I. Vocabulary: 2% x 10 = 20%

1. Momentum seems to be building for a political _____ in Egypt and around the region, many here say, and calls for change are less and less linked to a particular ideology like Islamism. (A) evolution (B) evacuation (C) alienation (D) erudition.

2. Blogs, tweets, Facebook and new TV networks have left young Arabs with no doubts that their regimes are at the _____ of openness and modernity. (A) particularity (B) antipodes (C) peculiarity (D) antibiotics.

3. The Tunisians were joined together by anger at _____ and corruption rather than any overarching philosophy. (A) oppression (B) peninsula (C) announcement (D) compulsory.

4. There are many places thick with _____ over the failure of formal political parties and organizations to deliver change. (A) advertisement (B) disillusionment (C) undermine (D) miscellaneous.

5. But the movement’s leaders are from a generation that focuses foremost on _____, which means avoiding confrontation with the state, political analysts said. (A) subversion (B) superstition (C) survival (D) survey.

6. American law _____ private citizens from actively undermining a foreign government, but prosecutions have been limited to people raising private armies. (A) probates (B) proposes (C) promotes (D) prohibits.

7. Along the spine of the Andes, long plagued by airplane crashes and climbing mishaps, the discoveries are helping to solve decades-old mysteries. Scientists say the _____ of the ice is an unexpected boon for those yearning to peer back in time. (A) representative (B) repulsion (C) rivalry (D) retreat.

8. A small-scale renewable energy becomes cheaper, more reliable and more _____, it is providing the first drops of modern power to people who live far from slow-growing electricity grids and fuel pipelines in developing countries. (A) efficient (B) ephemerous (C) sufficiency (D) affective.

9. He was a financial analyst, but was bored with his work. Of course, he was right about the _____ state of economy, even though he was affluent and not directly threatened by it. (A) prosperous (B) parlous (C) simultaneous (D) audacious.

10. When he became depressed, though, this insight added to his pain as he _____ himself for failing to stand up to his father. (A) bereft (B) tariff (C) berated (D) haphazard.

II. Grammar: 2% x 10 = 20%
1. Nearly every aspect of economic life is affected by _______. (A) they are seasonal variations (B) variations are seasonal (C) that seasonal variations (D) seasonal variations.

2. Because its leaves remain green long after being picked, rosemary _____ associated with the idea of remembrance. (A) and becomes (B) becoming (C) became (D) to become.

3. However much _____, it will be worth it. (A) does the watch cost (B) the watch costs (C) costs the watch (D) the watch is cost.

4. Freezing preserves meat because _____, slow down the rate of enzyme action, and lower the speed of spoilage. (A) it prevents the growth of microorganisms (B) the growth of microorganisms (C) microorganisms are prevented from growing (D) preventing microorganism from growing.

5. One of the oldest types of aesthetic theory is that of formism, _____. (A) reference to the imitation theory is popular (B) popularly referred to as the imitation theory (C) the imitation theory is popularly referred to (D) is the reference to the popular imitation theory.

6. It is _____ leather its permeability to air and water vapor. (A) its structure that gives (B) the structure it gives (C) giving it the structure of (D) structure that gives it.

7. Convincing people of the merits of the project will require ____. (A) no opinion of majority (B) of no opinion to the majority (C) a majority opinion (D) opinions of no majority.

8. No students are able to pursue nuclear science _____ mathematics. (A) with no solidly grasp of (B) without solidly grasping of (C) without a solid grasp of (D) with no grasping solidly of.

9. Even though they _____ for thirty years, the two neighbors are not getting well along with each other. (A) having been lived side by side (B) had been living side by side (C) have been living side by side (D) having been living side by side.

10. The subject of these lectures _____ by the committee members. (A) announces (B) have been announced (C) announced (D) has been announced.

III. Reading comprehension: 2% x 20 = 40%

(1)

The start of a new year, still clouded by the recession, is a fitting time to purge. And it may bring better focus, more profit, more savings, or just freedom. Get rid of excess shoes, books, gadgets, or, as in the case of the Brooklyn Museum, precious artifacts.

