

## 2011年4月高等教育自学考试全国统一命题考试

### 英语词汇学 试题

课程代码:00832

I. Each of the statements below is followed by four alternative answers. Choose the one that best completes the statement and put the letter in the bracket. (30%)

1. The development of English vocabulary can be divided into the following particular historical period EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_. ( C )2.2-25

A. Old English    B. Middle English

C. New English    D. Modern English

2. The definition of a word comprises the following points \_\_\_\_\_. ( D )1.1-7

(1) a minimal free form of a language

(2) a sound unity

(3) a unit of meaning

(4) a form that can function alone in a sentence

A. (1) and (2)    B. (1) (2) and (3)

C. (2) (3) and (4)    D. (1) (2) (3) and (4)

3. Words of the basic word stock can each be used alone, and at the same time can form new words with other roots and affixes, e.g. foot is the father of football, footage and footprint. This demonstrates that one of the characteristics of the words of the basic stock is \_\_\_\_\_ .

( A )1.5.1-12

A. productivity    B. polysemy

C. stability    D. collocability

4. The Indo-European language family is made up of most of the languages of Europe, the Near East, and \_\_\_\_\_. ( A )2.1-23

A. India    B. the Far East

C. the West Asia    D. America

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5. In the early period of Modern English, Europe saw a new upsurge of learning ancient Greek and \_\_\_\_\_ classics. This is known in history as the Renaissance. ( C )2.2.3-28

- A. India B. German  
C. Roman D. Chinese

6. Which of the following statements is NOT true? ( B )2.2-33-34

- A. Old English was a highly inflected language.  
B. In early Middle English period, English, Latin and Celtic existed side by side.  
C. The introduction of printing into England marked the beginning of modern English period.  
D. The most important mode of vocabulary development in present-day English is creation of new words by means of word-formation.

7. The smallest functioning unit in the composition of words is \_\_\_\_\_. ( A )3.1-38

- A. morpheme B. affixes  
C. root D. stem

8. There is/are \_\_\_\_\_ monomorphemic word(s) in the following words: hot, dog, feet, matches.

- ( B )3.2-38  
A. 1 B. 2  
C. 3 D. 4

9. The plural morpheme "-s" is pronounced as/s/in the following words EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

- ( B )3.2-38  
A. packs B. bags  
C. cheats D. ships

10. 30% to 40% of the total number of new words in English vocabulary are produced through \_\_\_\_\_. ( A )4-45

- A. affixation B. clipping  
C. compounding D. shortening

11. The formation of new words by converting words of one class to another class is called \_\_\_\_\_. ( D )4.3-56

- A. prefixation B. suffixation

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C. acronymy **D. conversion**

12. The method of creating words by removing the supposed suffixes is called \_\_\_\_\_.

( **A** )4.7-67

**A. back-formation** B. clipping

C. blending D. suffixation

13. \_\_\_\_\_ accounts for the connection between the linguistic symbol and its meaning.

( **B** )5.2-83

A. Sense **B. Motivation**

C. Concept D. Reference

14. By \_\_\_\_\_ motivation, we mean that the meaning of a particular word is related to its origin.

( **D** )5.2.4-85

A. onomatopoeic B. morphological

C. semantic **D. etymological**

15. In English there are \_\_\_\_\_ types of motivation that concerns the relationship between the sign and meaning. ( **C** )5.2-83

A. 2 B. 3

**C. 4** D. 5

16. What is a common feature peculiar to all natural languages? ( **D** )6.1-95

A. Suffixation. B. Variation.

C. Allomorph. **D. Polysemy.**

17. Red, scarlet, mauve, violet, lavender, pansy, black, purple, etc, make up the \_\_\_\_\_ field of 'colours'. ( **B** )6.6-120

A. stylistic **B. semantic**

C. elliptic D. syntactic

18. What is applicable to contradictory terms of some antonyms may NOT be applicable to their \_\_\_\_\_ terms? ( **C** )6.4.1-114

