I. Complete the sentence with the correct answer. (20%)

1. The behavior of many volcanoes ______ very difficult to predict, especially the more explosive types.
   (A) are
   (B) is
   (C) that
   (D) being

2. Alexander Graham Bell worked with deaf students before ______ the first telephone in 1876.
   (A) designed
   (B) was designed
   (C) to design
   (D) designing

3. Foods of animal origin generally supply greater amounts of iron to the diet than ______.
   (A) are foods of plant origin
   (B) foods of plant origins
   (C) do foods of plant origin
   (D) plant origin foods

4. ______ energy for growth or repair, a plant must carry out photosynthesis.
   (A) To obtain
   (B) It obtains
   (C) It is obtaining
   (D) Obtaining

5. Nicotine, ______ found in tobacco, is named after the French diplomat Jean Nicot.
   (A) it is a chemical compound
   (B) is a chemical compound
   (C) a chemical compound
   (D) chemical compound is

6. ______ the world’s most successful artificial language.
   (A) As Esperanto is
   (B) That Esperanto
   (C) It is Esperanto
   (D) Esperanto is
7. _____ food we eat lacks minerals, then the body can use the stores from its bones for more urgent needs.
   (A) As the
   (B) If the
   (C) The
   (D) Since

8. _____ an organism to become a fossil.
   (A) Rarely
   (B) It is rare
   (C) Rare is
   (D) It is rare for

9. Among sea horses, _____ carries and hatches the eggs in a special breeding pouch.
   (A) it is the male which
   (B) the male it
   (C) it is the male
   (D) the male who

10. _____ will be increasingly used as a source of petrochemicals when oil begins to run out.
    (A) No matter coal
    (B) No doubt coal
    (C) If coal
    (D) That coal

II. Cloze Test (10%)
Directions: Choose the best answer for each missing word or phrase to complete the passage.

No matter how strong you are, you never want to __11__ around a desktop computer. Even carrying a laptop now is considered __12__ a pretty picture. For some people, PDAs can do just fine; but what about those who, while they want to travel __13__, simply can’t do without something as powerful as a laptop or even a desktop? Fear not, rescue’s here. What’s better, it comes at an affordable price. MIGO __14__ a software that copies your most frequently used files and updates them automatically. It copies everything onto almost any kind of portable memory device, which you can take with you and later on put into any computer that you work with, and you __15__ it’s not your own computer.

1. (A) log    (B) bog    (C) lug    (D) blog
2. (A) far from   (B) nothing but  (C) somewhat  (D) within
3. (A) softly   (B) light    (C) loaded  (D) uploaded
4. (A) ended up with  (B) fed up with  (C) lived up to  (D) came up with
5. (A) can expect  (B) can’t imagine  (C) won’t oppose  (D) won’t notice
III. Reading Comprehension (30%)

Directions: Choose the best answer to answer each question.

Passage One

Once considered an act of rebellion or disobedience, getting a tattoo or two is now one of the “in”-things. No longer is it considered something only "bad kids" have; many parents are willing to dip into their pockets if their children want a tattoo—usually costing upwards of $40. But if we consider the employment, health and financial concerns that surround it, we might think that things have not changed all that much. Laying your skin bare to the needles seems fun and heroic; however, being cool comes at a price. Infection or anything more serious takes the fun away. A few years later—surveys show that after college—tattoos seem less appealing. Your potential employers might have second thoughts about you once they see your tattoo. You end up paying more to have it removed.

Gender makes all these more complicated, as women with tattoos are often prejudiced against more than men. Most companies have a properly drafted policy, which states their dress code. Some women claim that this policy is harder on women. But unless they can prove such a pitfall, “gender discrimination” is still more of an accusation than a proven violation.

1. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in this article?
   (A) Potential risks of having a tattoo.
   (B) Biased dress code.
   (C) Patterns of tattoos.
   (D) Why people get a tattoo.

2. When people dip into their pockets, they ______.
   (A) spend money
   (B) regret doing something
   (C) warn others
   (D) have their clothing stained

3. People usually get a tattoo in their teens and later have them removed ______.
   (A) at the average age of 40
   (B) for fear of infection
   (C) for fear of potential employers’ second thoughts about you
   (D) because they want to look cool

4. Based on this article, dress code in some companies ______.
   (A) discriminates in favor of women
   (B) prejudices women
   (C) is not entirely followed
   (D) is being broken

5. According to the author, having a tattoo removed ______ than getting it.
   (A) causes more pain
   (B) costs more
   (C) arouses more debate
   (D) deserves more attention
Passage Two

As a world-class scholar in the field of history, Norman Tutorow is both reputable and infamous: reputable to those who thank him for his tedious yet conscientious approach in getting the details right; infamous to those whose publications have been scrutinized and miserably failed to pass his standard of intellectual meticulousness. He has his reasons for being proud, even arrogant in some ways. He never points out fallacies without giving examples, all of which can stand the harshest bombardment from his colleagues in history. Already having reached the ripe old age of 73, he is nowhere near the end of professional career, let alone retirement.

