國立臺北商業技術學院100學年度二技轉學招生入學考試

科目：英文閱讀能力測驗

考生填准考證號碼

注意事項：一、本試題共50題，每題2分，共100分。

二、所有試題都是選擇題，每題都有(A)、(B)、(C)、(D)四個選項，全部為單一選擇題。請用原子筆在答案卷內依序作答，否則不予計分。(試題答錯者不倒扣)。

三、試題隨同答案卷一併繳回。

I. 綜合測驗：1至35題，請依各篇短文文意，選出一個最適當的答案。

As the financial crisis is at least temporarily put on hold, many corporations are starting to talk about __1__. The obsession with cutting costs and survival is ebbing and CEOs are planning to begin boosting __2__ next year. In an effort to emphasize its __3__ efforts, the company recently announced plans to cancel all management employees' bonuses and not pay __4__ to its salaried employees. Many people consider this to be an extremely __5__. This tends to scare many investors away and makes them reluctant to invest at this time.

1. (A) taking a vacation (B) top-line growth (C) the economy (D) saving money
2. (A) sales and revenues (B) bonuses (C) salaries (D) development
3. (A) innovative (B) merchandising (C) cost cutting (D) corporate
4. (A) any merit increases (B) anything (C) much money (D) cash
5. (A) volatile and unpredictable sector (B) difficult problem to solve (C) good idea (D) exciting project

A recent decision to create a new law for the nation's bankruptcy code has thousands of people filing for __6__ from creditors. Is bankruptcy the right choice for consumers facing a huge amount of debt? That depends a great deal on their situation and how serious it is. Experts agree that filing for bankruptcy should be the __7__ to take, since it takes longer to repair your credit than other __8__ methods. But for those who think bankruptcy is a __9__ financially, experts advise considering what debts they want to cancel out. For example, debts as a result of childcare-support obligations or divorce __10__, will not be cancelled as a result of declaring bankruptcy. Also, many taxes are not __11__, and the same goes for credit card debt and __12__. If bankruptcy is not your __13__, the next question to ask is whether you can __14__ your debts skillfully on your own, says Susan C. Keating, president and CEO of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling, which advises more than a million people annually in its 1,000 offices nationwide. "If you have more than one or two debts, managing them is harder than you think and it may be time to get help from __15__," she said. "The majority of clients we see who are in dire financial straits got there because of event-related situation like a job loss or an illness. The emotional component is so overwhelming that it makes managing debt more difficult to deal with."

6. (A) attention (B) protection (C) references (D) disagreement
7. (A) last option (B) best idea (C) difficult situation (D) worst decision
8. (A) spending (B) shopping (C) bank loan (D) debt-recovery
9. (A) fresh start (B) mistake (C) disaster (D) decision
10. (A) court (B) lawyer (C) trial (D) alimony
11. (A) pleasant (B) dischargeable (C) legal (D) important
12. (A) student loans (B) vacations (C) medicine (D) unemployment
13. (A) problem (B) suggestion (C) intention (D) hobby
14. (A) enjoy (B) manage (C) give away (D) benefit from
15. (A) counseling (B) medication (C) exercise (D) budgeting

Theme parks __16__ Six Flags, Sea World, Disneyland and Disney World, and Universal Studios have __17__ been a favorite vacation destination for American families and tourists from abroad. Theme parks outside the United States are becoming __18__ popular with the success of Euro Disney (France) and Disneyland Tokyo. Now Japanese families have another __19__ for fun at Universal Studios Japan, which __20__ in Osaka in 2001.

16. (A) such as (B) are (C) some (D) the
17. (A) long (B) gone (C) due to (D) a
18. (A) increase (B) increasingly (C) good (D) slow
19. (A) goal (B) opportunity (C) with (D) to
20. (A) introduction (B) opened (C) closed (D) big

How does a computer networking company __21__ a well-known brand? That was the challenge __22__ 3Com. The 3com __23__, which doubles as the company name, was based on the founders' original vision of "computer, communication, and compatibility." Now, more than two decades after the California-based company was __24__, top management was planning a major change in marketing strategy and wanted to reinforce the new __25__ by re-launching the brand.

21. (A) boot (B) reboot (C) brand (D) run
22. (A) facing (B) coming (C) looking (D) playing
23. (A) brand (B) people (C) chips (D) building
24. (A) born (B) the company (C) the people (D) began
25. (A) place (B) people (C) company (D) direction

The renminbi __26__ its highest level in five years after China central bank announces to __27__ currency restrictions. Economists and business leaders __28__ in support of China's move, which is welcomed quickly by the United States. The appreciation of the renminbi has drawn many investors' and speculators' attentions as well. They believe that it is a great opportunity to gain profits. They __29__ to buy renminbi with high hopes for more appreciation. However, economists say there's a 2 to 3 percent difference when one exchanges the currency. Therefore, the renminbi would have to __30__ by at least 3 percent before investors expect to make profits by exchanging currency.

