

Unit One Social Issues

➤ Warming-up Question

Are there any social issues in China? What do you think of them?



Section I Listening & Speaking

◆ Listening

Task 1. Listening Comprehension

Directions: In this section, you will hear 6 short conversations. At the end of each conversation, a question will be asked about what was said. Both the conversation and the question will be spoken twice. After each question there will be a pause. During the pause you must read the four choices marked A), B), C) and D), and decide which is the best answer. Then mark your answer.

Example:

You will hear:

M: Is it possible for you to work late, Miss Green?

W: Work late? I suppose so, if you really think it's necessary.

Q: Where does the conversation most probably take place?

You will read:

A) At the office.

B) In the waiting room.

C) At the airport.

D) In a restaurant.

From the conversation we know that the two were talking about some work they had to finish in the evening. This is most likely to have taken place at the office. Therefore, A) “At the office” is the best answer. You should choose answer A).

Sample Answer

A) B) C) D)

New Words and Expressions

reservation [ˌrezə'veɪʃn] *n.* 预订

cigarette [ˌsɪgə'ret] *n.* 香烟; 纸烟

counter ['kauntə(r)] *n.* (商店、银行等的) 柜台

telegram ['telɪgræm] *n.* 电报 (用电信号传递的信息)

a front view 临街面

a rear view 背街面

make-up 化妆品

Now let us listen to 6 short conversations, both the conversation and the question will be spoken twice.

- A) A restaurant. B) A park.
C) A hotel. D) A school.
- A) To make a reservation. B) To have a drink.
C) To look through the list. D) To fill out a form.
- A) The one with a window. B) The one with a beautiful view.
C) The one with a front view. D) The one with a rear view.
- A) The room number is 4047. B) The room is on the 4th floor.
C) The daily rate is \$ 115. D) The room number is 1447.
- A) Foreign cigarettes. B) Chinese cigarettes.
C) Some make-up. D) Some cigarettes and make-up.
- A) Two letters and one telegram. B) A message.
C) Two letters, one telegram and a message. D) Two letters and two telegrams.

Task 2. Listening Comprehension

Directions: In this section, you will hear a short passage. At the end of the passage, you will hear two questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken twice. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D).

Then mark your answer.



New Words and Expressions

consumer [kən'sju:mə(r)] *n.* 消费者; 顾客

persuade [pə'sweɪd] *v.* 劝说; 说服

create [kri'eɪt] *v.* 创造; 创作; 创建

environment [ɪn'vaɪrənmənt] *n.* 环境; 客观环境

exception [ɪk'sepʃn] *n.* 不包括在内的人(或物); 例外



- A) Advertisements also provide money for newspapers, magazines, radios and TV stations, etc.

B) Advertisements give the latest information about products.

C) In a shop as more goods are old, they have to be sold cheaply.

D) Consumers could not know about goods in their local shops, if there were no advertising.
- A) Advertisements suggest people not to buy goods.

B) Advertisements make the price of all the products higher and higher.

C) Advertisements are not only necessary but also helpful.

D) Advertisements beautify the environment.

Task 3. Spot Dictation

A. Directions: In this section, you will hear a passage three times. Listen carefully during the first reading. Then listen to the passage again. When it is being read the second time, you should fill in the ten blanks numbered from S1) to S10) with the exact words or phrases you have just heard. Finally, when the passage is read for the third time, you should check what you have written.

New Words and Expressions

advertisement [əd'vɜ:tɪsmənt] *n.* 广告; 启事

make money 挣钱



Nowadays advertisements are everywhere. I think advertisements have both good and bad **S1)** _____ on young students.

On one hand, advertisements give us information about things to buy. They make it easier for us to choose the best product. Also, some advertisements are beautifully **S2)** _____ and pleasant to look at.

But on the other hand, they can make trouble for us. First, most advertisements look **S3)** _____ and they persuade us to buy things we don't need at all. This is **S4)** _____ bad for young people. They are not making money yet and they have to ask for money from their parents. Sometimes they buy lots of **S5)** _____ food because the advertisements look **S6)** _____. We know junk food is always not **S7)** _____. What's more, some advertisements don't tell the truth. Many people find themselves **S8)** _____ after using certain products.

In short, advertisements have pros and **S9)** _____. As young students, we should learn to **S10)** _____ the problems ourselves.

B. Listen to the passage again and then decide whether each of the following statements is true (T) or false (F).

1. () The writer thinks advertisements only have bad effects on young students.
2. () The advertisements can make trouble for us.
3. () Sometimes the students buy lots of junk food.
4. () Some advertisements don't tell the truth to the public.