The museum decided to de-clutter its overstuffed closets of items it acquired when it hoped to become the biggest museum in the world. It is preparing to return 4,500 pre-Columbian treasures taken from Costa Rica about a century ago, culling its collection to reduce storage costs and conserve staff members’ time. Kevin Stayton, the Brooklyn Museum’s chief curator, told The Times it was an effort, in a time of strained budgets, to make sure “we’re not overextending ourselves.”

This tighter focus is on the menu. Literally. Restaurants trained on a single dish or a niche ingredient, are popping up all over, especially in New York. The Meatball Shop has a menu built around, well, meatballs. Hill Country Chicken has one entrée: fried chicken. And the first outlet of a Brazil-based mini-chain called The Best Chocolate Cake in the World opened in SoHo last year.

It’s a pattern that more chefs are following, The Times reported, cutting unnecessary trappings and focusing on what’s important: the food. John Fraser, a chef, has signed a short-term lease for a space in downtown Manhattan. Because the place will not necessarily be a keeper, Mr. Fraser is keeping his investment low, he told The Times. There won’t be a sign outside, the bar will be stocked with only one brand of each spirit, and there will be just two whites, two reds and one sparkling wine.

“I want to strip things down to what’s really important,” Mr. Fraser told The Times, “and
figure out what’s really essential.”

So do the growing number of retailers like Bloomingdale’s and Nike, which are trying smaller stores and an edited inventory to cut costs and cater to consumers spending with greater purpose, *The Times* reported.

1. What is the best title for this reading?
(A) How to Run a Museum in New York.
(B) The Variety of Meatball, Country Chicken, and Chocolate.
(C) The Simpler, the Better.
(D) The Tighter Focus on Menu.

2. What can be inferred from the passage?
(A) Mr. Fraser has signed a short-term lease to balance his investment.
(B) Bloomingdale’s is going to shut down, *The Times* reported.
(C) There would be few choices of wine in every restaurant of downtown Manhattan.
(D) Mr. Fraser figures out the sign outside is essential.

3. What is “edited inventory,” the keyword appears in the last paragraph of the above article, for?
(A) To get rid of precious artifacts from Costa Rica.
(B) To bring better focus, more profit, more savings.
(C) To spend more with smaller purpose.
(D) To overextend the chained stores.

(2)

Nearly four decades after his death, Bruce Lee remains one of the most potent symbols of Hong Kong Cinema’s golden age.

So it’s only fitting that the latest stirrings of a revival in the Hong Kong martial arts drama are connected to Lee: the kung fu screen hero of the moment is none other than Lee’s mentor, Ip Man.

Born in the southern Chinese city Foshan, Ip Man (1893-1972) settled in Hong Kong after the Communist takeover of 1949 and devoted his life to the Wing Chun fighting style.

In 2008, Wilson Yip’s biopic “Ip Man” starring Donnie Yen, launched a wave of movies about the master. “Ip Man 2” covers its hero in 1950s Hong Kong. The top-grossing local film in Hong Kong last year, when it was also released throughout Asia and in Canada, “Ip man 2” opened in January in New York and Los Angeles and in the United Kingdom.

“The Legend Is Born—Ip Man,” directed by Herman Yau, is a prequel about a teenage Ip. And Wong Kar-wai, the most revered and singular of Hong Kong auteurs, is shooting the Ip Man project that he has been developing for years, title “The Grandmasters.”

“People now see Ip Man as a legendary master of his time,” Mr. Yen said.

Mr. Yen and Mr. Yip’s Ip Man continues the long tradition of the kung fu master hero, exemplified by the much mythologized 19th century physician and martial artist Wong Fei-hung. He also echoes the Bruce Lee persona in being an emblem of racial pride.

Born in San Francisco and Raised in Hong Kong, Lee appeared on American television in the late ‘60s (on “The Green Hornet” and “Batman”). But it was his Hong Kong productions of the early ‘70s that ignited his global superstardom. There was often a chauvinistic edge to Lee’s self-appointed role of Kung fu ambassador: his films were designed as showcases of his skill, and by extensions, of the superiority of Chinese martial arts. “Fist of Fury” pits Lee against a variety of colonialist adversaries.

In Mr. Yen’s Ip Man movies, the main villains are caricatured foreigners: a Japanese general, a British boxing champion.

