



Filozofická
fakulta

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Písemný test pro program:

Anglická filologie

– prezenční bakalářské samostatné studium / kombinace 2 programů

Angličtina se zaměřením na komunitní tlumočení a překlad

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Verze 01

READING COMPREHENSION

[each answer worth 2 points]

Read texts A–E and answer the ten questions below. For each answer, choose one of the sections in the article, A–E. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Social Class in the United States**A**

A recent poll on class found that 40 per cent of Americans believe that the chance of moving up from one class to another had risen over the last 30 years, a period in which new research shows that it has not. Thirty-five per cent said that it had not changed, and only 23 per cent said that it had dropped. More Americans than 20 years ago believe it is possible to start out poor, work hard and become rich. They say hard work and a good education are more important to getting ahead than connections or a wealthy background. ‘I think the system is as fair as you can make it,’ said one respondent. ‘I don’t think life is necessarily fair. But if you persevere, you can overcome adversity. It has to do with a person’s willingness to work hard, and I think it’s always been that way.’

B

One difficulty in talking about class is that the word means different things to different people. Class is rank, it is tribe, it is culture and taste. It is attitudes and assumptions, a source of identity, a system of exclusion. To some, it is just money or it is an accident of birth that can influence the outcome of a life. Some Americans barely notice it; others feel its weight in powerful ways. At its most basic, class is one way societies sort themselves out. Even societies built on the idea of eliminating class have had stark differences in rank. Classes are groups of people in similar economic and social position; people who, for that reason, may share political attitudes, lifestyles, consumption patterns, cultural interests and opportunities to get ahead.

C

When societies were simpler, the class landscape was easier to read. Marx divided 19th-century societies into just two classes; Max Weber added a few more. As societies grew increasingly complex, the old classes became more heterogeneous. As some sociologists and marketing consultants see it, the commonly accepted big three – the upper, middle and working classes – have broken down into dozens of micro classes, defined by occupations or lifestyles. A few sociologists say that social complexity has made the concept of class meaningless. But some researchers disagree. ‘Class awareness and the class language is receding at the very moment that class has reorganized American society,’ said Michael Hout, a professor of sociology at Berkeley. ‘I find these “end of class” discussions naive and ironic, because we are at a time of booming inequality and this massive reorganization of where we live and how we feel, even in the dynamics of our politics. Yet people say, “Well, the era of class is over.”’

D

Many Americans say that they have moved up the class ladder. In the recent poll, 45 per cent of respondents said they were in a higher class than when they grew up, while just 16 per cent said they were in a lower one. Overall, 1 per cent described themselves as upper class, 15 per cent as upper middle class, 42 per cent as middle, 35 per cent as working and 7 per cent as lower. ‘I grew up very poor and so did my husband,’ said one respondent. ‘We’re not rich but we are comfortable; we are middle class and our son is better off than we are.’ The original exemplar of American social mobility was almost certainly Benjamin Franklin, one of 17 children of a candle maker. About 20 years ago, when researchers first began to study mobility in a rigorous way, Franklin seemed representative of a truly fluid society, in which the rags-to-riches trajectory was the readily achievable ideal, just as the nation’s self-image promised. But new studies of mobility, which methodically track people’s earnings over decades, have found far less movement. Mobility happens, just not as rapidly as was once thought. ‘We all know stories of poor families in which the next generation did much better,’ said Gary Solon, a leading mobility researcher. ‘But in the past, people would say, “Don’t worry about inequality. The offspring of the poor have chances as good as the chances of the offspring of the rich.” Well, that’s not true. It’s not respectable in scholarly circles any more to make that argument.’

E

Americans have never been comfortable with the notion of hierarchy based on anything other than talent and hard work. Class contradicts their assumptions about the American dream, equal opportunity and the reasons for their own successes and even failures. Americans, constitutionally optimistic, are disinclined to see themselves as stuck. Blind optimism has its pitfalls. If opportunity is taken for granted as something that will be there no matter what, then the country is less likely to do the hard work to make it happen. But defiant optimism has its strengths. Without confidence in the possibility of moving up, there would almost certainly be fewer success stories.

In which section of the article are the following mentioned?

1. when a detailed and reliable analysis of people changing from one class to another started
2. the fact that there is no single definition of the word 'class'
3. the kind of things that people who belong to the same class have in common
4. a belief that class has become a more important issue rather than a less important one
5. an opinion that is now regarded with disapproval by academics in general
6. a belief that class divisions used to be much clearer than they are now
7. a disadvantage that a certain attitude to life might have
8. an example of success that was thought to be typical of what anyone could achieve
9. evidence that it used to be easier for people to move up in class than it is now
10. an increase in the number of people who think that rising in class is related more to effort than to luck

GRAMMAR

[each answer worth 2 points]

Decide which answer – A, B, C or D – best fits each space. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet. Only Standard English answers will be accepted.

