一、 篇章結構

6.

Verbal abuse is more common—and more powerful—than most people have probably ever anticipated it could be. __1__ Seen from this perspective, verbal abuse is something that should be taken very seriously.

Verbal abuse usually involves discourteous or foul language, and it occurs when someone is taunted, or harassed. It can be active, such as when a parent scolds a child, or passive, when a person's statements are regularly discounted. The victims of verbal abuse are often plagued by a variety of problems, including low self-esteem and depression. And every so often, a victim of verbal abuse may wind up becoming an abuser. __2__
In addition, recent medical research has uncovered something very frightening: the brains of verbal abuse victims appear to be as damaged as the brains of disabled people. __3__ Clearly, uttering an insult or hurling mean words at other can cause wounds that may never heal. __4__ After all, hurting others with our words is the last thing that most of us would ever want to do.

(A) They might impose verbal abuse on others, since this may be the only way this person knows how to express himself or herself.
(B) So, we ought to bear in mind how powerful our words can be.
(C) In fact, it can affect its victims profoundly, both emotionally and physically.
(D) The trauma that these people suffer may even halt brain development, leaving certain senses diminished.

7.

Although *Les Misérables* is often considered Victor Hugo's best work, he also wrote another well-known novel named *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. The plot is set at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, 1482. __1__

The Hunchback of Notre Dame tells the story of an ugly hunchback named Quasimodo, and his love for the beautiful Esmeralda. Quasimodo was abandoned as a baby and adopted by Claude Frollo, the cathedral's priest. __2__

Quasimodo endures teasing and torture from the public because of his weird appearance. Taking pity on Quasimodo, Esmeralda approaches and speaks to him. Later, when Esmeralda is wrongly accused of murder and about to meet her death, Quasimodo takes her to safety inside the cathedral. __3__ For a while, she lives safely with Quasimodo in his tower.

However, the story ends in tragedy. Esmeralda is still caught and killed, which Quasimodo sees from his balcony. At that moment, he realizes that Frollo, his adopted father, was involved in Esmeralda's death. __4__ He spent the rest of his life accompanying Esmeralda's body.

Though *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* tells an extremely sad story of lost love, the tragedy of Quasimodo continues to touch thousands of readers today.

(A) The book was published in 1831 and immediately became a big hit.

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(B) In anger, he pushes Frollo from the balcony and locks himself away.
(C) Before encountering Esmeralda, Quasimodo had only two loves in his life: One is Frollo, and the other one is the ringing bells from the cathedral's tower.
(D) According to the law, the cathedral is a place where no one can be harmed.

8.

The Pulitzer Prize has come to symbolize excellence in literature, drama, music, and journalism, but there would be no prize without the man after whom it is named. __1__ However, Pulitzer made his own fortune and became one of the most respected journalists and publishers in America.

Joseph Pulitzer arrived in America from Hungary in 1864 at the age of 17. He was penniless, friendless, and unable to speak English. __2__

His first job was a soldier in 1864 when he joined the US Army to fight in the Civil War. A year later, he left the army and took various jobs before becoming a reporter for a German language newspaper. It was here that he finally found what he had been looking for.

Pulitzer pursued his new career with passion, working hard to master all aspects of journalism. __3__ He became the sole owner of a newspaper in 1878 and went on to become one of the most successful publishers in America.

__4__ Pulitzer was nearly blind and extremely sensitive to noise at the age of 40. In characteristic fashion, however, he continued to run his businesses for twenty more years despite his disabilities.

Joseph Pulitzer died of heart disease in 1911, and the first Pulitzer Prize was awarded in 1917.

(A) He studied English and law at night and became a respected writer because of his tireless fight against dishonesty and his support for the common man.
(B) Unfortunately, his health paid the price for his success.
(C) Although Joseph Pulitzer was born into a wealthy family, his family went bankrupt after his father died.
(D) He even spent his first night in the new country sleeping on park benches.

(1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____ (4) _____

9.

It goes without saying that the earth's rainforests are important. These large natural areas can be found around the world, particularly in South America, Africa, and Asia, and they are said to be home to more than 50% of the world's species. Rainforests are also a major source of many of our important modern drugs and medicines. __1__

Believe it or not, experts say that around 80,000 acres of rainforest are being destroyed every day. __2__ Some experts say that around 50,000 species in total disappear every year because of the rapid destruction of the world's rainforests.

