edu/events/calendar.*

Riverbend Music Theater

It’s on 6295 Kellogg Ave. It’s a large outdoor theater with the closest seats under cover and big name shows all summer long!

Phone: 232-6220.

*http://www.riverbendmusic.com.*

1．Which number should you call if you want to see an opera?

A．241-2742. B．723-1182. C．381-3300. D．232-6220.

2．When can you go to a concert by the chamber orchestra?

A．In February. B．In May. C．In August. D．In November.

3．Where can students go for free performances with their student ID cards?

A．To Music Hall. B．To Memorial Hall.

C．To Patricia Cobbett Theater. D．To Riverbend Music Theater.

**9**

Four Films You Might Like

Meet Me in St. Louis

It is introduced by Khori Dastoor, General Director &amp; CEO at Houston Grand Opera. Dastoor now serves on the Board of Directors for Opera America.

Judy Garland and Margaret O’Brien star in this heart-warming music al from Vincente Minnelli. The story concerns a colorful, early 20th-century St. Louis family’s emotional experience when they learn their father has been promoted to a nice position and they must move to New York.

Breaking the Code

Named “Best Historical Film” by the Dallas County Historical Commission in 2023, Breaking the Code is a deep introduction to Vernon Fisher (1943—2023), among Texas’s most praised and important artists. Director Michael Flanagan conducted many interviews with Fisher and his students to offer a unique understanding of the humorous style of Fisher’s practice and the unusual independence of his career.

This film is free with Museum membership. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

About Dry Grasses

The latest movie from famous Turkish filmmaker Nuri Bilge Ceylan is a work based on a novel. Samet, a school teacher working in rural eastern Anatolia, hopes to move to his native Istanbul after being charged with punishing a student. A fellow teacher (Merve Dizlar, Best Actress winner at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival) offers Samet a new viewpoint on life.

The Artist’s Daughter, Oil on Canvas

A visit to her separated father’s art exhibition recover s the filmmaker’s relationship with him, but not the way she expected. Through conversations with her family, she discovers her feelings of neglect (忽视) throughout her life, and she begins to understand how much her father’s absence has damaged her sense of self, but she remains determined to find meaning from the emptiness.

1．What should you do to enjoy *Breaking the Code* for free?

A．Bring the ID card along. B．Book a seat in advance.

C．Become a member of the Museum. D．Accept the interview by Michael Flanagan.

2．What do Meet Me in St. Louis and The Artist’s Daughter, Oil on Canvas have in common?

A．They share the same producer. B．They have something to do with family.

C．They are recommended by famous people. D．They have won much praise from the audience.

3．Which film is about school life?

A．About Dry Grasses. B．Breaking the Code.

C．Meet Me in St. Louis. D．The Artist’s Daughter, Oil on Canvas.

**10**

State Theatre, Easton, PA

Show Information

Bored Teachers Comedy Tour

Thur, April 6, 2023

7: 00 PM

The biggest entertainment platform for teachers in the world, Bored Teachers, presents its first-ever comedy (喜剧) tour with the funniest teacher-comedians from the Bored Teachers videos and beyond. Their short humorous performances have had hundreds of millions of views on the Internet.

Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives

Fri, April 14, 2023

7: 30 PM

Marty Stuart, the Grammy-winning singer, songwriter and musician, is living breathing country-music history. He has a secret weapon: the Fabulous Superlatives, made up of guitarist Kenny Vaughan, drummer Harry Stinson, and new member, bassist Chris Scruggs.

One Night of Queen

Starring Gary Mullen & the Works

Sun, April 23, 2023

6: 00 PM

Since May 2002, Gary Mullen &amp; the Works have performed throughout the UK, USA, South Africa and New Zealand to sell-out audiences. Now in the 13th year of touring the US, One Night of Queen is a big live concert, recreating the look, sound, and showmanship (演艺艺术) of arguably the greatest rock band of all time.Mutts Gone Nuts

Sun, April 30, 2023

1: 00 PM

Imagine nine of the world’s most talented 4-legged performers in a funny, comedy dog performance! The stars include the highest jumping dog in the world, two Guinness World Record Champions, a six-pound Pomeranian Pikachu mix, and a host of previously discarded (丢弃) dogs that will dance, prance, flip, and skip their way right into your heart.