The Ip Man films speak to the tricky economics and politics of post-hand over Hong Kong cinema. In the past decade Hong Kong cinema has grown more dependent on the financing power
and large audiences of mainland China.

4. What is the main idea of the above reading?
   (A) Kung Fu Films Revive.
   (B) Ip Man.
   (C) Fist of Fury.
   (D) China Finances Hong Kong Films.

5. Which one of the following basic facts is NOT mentioned in the article?
   (A) Ip Man is noted for his devotion to the Wing Chun fighting style.
   (B) Wong Kar-wai and Herman Yau are both directors from Hong Kong.
   (C) The audiences of mainland China abhor Bruce Lee.
   (D) Wong Fei-hung became an emblem of racial pride in the films of martial arts.

6. Which of the following statement is not relevant, according to this passage?
   (A) Bruce Lee appeared on “The Green Hornet” and “Batman” in the late ’60s.
   (B) Bruce Lee popularized Chinese martial arts in the kung fu films of the early ‘70s.
   (C) The caricatured foreigners play the bad guys in the recent Ip Man movies.
   (D) The economics of Hong Kong has become prosperous.

(3)

For decades, Pluto was the magically shrinking planet. It was first thought to be about as large as Earth—nearly 12,900 kilometers wide—but subsequent measurements had it smaller and smaller.

In 1980, Alexander J. Dessler, now at Texas A&M University, and Christopher T. Russell of the University of California, Los Angeles, published a graph of mass estimates through the years and joked that Pluto would disappear entirely in 1984.

Between 1985 and 1990, the orbit of Pluto’s moon, Charon, was edge-on, as seen from Earth, and eclipses let astronomers measure the diameters of Pluto and Charon more directly.

But that was still not the end of the story. The surface of Pluto can reach a relatively balmy minus 182 degrees Celsius, warm enough for some methane and nitrogen ices to evaporate and create an atmosphere, and the atmosphere bends light.

Thus, the true diameter of Pluto remains uncertain.

Eris is about three times as far from the Sun as Pluto, much colder and almost completely devoid of atmosphere. So astronomers may know Eris’s size more accurately than Pluto’s.

A precise measurement of Pluto will come in 2015 when NASA’s new Horizons spacecraft is to fly past.

The smaller size of Eris would actually make it more interesting, Dr. Brown said. With less surface area, it would have to reflect almost all the light that hits it to explain how bright it has been deduced to be. And it must have a thin layer of methane and nitrogen frost—the remnants of a thin atmosphere that froze as Eris moved along its orbit away from the Sun.

The occultation measurement is that latest surprise of the Kuiper Belt, a ring of icy debris beyond Neptune.

Other Kuiper Belt objects that Dr. Brown has found have also shown the outer system to be more curious than many would have expected. One of those is Haumea, a dwarf planet that is highly elongated and spins very fast, once every four hours.

Beyond the Kuiper Belt, more mysteries await.

Astronomers want to find more objects like Sedna, which Dr. Brown discovered in 2003. Sedna is currently about three times as far from the Sun as Neptune. And beyond Sedna is the Oort Cloud, a collection of bodies astronomers have not yet found, but which they are absolutely certain exist.
And one of those more distant objects could turn out to be larger than one or more of the remaining eight planets, which could reignite the debate over what should be called a planet.

7. Which one of the following statements is true, according to the passage?
A) Kuiper Belt is a collection of bodies astronomers have not yet found.
B) Pluto is colder than Eris because it is far from the Sun.
C) It is easier to measure the size of Pluto because of its possible fraction exists.
D) The sizing error turned Pluto into a dwarf.

8. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a factor:
A) Methane and nitrogen ices are poisonous enough to shrink Pluto.
B) The eclipses let astronomers measure the diameters of Pluto more directly.
C) Charon is one of the satellites of the dwarf planet Pluto.
D) Eris is farther from the Sun, compared to Pluto.

9. Why Sedna and Oort Cloud appear in this passage?
A) They are frozen planets that astronomers found them easier to be seen.
B) Their possible existence could jeopardize the measurement scale of planets.
C) They are objects Dr. Brown found.
D) A precise measurement of Pluto will come in 2015.

