I. Vocabulary (問題字彙) (Questions 1-15) : (30%) [請依各題上下文義，選擇最適當的一個字]

1. They made the **treacherous** journey across stormy seas in rotten boats.
   (A) perilous  (B) ultimate  (C) extravagant  (D) prevalent

2. After the earthquake, the villagers looked helpless and **pathetic**.
   (A) languid  (B) boisterous  (C) merry  (D) wretched

3. The candidates **confronted** each other during a televised debate.
   (A) nested  (B) faced  (C) reinforced  (D) supplanted

4. Critics of the project **speculated** about how many hospitals could be built instead.
   (A) screeched  (B) elaborated  (C) surmised  (D) absurd

5. She loved the ring from her husband very much so she touched it **gingerly** with both hands.
   (A) eventually  (B) timidly  (C) heartily  (D) mutually

6. Terry, think and think! You can't make a case on your **intuition**.
   (A) posture  (B) tactic  (C) instinct  (D) approval

7. Although the government works very hard to improve education, a large percentage of the population is still **illiterate**.
   (A) clumsy  (B) illegitimate  (C) unlettered  (D) illegal

8. They argued that the economic recovery had been **facilitated** by their party’s tough stance.
   (A) switched  (B) simplified  (C) dedicated  (D) trimmed

9. John looked **abashed** and uncomfortable after he was criticized by his classmates.
   (A) mortified  (B) deceptive  (C) relieved  (D) infamous

10. Almost half of the citizens are **eligible** to vote in today's election.
    (A) opposed  (B) qualified  (C) reluctant  (D) prior

11. A hospital is a good place to find an audience receptive to a song **eroding** the benefits of clean drinking water.
    (A) eroding  (B) embarking  (C) emaciating  (D) extolling

12. As the young Elvis Presley and his mother began to argue, the clerk, Forest Bobo, who happened to be a Presley family friend, looked around for a **compromise**.
    (A) compromise  (B) compliment  (C) composite  (D) completion

13. The causes of the tragedy were seriously defined only in **reversal** after the investigating process was done.
    (A) reversal  (B) revolting  (C) retrospect  (D) relentless

14. As we sat at her kitchen table, my grandmother began to **remind** about what a fine man my grandfather had been.
    (A) remind  (B) register  (C) regulate  (D) reminisce

15. This medicine stops the bleeding and the blood will then **coagulate** or thicken into a scab.
    (A) containate  (B) coagulate  (C) consolidate  (D) contemplate

II. Cloze Test (詛咒字) (Questions 16-25) : (20%) [請依題號及上下文義，選擇最適當的一個字]

Shark fin has been considered a luxury in Chinese cuisine since the Ming emperors first demanded the delicacy more than 400 years ago. However, unsustainable and barbaric methods of harvesting the fish **16** shark populations are increasingly endangered.

More than 150 activists braved oppressive heat Sunday to deliver a letter calling on the new head of the Hong Kong government, CY Leung, to ban the use of shark fin at official government banquets.

According to Rachel Vickerstaff of the Hong Kong Shark Foundation, the southern Chinese city is the
destination 17 over half the shark fin traded globally - a market worth more than $500 million a year. "Our objectives are to get some public awareness of what we're trying to do and to let CY know why he needs to see why sharks need saving," said Vickerstaff.

Sharks are afforded some protection by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). However, Vickerstaff calculates that up to 70 million sharks are killed each year to feed the growing 18 for shark fin among increasingly affluent Chinese consumers.

"The Hong Kong government has hidden behind CITES, which is pretty ineffective. CITES only has international trade restrictions on three species of shark. But the International Union for the Conservation of Nature lists well over 100 species as threatened or near threatened 19 extinction," added Vickerstaff.

Nowadays, shark fin is served in soups at business and wedding banquets as a symbol of 20. Depending on a specimen's quality, a bowl of shark fin soup can cost more than $100, while a dorsal fin of the prized whale shark can retail for up to $20,000.

Conservationists say the over-fishing of apex predators has a 21 effect on the ocean ecosystem. But they say there is some good news. Younger generations in China are increasingly reluctant to partake of shark fin.

Nina Whittaker, a student at Li Po Chun United World College, says this is not just for conservation reasons, but also because of the 22 way fishermen harvest the fin.