26. (A) increases (B) hits (C) drops (D) decrease
27. (A) ease (B) enhance (C) risk (D) worsen
28. (A) speak up (B) speak for (C) speak of (D) speak out
29. (A) rush (B) will rush (C) have been rushing (D) have rushed

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30. (A) go up (B) decline (C) decay (D) go down

In the 1980s, the U.S. __31__ fear that Japan would become the greatest power in manufacturing and technology. Those fears never __32__. Nowadays the same fears__33__China. The Middle Kingdom appears to be an even more scary opponent, with its enormous foreign reserves, __34__ economy, and enormous __35__ to high-tech companies. Will China be the threat to the U.S.?

31. (A) was charged with (B) was consumed with (C) was filled with (D) compensated for
32. (A) came to pass (B) came to an end (C) came to a close (D) came to a head
33. (A) are focused on (B) take place (C) take over (D) are built up
34. (A) misleading (B) slow-growing (C) fast-growing (D) significantly
35. (A) subside (B) subsidence (C) subsidiary (D) subsidies

II. 閱讀測驗：第36至50題，每題請分別根據各篇文章之文意選出最適當的一個選項。

In the past, the United States was considered one of the most innovative countries in the world. It had many of the world's top corporations, its universities were considered some of the best in the world, and its research in the areas of space exploration and advanced communication were unrivaled.

Over the years, this has been changing. While, the U.S. still ranks very high in terms of research productivity and development, countries in Asia and other parts of the world have become much more innovative and have begun closing the gap in this area. This change presents a big challenge for the U.S.

In many Western countries, the economic meltdown has forced governments to focus more of their attention on the economy. While this is important, it is also important for these countries to continue to develop innovative new technologies and industries. In times of turmoil, research developments are important. Not only can they can lay the foundation for new industries and new jobs, they can also provide hope for the future.

36. The main idea of this article is
(A) During an economic recession governments must focus on the economy.
(B) The United States is one of the most innovative countries in the world.
(C) During an economic recession governments should still invest in research and development.
(D) The United States has some of the top universities in the world.

37. According to the article, countries in Asia and other parts of the world have
(A) started to rival the U.S. in terms of innovation.
(B) now have better universities than the U.S.
(C) become more advanced than the U.S. in the areas of space exploration and advanced communication.
(D) laid the foundation for new industries and new jobs.

38. In this article, the writer is of the opinion that
(A) the U.S. is no longer innovative.
(B) the U.S. must become more innovative and develop new industries in order to compete with other countries.
(C) despite the economic recession, the U.S. is the most innovative country in the world.
(D) Asian and European countries should do more to compete with the U.S.

Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel recently announced that she is demanding equal pay for women. She has advised any woman who earns less than her male colleague for the same work to go to her boss and demand a raise in pay.

While Merkel doesn't favor state regulation to implement this, she has pledged to keep up political pressure. In Europe, women tend to make less money than men for the same work. However, in Germany this discrepancy is even higher.

Angela Merkel is considered by many to be one of the most powerful and influential women in the world. Hopefully this will have a beneficial effect on women in her country and influence their positions in the workforce.

39. How does Angela Merkel plan to help women receive equal pay for equal work?
(A) She will fight for state regulations to establish this.
(B) She will put pressure on the government.
(C) She will give all women a pay raise.
(D) She will decrease men's salaries.

40. Most European women
(A) make as much money as men.
(B) make less money than men.
(C) make the same amount of money.
(D) are quite powerful and influential.

When ABC Inc. was founded by James Mitchell in 1972, it was a small privately held consulting firm that specialized in land use analysis projects. Today it is the largest GIS research and development organizations in the world with over 5000 employees located in offices all over the world.

During the late 1970s, ABC focused primarily on developing what is known today as GIS technology. The company started out small but, through the development of many exciting and innovative products, expanded rapidly and became extremely successful. ABC held its first conference in 1982 at its worldwide headquarters, which was then located in California. At that time only 12 people attended. Today ABC's annual conference is one of the biggest GIS events in the world, with more than 10,000 people from many different countries in attendance.

Throughout the 1980s, the company's product line grew extensively and the company experienced its highest growth to date. For the sake of convenience, the world headquarters was transferred from California to Seattle, Washington and a number of new offices were opened around the world. During this time, ABC developed a line of products that addressed the needs of the business-to-business market and the business-to-consumer market. This enabled their product line to grow and fortified their position as the world leader in the GIS market.