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Why are the rainforests being cut down? Simply put, the rainforests are often in the poorer, developing areas of the world. __3__ Sadly, this often means that large areas of rainforest are now being cleared away to make room for these people and activities.

Still, some scientists have hopes for the future. They point out that some areas of rainforest are now under protection and will likely remain until at 2030, at least. Other scientists, however, are not so hopeful. __4__ This, quite obviously, would be a disaster for our planet.

(A) They point out that at the current rate of destruction, all of the world's rainforests will disappear in about 100 years.

(B) Unfortunately, it has recently been reported that the world's rainforests are now disappearing at an alarming rate.

(C) The people in these areas have no choice but to expand new places for commercial activities, such as logging, farming, and mining.

(D) As a result, around 135 species of plants, animals, and insects are lost each day.

(1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____ (4) _____

10.

It is not only normal people who lie, but also famous people throughout history. __1__ In their circumstances it can be more embarrassing and damage their reputation as they are better known; therefore the consequences for them can be greater.

__2__ Unfortunately, there have been several examples of the President getting caught lying. The most famous is Watergate, in which five men were arrested for breaking into and trying to steal secret information from their competitor's headquarters. President Nixon said he had nothing to do with it, but he was exposed as a liar. __3__ He was forced to resign.

Other well-known liars in history include Lance Armstrong, the 7-time winner of the Tour De France, the most famous cycling race in the world. __4__ He lied on TV in 2005, before he finally admitted to cheating in 2013 and was stripped of his titles.

At a 1994 hearing into the safety of smoking, James Johnston, the CEO of one of the largest tobacco firms, told Congress that tobacco was no more addictive than tea or coffee. Despite the fact, he knew that he was making the information up.

In 2004, Korean scientist Hwang Woo-Suk claimed that he had copied the first human embryo(胚胎). It was later proved that he irresponsibly lied about his findings.

So remember that it is not simply normal people who lie and spare a thought for public figures, who act like Pinocchio and then get found out.

(A) They come from a variety of different areas, including science, politics, and entertainment.

(B) Many people believe the US President is somebody who should be above lying.

(C) Lance Armstrong cheated by taking drugs to improve his performance in order to beat the competition.

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(D) Nixon's reputation was ruined and he paid the highest price.

(1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____ (4) _____

二、 閱讀測驗

6.

Young children who are learning their native language must learn a complex code of communication as they begin to understand and speak words. Putting all of the pieces of a puzzle together is a challenge that most children master during the first few years of their life. Yet there are many layers to this complicated process that researchers are studying closely.

As the world becomes more global, many people are choosing to learn a second language. Learning to communicate with people who speak a different language allows you to make a connection with **them**. Speaking a second language enables you to become a more interesting person while making it easier for you to meet other interesting people and form relationships.

Speaking a second language can lead to better employment opportunities. If you travel to different countries, __3__ by speaking more than one language. You know how to find the best transportation, places to stay, and places to eat at the best prices.

Learning a new language and its culture can help you see the world from a different view. It can help you to have a more open mind and be more tolerant and understanding of differences among people. Similarly, learning a new language can give you a deeper understanding of your own language and culture.

Additionally, __4__ by learning another language. People who speak a second language tend to have more brain power which helps them to learn new tasks easily as well as perform several tasks at the same time.

(1) ( ) What is the purpose of the article?

(A) To explain the process of language acquisition in young children.

(B) To prove that learning a second language can improve brain power.

(C) To encourage people to learn a second language for personal growth and development.

(D) To highlight the benefits of speaking a second language for employment opportunities.

(2) ( ) Who does "**them**" in the second paragraph refer to?

(A) People speaking different languages.

(B) Children learning to master a language.

(C) People choosing to learn a second language.

(D) Researchers studying the process of learning languages.

(3) ( ) (A) you can master English easily

(B) you may experience culture shock

(C) you may become homesick

(D) you can save time and money

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(4) ( ) (A) you can make more friends
(B) your brain can benefit
(C) your knowledge may increase
(D) you may find better jobs

7.

We know about many ancient animals that once lived on the Earth, but few are familiar with the wooly mammoths. Remains of these huge, hairy, elephant-like animals have been found and studied in Asia, Europe, and North America.

