2003 年度英語読解力考査 This is NOT the actual test.

PART 1

Text 1

Every day hundreds of millions of people all over the world are going hungry because so much farmland is now being used to grow "feed grain" for animals rather than "food grain" for people. Grain-fed cattle, pigs, sheep, and other livestock, in turn, are being consumed by the wealthiest people on the planet while the poor go hungry. Affluent populations, especially in Europe, North America and Japan, devour the most expensive food products at the top of the global food hierarchy - namely, meat. Almost without notice, world agriculture has completed a revolutionary shift away from growing food grain for people to providing feed grain for animals. This shift presents the planet with an alarming new problem, with consequences possibly far greater and longer lasting than more visible events such as wars and natural disasters.

In the United States more than 70 percent of the grain produced is fed not to people but to livestock. Furthermore, nearly 157 million tons of cereal, legumes, and vegetable protein suitable for human consumption is fed each year to animals. This massive amount of potential human nutrition ends up producing only 28 minion tons of animal protein - meat - for people to eat. These huge losses of cereal food and vegetable protein are increasingly mirrored in trends around the globe. In the developing world, for instance, the share of grain fed to cattle has tripled since 1950 and now exceeds 21 percent of the total amount of grain produced. In China, the share of grain fed to cattle has gone from 8 to 26 percent since 1960. During this same period, in Mexico, the share rose from 5 to 45 percent, in Egypt from 3 to 31 percent, and in Thailand from 1 to 30 percent. The implication of this shift in food production can perhaps be better understood by considering the fact that an acre of farmland used for growing cereal

produces five times more protein than an acre used for meat production. An acre devoted to legumes - such as beans - can produce 10 times more protein than one devoted to meat. Finally, an acre of leafy vegetables offers 15 times more protein.

Tragically, 80 percent of the world's hungry children live in countries with food surpluses. Another irony of this food production system is that millions of wealthy consumers in developed countries are dying from diseases of affluence - heart attacks, strokes, cancer, and other illnesses - brought on by excessive eating of fatty grain-fed beef and other meats. Meanwhile, the poor in the developing world are dying from poverty - related diseases caused by a lack of affordable grain and vegetables. Nonetheless, consuming large quantities of grain-fed beef and other meats is viewed by many people as a basic right, and the ethical consequence of the meat culture are rarely discussed. In short, humans have yet to consider how the food preferences of the world's wealthiest consumers are causing others to starve.

- 46. What is the main point of this text?
 - a. Meat is nearly always harmful to the health of consumers.
 - b. People in poorer nations also should have the right to eat meat.
 - c. Eating meat rather than plant protein has serious ethical implications.
 - d. Not enough grain is being grown to meet global demand.
- 47. What does the writer imply about a continued increase in feed grain production?
 - a. It should pass unnoticed.
 - b. It may lead to new wars.
 - c. Its consequences may be severe.
 - d. It will cause serious environmental damage.
- 48. Why does the writer mention the United States?
 - a. It produces the greatest number of meat products in the world.
 - b. It has been the first to recognize the growing food crisis.
 - c. Its farmers are beginning to produce more food grain.
 - d. Its grain is mainly grow for animal consumption.
- 49. Which developing country grows the highest percentage of "feed grain" as compared to "food grain"?
 - a. China
 - b. Mexico
 - c. Egypt
 - d. Thailand
- 50. Approximately how many times more protein does an acre of lettuce or cabbage produce than an acre of feed grain?
 - a. Five times.
 - b. Ten times.
 - c. Fifteen times.
 - d. Twenty times.

