

TOEFL

Speaking

题目： Many universities now offer academic courses over the Internet. However, some people still prefer learning in traditional classrooms. Which do you think is better? Explain why.

答案： I think learning in traditional classrooms is better. The reason why I think so is that there are more interactions in traditional classrooms than in online courses. Students can have discussions and they see each other face to face. It's highly probable that some of them will become friends. While in the online courses, students don't know each other, they miss a chance of making friends. Also, in a traditional classroom, if a student doesn't understand a concept or an idea, he or she can raise hand to ask the teacher directly. While in an online course, there is no chance for students to raise hands or to throw out questions immediately. Students in traditional classrooms not only learn the academic knowledge but also learn basic interpersonal interactions. I prefer to take academic courses on the Internet. Since the courses are offered online, I don't have to live near campus. (略)

题目： Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Private car should not be allowed in the city centers of large cities.

Use details and examples to explain your opinion.

答案： Although some people might say that banning private cars in downtown area would be a great solution for busy traffic in big cities, I don't think it sounds so great because it would be really inconvenient under situations when people do need to drive. For example, if emergencies happen and we need to drive someone to the hospital, or if some day I'm almost late for work and don't have enough time to take public transportation. Also, when we're moving from place to place, it would be nearly impossible to take public transportation. (略)

Reading

段落 1： A large, swift stream or river can carry all sizes of particles, from clay to boulders. When the current slows down, its competence (how much it can carry) decreases and the stream deposits the largest particles in the streambed. If current velocity continues to decrease — as a flood wanes, for example — finer particles settle out on top of the large ones. Thus, a stream sorts its sediment according to size. A waning flood might deposit a layer of gravel, overlain by sand and finally topped by silt and clay. Streams also sort sediment in the downstream direction. Many mountain streams are choked with boulders and cobbles, but far downstream, their deltas are composed mainly of fine silt and clay. This downstream sorting is curious because stream velocity generally increases in the downstream direction. Competence increases with velocity, so a river should be able to transport larger particles than its tributaries carry. One explanation for downstream sorting is that abrasion wears away the boulders and cobbles to sand and silt as the

sediment moves downstream over the years. Thus, only the fine sediment reaches the lower parts of most rivers.

题目 1 : The word "curious" in the passage is closest in meaning to
A. strange B. rapid C. seasonal D. essential

答案 : A

题目 2 : According to paragraph 1, the competence of a stream increases as
A. downstream sorting decreases B. flooding wanes
C. the speed of the current increases D. the size of particles increases

答案 : C

题目 3 : According to paragraph 1, all of the following are true of stream sorting EXCEPT
A. Most of the particles in mountain streams pile up behind boulders and cobbles.
B. When particles of different sizes settle in a place, the smaller ones sit atop the larger ones.
C. There are generally more large particles upstream than downstream in a river.
D. In some situations, downstream particles are created from rocks that eroded as they traveled downstream.

答案 : A

段落 1 : Pollen, a powdery substance, which is produced by flowering plants and contains male reproductive cells, is usually carried from plant to plant by insects or birds, but some plants rely on the wind to carry their pollen. Wind pollination is often seen as being primitive and wasteful in costly pollen and yet it is surprisingly common, especially in higher latitudes. Wind is very good at moving pollen a long way; pollen can be blown for hundreds of kilometers, and only birds can get pollen anywhere near as far. The drawback is that wind is obviously unspecific as to where it takes the pollen. It is like trying to get a letter to a friend at the other end of the village by climbing onto the roof and throwing an armful of letters into the air and hoping that one will end up in the friend's garden. For the relatively few dominant tree species that make up temperate forests, where there are many individuals of the same species within pollen range, this is quite a safe gamble. If a number of people in the village were throwing letters off roofs, your friend would be bound to get one. By contrast, in the tropics, where each tree species has few, widely scattered individuals, the chance of wind blowing pollen to another individual is sufficiently slim that animals are a safer bet as transporters of pollen. Even tall trees in the tropics are usually not wind pollinated despite being in windy conditions. In a similar way, trees in temperate forests that are insect pollinated tend to grow as solitary, widely spread individuals.

题目 1 : The word "drawback" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to
A. other side of the issue B. objection C. concern D. problem

答案 : D

题目 2 : Which of the following can be inferred from paragraph 1 about pollen production?

- A. Pollen production requires a significant investment of energy and resources on the part of the plant.
- B. The capacity to produce pollen in large quantities is a recent development in the evolutionary history of plants.
- C. Plants in the tropics generally produce more pollen than those in temperate zones.
- D. The highest levels of pollen production are found in plants that depend on insects or birds to carry their pollen.

答案 : A

Writing

题目 : Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

Always telling the truth is the most important consideration in any relationship between people.

答案 : We have all experienced a moment when we have to decide whether to tell the truth or not. Though sometimes it seems as if that it would be a good idea to tell a lie for the sake of love, safety, friendship etc., honesty is always the best policy in any relationship between people.

Any relationship is based on honesty. Without honesty, no trust could ever be gained from others, moreover, any further development of relationship would be out of the question. Dishonesty begins when one needs to hide the truth or conceal some terrible secret from others. Needless to say, the truth or secret is normally shocking or hurting. As no secrets remain unknown to people forever, it turns out to be a severe blow to the trust between people involved. Without trust, how could a relationship live on? Personally, I would not believe someone I care about anymore if he/she lied to me just because he did not believe that I would forgive him/her in spite of something terrible. As a matter of fact, I would rather face the harsh reality than have my trust failed by a loved one.

Although there are still other virtues such as diligence, generosity, compassion etc., a person may possess, being honest or not is a concern that matters most when it comes to relationships. Much as one may take pride in his/her smartness, he/she will get his/her reputation ruined once caught being dishonest. For instance, I had a friend who was so smart that he was always the first to work out a difficult question in class. He had told me that he would never hear of the teacher or preview lessons. (略)

题目 : Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.

One of the best ways that parents can help their teenage children prepare for adult life is to encourage them to take a part-time job.

答案： In modern society, people have paid great attention to the growth of children. There is a controversy over whether parents should encourage children to take part-time jobs or not. The answers vary from one person to another. From my point of view, I think that encouraging children to take part-time jobs is one of the best ways for parents to help their teenage children prepare for adult life.

In the first place, children can learn to be self-disciplined at work. It cannot be denied that when you work as an employee, you must follow the working schedule. It means that every day you have to come to work on time. For example, if your work starts at 8 a.m., you will have to arrive at your company by that time, even though you have drunk a little more than was good for you at a party the night before and suffer from a hangover. And if you work for a restaurant or a store, you will learn how to serve customers in a friendly manner. Some customers are very fastidious. If you are not friendly and patient, the restaurant or store will lose business and you will lose your job.

Second, through part-time jobs, children can learn the value of money. It is apparent that children often get money from their parents, but they do not realize how hard their parents work for money. When children work, they will begin to appreciate how difficult it can be to make money. Knowing that it takes a lot of time and efforts to make money, children will make wiser choice when buying some things with their own money. Also, when children spend their money for personal objects, they will appreciate them more than if they had got money from their parents.

Last but not least, children practice skills in teamwork when they work as a member of a team. There are many positions requiring employees to cooperate in a team now. (略)