Mammoths were covered with long hair, which was usually light brown or golden-colored. The name "Mammoth" is based on a Russian word meaning "earth" because people who found mammoths centuries ago thought the creatures lived underground. Though the English language now also uses the word "mammoth" to mean "extremely large," wooly mammoths were not really larger than today's elephants.

What is special about these extinct animals are the frozen bodies, for very few ancient animals have ever been found frozen. These frozen bodies—found mostly in Siberia—are perfect for scientists to do DNA tests on the mammoths to understand more about them.

According to scientists, like modern elephants, wooly mammoths were social creatures and often formed large herds. More than 100 mammoth skeletons have been found in the American state of South Dakota, where a special wooly mammoth museum has been established. Visitors can actually go into large holes in the ground and see the skeletons. Thanks to these fossils, many scientists have the opportunity to have a first-hand look at this wonderful ancient animal.

(1) ( ) What is the best title for this passage?
(A) Mammoths: Origins of its Name
(B) Mammoths: Rumors and Legends
(C) A Comparison between Mammoths and Elephants
(D) Mammoths: Lost Giant Land Animals

(2) ( ) According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?
(A) Many kinds of extinct ancient animals have been found frozen.
(B) Mammoths highly interacted with others and lived in groups.
(C) People centuries ago thought mammoths were not from Earth.
(D) Scientists nowadays try to bring mammoths back to life.

(3) ( ) Which of the following can be described "mammoth"?
(A) A baby girl. (B) A single bed. (C) A racing car. (D) A 30-story building.

(4) ( ) What can be inferred from the passage?
(A) Mammoths had a great effect on the climate at that time.
(B) Scientist can learn more about elephant genetics by studying mammoths.
(C) The studies make people know more about mammoths and dinosaurs.
(D) Earth's mammoths all froze to death in South Dakota state.

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8.

Arthur C. Clarke was a British science fiction writer whose writing about technology has had a significant influence on the world. He is best known for his novel *2001: A Space Odyssey*, which became a movie of the same name. It begins with a scene of angry apes fighting one another and ends with humans connecting with creatures from another planet. Many film critics consider it the best movie of all time.

In addition to his novel, Clarke wrote many essays about technology and space travel. In 1945, he predicted that satellites would play an important role in global communication. This turned out to be exactly right.

Clarke famously developed three "laws" of prediction:

Law 1: When a famous but elderly scientist states that something is possible, he or she is usually right. When the scientist states that something is impossible, he or she is probably wrong. Though scientists become experts in their field over a lifetime of work, new developments sometimes surprise them.

Law 2: The only way of discovering the limits of the possible is to take a little risk of trying the impossible. Clarke reminds us of the amazing speed of technological change. The "impossible" is being constantly thought about in different ways.

Law 3: Any advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.

If we imagine people lived centuries ago and they could see our world now, we can understand what Clarke means by this. Technologies like air travel, guns or smartphones would definitely seem like magic to them. Hopefully, people in the future will also invent new technologies that would seem like magic to us now.

(1) ( ) Which of the following is NOT true about the novel *2001: A Space Odyssey*?
(A) There is a movie with the same title.
(B) It is written by a British writer Arthur C. Clarke.
(C) It shows how the "three laws" influence the world.
(D) It receives positive comments from film critics.

(2) ( ) What does Arthur C. Clarke's three "laws" suggest?
(A) Satellites would play a significant role in global communication.
(B) Humans can't be too careful when doing the impossible things.
(C) Scientists are sometimes surprised at new developments in science.
(D) Apes are going to fight against human beings in the future.

(3) ( ) Which of the following is closest in meaning to "indistinguishable"?
(A) Hard to tell. (B) Hard to understand. (C) No more than. (D) Not so many.

(4) ( ) In the author's point of view, which word can best describe Arthur C. Clarke?
(A) Average. (B) Stubborn. (C) Intelligent. (D) Effective.

9.

People's personalities are often described by comparing them to animals. For example, someone might be said to be "wise as an owl." Unlike other smaller birds, owls do not

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spend their days flying from place to place. Instead, owls tend to find safe places to stay, like a branch of a tall tree or a shady corner in an old barn. They stay in those chosen places for long periods, calmly taking in everything that surrounds them with their big eyes. It is not because they are bad at flying. In fact, owls can actually fly very well. However, by staying in the same place, they can save their energy until they need it to hunt for their food. The impressive calmness of owls plays a part in making them seem wise, especially compared to the "busy" birds that are always flying around.

