

八十八學年度外國語文學系(所)文學組碩士班研究生招生考試

英文

科號 5245 共 5 頁 第 1 頁 \*請在試卷【答案卷】內作答

## I. Paraphrase 15%

According to Robert Frost, a poem begins in delight and ends in wisdom. Paraphrase the following poem in prose and pay special attention to how delight and wisdom weave into the poem.

## STOPPING BY WOODS ON A SNOWY EVENING

by Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know.

His house is in the village though;

He will not see me stopping here

To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer

To stop without a farmhouse near

Between the woods and frozen lake

The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake

To ask if there is some mistake.

The only other sound's the sweep

Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,

But I have promises to keep,

And miles to go before I sleep,

And miles to go before I sleep.

## II. Cloze Test 30%

Choose the most appropriate word which best fits into each of the blanks in the following passage.

There are 1 three New Yorks. There is, first, the New York of the man or woman who was born here, who takes the city for 2 and accepts its size and its turbulence as natural and 3. Second, there is the New York of the commuters—the city that is 4 by locusts each day and spit out each night. Third, there is the New York of the person who was born somewhere else and came to New York 5 something. Of these three 6 cities the greatest is the last—the city of final destination, the city that is a goal. It is this third city that 7 New York's high-strung disposition, its poetical 8, its dedication to the arts, and its incomparable achievements. Commuters give the city

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its 9 restlessness; natives give it 10 ; but the settlers give it passion. And whether it is a farmer arriving from Italy to 11 a small grocery store in a slum, or a young girl arriving from a small town in Mississippi to 12 the indignity of being observed by her neighbors, or a boy arriving from the Corn Belt with a manuscript in his suitcase and a pain in his heart, it makes no difference: each 13 New York with the intense excitement of first love, each 14 New York with the fresh eyes of an adventurer, each generates heat and light to 15 the Consolidated Edison Company.

1. (A) apparently (B) approximately (C) generally (D) roughly
2. (A) esteemed (B) estimated (C) granted (D) respected
3. (A) inevitable (B) indispensable (C) intolerable (D) infrangible
4. (A) destroyed (B) devoured (C) devastated (D) dilapidated
5. (A) in search of (B) in pursuit of (C) in place of (D) in quest of
6. (A) trembling (B) fascinating (C) tremendous (D) fantastic
7. (A) talks about (B) brings up (C) accounts for (D) insists on
8. (A) department (B) deportment (C) demeanour (D) departure
9. (A) global (B) flexible (C) tangible (D) tidal
10. (A) fidelity and tenacity (B) felicity and flexibility (C) solidity and continuity (D) necessity and dependability
11. (A) set up (B) build up (C) bring up (D) take up
12. (A) eschew (B) escape (C) escalate (D) escort
13. (A) encloses (B) endorses (C) embraces (D) encircles
14. (A) absorbs (B) adores (C) approves (D) appreciates
15. (A) dwindle (B) dwarf (C) brighten (D) enlighten

II. Reading Comprehension 20%

Read the following passages carefully and choose the letter which identifies the correct answer.

THE PONY EXPRESS

by Samuel L. Clemens

1. In a little while all interest was taken up in stretching our necks and watching for the "pony-rider"—the fleet messenger who sped across the continent from St. Joe to Sacramento, carrying letters nineteen hundred miles in eight days! Think of that for perishable horse and human flesh and blood to do! The pony-rider was usually a little bit of a man, brimful of spirit and endurance. No matter what time of the day or night his watch came on, and no matter whether it was winter or summer, raining, snowing, hailing, or sleeting, or whether his "beat" was a level straight road or a crazy

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trail over mountain crags and precipices, or whether it led through peaceful regions or regions that swarmed with hostile Indians, he must be always ready to leap into the saddle and be off like the wind! There was no idling-time for a pony-rider on duty. He rode fifty miles without stopping, by daylight, moonlight, starlight, or through the blackness of darkness—just as it happened. He rode a splendid horse that was born for a racer and fed and lodged like a gentleman; kept him at his utmost speed for ten miles, and then, as he came crashing up to the station where stood two men holding fast a fresh, impatient steed, the transfer of rider and mailbag was made in the twinkling of an eye, and away flew the eager pair and were out of sight before the spectator could get hardly the ghost of a look. Both rider and horse went "flying light." The rider's dress was thin, and fitted close; he wore a "round-about," and a skull-cap, and tucked his pantaloons into his boot-tops like a race-rider. He carried no arms—he carried nothing that was not absolutely necessary, for even the postage on his literary freight was worth five dollars a letter. He got but little frivolous correspondence to carry—his bag had business letters in it, mostly. His horse was stripped of all unnecessary weight, too. He wore a little wafer of a racing-saddle, and no visible blanket. He wore light shoes, or none at all. The little flat mail-pockets strapped under the rider's thighs would each hold about the bulk of a child's primer. They held many and many an important business chapter and newspaper letter, but these were written on paper as airy and thin as gold-leaf, nearly, and thus bulk and weight were economized. The stage-coach traveled about a hundred to a hundred and twenty-five miles a day (twenty-four hours), the pony-rider about two hundred and fifty. There were about eighty pony-riders in the saddle all the time, night and day, stretching in a long, scattering procession from Missouri to California, forty flying eastward, and forty toward the west, and among them making four hundred gallant horses earn a stirring livelihood and see a deal of scenery every single day in the year.