1．In which show can people enjoy beautiful country music?

A．Mutts Gone Nuts. B．One Night of Queen.

C．Bored Teachers Comedy Tour. D．Marty Stuart &amp; His Fabulous Superlatives.

2．What do we know about One Night of Queen?

A．It is held on a weekday. B．It made 13 tours last year.

C．It is played by a rock band. D．It is Gary Mullen’s first concert.

3．When can people enjoy the funny performance of animal stars?

A．On April 30, 2023. B．On April 6, 2023.

C．On April 23, 2023. D．On April 14, 2023.

**11**

Jason and his father were going to the grocery store by car to pick up some apples. It had been an unusual day. The sky was dark but there were few clouds. As they drove up the street, there started to be a rumbling (隆隆的) sound heard across the ground.

Jason’s father immediately realized that a tornado (龙卷风) was coming. He stopped the car and told Jason to get out immediately. Jason and his father got out of the car and made their way to the closest building. By this time the wind was blowing harder, and it was hard to see or hear. Debris was falling all over the place. Jason couldn’t see his dad anymore. He also realized that he wasn’t getting to the building fast enough. He was afraid he would be picked up by the wind and thrown into the air.

As he made his way towards the building, he noticed a field to his right. He could see an irrigation ditch (灌溉渠). In a panic, he scrambled (爬) to the ditch and lay flat on the ground. More debris and objects flew overhead. His heart was beating hard, and he was nervous. He had never been in a tornado before.

After a while, the winds died down and the loud roaring sound was gone. Jason slowly lifted his head and nervously looked around. What he saw was a great mess. Jason could hardly recognize the buildings in front of him because of all the damage.

He stood up and with shaky legs walked to the building. Once there, he pushed the door open and went inside. It was a public building owned by the city. It was empty, but Jason could hear noises further inside. He walked into the large room and saw his dad. He ran across the room and gave him a big hug.

“Jason! How are you? I’ve been worried sick about you!” said his father. “I couldn’t find you anywhere!”

Jason breathed a sigh of a relief (松了一口气) and sat down. He did have a story to tell!

1．From Paragraph 1, we can get the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the story.

A．background B．development C．climax (most exciting part) D．ending

2．Which of the following is the right order according to the passage?

① Jason nervously looked around from the irrigation ditch.

② Jason ran across the room and gave his father a big hug.

③ Jason got out of the car.

④ Jason noticed a field to his right.

A．②①③④ B．③④①② C．④①②③ D．③①②④

3．The underlined word “Debris” in Paragraph 2 probably means \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A．parts of the tornado B．apple pies C．broken pieces D．drop of rain

4．The story tells us that when we are in danger, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A．we should wait patiently until help comes

B．we should work hard to make our dreams come true

C．we should be brave enough to change nature

D．we should be quick-thinking and believe in ourselves

**12**

One day while in the forest, Margaret heard a squeak (吱吱声). She followed the sound, and in the bushes found a little fox. Margaret wanted to leave, but the fox ran after her, limping (跛行) on one leg. Margaret brought the fox to her apartment. She fed it, and decided to take it to the doctor, and then return it to the forest.

Before going to the doctor, she posted several pictures of the animal online. Many people looked at these photos. Margaret decided to read the comments under them. She thought that this cute creature could only bring warmth and joy. And in most people, these photos caused these feelings. However, there were others. They lashed out at Margaret. “You think you have done a great job, but you hurt it,” read one comment. “This is a wild animal, and it must live in the wild!”