A. connotative B. collocative

**C. relative** D. negative

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19. When a common word is turned into a proper noun, the meaning is \_\_\_\_\_ accordingly.  
( B ) 7.1.2-137-138
- A. related    B. narrowed  
C. created    D. suggested
20. Which of the following words was used during the American Civil War to refer to those northerners who were secretly aiding the South? ( D ) 7.2.1-143
- A. Rattlesnake.    B. Villain.  
C. Informer.    D. Copperhead.
21. People change word-meaning owing to various \_\_\_\_\_ motives: love, respect, courtesy, suspicion, pessimism, sarcasm, irony, contempt, hatred, etc. ( A ) 7.2.1-143
- A. psychological    B. social  
C. communicative    D. lexical
22. In a narrow sense, context refers to the words, clauses, sentences in which a word appears and is known as \_\_\_\_\_ context. ( B ) 8.1-149
- A. non-linguistic    B. linguistic  
C. grammatical    D. lexical
23. Which of the following is one of the main functions of verbal context? ( D ) 8.2-154
- A. Elimination of ambiguity.  
B. Indication for referents.  
C. Provision of clues for inferring word-meaning.  
D. All the above.
24. Which of the following is NOT true about extra-linguistic context? ( A ) 8.1-149
- A. It can be subdivided into grammatical context and non-linguistic context.  
B. It refers to physical situation or environment relating to the use of words.  
C. It embraces the people, time and place.  
D. It may extend to embrace the entire cultural background.
25. The idiom "fall into good hands" is a \_\_\_\_\_ as far as figures of speech are concerned.  
( A ) 9.3.2-175

- A. **synecdoche** B. metaphor  
C. metonymy D. personification
26. "Flesh and blood" is an idiom \_\_\_\_\_ in nature. ( B )9.2.1-166  
A. verbal B. **nominal**  
C. adjectival D. adverbial
27. The change of idiom "velvet paws" from the original form is \_\_\_\_\_.( D )9.3.3-177  
A. replacement B. position-shifting  
C. addition D. **shortening**
28. American dictionaries generally use \_\_\_\_\_ to mark the pronunciation. ( D )10.2.2-192  
A. British Phonetic Alphabet B. American Phonetic Alphabet  
C. International Phonetic Alphabet D. **Webster's Phonetic Alphabet**
29. Which of the following dictionaries is NOT a specialized dictionary? ( B )10.1.4-188  
A. The Oxford Dictionary of English Etymology  
B. **Chamber's Encyclopaedic English Dictionary**  
C. Longman Dictionary of Phrasal Verbs  
D. Webster's New Dictionary of Synonyms
30. Usage notes of the dictionary explain \_\_\_\_\_. ( D )10.2.2-193  
A. the slight difference between words of similar meanings  
B. difficult points of grammar and style  
C. important British and American differences  
D. **all the above**

**II. Complete the following statements with proper words or expressions according to the course book. (15 %)**

31. The general estimate of the present-day English vocabulary is over one million words.1.4-10
32. At the end of 6<sup>th</sup> century, Latin-speaking missionaries under St. Augustine came to spread Christianity in Britain. It brought many new ideas and customs and also many religious terms such as abbot, candle, altar, etc.2.2.1-25

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33. The forms that are attached to words or word elements to modify meaning or function are affixes.3.3.2-40

34. The process of changing the word "possible" into "impossible" is called prefixation.4.1-46

35. The synonymous pair "die — pass away" has the same concept but different stylistic values.5.1.2-83

36. Semantically, all words are related in one way or another.6-95

37. Fortuitous formerly denoted 'happening by chance', 'accidental' and later took on the meaning 'fortunate' probably by analogy because the two words look similar.7.2.2-145

38. The sentence "He is a hard businessman" is ambiguous due to polysemy.8.2.1-155

39. The characteristic of idioms — semantic unity can be reflected by the understanding of such idiom as "rain cats and dogs".9.1.1-163

40. Definition, extra column and usage examples are the unique features of Collins COBUILD English Language Dictionary (1987).10.3.2-199

### III. Define the following terms. (15%)

41. jargon 1.5.1-13

答案: Jargon refers to the specialized vocabularies by which members of particular arts, sciences, trades and professions communicate among themselves.

42. derivational affix 3.3.2-41

答案: Derivational affixes are affixes added to other morphemes to create new words. Derivational affixes can be further divided into prefixes and suffixes.