◆ Speaking

Task 1. Talk about the social issues with your classmates.

Task 2. Two students are in a pair to make a conversation as the following sample.

Sample

A: Congratulations! I heard that you're going to have the wedding ceremony. When is it?

B: We haven't fixed yet. You see it is one of the most important events in our life, and there are a lot of things to sort out.

A: Are you going to have a big wedding?

B: Yes, we are. Could you be my bridesmaid?

A: Sure, my pleasure.





Section II Passage One



Let's Marry to Keep the Love Going



The hectic lifestyle today posts that many people just do not have the time for marathon love to find their ideal partner. In my point, there is not much difference between being in love and marriage. As the old saying goes: marriage is just the days after a love certificate.

I think most people tend to get married after they fall in love, i. e. they love each other and intend to keep the love forever. If you really meet someone you fall in love with immediately, why not marry him/her soon? There is no difference in the two issues for real love.

People who choose a “Flash Marriage” believe there is no time for marathon dating when there are so many other things to be done. In addition, the issue of love is not an affair that can be guaranteed forever. Even after dating for five or eight years, nobody is confident that the love will be everlasting. If they spend a long time testing the affection, it's just to put obstacles on their own way. If the affection can't go on forever, both sides will be deeply hurt and no one can relive their past youth. Therefore, if you fall in love with someone, marry him/her, other things can be thought about later. No matter whether it is for dating or marriage, love is the most important thing.

If they are unfortunate to put an end to the wedlock, “Flash Marriage” and “Flash Divorce” are also “trouble-free”. Since if the “Flash Marriage” couple divorces, they will feel less hurt when compared with those who have been together for a long time.


So, “Flash Marriage” seems more like a big gamble. Perhaps “Flash Marriage” is not suitable for everyone. Only those who have courage and right attitude can take the risk!

(Words 302)

(节选自《英语畅谈流行时尚 50 主题》，主编 谭晓东)

New Words (★三级词汇 ◆超纲词汇)

◆hectic [ˈhektɪk] *a.* 忙碌的, 繁忙的marathon [ˈmæərəθən] *n.* 马拉松赛跑 (距离约 42 公里, 合 26 英里)partner [ˈpɑ:tne(r)] *n.* 配偶; 同伴

 marriage ['mæriɪdʒ] *n.* 结婚; 婚姻

★certificate [sə'tɪfɪkət] *n.* 证明; 证明书

★tend [tend] *v.* 往往会; 常常就; 趋向

intend [ɪn'tend] *v.* 打算; 计划; 想要

flash [flæʃ] *n.* 闪光; 闪耀

v. (使) 闪耀, 闪光; 用光发出信号

guarantee [ˌgærən'ti:] *n.* 保证; 担保

v. 保证; 担保

confident ['kɒnfɪdənt] *a.* 自信的; 有自信的

everlasting [ˌevə'lɑ:stɪŋ] *a.* 永久的; 永恒的

◆affection [ə'fekʃn] *n.* 喜爱; 钟爱

◆obstacle ['ɒbstəkl] *n.* 障碍; 阻碍

◆relive [ˌri:'lɪv] *v.* (尤指在想象中) 再次体验, 重温; 回味

◆wedlock ['wedlək] *n.* 婚姻; 已婚状态

divorce [dɪ'vɔ:s] *n.* 离婚

v. 与(某人)离婚; 判(某人)离婚

gamble ['gæmbəl] *v.* (牌戏、赛马等中) 赌博, 打赌

n. 赌博; 打赌; 冒险

suitable ['su:təbl] *a.* 合适的; 适宜的

risk [rɪsk] *n.* 危险; 风险

v. 使...冒风险(或面临危险)

Phrases and Expressions

have the time for...to do sth. 有时间做某事

in one's point 在某人看来

get married 结婚

fall in love 相爱

intend to do sth. 打算做某事

marathon dating 马拉松式约会

guarantee sth (to sb) 向某人保证某事

be guaranteed to do sth. 必定做某事

spend...(in) doing sth. 花... (时间、金钱等) 做某事

no matter whether 无论是否... (都不要紧)

compare with 与...相比较



1. Since the author left school, he has _____.
 A) taken a lot of correspondence courses
 B) attended many different courses
 C) learned a lot of languages
 D) had many interests

(Words 71)

Passage two

The job interview is the time to “sell” yourself by giving examples of experiences you have had about the job and by showing your good points. It is a good idea to make a list of your job experiences or a list of school courses that prepared you for the job. Be honest, but show confidence in yourself and your ability to do the job.