The next day, Margaret brought the fox to the doctor. The doctor examined the animal and said that nothing could be done. An animal trap must have broken its leg in the past, and it didn’t heal (康复) properly. The doctor also said if Margaret had not taken the fox home, he would have died of hunger, since he would not have been able to hunt.

Margaret made posts about it. But people did not calm down. Some said it was nice to save a wild animal. But others argued that the apartment was not a good place even for a wounded fox. After all, he needs space. Margaret did not know what to do to satisfy everyone.

But the situation was solved. A zookeeper offered to take the fox because their animals lived in large open-air cages. Margaret agreed. She took the fox to the zoo and often visited the fox. And she was also surprised that the fox taught her a life lesson. From different points of view, any deed (行为) can look either like an absolute evil or a kind deed.

1．Why did Margaret decide to take the fox home?

A．Out of fun. B．Out of pity. C．Out of fear. D．Out of joy.

2．What does the underlined part “lashed out at” in paragraph 2 mean?

A．had faith in. B．took advantage of.

C．were not satisfied. D．were grateful for.

3．What can we infer from the doctor’s words?

A．The fox was saved in time.

B．It was illegal to kill the fox.

C．It was dangerous to set animal traps in the wild.

D．The fox should have been taken to the doctor earlier.

4．What lesson did Margaret learn from this experience?

A．People are born kind. B．People see things differently.

C．People are mean most of the time. D．People should put themselves in others’ shoes.

**13**

Angie Carel has always loved drawing with her family. About 12 years ago, when she was a single mom, she did a lot of art, almost daily. Now, three of Carel’s daughters are grown—but when the pandemic (疫情) hit and in-person learning and sports were stopped, they found themselves back at her house in Roanoke, Indiana. And their mom found herself turning to art again.

“Everyone was just sad and anxious. So, I had this idea one morning, ‘I’m going to make my daughters draw.’ Because that’s our happy place,” said Carel. “I sent them a text message that just said, ‘Draw a smiling turtle. And show me your artwork this evening at 7.’ And they did and they were laughing; we were laughing so hard at everyone’s drawing.”

The drawing brought joy to others, because they shared their interesting drawings on Facebook. Angie’s friends wanted to join in, and soon, Angie had a whole community online waiting for and following her drawing prompts (提示).

When more and more people were interested in her drawing prompts, she created the “Simple Daily Drawing” Facebook group. It has grown to more than 8,000 members, who draw whatever Angie chooses. Angie started asking members why they were joining, thinking they just liked art but the answers surprised her.

Angie said she knew her own family was using the drawings for mental health, but after surveying the members, she was surprised to realize about 80% of the people that joined were there to use the art for mental health too. “Every day there is somebody that says something about how this is helping them, and because of that, I just have to keep going. I’m not going to stop until my brain runs out of ideas.” she said.

1．What did Angie Carel do before showing her daughters’ artworks online?

A．She gave advice on how to do art well.

B．She sent text messages about what to draw.

C．She asked about their requirements for artworks.

D．She showed pictures to group members to copy.

2．Why did Angie Carel set up the “Simple Daily Drawing” Facebook group?

A．To bring people back to Facebook.

B．To use the drawings for mental health.

C．To satisfy more people’s drawing wishes.

D．To show drawing is important and interesting.

3．Which of the following can best describe Angie Carel?

A．Caring. B．Humorous. C．Powerful. D．Serious.

4．What is the text mainly about?

A．Art plays an important role in everyday life.

B．A family tries to live through a hard time by art.

C．A Facebook group helps strangers improve their art.

D．Strangers use a mom’s Facebook group for mental health.

**14**

In Old Town Alexandria, Virginia, you can find Jamey Turner playing an unusual musical instrument, the glass harp (竖琴). A glass harp is made up of different-sized drinking glasses, each filled with water.