- 51. Which inference can be made from the fact that "80 percent of the world's hungry children live in countries with food surpluses"?
 - a. Hungry children are living in countries all around the world.
 - b. The food distribution system in some countries is inadequate.
 - c. Corporations are mainly responsible for the global distribution of food.
 - d. National food production is the primary indicator of a country's health.
- 52. Which of the following ironies does the writer note in the last paragraph?
 - a. Too much meat consumption also harms the rich.
 - b. Many wealthy people actually want to consume less meat.
 - c. Farmers benefit the most from high meat consumption.
 - d. Disease of the poor could be cured by eating less meat.
- 53. The word "affluent" in line 5 is closest in meaning to which of the following?
 - a. high
 - b. rich
 - c. dense
 - d. increasing
- 54. Which of the following phrases best describes how the text is organized?
 - a. The comparison of two points of view.
 - b. An argument with supporting evidence.
 - c. The careful description of a process.
 - d. A series of definitions and examples.
- 55. What is the author's overall tone in this text?
 - a. critical
 - b. sarcastic
 - c. enthusiastic
 - d. optimistic

Text 2

Throughout the animal kingdom, power differences are built into the biology of males and females. In many insect species, females have the advantage. While males often have only long enough to mate, females have long and varied roles. The most famous example is the black widow spider; after mating, the female often eats the male. Among mammals, the physical advantages tend to run in the opposite direction, and males tend to be considerably larger and stronger than females. These gender differences appear to have an adaptive and evolutionary role: Because males specialize in protecting the young from outside threats, they need to be strong. By contrast, since females spend most of their time taking care of infants, they can afford to be smaller and less threatening. This difference between genders also makes sense when one considers competition for food. If both sexes were large, more food would be needed to keep everyone alive and fit, so it is easier for species that have these built-in gender differences to survive. Human beings, like most other mammals, fit this pattern.

Unfortunately, this sensible physical differentiation, which should benefit both males and females equally, can easily become a source of cultural exploitation. In many societies, the male power advantage is used to give them control over women's lives. For instance, in much of Asia, women have far fewer life choices than men. In China, far more female babies are aborted, abandoned, or given up for adoption than male babies. Each year roughly one million Asian girls are forced into a kind of slavery. This is because in poorer countries such as India, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Myanmar, Thailand, and Sri Lanka, the sex industry is one of the most profitable markets. For the most part, men are its profiteers and consumers; women its commodities.

The other class of persons who are at a physical disadvantage - at least temporarily are children. In most historical periods they have been exploited by adults who needed extra pairs of hands to do work. According to some estimates, in Asia, even today, 40 million children under the age of fifteen have to work long hours in miserable conditions for terrible pay. Children are also the most likely group to receive inadequate nutrition and health care. The United Nations estimates that throughout the world about 10 million children under the age of five die each year from simple illnesses related to nutrition or the environment, such as diarrhea and breathing ailments. The disadvantages that children face are found not only in the poorer countries. As recently as 1990, for example, 13 million American Children lived in poverty.

Of course, not all of the biological disadvantages are on the side of women and children. Children eventually grow up, and women tend to live longer than men - in most developed countries, nearly seven years longer. Yet as a social ideal, equality is a long way from being achieved, and biology too often still seems to be a form of human destiny.

- 56. What is this text mainly about?
 - a. The social disadvantages of children.
 - b. Why humans tend to be cruel to each other.
 - c. Why men and women should be treated equally.
 - d. The relation between biology and social inequality.
- 57. According to the text, which of the following statements is true of insects?
 - a. Females tend to have a biological advantage.
 - b. The main function of males is to protect females.
 - c. Males often take care of the children.
 - d. Females frequently eat male offspring.
- 58. How does the writer explain the rise of gender differences in mammals?
 - a. Male-female differences directly raise reproduction rates.
 - b. Male-female differences increase a species' chance for survival.
 - c. Male-female differences are randomly pre-determined.
 - d. Male-female differences socially strengthen each sex.
- 59. Which of the following is NOT referred to by the writer to support the point that women in Asia are exploited?
 - a. The sex industry.
 - b. The abandonment of female babies.
 - c. The lower pay of female workers.
 - d. The different rates of adoption for male and female babies.
- 60. According to the text, how many children in Asia are forced to work in unfair conditions?
 - a. 1 minion
 - b. 10 million
 - c. 13 minion
 - d. 40 million

