(I) Reading Comprehension (30%)

Choose the most possible and proper answer and write the sign, A, B, C, or D in the answer sheet.

(i)

Sometimes, words can season our life if we think of them as a game. Take this tale, If You Give A Salmon A Satchel, as an example. If you give a salmon a satchel, he will ask you to take him to school by escalator instead of elevator because he does not want to get dizzy. He will ask you to bring a hamburger instead of a cheeseburger because he does not want the cheese on his chin. He will ask you to bring tomatoes instead of potatoes for the sweet juice. He will also ask you to bring the desserts made by special cactuses that can only get from deserts. He might also ask you to bring double-decker chocolate mint with molt ice-cream cone instead of a bottle of mineral water to satisfy his particular taste. When you pack up these treats and walk the salmon to school, do you know what happens? The ice cream drips out of the satchel and sticks on the floor. Children slip and sit on the ground. And the salmon falls off from the escalator due to his enormous lump of satchel with messy and sticky ice cream stuck on his bum.

1. In the following, which pair of words is not the alliterative one?
   (A) salmon, satchel
   (B) mint, molt
   (C) cactus; cream
   (D) drip, slip

2. In the following, which pair of words is not the rhyming one?
   (A) hamburger, cheeseburger
   (B) tomatoes, potatoes
   (C) desserts, deserts
   (D) all rhyming pairs

3. Where is the setting of this story?
   (A) from somewhere to the escalator
   (B) from elevator to escalator
   (C) from deserts to school
   (D) from garden to ice-cream shop

4. How do you describe the personalities of the salmon?
   (A) troublesome and gluttonous
   (B) docile and innocent
   (C) greedy but insightful
   (D) intemperate but humorous
5. What happens to salmon in the end of the story?
   (A) He has to change from the escalator to elevator to school
   (B) He is tripped by his own satchel
   (C) He shares the ice cream with children
   (D) He gets rid of his ice cream

(ii)
   It is the role of the Federal Reserve, known simply as the Fed, to control the
   supply of money in the U.S. through its system of twelve regional Federal Reserve
   Banks, each with its own Federal Reserve District Bank. Many commercial banks
   belong to the Federal Reserve System and as members must follow the Fed’s reserve
   requirements, a ruling by the Fed on the percentage of deposits that a member bank
   must keep either in its own vaults or on deposit at the Fed. If the Fed wants to change
   the money supply, it can change reserve requirements to member banks; for example,
   an increase in the percentage of deposits required to be kept on hand would reduce the
   available money supply. Member banks can also borrow money from the Fed, and an
   additional way that the Fed can control the money supply is to raise or lower the
   discount rate, the interest rate at which commercial banks borrow from the Fed. An
   increase in the discount rate would reduce the funds available to commercial banks
   and thus shrink the money supply. In addition to using reserve requirements and the
   discount rate to control the money supply, the Fed has another powerful tool:
   open-market operations.

6. This passage is mainly about
   (A) the functions of the Federal Reserve
   (B) the organization of the Federal Reserve
   (C) reserve requirements
   (D) the effect of lowering the discount rate

7. According to the passage, the main purpose of the Federal Reserve System is to
   (A) increase reserve requirements
   (B) increase or decrease the amount of money available
   (C) increase the number of Federal Reserve Banks
   (D) increase the money kept on deposit by member banks

8. When the Fed controls the percentage of deposits kept on hand by member banks, it
   controls
   (A) district banks
   (B) the discount rate
   (C) the reserve requirement
   (D) borrowing by commercial banks

9. The passage implies that a lowering of the discount rate would lead to
   (A) an increase in the money supply
   (B) a decrease in borrowing form the Fed by commercial banks
   (C) a decrease in the money available
   (D) an increase in the reserve requirement
10. The paragraph following the passage most likely discusses
(A) the need for controlling the money supply
(B) the structure of the Federal Reserve System
(C) recent changes in reserve requirements
(D) open-market purchases and sales

(iii)
This week, I will be writing about a topic near and dear to my heart as well as the heart of my children. Don’t underestimate the power or value of children’s literature or “kiddie lit” as it is sometimes referred. Many individuals find it surprising that children’s literature, even books with little text, frequently encompass social themes that span from environmental studies to psychology or sociology. For example, “The Giving Tree” by Shel Silverstein is a very simple but elegant black and white picture book that tells the story of a tree that are mutually dependent upon one another. As the story unfolds, the man exploits the tree, while the tree remains gracious and benevolent towards the man. This book makes a powerful statement concerning man’s disregard and downright callousness towards the environment.

Judith Viorst, a satirist, has written a charming picture book entitled “The Terrible, Awful, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day.” Her work, illustrated with black and white drawings, deals with the frustrations confronting a very young boy. Through the voice of a child, she reveals the emotional issues impacting children including sibling rivalry, parental approval, and unrealistic teacher expectations. This book is invaluable for those wishing to study the psychological makeup of young children mainly boys but also girls.

Another book with a minimal amount of print worth checking out is “A Chair for My Mother” by Vera Williams. The story of a family who has lost all of their belongings in a fire is told, in part, through brightly colored illustrations accompanied by text. The community pulls together to get the family back on their feet. In addition, the family helps itself reach a goal through hard work and stick-to-itiveness. This book addresses some key sociological support systems, including the extended family and the community.

So the text time you are in a bookstore or library, take a deep breath and a moment to stop and browse the children’s book section.

11. How does the writer of the article feel about children’s literature?
(A) The writer believes that it is a frivolous genre that should be dismissed.
(B) The writer believes that it has a great deal of merit.
(C) It isn’t clear.
(D) The writer feels that it should be rejected from people’s hearts.

12. In the first paragraph the words mutually dependent are used. In this context, what does mutually dependent mean?
(A) Both sides do not need one another.
(B) One side needs the other.
(C) Both sides need one another.
(D) Everyone is dependent upon the environment.
13. What was the psychological pressure, or pressures, mentioned in Judith Viorst’s book?
   (A) sibling rivalry
   (B) parental approval
   (C) teacher satisfaction
   (D) A and B but not C

14. What happened to the family in Vera Williams’s book?
   (A) They suffered from a fire.
   (B) They survived the fire.
   (C) A and B
   (D) none of the above

15. What is meant by the term stick-to-iteness?
   (A) competence
   (B) someone involved in sticky situations
   (C) someone who cannot work hard
   (D) someone who keeps on working until a goal is achieved

(II) Translate the following English paragraph into Chinese and the Chinese paragraph into English.

(i)
Language is ever experienced as the spontaneous overflow of an author’s powerful emotions, perceptions, and intelligence. Reading is seen as an interaction between two consciousnesses through a text. The acquisition of meaning by the reader is a movement through the reader towards the position of the author. The protagonist’s wish in a tale is an author’s sensible observations of some objects and reflections. However, recently, language is viewed as a given by a society. Reading is seen as a conformation on an individual’s consciousness from a society. The acquisition of meaning by the reader is through a process of construction such as rewards and punishments. Thus, the protagonist’s wish is no longer seen as someone’s aspirations reflected and written by an author, but presents the deepest desires and anxieties of a society. (20%)

(ii)
碧雲天，黃葉地，西風緊，塞燕南飛 (20%)

(III) Write an English essay on the following topic: (30%)

The Advantages and Disadvantages of the Internet