43. grammatical meaning 5.3.1-86

答案: Grammatical meanings refers to that part of the meaning of the word which indicates grammatical concept or relationships such as part of speech of words (nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs), singular and plural meaning of nouns, tense meaning of verbs and their inflectional forms (*forget, forgets, forgot, forgotten, forgetting*).

44. associated transfer 7.1.4-140

答案: A term used in relation to changes in word in which the meaning is transferred through association.

45. variations of idioms 9.3.3-176

答案: When idioms are used in actual context, they do experience grammatical changes such as different forms of verbs, agreement of personal pronouns and number and so on. Occasionally, we may find changes in constituents of idioms: addition, deletion, replacement, position-shifting, dismembering, etc.

**IV. Answer the following questions. Your answers should be clear and short. Write your answers in the space given below. (20 %)**

46. leorn→ian→lern→en→learn

Above is the change of "learn" from Old English through Middle English to Modern English.

What can you conclude from the viewpoint of the development of English vocabulary? 2.2.3-29

答案: In modern English, word endings were mostly lost with just a few exceptions. It can be concluded that English has evolved from a synthetic language (Old English) to the present analytic language.

47. Both initialisms and acronyms are formed to a certain extent from initial letters. Is there any difference between them? Illustrate your point with examples. 4.6-65

答案:

Acronymy is the process of forming new words by joining the initial letters of names of social and political organizations or special noun phrases and technical terms. Words formed in this way are called initialisms or acronyms, depending on the pronunciation of the words. Initialisms are words pronounced letter by letter. Such as OA, BBC, TV. British Broadcasting Corporation, Acronyms are words formed from initial letters but pronounced as a normal word, for example AIDS(acquired immune deficiency syndrome), TERL(teaching English as a foreign language), N-bomb(nuclear bomb), G-man(Government man).

48. What is the appropriate antonym for acute in the following statement? 6.4.2-114

She got an acute pain in her back.

答案: The appropriate antonym for acute in "She got an acute pain in her back" is dull.

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49. What are contextual clues?

Guess the meaning of the word underlined in the following sentence and tell what contextual clues have helped you in arriving at the meaning. 8.2.3-157

(a) Perhaps the most startling theory to come out of kinesics, the study of body movement, was suggested by Professor Birdwhistell.

(b) It's just one more incredible result of the development of microprocessors — those tiny parts of a computer commonly known as "silicon chips".

答案: Context may prove extremely valuable in guessing the meanings of new words. In many cases, when a new word (thought to be) appears for the first time, the author generally manages to give hints which might help the readers to grasp the concept or understand the idea.

(a) Definition . the study of body movement

(b) Explanation . the tiny parts of a computer commonly known as "silicon chips"

**V. Analyze and comment on the following. Write your answers in the space given below. (20 %)**

50. Comment on the following groups to illustrate the difference between partial and full conversion.

Group 1: "white — a white, final — finals"

Group 2: "rich — the rich, wounded — the wounded" 4.3-58

答案: It is not unusual to have nouns converted from adjectives. Unlike verbs, not all adjectives which are converted can achieve a full noun status. Some are completely converted, thus known as **full conversion**, others are only partially converted, hence **partial conversion**.

Group 1: A noun fully converted from an adjective has all the characteristics of nouns. It can take an indefinite article or *-(e) s* to indicate singular or plural number. "white — a white, final — finals" are common adjectives.

Group 2: Nouns partially converted from adjectives do not possess all the qualities a noun does. They must be used together with definite articles. What's more, they retain some of the adjective features, for example, the *poor*, the *rich*, the *young*, the *wounded*, the *poorer*, the more *affluent*, the most *corrupt*. the *young* = young people, the *wounded* = wounded soldiers.

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51. Analyze and comment on the meanings of the following sentences and then find out the right antonyms for each fast respectively.

[A] My god, look, this clock is one hour fast, as if we were at Tokyo.

[B] The colors aren't fast, so be careful when you wash this shirt.

[C] The delegation paid a fast visit to the United Kingdom last month.6.4.2-114

答案: A word which has more than one meaning can have more than one antonym.

Sentence [A] means the clock is one hour ahead of the local time, and the right antonym of fast is slow.

Sentence [B] means the colors are resistant to destruction of fading, and the right antonym of ward fast is loose.

Sentence [C] means the visit was accomplished in relatively little time, and the right antonym of fast is long.

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