Turner makes music by running his fingers over the top s of the glasses. When he does so, each glass makes a different musical sound. Visitors like what they see and hear. They thank Turner by leaving a donation of a dollar or more in his box. Jamey Turner is 78 years old now. He first became interested in playing the glass harp at the age of six when he heard his father playing with a glass of water at the dinner table. He has been playing it for 50 years.

Today Turner puts together his instrument by placing 60 different glasses on a wooden soundboard. He holds the glasses in place with rubber bands, which keeps them from breaking. He then adds different amounts of water to each one to create different musical notes. Adding more water to a glass will make a lower sound. The smaller bowls of water produce a higher sound, while larger ones produce a lower, deeper sound.

Turner always uses low-priced glass considering that it sounds better than costly crystal (水晶), and he has more control over the sound. Before buying new glasses, he will test them in stores. He decides if they produce the right sound by rubbing (摩擦) his finger over the top of them.

The glass harp was popular 300 years ago when composers like Wolfgang Mozart wrote music for the instrument. About 400 pieces of music have been written just for the glass harp. But Turner plays all kinds of music, even popular music from China. Few people play the glass harp these days, but Turner says he sees videos of people experimenting with the instrument on YouTube. He hopes the next generation will continue making music with it.

1．What word can best describe Turner’s performance?

A．Disappointing. B．Appealing. C．Convincing. D．Strange.

2．How does Turner change the sounds of the glasses?

A．By placing glasses on a wooden board.

B．By beating different parts of the glasses.

C．By controlling the amount of water in the glasses.

D．By holding different glasses with rubber bands

3．Why does Turner prefer to use cheap glasses?

A．To save more money. B．To protect his fingers.

C．To adjust beats easily. D．To produce better sounds.

4．What does Turner expect of the glass harp?

A．It can be passed on. B．Students can study it in school.

C．It can be used to play all sorts of music. D．More composers can write music for it.

**15**

Christmas has come and gone once again. I’d been wanting to go holiday shopping ever since China eased its COVID-19 response measures in early December 2022, going to supermarkets to get ready for the big holiday.

My mom was a single parent in New York City, the US. During the Christmas holiday, she would always make sure our home had a real festive feel to it—and she’d always make sure to get a real tree. We’d decorate it with ornaments and lights on the morning of December 25. And I always knew presents awaited. Over the years, I’ve never forgotten these happy moments.

I first arrived in China in late 2008 and have since settled down in Shenyang, capital city of Liaoning Province in the northeast. Even though Christmas is not an official holiday in China, many shop windows will feature seasonal decorations and some locals will buy Christmas gifts for their families and friends.

Unfortunately, I tested positive for Omicron (奥密克戎) on December 13th, 2022, and had almost all the symptoms (症状). I figured this would be the end of my holiday. As I knew my body preferred natural herbs, I decided to take the path of traditional Chinese medicine. With the help of this ancient form of treatment, plenty of rest and plenty of water, I made a speedy recovery. It seemed Christmas had not been lost, after all.

After feeling much more like my normal self again, I went to the cinema to watch the latest action-adventure film, Avatar: The Way of Water. When I saw the fantasy epic on the big screen, I felt a sense of relief, like the movie theater was the only world that existed at that very moment.

It is an experience that gives me something to share. When we meet with trouble, embrace it and get through it. I would like to wish all of you a very happy Christmas and a wonderful 2023.

1．What did the author plan to do before December 13th, 2022?

A．He tested positive for Omicron.

B．He planned to settle down in Shenyang.

C．He planned to decorate the tree on the Eve of Christmas.

D．He was going to make some preparations for the coming Christmas.

2．Which of the following did NOT help the author recover from Omicron?

A．Having plenty of rest. B．Buying Christmas gifts for families and friends.

C．Drinking a lot of water. D．Taking traditional Chinese medicine.

3．What can we infer from Paragraph 5?

A．Christmas was lost for the author. B．The author recovered both physically and mentally.

C．The author was frightened by the movie.D．The movie theatre was the only world that existed.

4．Which word can best describe the author according to the text?

