

中華郵政股份有限公司 100 年第 2 次從業人員甄試試題  
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普通科目(2)：英文(含中翻英、英翻中及閱讀測驗)

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### 一、中翻英【30 分】

麥肯錫公司(McKinsey & Co.)的一項調查顯示，韓國正成為全世界最崇尚奢侈品的國家之一，一方面是由於國內民眾日益富裕，另一方面，來自國外的購物團遊客數量也在急劇增長。此項調查的主要對象是曾經有過購買奢侈品經驗的人，結果顯示，韓國人比其他國家的人對這類商品更情有獨鍾。

### 二、英翻中【30 分】

It is unclear whether Amazon's move to the cloud will boost the company's market share for music sales. Apple dominates digital downloads and is the largest music retailer overall since eclipsing Walmart in 2008. According to Nielsen Soundscan, Apple has 26.7% of the music market. Amazon has a 7.1% share -- including 1.3% from sales of MP3s.

Google will now be a competitor for Amazon, but forging licensing deals with the major music labels may prove to be a challenge for the company.

### 三、閱讀測驗【4 篇(20 題)，每題 2 分，合計 40 分】

第一篇：

The Pirahã are an isolated Amazonian tribe of hunter-gatherers who live deep in the Brazilian rainforest. These people, who communicate mainly through hums and whistles, have fascinated ethnologists for years, mainly because they have almost no words for numbers. They use only three words to count: one, two, and many.

Dan Everett spent seven years with the tribe and discovered a world without numbers, without time, without words for colors, without subordinate clauses, and without a past tense. Their language, he found, was not just simple grammatically; it was restricted in its range of sounds and differed between the sexes. For the men, it has just eight consonants and three vowels; for the women, who have the smallest number of speech sounds in the world, only seven consonants and three vowels. To the untrained ear, the language sounds more like humming than speech. The Pirahã can also whistle their language, which is how men communicate when hunting.

Their culture is similarly constrained. The Pirahã can't write, have little collective memory, and no concept of decorative art. Everett tried to teach them to count: he explained basic arithmetic to an enthusiastic group eager to learn the skills needed to trade with other tribes. After eight months, not one could count to ten; even one plus one was beyond them. The experiment seemed to confirm Everett's theory: the tribe just couldn't understand the concept of number.

The Pirahã's inability to count is important because it seems to disprove linguist Noam Chomsky's influential Theory of Universal Grammar, which holds that the human mind has a natural capacity for language, and that all languages share a basic rule structure, which enables children to understand abstract concepts such as number.

【2】1. Why are ethnologists interested in the Pirahã?

- ① Their language has a simple grammar.
- ② They use very few words to count.
- ③ They communicate through whistles while hunting.
- ④ They made Noam Chomsky modify his Theory of Universal Grammar.

【4】2. Which of the following is true about the Pirahã women?

- ① When they speak together, they can't be understood by men.
- ② They usually whistle to each other.
- ③ They communicate without words.
- ④ They have fewer speech sounds than other languages in the world.

【1】3. What resulted when Everett tried to teach the Pirahã arithmetic?

- ① He eventually realized that it was impossible.
- ② They improved by leaps and bounds.
- ③ They lost interests.
- ④ He taught them how to do business with other tribes instead.

【3】4. What is Noam Chomsky's Theory of Universal Grammar about?

- ① Humans are the only species that can use language.
- ② Children can learn a language quickly.
- ③ All languages have some rules in common.
- ④ All languages count in the same way.

【3】5. What would be an appropriate title for this passage?

- ① Whistling and humming.
- ② Pirahã men and women talk differently.
- ③ A world without time or number.
- ④ Tribal people can't count.

【請接續背面】

## 第二篇：

A harsh wind blows along the eastern foothills of the Rocky Mountains each winter. The wind has a special name. It is called a *chinook*. At times, it has the force and fury of a hurricane. The season for the *chinook* lasts about five months. January is usually the worst month. That is when the wind sometimes blows at about 210 kilometers per hour.

The *chinook* is especially strong in Boulder, a city in Colorado, U.S.A. That is partly because Boulder lies at the very foot of the Rocky Mountains. The wind is born high in the mountains when winter storms move east across the continent. The storms pass over the mountaintops, and the wind comes crashing down the eastern slope. As it moves, it increases in speed and temperature. During one bad windstorm in Boulder, the temperature rose nearly 23 degrees (Celsius) in a few hours.

The *chinook* spares no city in its path. Telephone poles are snapped in two. Roofs are torn from houses. The people in Boulder have seen such damage often. A new law there requires that builders use “hurricane bolts” to tie down roofs of new houses. Builders also test small models of houses and stores in wind tunnels. This is to make sure that doors won’t blow off if they are opened into a gust of wind.

The *chinook* has more than enough force to turn windmills. That became certain after scientists tried an experiment. They set up a station for generating power by windmills in the path of the *chinook*. A windstorm blew by with such force that one of the windmills was knocked over.