2. When you are preparing for a job interview, you’d better _____.
 A) show confidence
 B) give examples of your job-related experiences
 C) believe yourself
 D) make a list of your job experiences or a list of school courses

(Words 65)

Passage three

Adult drivers listen to music on the car radio as they drive to work. They also listen to the news about sports, the weather, and the life of American people. Most of the radio programmes are music. Pop or popular music singers make much money. They make a CD or tape which radio stations use in many places. Once the popular singer is heard all over the country, young people buy his or her tape. Some of the money from these tapes comes to the singer. Wherever the singer goes, all the young people want to meet him or her. Now the singer has become a national star.

3. When pop singers _____, they will become national stars.
 A) make much money
 B) make a CD or tape
 C) are loved by all the young people
 D) are wanted to sing on the radio

(Words 108)

Passage four

It was reported that the number of deaths caused by railways in one year was 4,712. That



sounds like a good argument for staying off trains, perhaps for keeping to your cars instead. But when you look at the figure more closely, you learn that it means something quite different. Nearly half of the victims were people whose cars ran into trains at crossings. Only one hundred and thirty-two were passengers on trains.

4. According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?

- A) People should keep away from the train.
- B) More people on trains are killed each year than those in cars.
- C) People should avoid travelling by train and by car.
- D) Travelling by train is relatively safe.

(Words 73)



Section II Passage Two

Becoming a Mortgage Slave or Not

Housing prices are keeping rising, especially in many parts of the country. Hesitating to buy a house means that you will never afford to buy your own house in the future. So the post-1980s struggle to buy their first one. They believe that it may be an affordable time for them to buy their first house, considering the job stability, the desire to settle down, and the low interest rates for the first-time buyers. Nowadays the interest rates are pretty much lower.



Nobody knows whether this favourable financial policy will be changed or not. Besides, most people have the strong desire to settle down. For those people who have strong career stability and can afford to pay the monthly mortgage, buying a house on mortgage is a feasible option. So, if your career is stable, and you are satisfied with your present situation, buying a house becomes a more attractive option.

But a lot of uncertainty about the housing market and the economy still remains. You should think about it carefully. Although a monthly mortgage payment may be comparable in some cases to a monthly rent, there are other expenses to consider. The post-80s are still getting a grasp on their future and have a constant change of lifestyle. The housing price is so high that life is hard for most people who earn just enough to pay their mortgage. They will take a very heavy financial



burden, as they have to pay their mortgage monthly. The costs for buying a house could add up to about 6% of the sale price, or roughly two or three years' worth of rents. Renting a house makes it possible to lead a comfortable life.

In conclusion, everyone has different choices about becoming a mortgage slave.

(Words 304)

(节选自《英语畅谈流行时尚 50 主题》，主编 谭晓东)

New Words (★三级词汇 ◆超纲词汇)

- ◆mortgage ['mɔ:grɪdʒ] v. 按揭 (由银行等提供房产抵押贷款)
- hesitate ['hezɪteɪt] v. 犹豫; (对某事) 迟疑不决
- affordable [ə'fɔ:dəbl] a. 付得起的; 买得起的
- ◆stability [stə'biləti] n. 稳定(性); 稳固(性)
- favourable ['feɪvərəbl] a. 给人好印象的; 赞同的
- ★financial [faɪ'nænsɪəl] a. 财政的; 财务的
- ★career [kə'riə(r)] n. 生涯; 职业
- ★feasible ['fi:zəbl] a. 可行的; 行得通的
- option ['ɒpʃn] n. 可选择的事物; 选择; 选择权
- stable ['steɪbl] a. 稳定的; 稳固的
- uncertainty [ʌn'sɜ:tnti] n. 犹豫; 迟疑
- economy [ɪ'kɒnəmi] n. 经济; 经济情况; 经济结构
- payment ['peɪmənt] n. 付款; 支付
- ★comparable ['kɒmpərəbl] a. 类似的; 可比较的
- expense [ɪk'spens] n. 费用; 价钱
- burden ['bɜ:dn] n. (义务、责任等的) 重担; 负担
v. (使) 担负 (沉重或艰难的任务、职责等)
- roughly ['rʌfli] ad. 大约; 大致
- conclusion [kən'klu:ʒn] n. 结论; 推论

Phrases and Expressions

- hesitate to do sth. 做某事迟疑
- afford to do 支付得起; (买) 得起 (某物)
- settle down 定居, 过安定生活
- interest rate 利率; 利息



be satisfied with 对...感到满意

in some cases 在一些情况下

add up to 总计达；意味着

in conclusion 最后，总之



Read and Choose

V. There are five questions or unfinished statements in the following. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Decide the best answer according to Passage Two.