Every day for Tutorow and his wife Evelyn is a repetitious yet inspiring cycle. They sift through mountains of data, comparing and contrasting every single piece of historical evidence or documentation. Then they put it in print. Tutorow uses two fingers only when he types—pecking, to be more precise—his work onto a sheet of paper. Sometimes he writes things down with quick notes, but his handwriting is such a scribble that even he himself has difficulty discerning the content! (Dec.14-15)

6. What is the best title for this article?
   (A) Tutorow—A World Infamous Historian
   (B) Tutorow and Evelyn, Beloved Historian Couple
   (C) A Historian Who Corrects Other Historians
   (D) Tutorow and His World Writing History

7. Which of the following words is NOT used to describe Tutorow?
   (A) Arrogant.
   (B) Insensitive.
   (C) Conscientious.
   (D) Reputable.

8. What does the phrase sift though mean?
   (A) To skim over a printed material.
   (B) To intentionally leave out information.
   (C) To examine documents carefully.
   (D) To store the acquired knowledge safely.

9. According to the article, which of the following statement about Tutorow is true?
   (A) He enjoys repeating the routine.
   (B) He is never tedious nor confident.
   (C) He seldom compares and contrasts data.
   (D) Occasionally he cites circumstantial evidence.

10. According to this passage, what can we infer from this article about Tutorow?
    (A) He might not be computer-literate.
    (B) He is definitely illiterate.
    (C) His wife receives the same reputation as he does.
    (D) He is currently considering retirement.
Passage Three

For many literary terms, it is difficult to understand their meanings and relationships simply by looking at the words by themselves. One such literary word is “irony.” Irony explains a situation in which one statement is expected, yet another statement is said. Curiously, the hearer in this situation understands the unexpected statement perfectly. A case of irony can be seen in the following example: “After practicing four hours a day, seven days a week to improve his tennis game, Richard finally began to win some matches. After his last win his coach said to him, ‘You need to get out and practice more!’” Another literary word is “paradox.” Paradox refers to a statement which initially appears to be true. However, it is actually self-contradictory. An example of paradox is “Not having a fashion style is a fashion style.” Although they may seem similar, irony and paradox mean different things.

11. What is the paragraph mainly about?
   (A) The difficulty of knowing what many literary words mean
   (B) The reason that the literary word “irony” is easier to understand than the word “paradox”
   (C) The difference in meaning between the words “irony” and “paradox”
   (D) Why the meanings of certain literary words are not clear

12. In the case of irony, why does the hearer understand an unexpected remark?
   (A) Because the hearer knows about the context of the remark
   (B) Because the hearer knows it is different from paradox
   (C) Because the hearer has had experience with such remarks
   (D) Because the remark is intended to make the hearer laugh

13. Making a seemingly contradictory statement is used with
   (A) most literary terms.
   (B) paradox.
   (C) dictionary definitions and meaning.
   (D) irony.

14. Where would the following sentence best fit in the paragraph?

   Indeed, it seems hard to believe that trying to be unfashionable can really make a fashion statement.

   (A) ①
   (B) ②
   (C) ③
   (D) ④

15. How does the author explain the ideas of irony and paradox in the passage?
   (A) By defining them according to their dictionary meanings
   (B) By contrasting the meanings of literary words with ordinary words
   (C) By giving definitions and examples of each word
   (D) By showing that these literary words are difficult to understand for most people
IV. Composition (25%)
Directions: write your response to it.

The idiom “every cloud has a silver lining” means that it is always possible to get something good out of difficult or even painful situations. Do you usually look on the bright side? Or do you take a dim view, focus on the dark clouds, and brace for the worst? Discuss these two opposite attitudes and support your statements with specific examples or details. At least 200 words are recommended.

V. Translation (15%)
Directions: Please translate the following passage into English.

傳簡訊或電子郵件的缺點，是無法衡量對方的反應，有時候容易產生誤會，或讓問題惡化到你料想不到的嚴重程度。親自見面，可以看見對方意料之外的反應。然後，你可以暫時打住，把情況弄清楚，再妥為因應。