One creature that makes a fine meal for an owl is a snake. Like the owl, the snake's image is also used to imply something about humans. If we say someone is "a snake in the grass," it means this kind of person is tricky and can't be trusted. We should be careful when being around them. Meanwhile, someone who is "as mean as a rattlesnake" has a bad temper. Before rattlesnakes strike, they use their tails to make the warning sounds, which is the reason people give them their name. This kind of people are dangerous and may threaten or even hurt others. Finally, if someone is described as "lower than a snake's belly," it means they have no sense of shame when it comes to maintaining their dignity. In other words, there is no limit to how low they will sink if they want to get what they want. They don't care if their behavior makes others uncomfortable or angry.

In conclusion, **we can learn from wise owls, but we should avoid snakes whenever possible.**

(1) ( ) What is this passage mainly about?
(A) Comparing features of owls and snakes to people's personalities.
(B) Introducing living styles and characteristics of owls and snakes.
(C) Explaining the differences between owls and other smaller birds.
(D) Warning people of the danger of encountering rattlesnakes in the wild.

(2) ( ) According to the passage, why do owls like to stay in a safe place for a long time?
(A) They tend to avoid possible danger.
(B) They don't like flying from place to place.
(C) They are saving their energy for hunting.
(D) They are observing their surroundings.

(3) ( ) Sean is an ambitious person in the company. Sometimes he will even kneel down to beg for cases from his boss if he considers it profitable. The colleagues of Sean would probably describe him as a person who is _____.
(A) as wise as an owl
(B) a snake in the grass
(C) as mean as a rattlesnake
(D) lower than a snake's belly

(4) ( ) Which of the following can be inferred from the last sentence, "**we can learn from wise owls, but we should avoid snakes whenever possible**"?
(A) Staying in one place for a long period of time is a good habit that we should learn from owls.
(B) Owls have many positive features, while snakes have a negative image.

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(C) We should be smart like owls, and avoid dangerous people who are like snakes.
(D) We should always stay away from people who are like snakes.

10.

Robert Frost is one of the most admired and famous poets of the 20th century. He is perhaps best known for the poem The Road Not Taken, which is often quoted in media. Throughout his life, he was a successful poet and writer, but he also suffered from many tragedies.

Sadly, many of his close family members died young. When he was only eleven years old, his father passed away because of tuberculosis (肺結核). And when he was 26, his mother died of cancer. His sister died after nine years in a mental hospital in 1929. His wife died of heart failure in 1938, with breast cancer bothering at that time. Out of his six children, only two of them lived longer than him. Additionally, depression was a common mental illness in the Frost family.

❶Based on his following success, he proposed to his future wife, Elinor. ❷However, she wanted to finish college first and therefore rejected his proposal. ❸Fortunately, he didn't succeed, and Elinor accepted his second proposal after graduating from college. ❹Frost sold his first poem in 1894 for fifteen dollars. ❺They got married in December 1895. ❻Believing that he had lost his chance with her, he took a trip to The Great Dismal Swamp in Virginia and planned on committing suicide.

Despite all this suffering, or perhaps because of it, Frost became a famous poet. He was the first poet to speak in a United States presidential event, quoting the poem The Gift Outright. He also received four Pulitzer prizes and a gold medal for his works from the United States government. Without a doubt, you will want to have a read of Robert Frost's many poems to know how he transformed such an interesting and tragic life into literary works.

(1) ( ) What is the main idea of this passage?

(A) Frost was sensitive to humans' plight (困境).
(B) Nature is a common theme in Frost's poems.
(C) At a young age Frost showed his talent in writing.
(D) Tragedies play a role in Frost's life and his writing.

(2) ( ) According to the passage, what did Frost intend to do after Elinor rejected his proposal?

(A) Move to Virginia.
(B) End his own life.
(C) Take a business trip.
(D) Date someone else.

(3) ( ) Which of the following statements about Frost is NOT true?

(A) His wife did not finish college.

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(B)His sister suffered from mental illness.
(C) Four of his children died earlier than him.
(D) His wife died 43 years after they got married.

(4) ( ) Which of the following is the correcting order of the third paragraph?

(A) ❶❻❸❹❷❺
(B) ❸❻❹❺❶❷
(C) ❹❶❷❻❸❺
(D) ❸❶❷❺❻❹

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