"They'll take sharks on board and cut their fins off; then throw the live sharks overboard. They can't swim without them so it's a painful, unpleasant death," said Whittaker. "So [you are left with] piles of fins, and hundreds and hundreds of shark 23 in the sea. It's such a waste."

What is more, says Whittaker, shark fin soup actually tastes pretty bland.

"Having shark fin in your soup, it's a cultural thing to some extent - though that's not an excuse," added Whittaker. "They have high levels of mercury, and they don't really have that much taste: it's basically chicken soup with jelly."

Gary Stokes, of the marine wildlife conservation organization Sea Shepherd, says shark fin's value puts it in the same league as the narcotics and arms trade. Stokes recently filmed Hong Kong seafood merchants drying thousands of fins on the city's sidewalks.

"A shipment had come in," he said. "Obviously it was still a bit damp and they needed to move it on to China. But instead of the secrecy they 24 have - it's all done behind closed doors; on roofs - it was out there drying on the main highway: A rough estimate; there were 41,000 fins there."

To maintain pressure on the Hong Kong government, in the coming weeks conservation groups will present CY Leung with a statement from 40 internationally 25 scientists reiterating the environmental argument for ending the trade in shark fin.

--From www.voanews.com

16. (A) means (B) meaning (C) mean (D) meant
17. (A) to (B) for (C) with (D) by
18. (A) provision (B) amount (C) reservation (D) demand
19. (A) with (B) in (C) by (D) over
20. (A) danger (B) status (C) hope (D) blessing
21. (A) constructive (B) approving (C) productive (D) negative
22. (A) humane (B) decent (C) brutal (D) enchanting
23. (A) carcasses (B) families (C) heads (D) jaws
24. (A) normally (B) rarely (C) infrequently (D) seldom
25. (A) labeled (B) renowned (C) associated (D) indefinite

III. Reading Comprehension [閱讀測驗] (Questions 26-35) (20%)

Besides the neutral expression that she wore when she was alone, Mrs. Freeman had two others, forward and reverse, that she used for all her human dealings. Her forward expression was steady and driving like the
advance of a heavy truck. Her eyes never swerved to left or right but turned as the story turned as if they followed a yellow line down the center of it. She seldom used the other expression because it was not often necessary for her to retract a statement, but when she did, her face came to a complete stop, there was an almost imperceptible movement of her black eyes, during which they seemed to be receding, and then the observer would see that Mrs. Freeman ... was no longer there in spirit. As for getting anything across to her when this was the case, Mrs. Hopewell had given it up. She might talk her head off. Mrs. Freeman could never be brought to admit herself wrong on any point. She would stand there and if she could be brought to say anything, it was something like, “Well, I wouldn’t of said it was and I wouldn’t of said it wasn’t,” or letting her gaze range over the top kitchen shelf where there was an assortment of dusty bottles, she might remark, “I see you ain’t ate many of them figs you put up last summer.”

They carried on their most important business in the kitchen at breakfast. Every morning Mrs. Hopewell got up at seven o’clock and lit her gas heater and Joy’s. Joy was her daughter, a large blonde girl who had an artificial leg.... Joy would get up while her mother was eating and lumber into the bathroom and slam the door, and before long, Mrs. Freeman would arrive at the back door. Joy would hear her mother call, “Come on in,” and then they would talk for a while in low voices that were indistinguishable in the bathroom. By the time Joy came in, they had usually finished the weather report and were on one or the other of Mrs. Freeman’s daughters, Glynese or Carramae .... Carramae, a blonde, was only fifteen but already married and pregnant. She could not keep anything on her stomach. Every morning Mrs. Freeman told Mrs. Hopewell how many times she had vomited since the last report.

Mrs. Hopewell liked to tell people that Glynese and Carramae were two of the finest girls she knew and that Mrs. Freeman was a lady and that she was never ashamed to take her anywhere or introduce her to anybody they might meet. Then she would tell how she had happened to hire the Freemans in the first place and how they were a godsend to her and how she had had them four years. The reason for her keeping them so long was that they were not trash. They were good country people. She had telephoned the man whose name they had given as reference and he had told her that Mr. Freeman was good farmer but that his wife was the nosiest woman ever to walk the earth. “She’s got to be into everything,” the man said. “If she don’t get there before the dust settles, you can bet she’s dead, that’s all. She’ll want to know all your business. I can stand him real good,” he had said, “but me nor my wife neither could have stood that woman one more minute on this place.” That had put Mrs. Hopewell off for a few days.

