

2015 English Writing Contest

General Senior High School Students

一、主題句寫作(writing topic sentences): 50%

請根據每題所給之段落寫出可以涵蓋或引導整段涵意之主題句。共 5 題，每題 10 分。(Read the given paragraph in each question and write a topic sentence that can cover the over-all idea of the paragraph. There are 5 questions in this part, 10 points for each question.)

例題(Example):

Paintings of Egyptians dating back over 4,000 years show both men and women painting their nails and wearing makeup. On the other side of the globe, the ancient Maya of Central America considered crossed eyes beautiful, and hung little balls between children's eyes to develop this look. In 18th-century France, wealthy noblemen wore large wigs of long, white hair to make themselves attractive. In cultures throughout the world, people have gone to extreme lengths to achieve the goal of beauty.

在答案紙上寫: The search for beauty spans centuries and continents.

1. Like many other things, the word "nice" has gone through a transformation over the years.

Around the year 1300, *nice* was first used in English to mean "stupid". Two hundred years later, *nice* began to carry a "better" meaning. If people said a book was written *nicely*, they meant the book was written "clearly" or "carefully", not "stupidly". After 1800, *nice* began to take its modern meanings like "kind" or "friendly". Since then, people have thought of *nice* as a word with "good" meanings.

2. It has long been wondered how exactly does the human mind manages to store away thousands of information.

It is agreed, though, that the hippocampus (海馬體), a part of the brain, is undeniably important for memory. When we experience something, the information is sent via our senses to the hippocampus, where it is processed. Scientists think this process may happen while we are sleeping, but exactly how the information is transferred from one area of the brain to another is a mystery.

3. Not what is poetry for us (humans): How should we merely words or people?

Those who love poetry sometimes give the impression that it is an adequate substitute for food, shelter, and love. But it isn't. Those who dislike poetry on principle sometimes claim, on the other hand, that poetry is only words and good for nothing. That's not true either. When words

represent and recreate genuine human feelings, as they often do in poetry, they can be very important.

4. A steaming cup of tea (to wake up to) in the morning is most people's idea of a healthy pick-me-up.

However, scientists are now suggesting that tea may not be as safe as we had previously believed. Tea contains caffeine, and caffeine has been linked to sleeplessness and to the unpleasant jumpy feeling some people get when stressed. More seriously, there is a link between miscarriages (流產), and pregnant women are advised to reduce their intake of tea until after their baby is born.

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5.

Mother loves the newborn infant because it is her child, not because the child has fulfilled any specific condition, or lived up to any specific expectations. Unconditional love corresponds to one of the deepest longings, not only of the child, but also of every human being. On the other hand, to be loved because of one's merit or because one deserves it, always leaves doubt and

there is always a fear that love could disappear.

we all wish to love and be loved in return, but seldom do we think of the reason we were loved in the first place. However, we stop to think whether our love is conditional or unconditional. Love, one of the greatest emotions, we love not just to be loved in return.

二、引導式段落寫作(guided paragraph writing): 50%

請根據所給情境與資料完成約 150-180 字的段落寫作。50 分。(Please complete an about 150-180-word paragraph based on the given situation and information. 50 points.)

You are John (for a boy) or Alice (for a girl).

A national newspaper is running a campaign (發起活動) to encourage people to give up watching television, playing on computers and using mobile phones for a whole month. They want to publish different people's views, including an article from a young person to explain what the young people think of the campaign. Your task is to write a short letter to the editor of the national newspaper, giving your views about the campaign and explaining why you are *for* or *against* the idea. You may follow the format below:

	December __, 2015
<p style="margin: 0;">Dear Editor,</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">_____</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">_____</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Yours truly,</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">_____</p>	

13 X 19 分

for,
Suggest reading drawing

*a month
give up a
draw*

1. Like many other terms, the word "nice" has gone through a drastic transformation over the years.

2. It has long been wondered how the human mind manages to shelve

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away what seems like libraries of memories.

3. Just what is poetry to us: Nourishment for the soul or merely words on paper? ⁺⁹ 8

4. A steaming mug of tea in the morning is most people's idea of a healthy pick-me-up. ⁺⁷ 8

5. We all wish to love and be loved in return, but seldom do we stop to think whether our love is conditional or unconditional. ~~and how~~ ⁺⁸ 7 that would affect the object of our affections.

December 4th, 2015

Dear Editor,

I am a ⁺⁴ teenage girl who is delighted to see this campaign kicking off. ⁴⁴

Personally, I think that the internet and mass media are deeply interwoven in young people's lives, so much that we don't know how to think and create for ourselves anymore. Most of my friends used to love to go outdoors and play, or devour books in the library - now the easiest place to meet them is online. I think that this campaign can get all of us out of our computer rooms and up off our sofas, and realise just what kind of beautiful things we have been missing. I would also like to suggest that we use this month to do things we have long forgotten the feeling of, and maybe try some new experiences as well - draw, read, go to a museum, climb a tree, take up knitting, anything and everything -

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I am truly looking forward to all the amazing results.

Yours truly,

Alice