A．Positive. B．Friendly. C．Extraordinary. D．Negative.

**16**

Three young American men were on a crowded train when they came across a dangerous robber. Ignoring their personal safety, they rushed the robber and controlled him. Only some people seem capable of this sudden form of heroism (英雄主义). Why some men rise to the occasion—and others don’t—has been a bit difficult to explain. Psychologists have explored this question through biological and personality psychology.

Of course, heroism and courage can appear in many forms, and men and women risk their reputation (名声), health, and social recognition to do what they think is right. When it comes to physically risky bravery, people assume that men will take the lead. There are sound biological reasons for this fixed image. One of the most common fears in men is that they will be viewed as a coward (懦夫), and a man who fails to display physical courage will suffer damage to his reputation in a way that a woman will not. Throughout history, gaining a higher position among peers (同龄人) has been the ticket that needs to get punched for a man to attract future wife and father children.

People tend to have an idea of what heroes are like. When rating (打分) the personalities of movie heroes, participants expected them to be more hard-working, open to experience, approachable, and emotionally stable than the average person. But some studies suggest that people who show heroic behavior usually have the personalities of madmen: risk-taking, coolness under stress, and an eagerness to take over in social situations.

The study of the relationship between personality and heroism is at an early stage. Psychologists are still at a loss to predict in advance who will heroically step up when needed. Often, the hero is an otherwise ordinary person who finds himself on an extraordinary occasion. Meanwhile, some individuals trained to behave heroically might hesitate in a dangerous situation. Various factors like identities, occasions and specific training will influence the final heroism. Hopefully, the right mix of occasion and personalities enable courage to carry the day.

1．How is the topic introduced in the first paragraph?

A．By presenting an idea. B．By giving an example.

C．By making a comparison. D．By drawing a conclusion.

2．What do the underlined words “get punched” in paragraph 2 mean?

A．Be bought. B．Be returned. C．Be abandoned. D．Be gained.

3．Why is it difficult to predict who will act heroically in a crisis?

A．Heroes are born, not made.

B．Heroic acts only appear in a specific crisis.

C．Individual personality is not a dependable sign of heroism.

D．Heroism is a phenomenon influenced by numerous factors.

4．Which of the following is the best title for the text?

A．How Are Heroes Trained? B．Why Are Heroes Important?

C．Who Are the True Heroes? D．What Makes a Person Heroic?

**17**

Many people go to school for an education. They learn languages, history, geography, physics, chemistry and mathematics. Others go to school to learn a skill so that they can make a living. School education is very important and useful. Yet no one can learn everything from school. A teacher, no matter how much he knows can not teach his students everything they want to know. The teacher’s job is to show his students how to learn. He teaches them how to read and how to think. So much more is to be learned outside school by the students themselves.

It is always more important to study by oneself than to memorize some facts or a formula (公式). It is actually quite easy to learn a certain fact in history or a formula in maths. But it is very difficult to use a formula in working out a maths problem. Great scientists, such as Einstein, Newton and Galileo didn’t get everything from school. But they were all so successful. They invented so many things for mankind. The reason for their success is that they worked hard all their lives, wasting not a single moment. They would ask many questions as they read and they did thousands of experiments.

Above all, they knew how to use their brains.

1．The teacher’s job is to teach \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A．everything the students want to know B．the students everything that they know

C．the students some facts of formulas D．the students how to learn

2．Einstein, Newton and Galileo did so many things for mankind because\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A．they learned a lot at school

B．they knew how to learn new things outside class by themselves

C．they were so useful

D．they went to college and learned form professors

3．Who does the article say didn’t waste a single moment?

A．Great people B．Persons who work as teachers

C．The great scientist－Newton D．Great scientists

4．From the passage we know that if we want to be successful, we should\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

A．Only learn more at school B．needn’t go to school

C．Only learn science subjects D．learn to learn at school and learn more outside school

**18**

ChatGPT, a new chatbot model developed by US-based AI research laboratory OpenAI，has quickly become a hit globally due to its advanced conversational abilities.