1. People think they shouldn't hesitate to buy a house, because _____.
 - A) housing prices are keeping rising
 - B) people want to buy a house
 - C) people have money to buy a house
 - D) people have time to buy a house
2. According to the passage, which of the following statements is not true?
 - A) The post-1980s struggle to buy their first house.
 - B) This favorable financial policy will not be changed in the future.
 - C) The interest rates are pretty much lower.
 - D) Most people have the strong desire to settle down.
3. For some people, buying a house becomes a more attractive option. Which statement is not the real reason?
 - A) Because they have strong career stability.
 - B) Because they can afford to pay the monthly mortgage.
 - C) Because they are satisfied with your present situation.
 - D) Because they can borrow enough money from parents.
4. What can we learn from the passage?
 - A) Buying a house is easy for young people.
 - B) Most people do not buy their first house.
 - C) Buying a house is difficult for young people.
 - D) Renting a house is a good idea for all people.
5. What is the author's attitude about buying a house now?
 - A) Supporting.
 - B) Cautious.
 - C) Opposing.
 - D) Not mentioned.



VI. In this part, there are five sentences (the first four are taken from the two passages). Below each, there are five Chinese sentences translated, which marked A, B, C, D and E. Each letter stands for a score varying from 0 to 2. You should decide which is the best translation.

1. If they spend a long time testing the affection, it's just to put obstacles on their own way. *(Passage One)*
 - A. 如果用一段时间去测试是否有感情，就是在自找麻烦。
 - B. 如果用时间的长短去衡量能否吃苦，那他们就在回家的路上了。
 - C. 如果再花费大量的时间去验证爱情，就是给自己设置障碍。
 - D. 如果他们用时间去测试友情，那就是想给自己找麻烦。
 - E. 如果他们花费很长时间考验感情，那就是在自找麻烦。

2. If the affection can't go on forever, both sides will be deeply hurt and no one can relive their past youth. *(Passage One)*
 - A. 如果双方受了伤之后，感受就不可能继续下去了，谁都不会回来买青春了。
 - B. 一旦爱情无法永远延续下去了，双方都会受伤不说，没人做得到回味过去。
 - C. 感情一旦无法继续走下去，两方都会受伤，而且没人把你的青春还给你。
 - D. 感受如果无法继续，谁又能够为受伤的人们买回你们得青春岁月呢？
 - E. 如果爱情走不下去了，双方受伤不说，也没有人可以为消逝的青春“买单”。

3. They believe that it may be an affordable time for them to buy their first house, considering the job stability, the desire to settle down, and the low interest rates for the first-time buyers. *(Passage Two)*
 - A. 他们相信他们的第一套房就时间来说是可购买的，如果工作固定了，银行利率又很低，他们就可以考虑安定下来的事情了。
 - B. 他们相信可能是因为工作固定下来了，安定下来以后银行的利率就会很低的，所以这是买房的好时候。
 - C. 考虑到两人工作稳定，希望安定下来，况且初次购房者也可以享受较低的贷款利率，所以他们认为这是购买首套住房的好时机了。
 - D. 银行相信，假若他们工作固定以后，买房子的利率就会因为工作固定而给予优惠条件，那就是银行给他们很低的利息。
 - E. 他们考虑到两个人工作稳定，可以享受利率较低的银行贷款，所以希望到了对他们来说可以支付第一套住房的费用的时间了。

4. Although a monthly mortgage payment may be comparable in some cases to a monthly rent, there are other expenses to consider. *(Passage Two)*
 - A. 尽管月供跟你租房的费用相比较，仍然还有其他的某些费用要考虑支出。





- B. 虽然, 月供和房租的费用也差不了多少, 但除了月供你还得支出其他费用。
 C. 虽然月供在有些情况下可以跟你一个月租房的费用对比, 但还要考虑其他费用。
 D. 虽然有些情况下, 月供跟你每月租房的费用差不多, 不过还得考虑其他开支。
 E. 月供跟在你租房的以外要考虑的其他的费用相比较, 仍然有特殊情况。



5. Understanding your own personality is the important step in knowing how you relate to the world and those who are around you.