11. I'll get some meat out of the freezer now, in case the boys _____ for dinner.

- A will come
 B come
 C would come
 D might come

12. If only we _____ earlier, we'd be there now.

- A have started
 B had started
 C would start
 D would have started

13. If she _____ the application to the company on time, they might have called her for an interview. I can't understand why she didn't!

- A would send
 B will send
 C had sent
 D sent

14. After testing positive for COVID-19, you will need to postpone getting vaccinated until your symptoms _____.

- A have resolved
 B will resolve
 C would resolve
 D will have resolved

15. It took my mother years to get used _____ in London after moving from Pakistan.

- A live
 B to living
 C to live
 D living

16. There is no credible way of predicting whether someone is _____ of committing murder: science has not revealed any tell-tale signs that a seemingly normal person is on the path to violent criminality.

- A capable
 B accountable
 C responsible
 D able

17. Go on, finish the vegetables. They need _____ up because they won't stay fresh until tomorrow.

- A to eat
 B eaten
 C eating
 D to be eating

18. You won't get any radio reception while _____ through the tunnel.

- A you'll drive
 B you're driving
 C you've driven
 D you'll be driving

19. Eric suggested _____ the wiring to see if that would solve the problem.

- A checking
 B to check
 C to have checked
 D to checking

20. If you're a smoker, you _____ smoke there, because smoking is illegal in New York City parks.

- A had rather not to
 B had better not
 C had better not to
 D had rather not

VOCABULARY

[each answer worth 2 points]

Decide which answer – A, B, C or D – best fits each space. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

21. It was this ____ for fast cars that led to his untimely death at the age of 41.

- A passion
B involvement
C engagement
D interest

22. Her success as a novelist has been built on often painful stories about young teenagers, which are written with humour and a strong ____ that children are smart.

- A opinion
B persuasion
C sincerity
D conviction

23. The new drug has become the subject of ____ debate within the medical profession.

- A boiling
B boiled
C heating
D heated

24. People have been debating the principles of beauty for thousands of years, but it still seems impossible to consider it objectively. German philosopher Immanuel Kant ____ whether something can possess an objective property that makes it beautiful.

- A questioned
B suggested
C argued
D decided

25. We've heard so many good things about the new restaurant, but the food didn't ____ our expectations at all, so we were rather disappointed.

- A come up to
B come along with
C come up with
D come down with

26. At the Shoe Museum in Toronto, there are some 10,000 boots and shoes on display, ____ from Egyptian tomb shoes to shoes donated by pop stars like Madonna.

- A displaying
B ranging
C ranking
D reaching

27. Satellite navigation in cars means that our traditional ____ on printed maps and road atlases for finding our way to a destination is disappearing.

- A demand
B reliance
C necessity
D requirement

28. When I came home the children had been playing with my CDs. I was absolutely ____, and I shouted at them.

- A annoyed
B angry
C upset
D furious

29. A new survey shows that US workers see fewer ____ of promotion and pay rises.

- A probabilities
B chances
C sources
D potentials

30. Life is full of setbacks and there is no point in trying to protect children from the disappointments that ____ them.

- A anticipate
B await
C approach
D expect

ERROR CORRECTION

[each answer worth 2 points]

One of the CAPITALIZED EXPRESSIONS is incorrect. Identify the incorrect expression and mark your answer (A, B, C or D) on the separate answer sheet.

31. The other day **(A)** I TOOK MY CHILDREN TO A BURGER KING FOR A LUNCH. As we departed, I noticed that a white pickup truck **(B)** THAT HAD BEEN LAST IN THE QUEUE when we arrived was still four or five cars back **(C)** FROM COLLECTING ITS FOOD. It would have been much quicker if the driver **(D)** HAD PARKED LIKE US and got his food himself.
32. Scientists have discovered that **(A)** THE BEST WAY HOW TO MAKE A DECISION is to collect the information you need, forget about it, and then trust your instincts to get it right. **(B)** THIS ADVICE COMES FROM A STUDY that focused **(C)** ON HOW PEOPLE MAKE SHOPPING DECISIONS and what kind of strategies **(D)** PRODUCE THE BEST BUYS.
33. Statistics **(A)** ON HOW MANY PEOPLE GO INTO BUSINESS with their friends are hard to come by, but it's **(B)** ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR WAYS for individuals **(C)** TO START BUSINESSES. If you have a great idea for a business, you're not **(D)** INCLINED TO TALKING TO STRANGERS about it.
34. Hot weather **(A)** MAKES YOUR HEART TO PUMP HARDER, and if you're not very fit, you start to understand why **(B)** THE MAJORITY OF MOUNTAIN RESCUE STATISTICS ARE MADE UP from summer walkers **(C)** SUFFERING HEART ATTACKS. Heat exhaustion is quite easy to get when **(D)** YOU'RE MAKING A GREAT PHYSICAL EFFORT.
35. I'm **(A)** a 15-YEARS-OLD GIRL and my problem is a nervous stammer, **(B)** WHICH I'VE HAD since I was about 10. It's now **(C)** GETTING EVEN WORSE. I started at a new school after Easter and this **(D)** MAY HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT because it wasn't as bad before.