It can write emails, computer codes, even academic papers and poems, and has passed a number of tests within seconds. Academicians worldwide are discussing whether AI should be used in education. Some universities have banned it. The New York City’s Department of Education, for example, banned the chatbot from its public school devices and networks, with some people warning that it could encourage more students to cheat, especially in exams.

Many more welcome this app, claiming that, like most technological advances and groundbreaking innovations in history, ChatGPT is a powerful tool for the development of higher education.

Embracing AI as early as possible is advisable. Higher education institutions should make preparations for including AI in their syllabus (教学大纲). They can start by offering related courses, because by understanding how it works, they can make better use of it. Besides, students with good knowledge of AI are more competitive when it comes to getting a good job, as an increasing number of jobs are being done by computer programmes—some in cooperation with humans, AI-powered education technologies can be adopted to make the learning experience more suitable for each student based on his or her strengths and weaknesses. As for professors, AI can free them from doing some dull tasks so they can concentrate on teaching and interacting with students.

Since we cannot avoid ChatGPT and other AI-powered applications from entering the field of higher education, we should make collective efforts to ensure they have a positive impact on society and the future of education. Despite AI helping make learning much more interesting and enjoyable, humans need to work very hard to win the race with technology.

1．Why do some higher education institutions forbid ChatGPT?

A．ChatGPT can write emails and computer codes quickly.

B．Some professors might not perform their duties properly.

C．Students would have conversations with each other via it.

D．Students might seek help from it in completing the exams.

2．Which of the following words is the closest in meaning to the underlined word “Embracing” in paragraph 4?

A．Refusing. B．Improving. C．Accepting D．Affecting.

3．How can AI benefit students of higher education?

A．It offers students an increasing number of jobs.

B．It personalizes students’ learning experience.

C．It equips students with competitive skills to cooperate with humans.

D．It handles uninteresting tasks so students can better focus on learning.

4．What can be inferred from the last paragraph?

A．We should guard against AI apps. B．AI will be more widely used in education.

C．The future of education relies on AI apps. D．Humans will be left behind by technology.

**19**

I remember that a rapper on television once said, “If it feels good, do it.” From schools to workplaces, we are told that ordinary negative (负面的) emotions and experiences—fear of failure or sadness over a breakup, maybe—should be treated or removed. Feeling bad is bad.

This is wrong, as was the rapper’s motto. I don’t believe that eradicating bad feelings is the path to a good life. We have an opportunity here to judge the benefits of negative emotions and experiences instead of trying to push them away.

Negative emotions exist to keep us safe. The main negative emotions include sadness, anger, fear and disgust (厌恶). We experienced them in an unconscious way in response to environmental stimuli (刺激). You never say to yourself, *Hey, I think I’ll feel afraid now*—you just feel it and react with fight or flight, which can save your life. Disgust similarly warns us unconsciously of potential illness.

Negative emotions can also make us more effective in our day-to-day activities. In an article in the journal *Psychological Review*, two evolutionary psychologists argue that sadness—and even depression—have existed in the face of evolution (进化) because they bring cognitive benefits. Sadness can make us more productive at work by improving focus and helping us learn from mistakes. This is how failure, by means of the resulting negative emotions, can help lead to later success.

Finally, negative emotions make us stronger for when there is a true emergency. Research shows that “stress vaccination training”—in which people learn to cope with anger, fear and anxiety by being brought up to stimuli that cause these feelings—is effective in creating emotional toughness.

In sum, if we want a life full of deep meaning, true love, and emotional strength, it’s going to involve the risk of discomfort, fight and loss. This means there will be sadness, fear, anger and disgust. If we remove negative emotions and experiences from our lives, we will be poorer and weaker for having done so.

1．How does the author introduce the topic?

A．By showing a social phenomenon. B．By explaining a specific concept.

