篇章結構

7.

From lessons on kindness to caring for our environment, the messages in this enchanting fable are as important today as they ever were. __(1)__ since it first appeared in 1943. Written by pilot Antoine de Saint-Exupèry while in America, __(2)__. On the surface it's a simple story, __(3)__. A lesson from *The Little Prince* is that we should stop being obsessed（癡迷）with numbers. "Grown-ups are very fond of numbers," says the little prince in the novel. For instance, with new friends, they ask questions such as "How old is he?" or "__(4)__?" Questions like these are not good ways to discover who a person is. After all, __(5)__. A young man can have wisdom, and a person with a large salary is not necessarily spiritually rich.

（A）it is not numbers that define what a person really is
（B）How much money does his father earn
（C）the tale was inspired by his experiences in the French air force
（D）*The Little Prince* has captured the hearts of readers around the world
（E）but its messages of compassion（同情）and goodwill（善意）continue to endure

8.

Creative people like composers and musicians often love to base their creations on old works of all kinds. __(1)__ The composer mixes his ideas with classic stories, including *Cinderella, Rapunzel, Jack and the Beanstalk,* and *Little Red Riding Hood*. __(2)__ Everyone feels some discontent and wants to have their dreams come true. For instance, the couple wish for a child and Cinderella wishes to attend the King's festival. __(3)__ The baker and his wife have to find four items so that they can have a baby. __(4)__ The couple obtain the four items from Cinderella, Rapunzel, Jack, and Little Red. Afterward, they have a baby girl. __(5)__ For instance, the baker complains about his newborn baby; Cinderella's prince is not faithful to her. The lesson is that we should be careful for what we wish for.

（A）The musical includes not only familiar characters from these classics but two central roles, a baker and his wife.
（B）These are a white cow, a red cape, a strand of blond hair, and a gold slipper.
（C）However, the characters do not feel as satisfied as they had expected.
（D）Luckily, they all realize their dreams after a series of adventures.
（E）Take the musical *In the Woods* for example.

閱讀測驗

7.

Do you want to lead a more positive life? Do you want to be a happy person? If your answer is yes, try to be grateful. The key to happiness may actually lie in your willingness to appreciate everything you have and to express gratitude to those around you. For example, you may feel grateful toward loved ones, colleagues, pets, and even Mother Nature. Such a reaction gives rise to a climate of positivity that both reaches inward and extends outward.

The power of being grateful is backed by science. Psychologists have found that, over time, not only does feeling grateful increase the feeling of happiness, but it also fosters both physical and mental well-being. Furthermore, some other studies show that practicing gratitude leads to a reduction in the use of words expressing negative emotions and helps shift our attention away from negative emotions.

In addition, **the beneficial effects snowball over time**. In an experiment, a group of people were assigned a task that required the expression of gratitude. Brain scans of the participants showed changes in the prefrontal cortex that increased sensitivity to future experiences of gratitude. In other words, practicing gratitude increased their sensitivity to both showing and receiving kindness. In this way, the positive feeling literally paid itself forward.

Since practicing gratitude has so many benefits, how do we do it in daily life? Remember, gratitude starts with noticing the goodness in your life. Just think about how much you already possess rather than focus on constantly wanting more and more. To practice gratitude, keep a gratitude journal of big and little joys in your life. You can write down "three good things" that have gone well for you. You may also write thank-you notes to others who have helped you out or those who have inspired you.

（　）（1）What is the purpose of this passage? （A）To encourage the practice of a certain behavior. （B）To explain the cause of a chronic disease. （C）To present the symptoms of a mental disorder. （D）To compare different forms of mental illness.

（　）（2）Which of the following is NOT a benefit of practicing gratitude? （A）It makes a person happier. （B）It improves physical strength. （C）It leads to the use of positive words. （D）It fosters mental health.

（　）（3）What is the last paragraph mainly about? （A）The benefits of practicing gratitude. （B）Ways of practicing gratitude. （C）The consequences of being ungrateful. （D）The steps to keeping a gratitude journal.

（　）（4）What does the sentence "the beneficial effects snowball over time" in paragraph 3 mean? （A）The effect will become less and less obvious. （B）The effect will disappear completely. （C）The effect will become unpredictable. （D）The effect will become stronger and stronger.

（　）（5）What can be inferred from this passage? （A）People who care about personal possessions are generally ungrateful. （B）Those who rarely practice gratitude may easily become ill. （C）A grateful person extends a

feeling of positivity that others can sense. （D）There is a strong link between being grateful and developing mental disorders.

8.

Researchers have 3D-printed a heart using a patient's cells, providing hope that the technique could be used to heal hearts or engineer new ones for transplants.

"This is the first time anyone anywhere has successfully engineered and printed an entire heart replete with cells, blood vessels, ventricles and chambers," Professor Tal Dvir of Tel Aviv University's School of Molecular Cell Biology and Biotechnology said in a statement. Dvir is senior author of the research, published in the journal Advanced Science.

The process of printing the heart involved a biopsy of the fatty tissue that surrounds abdominal（腹部的）organs. Researchers separated the cells in the tissue from the rest of the contents, namely the extracellular（細胞外的）matrix linking the cells. The cells were reprogrammed to become stem cells with the ability to differentiate into heart cells; the matrix was processed into a personalized hydrogel that served as the printing "ink." The cells and hydrogel were first used to create heart patches with blood vessels and, from there, an entire heart. At this stage, the 3D heart is small, the size of a rabbit's heart, but according to researchers, larger human hearts require the same technology.

Previously, scientists had been able to print only simple tissues without blood vessels. **Cardiovascular** disease is the leading cause of death in the developing world, and heart transplantation is the only way to treat end-stage heart failure, highlighting the importance of developing techniques such as 3D printing, according to the authors. Dvir also explains that using the patient's own cells is key to engineering the tissues and organs. The biocompatibility（生物相容性）of engineered materials is crucial to eliminating the risk of implant rejection, which jeopardizes（危害）the success of such treatments.

Next, the researchers plan to train the hearts to behave like hearts. That is, the cells need to form a pumping ability; they can currently contract, but they are expected to work together. If researchers are successful, they plan to transplant the 3D-printed heart in animal models and, after that, humans. Dvir says that maybe, in ten years, there will be organ printers in the finest hospitals around the world, and these procedures will be conducted routinely.

（ ）（1）Where are we likely to read this passage? （A）In a 3D printer ad. （B）In a geography textbook. （C）In a cosmetics magazine. （D）In a scientific journal.

（ ）（2）What is NOT true about the 3D-printed heart? （A）It has everything except blood vessels. （B）It starts with a biopsy of the fatty tissue. （C）It is not as large as a human heart. （D）Its technology is helpful to future applications.

（ ）（3）How can doctors reduce the chance of transplant rejection? （A）Using expensive engineered materials. （B）Polishing their skills to perfection. （C）Using an organ built with the patients' own cells. （D）Taking advantage of the latest technological methods.

（ ）（4）What is the meaning of the word **cardiovascular**? （A）Not confined to bed. （B）Relating to the heart and blood vessels. （C）Used to refer to a tumor that does not usually spread. （D）Having a lower than normal amount of red blood cells.

（ ）（5）According to Dvir, what will 3D-printed organs be in the future? （A）Rare. （B）Cheap. （C）Luxurious. （D）Common.