She had hired them in the end because there were no other applicants but she had made up her mind beforehand exactly how she would handle the woman. Since she was the type who had to be into everything, then, Mrs. Hopewell had decided, she would not only let her be into everything, she would see to it that she was into everything—she would give her the responsibility of everything, she would put her in charge. Mrs. Hopewell had no bad qualities of her own but she was able to use other people’s in such a constructive way that she never felt the lack. She had hired the Freemans and she had kept them four years.

Nothing is perfect. This was one of Mrs. Hopewell’s favorite sayings. Another was: that is life! And still another, the most important, was: well, other people have their opinions too. She would make these statements, usually at the table, in a tone of gentle insistence as if no one held them but her, and the large hulking Joy, whose constant outrage had obliterated every expression from her face, would stare just a little to the side of her, her eyes icy blue, with the look of someone who has achieved blindness by an act of will and means to keep it.

When Mrs. Hopewell said to Mrs. Freeman that life was like that, Mrs. Freeman would say, “I always said so myself.” Nothing had been arrived at by anyone that had not first been arrived at by her.

26. When does Mrs. Freeman regularly arrive at the Hopewell residence?
(A) Before Joy wakes up.
(B) At seven o’clock.
(C) While Mrs. Hopewell is lighting the heaters.
(D) While Joy is in the bathroom.

27. Mrs. Hopewell hired the Freemans primarily because:
(A) there were no other applicants.
(B) Mr. Freeman would not ask for high wages.
(C) Mrs. Hopewell had known the Freemans for years.
(D) Mrs. Freeman is the nosiest woman on earth.

28. The Freemans’ reference emphasized that:
(A) although Mr. Freeman was tolerable, Mrs. Freeman was an unbearable busybody.
(B) while Mr. Freeman was friendly, his wife was very unsociable.
(C) while Mr. Freeman farmed, Mrs. Freeman allowed the dust to settle.
(D) if his wife would leave him alone, Mr. Freeman could become a good farmer.

29. Based on the passage’s description of Joy, her name can best be described as:
(A) influential.  (B) apt.   (C) ironic.  (D) suitable.

30. Joy most likely stares “to the side of “ (paragraph 5) Mrs. Hopewell because:
(A) Joy is blind in one eye.
(B) Mrs. Hopewell is not speaking to Joy.
(C) Mrs. Freeman is present.
(D) Joy wants to ignore her mother.

31. The main point of the first paragraph is that one of Mrs. Freeman’s primary character traits is:
(A) losing her temper without any provocation.
(B) driving a truck steadily in forward or reverse.
(C) pretending to be sociable.
(D) refusing to admit herself wrong.

32. Based on the information in the passage, which of the following statements about the characters is a fact instead of an opinion?
(A) Joy Hopewell’s physical disability justifies her spiteful attitude.
(B) The dusty bottles on Mrs. Hopewell’s shelves indicate she is a lazy housekeeper.
(C) Mrs. Hopewell’s sayings are trite and unimaginative.
(D) Mrs. Freeman makes daily remarks about her daughter’s vomiting.

33. Which of the following statements accurately describe(s) Mrs. Hopewell’s opinion of Mrs. Freeman?
   I. Mrs. Freeman’s bad qualities can be put to constructive use.
   II. Mrs. Freeman’s best quality is her willingness to compromise.
   III. Since she is an employee, Mrs. Freeman is not entitled to have opinions of her own.
(A) I only  (B) II only  (C) III only  (D) I and II only

34. The passage as a whole suggests that Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. Hopewell, and Joy Hopewell all:
(A) are perfectly satisfied with their lives.
(B) remain together because of enormous mutual admiration.
35. In their attitudes toward life, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. Hopewell, and Joy Hopewell can best be described, respectively, as:

(A) dogmatic, practical, and outraged.
(B) flexible, pitiless, and stoic.
(C) relentless, unconcerned, and charitable.
(D) fatalistic, ruthless, and carefree.

IV. Composition (作文) (30%) [请依下述题旨及说明，书写一篇 3-5 段，约 300 字的英文作文]

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Your school has enough money to purchase either computers for students or books for the library. Which should your school choose to buy—computers or books? Use specific reasons and examples to support your recommendation.