CULTURE

[each answer worth 1 point]

Choose the best answer – A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

36. One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest is a novel by

- A Philip Roth. C Ken Kesey.
B William Faulkner. D Jack Kerouac.

37. Which city is NOT correctly matched with its state?

- A Chicago – Illinois C New Orleans – Louisiana
B Miami – Florida D Boston – Pennsylvania

38. How was King George VI, played by Collin Firth in the Oscar winning film King's Speech, related to Queen Elizabeth II?

- A Cousin C Father
B Grandfather D Uncle

39. Which of these CANNOT be found in the British Isles?

- A Ben Nevis C Lake District
B Mount Rushmore D Hadrian's Wall

40. The two sides in the Northern Ireland conflict are

- A Catholics and Protestants. C Labourists and Conservatives.
B Democrats and Republicans. D Liberals and Conservatives.

41. Who were the two rulers of England during Shakespeare's time?

- A Elizabeth I and James I C Charles I and Charles II
B Richard III and Edward VI D Henry VIII and Mary I

42. Which film-director pair is correctly matched?

- A House of Gucci – Steven Spielberg C Belfast – Kenneth Branagh
B The Tragedy of Macbeth – Ridley Scott D The Godfather – Alfred Hitchcock

43. Which American president attended the Yalta conference in Crimea in February 1945?

- A Dwight D. Eisenhower C Franklin D. Roosevelt
B Harry S. Truman D Woodrow Wilson

44. Which group contains only the capitals of countries?

- A Ottawa, Auckland, Canberra, London C London, Washington, Sydney, Dublin
B New York, Montreal, Melbourne, London D Wellington, Canberra, Dublin, Ottawa

45. Tom Stoppard, Peter Shaffer and Noël Coward are

- A famous British film directors. C famous American directors.
B famous American playwrights. D famous British playwrights.

MULTIPLE-CHOICE CLOZE

[each answer worth 2 points]

Read the text below and then decide which expression best fits each space. Mark your answers on the separate answer sheet.

Personal Assistants

A personal assistant (PA) or personal secretary (PS) is a job title describing a person who assists a specific person with their daily business or personal tasks. The dictionary calls a secretary ‘anyone who (46) ____ correspondence, keeps records and does clerical work for others’. This particular job definition looks a bit (47) ____, because the role of a personal assistant is much more varied today. Tasks may include but are not limited to devising and maintaining office systems, producing documents, liaising with clients, or (48) ____ specific projects and research.

In the past, a good secretary was an unremarkable one, efficiently (49) ____ orders, and then timidly returning to his or her station behind the typewriter, but, with the (50) ____ of new office technology, the job (51) ____ upgraded itself. The skills required are much more demanding and are not only personal but also technical. Professionals in (52) ____ business say that if degrees are required, a degree in communications, technology or business subjects may be advantageous. Companies are (53) ____ that secretarial staff should already be (54) ____ trained in, and used to working with a (55) ____ of word processing packages. Most positions will require a minimum of two years’ relevant experience, but in many companies experienced secretaries may supervise new entrants until they are competent in the work.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 46. | A handles | B controls | C deals | D runs |
| 47. | A aging | B elderly | C aged | D outdated |
| 48. | A carrying out | B carrying on | C carrying off | D carrying over |
| 49. | A completing | B satisfying | C obeying | D minding |
| 50. | A approach | B entrance | C opening | D advent |
| 51. | A correctly | B validly | C effectively | D invariably |
| 52. | A booking | B appointment | C engagement | D recruitment |
| 53. | A pressing | B claiming | C insisting | D ordering |
| 54. | A vastly | B vaguely | C ultimately | D highly |
| 55. | A cluster | B group | C range | D collection |