

請在答案紙上作答

共 3 頁 第 1 頁

I. Multiple Choices (50%)

There are a total of twenty five questions below. In each of these questions, there are four possible answers. Select the (only one) word or phrase that best fits the entire context.

Would you be happier if you were richer? Many people believe that they would be. But research __1__ over many years suggests that greater wealth implies greater happiness only at quite low levels of income. People in the United States, for example, are, on average, richer than New Zealanders, but they are not happier. More __2__, people in Austria, France, Japan, and Germany appear to be no happier than people in much poorer countries, like Brazil, Colombia, and the Philippines.

Comparisons between countries with different cultures are difficult, but the same __3__ appears *within* countries, except at very low income levels, such as below \$12,000 annually for the US. Beyond that point, an increase in income doesn't make a lot of difference to people's happiness. Americans are richer than they were in the 1950's, but they are not happier. Americans in the middle-income __4__ today – that is, a family income of \$50,000-\$90,000 – have a level of happiness that is almost identical to well-off Americans, with a family income of more than \$90,000.

Most __5__ of happiness simply ask people how satisfied they are with their lives. We cannot __6__ great confidence in such studies, because this kind of overall "life satisfaction" judgment may not reflect how much people really enjoy the way they spend their time.

My Princeton University colleague Daniel Kahneman and several co-researchers tried to __7__ people's subjective well-being by asking them about their mood at frequent intervals during a day. In an article published in *Science* on June 30, they report that their data confirm that there is little __8__ between income and happiness. On the contrary, Kahneman and his colleagues found that people with higher incomes spent more time in activities that are __9__ with negative feelings, such as tension and stress. Instead of having more time for leisure, they spent more time at and commuting to work. They were more often in moods that they described as hostile, angry, anxious, and tense.

Of course, there is nothing new in the idea that money does not buy happiness. Many religions __10__ us that attachment to material possessions makes us unhappy. The Beatles reminded us that money __11__ buy us love. Even Adam Smith, who told us that it is not from the butcher's __12__ that we get our dinner, but from his regard for his self-interest, described the imagined pleasures of wealth as "a deception" (though one that "rouses and keeps in continual motion the industry of mankind").

Nevertheless, there is something __13__ about this. Why do governments all focus on increasing per capita national income? Why do so many of us __14__ to obtain more money, if it won't make us happier?

Perhaps the answer lies in our nature as purposive beings. We evolved from beings who had to work hard to feed themselves, find a mate, and raise children. For nomadic societies, there was no point in owning anything that one could not carry, but once humans settled down and developed a system of money, that limit to __15__ disappeared.

Accumulating money up to a certain amount provides __16__ against lean times, but today it has become __17__ in itself, a way of measuring one's status or success, and a goal to __18__ when we can think of no other reason for doing anything, but would be bored doing nothing. Making money gives us something to do that feels worthwhile, as long as we do not __19__ too much on why we are doing it.

Consider, in this __20__, the life of the American investor Warren Buffett. For 50 years, Buffett, now 75, has worked at accumulating a vast fortune. According to *Forbes* magazine, he is the second wealthiest person in the world, after Bill Gates, with assets of \$42 billion. Yet his frugal lifestyle shows that he does not particularly enjoy spending large amounts of money. Even if his tastes were more __21__, he would be hard-pressed to spend more than a tiny fraction of his wealth.

國立彰化師範大學九十六學年度碩士班招生考試試題

系所：兒童英語研究所

科目：英文(含作文與翻譯)

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共 3 頁 第 2 頁

From this perspective, once Buffett earned his first few millions in the 1960's, his efforts to accumulate more money can easily seem completely pointless. Is Buffett a __22__ of the "deception" that Adam Smith described, and that Kahneman and his colleagues have studied in more depth?

Coincidentally, Kahneman's article appeared the same week that Buffett __23__ the largest philanthropic donation in US history – \$30 billion to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and another \$7 billion to other charitable foundations. Even when the donations made by Andrew Carnegie and John D. Rockefeller are adjusted for inflation, Buffett's is greater.

At a single stroke, Buffett has given purpose to his life. Since he is an agnostic, his gift is not motivated by any belief that it will benefit him in an afterlife. What, then, does Buffett's life tell us about the nature of happiness?

Perhaps, as Kahneman's research would lead us to expect, Buffett spent less of his life in a positive mood than he would have if, at some point in the 1960's, he had quit working, lived on his assets, and played a lot more bridge. But, in that case, he surely would not have experienced the satisfaction that he can now __24__ feel at the thought that his hard work and remarkable investment skills will, through the Gates Foundation, help to cure diseases that cause death and disability to billions of the world's poorest people. Buffett __25__ us that there is more to happiness than being in a good mood.

1. (A) based (B) conducted (C) engaged (D) pursued
2. (A) drastically (B) specifically (C) dramatically (D) typically
3. (A) consequence (B) situation (C) result (D) effect
4. (A) range (B) domain (C) territory (D) boundary
5. (A) surveys (B) statistics (C) reports (D) studies
6. (A) obtain (B) place (C) put (D) have
7. (A) evaluate (B) calculate (C) measure (D) report
8. (A) correlation (B) connection (C) association (D) relationship
9. (A) related (B) tied up (C) jointed (D) associated
10. (A) teach (B) instruct (C) enlighten (D) illuminate
11. (A) couldn't (B) wouldn't (C) shouldn't (D) can't
12. (A) benevolence (B) kindness (C) charity (D) generosity
13. (A) mystical (B) paradoxical (C) subtle (D) uncanny
14. (A) strive (B) try (C) endeavor (D) fight so hard
15. (A) ownership (B) acquisition (C) collection (D) accumulation

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共 3 頁 第 3 頁

16. (A) a guarantee (B) a protection (C) a safeguard (D) an immunization
17. (A) a mean (B) a purpose (C) an end (D) a goal
18. (A) fall back on (B) be content with (C) pursue (D) cherish
19. (A) meditate (B) concentrate (C) focus (D) reflect
20. (A) light (B) background (C) view (D) direction
21. (A) lavish (B) high-end (C) luxurious (D) conspicuous
22. (A) scapegoat (B) victim (C) slave (D) captive
23. (A) declared (B) announced (C) broadcasted (D) proposed
24. (A) necessarily (B) certainly (C) surely (D) rightly
25. (A) suggests to (B) enlightens (C) teaches (D) reminds

II. Translation (30%)

(Translate the Chinese passages into English, the English ones into Chinese)

1. 新加坡有許多長處：空氣清新、房價合宜、教育品質佳、電話與網路連線可靠。(路透社) (8%)
2. 洋基投手王建民 (Chien-Ming Wang) 是第三位在美國大聯盟比賽的台灣籍球員。他的人氣在台灣正形成一股狂熱。(Live 互動英語) (8%)
3. The season is anchored by four plays from our namesake playwright. *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, staged by acclaimed Shakespeare director Mark Rucker, will open the season in the Angus Bowmer Theatre. OSF veteran Laird Williamson will bring his expansive vision into the New Theatre for the first time with *Coriolanus*, a thrilling and essential ride for us to take during a presidential election year. On the Elizabethan Stage, newcomer Lisa Peterson will bring her considerable directorial insight to *Othello*, while the brilliant Penny Metropulos will create a highly musical version of *The Comedy of Errors*. (Bill Rauch, 2008 season announcement for Oregon Shakespeare Festival) (14%)

III. Composition (20%)

In an essay around 350 words comment on the strength **and** weakness of your chosen graduate program here at National Chunghua University of Education. Give suggestions to the problems you identify.