10. Which of the following is NOT true about the_____?
A) The warm atmosphere on the surface of the planet could create light.
B) The true diameter of Pluto remains uncertain.
C) Dr. Brown, mentioned above, is an astronomer possibly.
D) Haumea is a dwarf planet spins once every four hours.

11. The early history of the human race is most clearly and readily studied by observing the stages of human technological progress. That is why it was a long-standing convention to divide early history into broad periods according to the hard materials – stone, copper, bronze, and iron, in that order – from which cutting tools and weapons were made. Then, as knowledge of the past increased, the broad periods were further subdivided. The Stone Age was divided into the Old (Paleolithic) period and the New (Neolithic) period when it was noticed that the technique of sharpening flint and other stones changed from flaking to grinding.

12. Which of the following is said of the system used for dividing early history into periods?
A) It has been recently devised.
B) It is not based on cultural developments.
C) It is intended to indicate technological progress.
D) It refers to materials that have lasted to the present.

13. During the period called the Stone Age, what happened to the technique of sharpening stone?
A) It remained the same as in the preceding period.
(B) It could be used only when sharpening flint.
(C) It required the use of iron wheels.
(D) It changed from flaking to grinding.

14. According to the passage, which of the following periods of history occurred latest in time?
(A) Bronze Age
(B) Stone Age
(C) Iron Age
(D) Copper Age

15. It can be inferred from the passage that which of the following was probably made from the hard materials that gave their names to historical periods?
(A) Statues
(B) Axes
(C) Wheels
(D) Pots

(5)
It is commonly supposed that when a man seeks literary power he goes to his room and prepares an article for the press. But this is to begin literary culture at the wrong end. We speak a hundred times for every once we write. The busiest writer produces little more than a volume a year, not so much as his talk would amount to in a week. Consequently through speech it is usually decided whether a man is to have command of his language or not. If he is slovenly in his ninety-nine cases of talking, he can seldom pull himself up to strength and exactitude in the hundredth case of writing. A person is made in one piece, and the same being runs through a multitude of performances. Whether words are uttered on paper or to the air, the effect on the speaker is the same. Vigor or feebleness results according as energy or slackness has been in command. I know that certain adaptations to a new field are often necessary. A good speaker may find awkwardness in himself, when he comes to write; a good writer, when he speaks. And certainly cases occur where a man exhibits distinct strength in one of the two, speaking or writing, and not in the other. But such cases are rare. As a rule, language once within our control can be employed for oral or for written purpose. And since the opportunities for oral practice enormously out balance those for written, it is the oral which are chiefly significant in the development of literary power. We rightly say of the accomplished writer that he shows a mastery of his own tongue.

16. A good speaker, according to the author, will make a good writer
(A) sometimes
(B) usually
(C) seldom
(D) never

17. It is the belief of this author that
(A) speaking and writing are the same.
(B) good speakers are necessarily good writers.
(C) writing is quite different from speaking.
(D) our ability to express ourselves well comes mainly from speaking.

18. According to the passage, literary power includes
(A) strength, exactness, and vigor.
(B) energy, culture, and strength.
(C) command, culture, and energy.
19. According to the author, if we want to improve our literary style, we should
(A) practice writing and speaking equally.
(B) concentrate on speaking to the exclusion of writing.
(C) concentrate on improving oral style.
(D) write more and speak less.

20. In the sentence “But such cases are rare”, such cases refer to _________.
(A) a man exhibits distinct strength in either speaking or writing only
(B) a man exhibits distinct strength in both speaking and writing
(C) the adaptation to a new field
(D) language once within control can be employed for oral or for written purpose

IV. Translation: 5% x 4 = 20%
(1) English to Chinese
1. I realized then that I am pretty good at treating clinical misery with drugs and therapy, but that bringing about happiness is a stretch. Perhaps happiness is a bit like self-esteem: you have to work for it.
2. Writing a story or a novel is one way of discovering sequence in experience, of stumbling upon cause and effect in the happenings of a writer’s own life. (from One Writer’s Beginnings by Eudora Welty)

(2) Chinese to English
1. 內在情感的蓄積與釀造，需要時間的推移。必須在臻於成熟之際，詩與散文才有可能渲染成成篇。情動於中，發言為詩。
2. 研究指出地中海地區的人是西方國家中心臟病比例最低的，這或許跟他們大量食用橄欖油有關聯。