- 61. Why does the writer refer to American children in paragraph thee?
 - a. To show that oppressive conditions exist even in richer countries.
 - b. To suggest hat American society is often unfair.
 - c. To indicate that medical care needs to be improved worldwide.
 - d. To imply that many industrial societies abuse children as laborers.
- 62. Which fact does the writer mention that suggests women are not always at a biological disadvantage compared to men?
 - a. They die less often during birth.
 - b. They can better survive food shortages.
 - c. They are more emotionally balanced.
 - d. They tend to live longer.
- 63. The phrase "built-in" underlined in paragraph one could best be replaced by which of the following words?
 - a. incompatible
 - b. inaccessible
 - c. individual
 - d. innate
- 64. The word "miserable" underlined in paragraph three is closest in meaning to which of the following?
 - a. chronic
 - b. dreadful
 - c. extravagant
 - d. sympathetic
- 65. With which conclusion would the writer probably agree?
 - a. Social exploitation of females occurs in all species.
 - b. Children are more exploited today than in the past.
 - c. Societies need to improve the treatment of women and children.
 - d. Biological evolution will someday lead to greater social equality.

PART 2

次のテキストには 20 の空欄 (66 - 85) があり、18 頁に各空欄に対する 4 つの選択肢が与えられています.最初に 1 度テキストを通読して、全体の意味を把握するようにつとめてください.その後、各空欄に最も適当と思われる選択肢を 1 つ選び、解答用カードの相当欄を鉛筆でぬってください.

Digital materials are made up of both the digital representations and the perceptible forms produced from them. A digital representation is a kind of "master," a generator that _(66)_ you to make an indefinite _(67)_ of copies. There are two different senses in which you might _(68)_ to make copies from a digital master. _(69)_ you can make copies of the representation _(70)_ the electronic bits. (You do this when you make a copy of a Microsoft Word file, for example.) _(71)_ you could also be said to make copies from the digital representation when you create _(72)_ forms, say, by printing your Microsoft Word file or _(73)_ it on your computer screen. It is this second _(74)_ of copying that is particularly interesting, _(75)_ this is how you go from the bits to something you can read or hear.

This method of making copies is _(76)_ quite ancient. For several thousand years at least, people _(77)_ how to create stamps, templates, or patterns from which a set of nearly _(78)_ copies could be _(79)_. Coins are one of the first instance of this. _(80)_ the fifth century B.C., gold and silver coins bearing inscriptions were minted from bronze dies. The use of seals and signet rings to impress a "signature" (or some other identifying mark) is _(81)_. The Louvre Museum, for example, has in its collection the cylindrical seal of an Akkadian scribe _(82)_ the twenty - third century B.C. Block printing, which _(83)_ carving text and images on a wood block, then inking the block and transferring its images onto smooth surfaces (skins, fabric, or paper), was know in the East as early as the eighth century. The same _(84)_ was widely available in the West_(85)_ the fourteenth century.

66. a. adjusts	67. a. degree	68. a. be said
b. allows	b. kind	b. be saying
c. requests	c. number	c. being said
d. rejects	d. size	d. say
69. a. Alternatively	70. a. for itself	71. a. But
b. In fact	b. in itself	b. If
c. Namely	c. itself	c. When
d. On the one hand	d. on itself	d. Where
72. a. perceptible	73. a. bringing	74. a. affect
b. percepted	b. delivering	b. sense
c. perception	c. displaying	c. time
d perceptive	d. supplying	d. trend
75. a. because	76. a. actually	77. a. been known
b. but	b. approximately	b. have known
c. then	c. nearly	c. should have known
d. therefore	d. thoroughly	d. will have know
78. a. identical	79. a. managed	80. a. As long ago
b. illegible	b. manipulated	b. As long ago as
c. possible	c. maneuvered	c. As long as
d. reliable	d. manufactured	d. Long ago as
81. a. even old	82. a. dated	83. a. connected
b. even older	b. dates	b. described
c. older even	c. that dates from	c. involved
d. old even	d. that is dated in	d. pushed
	0.5	
84. a. technical b. technicality	85. a. as b. at	

c. by

d. on

c. technician

d. technique