2. We had had a consuming desire, from the beginning, to see a pony-rider, but somehow or other all that passed us and all that met us managed to streak by in the night, and so we heard only a whiz and a hail, and the swift phantom of the desert was gone before we could get our heads out of the windows. But now we were expecting one along every moment, and would see him in broad daylight. Presently the driver exclaims:

3. "HERE HE COMES!"

4. Every neck is stretched further, and every eye strained wider. Away across the

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endless dead level of the prairie a black speck appears against the sky, and it is plain that it moves. Well, I should think so! In a second or two it becomes a horse and rider, rising and falling, rising and falling—sweeping toward us nearer and nearer—growing more and more distinct, more and more sharply defined—nearer and still nearer, and the flutter of the hoofs comes faintly to the ear—another instant a whoop and a hurrah from our upper deck, a wave of the rider's hand, but no reply, and man and horse burst past our excited faces, and go winging away like a belated fragment of a storm!

5. So sudden is it all, and so like a flash of unreal fancy, that but for the flake of white foam left quivering and perishing on a mail-sack after the vision had flashed by and disappeared, we might have doubted whether we had seen any actual horse and man at all, maybe.

1. The pony express carried mail (A) from St. Louis to the West, (B) across the continent, (C) from St. Joe to San Francisco, (D) from St. Joe to Sacramento, (E) from St. Louis to Sacramento.
2. The pony express traveled (A) 1,800 miles in eight days, (B) 1,900 miles in nine days, (C) 1,900 miles in eight days, (D) 1,800 miles in nine days, (E) from St. Louis to Sacramento in eight days.
3. The rider rode without stopping for (A) fifty miles, (B) forty miles, (C) ten miles, (D) thirty miles, (E) twenty miles.
4. The rider changed horses every (A) five miles, (B) ten miles, (C) fifteen miles, (D) twenty miles, (E) fifty miles.
5. Postage on pony express mail was (A) one dollar per ounce, (B) five dollars per ounce, (C) ten dollars per ounce, (D) fifty dollars per pound, (E) five dollars per letter.
6. The mail consisted mostly of (A) military dispatches, (B) business letters, (C) love letters, (D) frivolous correspondence, (E) gold leaf.
7. The rider carried (A) a Colt revolver, (B) a carbine, (C) two six-shooters, (D) a horse pistol, (E) no gun.
8. In the saddle at any moment of the day or night were about (A) four hundred riders, (B) two hundred and fifty riders, (C) a hundred to a hundred and twenty-five riders, (D) eighty riders, (E) forty riders.
9. In twenty-four hours the pony express covered about (A) a hundred and twenty-five miles, (B) fifty miles, (C) four hundred miles, (D) two hundred and fifty miles, (E) eighty miles.
10. The rider went by the stagecoach (A) with a whoop and a hurrah, (B) in a storm, (C) with an excited face, (D) with a wave of his hand, (E) taking no notice.

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IV. Translation 15%

Translate the following passage into English.

王子猷、子敬、曾俱坐一室，上忽發火，子猷遽走避，不惟取屐；子敬神色恬然，徐喚左右扶憑而出，不異平常。世以此定二王神宇。

(原文見劉義慶世說新語雅量篇。王子猷、子敬皆晉代大書法家王羲之之子，可以 Wang Tse-Yo 及 Wang Tse-Ching 譯之。屐，木製拖鞋也，可以 wooden slipper 譯之。左右，僕從也，可以 attendants 譯之。神宇，器度也，可以 mettle 譯之。)

V. Composition 20%

Write a short composition on the following topic.

**My Experience Of Visiting A Secondhand Bookstall**