The 21st Century has been a very exciting time for ABC as they continue to be at the forefront of innovation. Faster and cheaper computers, network processing, electronic data publishing, and easier-to-use tools are contributing to rapid growth, particularly in the area of desktops. Private businesses are adopting GIS technology. In addition, now that live mapping applications have been introduced to the Web, anyone who has a computer can use GIS technology.

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ABCs success can be attributed not only to its innovative approach to product development but also to its dedication to its user community. The relationship between ABC and its users can best be described as synergistic. Over the years, the company has developed a special relationship with its users emphasizing innovation and collaboration. This is what has enabled them to succeed.

41. ABC Inc.'s headquarters
    (A) are located all over the world.
    (B) is located in Seattle
    (C) is located in California
    (D) has recently moved to California

42. In the 1980s, ABC Inc.
    (A) developed a line of products for the business and consumer markets.
    (B) designed a line of products for Internet users.
    (C) held one of the biggest GIS events in the world.
    (D) opened new offices in many different countries.

43. ABCs success can be attributed primarily to its
    (A) ability to organize innovative and exciting GIS conferences.
    (B) ability to adapt to change.
    (C) ability to develop innovative products.
    (D) development of easy to use tools.

44. In the 21st Century, ABC has
    (A) shifted its focus from developing GIS technology to focusing more on network processing.
    (B) benefited from the development of computer technology, particularly desktop computers.
    (C) become less innovative than in the past.
    (D) opened its new headquarters.

45. The word "synergy" means ________.
    (A) expansion (B) innovation (C) understanding (D) cooperation

After filing for bankruptcy, a company stops all operations and goes completely out of business. A trustee is appointed to liquidate the company's assets and the money is used to pay off the debt, which may include debts to creditors and investors. The investors who take the least risk are paid first. For example, secured creditors take less risk because the credit that they extend is usually backed by collateral, such as a mortgage or other assets of the company.

Bondholders have a greater potential for recovering their losses than stockholders, because bonds represent the debt of the company and the company has agreed to pay bondholders interest and to return their principal. Stockholders own the company, and take greater risk. They could make more money if the company does well, but they could lose money if the company does poorly. The owners are last in line to be repaid if the company fails.

46. What is the main idea of this article?
    (A) If a company goes bankrupt it is difficult for most creditors to get their money back.
    (B) Bankruptcy laws determine the order in which creditors and stockholders are paid.
    (C) Bankruptcy laws do very little to help creditors receive payment.
    (D) Filing for bankruptcy is the best way for a company to avoid repaying its debts.

47. After a company declares bankruptcy who is most likely to get paid and why?
    (A) Stockholders are most likely to receive payment first because they have invested in the company.
    (B) Bondholders are most likely to get back first because they represent the debt of the company.
    (C) Secured creditors are the most likely to receive payment because their credit is usually backed by collateral.
    (D) It depends on the company and the type of investors.

48. Why do stockholders take the greatest risk?
    (A) Because they stand to lose or gain the most money.
    (B) Because they are usually the last to get their money back when a company goes bankrupt.
    (C) Because they often invest too much money into a company.
    (D) Because bankruptcy laws are unfair.

Filing for bankruptcy can be very stressful. Loss of money can lead to feelings of insecurity, low self-esteem and a lack of confidence. In today's status conscious society our image is important and our lifestyle is largely defined by our possessions and financial success. Money can be viewed as being important in both an economic sense and in relationships.

There are, however, things you can do to make the bankruptcy process less painful. It is important to deal with practical realities. As the debtor gets his or her finances under control, a greater general sense of control will follow. Also, learning from experience can help a great deal and ensure future financial security. While losing money can be a very painful experience it can also teach us to detach self worth from material wealth and value other things in life.

At all times of loss, people tend to feel that their entire foundation has been shaken and that their sense of security has been disrupted. They begin to question not only themselves but also the people and the world around them. Instead of repressing our feelings it is important to bring these issues to a conscious level. This can actually reduce fear and feelings of being out of control, and can enable us to start addressing our situation more positively.

49. Which statement best reflects the writer's opinion in this article?
    (A) People who file for bankruptcy are worthless in today's society.
    (B) Filing for bankruptcy can damage a person's self esteem.
    (C) In order to feel good about oneself it is important to avoid bankruptcy.
    (D) People who go bankrupt are generally insecure and irresponsible.

50. What positive experience can come from going bankrupt?
    (A) It can teach us to value money and see the importance in being financial successful.
    (B) Bankruptcy can show us how irresponsible we are.
    (C) It can allow us to enjoy being poor.
    (D) It can teach us to become less materialistic and appreciate other things in life.

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