C．By creating a related situation. D．By stating a common belief.

2．What is the meaning of the underlined word “eradicating” in Para. 2?

A．Stirring up. B．Focusing on. C．Getting rid of. D．Keeping track of.

3．According to the author, why is failure the mother of success?

A．Negative emotions help us work effectively. B．Negative emotions give us stronger hearts.

C．Failure gives us a true sense of crisis. D．Failure results from mistakes.

4．Which is this passage mainly about?

A．Why feeling bad is bad. B．How to achieve a meaningful life.

C．How to deal with negative emotions. D．Why negative emotions are necessary.

**20**

During a judging period for a recent short story contest, I started thinking a lot about dialogue tags. Because in many submissions characters didn’t “say” a thing. They shouted, they inquired, they assumed. Some characters screamed while others murmured. But no one “said” anything. And I started wondering why.

Why do we tell beginner writers to avoid creative dialogue tags in the first place? Why do we insist that characters should stick to “said,” “asked,” and the occasional “sighed?” And, if the advice is so often-repeated, why are writers still unable to resist the siren call of weep, scream, snap, or laugh?

The more I thought about it, the more I understood the temptation. We’re always encouraged to use strong, actionable verbs in our prose. Why walk when you can skip or wander? Why cry when you can sob or weep? Why wouldn’t we reach for exciting verbs instead of mild-boring dull-blah said? Why couldn’t each verb be a tiny sparkling gem in its own right?

The problem, I think, is that every jewel needs a setting to become something more than the sum of its parts. Without something to provide structure, a collection of the world’s most glorious diamonds would still only amount to a heap of rocks.

And a dialogue tag should never, ever be the diamond in any given sentence.

Dialogue is your diamond, friends. When we read your work, your dialogue should be so bright, so sparkling, so lifelike, so wonderfully realistic that our brains “hear” each line instead of merely reading it. We don’t need to be told a character is shouting — we can sense it in the way they spit out words, clench fists, or storm from the room.

A dialogue tag is a mere signpost along the narrative journey, gently indicating who said what. It’s part of a story’s experience, but it’s not part of the story itself, nor should it be treated as such. Dialogue tags are similar to lighting in a Broadway play: without it, the audience would have no idea what was going on, but it usually strives to shine without calling too much attention to itself.

What’s more, readers may not initially imagine a particular line being “sobbed.” When we reach the end of a sentence and find out our leading lady has actually sobbed instead of whispered, it pulls us right out of the story. We pause. We reread the line. We adjust our understanding and begin again. But that wonderful momentum when we’re fully immersed in the scene, holding our breath to find out what our heroine says next, is lost.

Creating a successful work of fiction is about giving the reader all the materials they need to build your fictional world in their mind and not a scrap more. Readers need believable dialogue. They need voices so compelling that they pop right off the page and into our ears. And if you’ve created dynamic characters who speak words we can really hear, you will never need to tell us how something was said.

Senior Editor

1．According to the Senior Editor, the beginner writers are tempted to \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A．replace a dull “said” with exciting verbs B．omit what the character said in a dialogue

C．resist the warning against strong emotions D．overuse the word “said” in their submissions

2．The Senior Editor compares dialogue tags to \_\_\_\_\_\_

A．glorious diamonds B．heaps of rocks

C．tiny, sparkling gems D．Broadway play lighting

3．What can we learn from the passage?

A．Dialogue tags are said to be the most important aspect of storytelling.

B．Without dialogue tags, readers have to reread to adjust understanding.

C．Creative dialogue tags may interrupt readers’ wonderful reading flow.

D．Effective dialogue tags should describe characters’ emotions directly.

4．The writer most probably agrees that \_\_\_\_\_\_.

A．good works of fiction give as many materials as possible

B．readers cannot imagine a line without the dialogue tags

C．what was said should be prioritized over how it was said

D．writers should choose powerful words for dialogue tags