- 【3】6. What is a *chinook*?  
① A cool wind.           ② A frosty wind.           ③ A warm wind.           ④ A light wind.
- 【4】7. Why is the *chinook* especially strong in Boulder?  
① Because Boulder is a big city.           ② Because Boulder has cool weather.  
③ Because Boulder has a large population.           ④ Because Boulder is situated at the foot of the Rocky Mountains.
- 【1】8. In what direction does a *chinook* travel?  
① From west to east.   ② From east to west.   ③ From north to south.   ④ From south to north.
- 【2】9. Which of the following best describes hurricane bolts?  
① Easy to bend.           ② Strong and heavy.           ③ Full of water.           ④ Shaped like a lightning bolt.
- 【3】10. What is this passage mainly about?  
① Generating power by windmills.           ② Summers in Boulder.  
③ A strong wind in the Rocky Mountains.           ④ New laws for builders.

## 第三篇：

In Los Angeles (L.A.), it may be impossible to avoid traffic jams, but the city’s colorful freeway murals can brighten even the worst commute. Paintings that depict famous people and historical scenes cover office buildings and freeway walls all across the city. With a collection of more than 2,000 murals, L.A. is the unofficial mural capital of the world.

Until about 1960, public murals in L.A. were rare. But in the 1960s and 1970s, young L.A. artists began to study early 20th-century Mexican mural painting. Soon, their murals became a symbol of the city’s cultural expression and a showcase for L.A.’s cultural diversity.

The most famous mural in the city is Judith Baca’s “The Great Wall,” a 4-meter-high painting that runs for 800 meters in North Hollywood. The mural represents the history of ethnic groups in California in the United States. It took eight years to complete – 400 underprivileged teenagers painted the designs – and is probably the longest mural in the world.

But the combination of graffiti, pollution, and hot sun has left many L.A. murals in terrible condition. The city, trying to stop the spread of graffiti, has painted over some of the murals completely. In the past, little attention was given to caring for public art. Artists were even expected to maintain their own works, not an easy task with cars racing by along the freeway.

Now the city is beginning a huge project to restore its murals. So far, 16 walls have been selected, and more may be added later. One of the murals that will be restored is Kent Twitchell’s “Seventh Street Altarpiece.” This striking work depicts two people facing each other on opposite sides of the freeway near downtown L.A.

- 【2】11. What might be the reason for keeping the artists from maintaining their murals?  
① They liked graffiti.           ② It was dangerous and difficult to do so.  
③ They preferred Mexican mural painting.           ④ The weather was too hot.

- 【4】12. Why did the City of L.A. paint over some murals?  
① The artists did not try to maintain them.           ② They failed to represent the cultural diversity of L.A.  
③ They were considered graffiti.           ④ They were damaged by graffiti.
- 【1】13. What motivated the artists in L.A. to start painting murals?  
① They liked the work of Mexican artists.           ② The City of L.A. paid them.  
③ They wanted to help the underprivileged teenagers.  
④ They disliked traffic jams.
- 【2】14. Why is L.A. considered the unofficial mural capital of the world?  
① Its murals symbolize its cultural expression.           ② It possesses a big number of murals.  
③ It is starting a project to restore its murals.           ④ It painted over some unimportant murals.
- 【3】15. What can be inferred from the passage about the murals in L.A.?  
① There wasn’t any public mural before 1960s.           ② “The Great Wall” was painted solely by the artists.  
③ They used to be poorly maintained.           ④ “Seventh Street Altarpiece” has been painted over.

## 第四篇：

When people meet for the first time, they make first impressions of one another in a few seconds by noticing clothes, body shape, the way a person talks, and expressions he or she makes. Research shows that first impressions are very important because they have a strong impact on forming relationships.

Studies show that the primary effect is an important part of first impressions. The primary effect is the idea that the first impression is very difficult to change. After the first meeting, two people may interact again and learn more about each other, but the early impressions they formed will influence their feelings about each other in the future. For example, if a person has a good first impression of someone, he or she probably will not notice bad things about the person later.

Another interesting part of first impressions is that people act how others expect them to act. This is called a self-fulfilling prophecy. In the study by Snyder and Swann (1978), partners played a game together. The partners did not know one another, so the researchers told each player about his partner. Sometimes they said positive things about a partner. Sometimes they said negative things. The result showed that players acted friendly when they expected their partners to be friendly, but they acted unfriendly when they expected their partners to be unfriendly. The players’ expectations influenced how they acted toward one another.

A related study by Sunnafrank (2004) showed that when people first meet, they quickly make predictions about what kind of relationship they will have. In his study of college students, he found that when students predicted they could be friends, they sat closer together in class and interacted more. As result, they actually became friends. In other words, they made their predictions come true.

- 【1】16. Why are first impressions important?  
① They influence relationships.           ② They help people notice specific things about others.  
③ They take a long time to form.           ④ They can never be changed.
- 【4】17. Which statement best describes the primary effect?  
① When meeting for the first time, people often predict what kind of relationships they might develop.  
② First impressions can be wrong.  
③ People act how people expect them to act.  
④ First impressions usually last.
- 【1】18. Which statement best describes the self-fulfilling prophecy?  
① The way people behave is influenced by others’ expectations of them.  
② First impressions do not change very much.  
③ People form first impressions very quickly.  
④ Predictions about relationships rarely come true.
- 【4】19. According to Sunnafrank’s study, what happens after people make predictions about a relationship?  
① They pay attention to the specific details about others.  
② They change their first impressions.  
③ Their predictions do not affect their actions.  
④ They act to make the predictions come true.
- 【3】20. With which of the following topics is the passage primarily concerned?  
① The impact of predictions on relationships.  
② The difference between the primary effect and the self-fulfilling prophecy.  
③ The power of first impressions.           ④ The effect of expectations on behaviors.