- A. 了解自己的个性, 就知道与人打交道的重要的一步了。
 B. 了解自己的个性, 在知道怎么与世界和你周围的人打交道是重要的。
 C. 了解自己的性格, 对如何待人接物有非常重要的帮助。
 D. 了解自己的性格, 在怎样打交道方面是重要的。
 E. 了解自己的个性的重要的阶段, 就是与世界有关。



Section III Grammar

Infinitive (不定式)

动词不定式指由 to 加上动词原形 (而且只能是动词原形) 所构成的一种非限定性动词, 但在有些情况下 to 可以省略。动词不定式在语法功能上可作主语、宾语、表语、定语和状语。

动词不定式仍具有动词的属性, 所以动词不定式及其短语还可以有自己的宾语、状语, 虽然动词不定式在语法上没有表面上的直接主语, 但它表达的意义是动作, 这一动作一定由使动者发出, 这一使动者我们称之为逻辑主语。

Review and Practice

VII. There are 10 incomplete sentences below. For each one, there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You should choose the best answer.

- The chair looks rather hard, but in fact it is very comfortable _____.
 A) to sit B) to sit on C) to be seat D) to be sat on
- Paul doesn't have to be made _____. He always works hard.
 A) learn B) to learn C) learned D) learning
- She pretended _____ me when I passed by.
 A) not to see B) not seeing C) to not see D) having not seen
- The boy wanted to ride his bicycle in the street, but his mother told him _____.



- A) not to B) not to do C) not do it D) do not to
5. —I usually go there by train.
—Why not _____ by boat for a change?
A) to try going B) trying to go C) to try and go D) try going
6. —The light in the office is still on.
—Oh, I forgot _____.
A) turning it off B) turn it off C) to turn it off D) having turned it off
7. She reached the top of the hill and stopped _____ on a big rock by the side of the path.
A) to have rested B) resting C) to rest D) rest
8. I find _____ to answer all the questions within the time given.
A) no possibility B) there was impossibility
C) impossible D) it impossible
9. They knew her very well. They had seen her _____ up from childhood.
A) grow B) grew C) was growing D) to grow
10. The bank is reported in the local newspaper _____ the day before yesterday.
A) to have been robbed B) robbed
C) having been robbed D) to rob

VIII. Put the proper forms of the following words in the blanks to complete the sentences.

- The boy was made _____ (sing) the song once again.
- There was nothing to do except _____ (escape).
- They would rather _____ (die) than _____ (surrender).
- I have no idea of how _____ (do) it.
- The problem is said _____ (discuss) three times.



Section IV Writing

Invitation Card/ Letter (请柬)

Invitation card/ letter for personal situations almost always involves one person inviting another/others to a social function. For most of these events (e.g. wedding, parties, baptisms, etc.), ready-made, pre-printed invitations can be purchased at stationery stores, eliminating the need to specifically write personal invitation letters for most of these situations.



Sample 1

Mr.& Mrs. Steve Johnson
request the pleasure of the company of
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Smith
On the occasion of the marriage of their daughter
Sandra
to
Mr.Martin Quinn
in the
church of the Immaculate Conception
Racheen
On Saturday, 9th June, 2008
at 2 p.m.
and afterwards at a reception in
the Court Hotel, Racheen
94 Marbell Road, Racheen
Co. Dublin

- R.S.V.P.
- By 25th May
- Tel. 8123456

Sample 2

100 Zizhu Road
Beijing,100083
June 23, 2008

Dear Prof. Smith,

My wife and I would be very happy if you could come to dinner on Monday, June 28, at 6:30 in the evening. We are having a party at Tianyuan Hotel. We do hope you can join us.

Sincerely yours
Albert Shaw

IX. Write an invitation card.

格林先生及夫人：兹订于 2012 年 5 月 3 日（星期六）下午三时半，在纽约天安教堂为小女玛丽·史密斯与乔治·布朗先生的结婚典礼。敬请光临！

约翰·史密斯夫妇





Section V Enjoy Yourself

A Song

Need You Now

-Lady Antebellum

Picture perfect memories scattered all around the floor
Reaching for the phone 'cause I can't fight it anymore
And I wonder if I ever cross your mind
For me it happens all the time
It's a quarter after one, I'm all alone and I need you now
Said I wouldn't call but I lost all control and I need you now
And I don't know how I can do without, I just need you now
Another shot of whiskey can't stop looking at the door
Wishing you'd come sweeping in the way you did before
And I wonder if I ever cross your mind
For me it happens all the time
It's a quarter after one I'm a little drunk and I need you now
Said I wouldn't call but I lost all control and I need you now
And I don't know how I can do without I just need you now
Ooh...
Guess I'd rather hurt than feel nothing at all
It's a quarter after one I'm all alone and I need you now
And I said I wouldn't call but I'm a little drunk and I need you now
And I don't know how I can do without I just need you now
I just need you now
Oh baby I need you now

