

## 阅读理解说明文+议论文（上）

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1. 【河北衡水金卷先享题 2024 届高三摸底联考试题】

Bird populations in the UK continue to crash, new data shows, as campaigners predict the government will fail to meet its own nature targets unless radical (彻底的) changes are made. In 2021, on average the abundance of 130 breeding species was 12% below its 1970 value. Between 2015 and 2020, 24% of species increased, 28% showed little change and 48% declined. Wildlife experts agree that the decline in bird populations is largely driven by habitat loss.

The government passed the Environment Act into law in 2021, which requires a **halt** in species decline by

2030. Campaigners have said that radical changes to government policy are needed if it is to meet its targets. The problems were highlighted by the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch this year, in which house sparrows remained the most frequently observed species in gardens for the 20th year in a row.

“The numbers speak for themselves when it comes to the astonishing declines of some of our once common birds,” said Beccy Speight, the RSPB's chief executive. “We are in a nature and climate emergency and we've lost 38 million birds from our skies in the past 50 years. ”This year, more than 500, 000 people took part in the Big Garden Birdwatch, and more than 9 million birds were spotted. The results also identified problems faced by other common bird species, including chaffinches and greenfinches.

Richard Benwell, the chief executive of the environmental coalition Wildlife and Countryside Link, said: “Meeting the legal target to stop wildlife losses by the end of the next parliament (议会) can't be achieved with a legal tweak (调整) here, some spare change there. Serious, sustained investment , proper punishment for pollution, and action in every department of government must be the features of any nature-positive manifesto (宣言).”

28. According to the text, what is the main cause of bird population decline in the UK?

- A. Climate change.      B. Habitat loss.      C. Pollution.      D. Hunting.

29. What does the underlined word “halt” in paragraph 2 probably mean?

- A. Adjustment.      B. Instruction.      C. Stop.      D. Promotion. .

30. Which bird species has been seen the most regularly in UK gardens during the past 20 years?

- A. House sparrows.  
B. Chaffinches.  
C. Greenfinches.  
D. Uncommon birds.

31. Why does the author quote Richard Benwell's words in the last paragraph?

- A. To point out the ways to meet the nature target.  
B. To stress the importance of setting specific goals.  
C. To remind the next parliament to make new laws.  
D. To prove the government's failure in bird protection.

## 2. 【2024 届高三金太阳 11 月大联考试题（11 省联考）】

Most health experts would agree that eating meat especially red meat- in large quantities isn't good for us, or

the planet. Studies point to an increased risk of heart disease and cancer correlating to our meat-heavy diets. Meanwhile, manufacturers are busy producing increasingly tasty and more meat-like products that match the real things making the switch from eating animals seem like a no-brainer. But are these fake meat products any healthier for us?

Jinan Banna, a dietitian and nutrition professor at the University of Hawaii says that some fake meat products can be considered "ultra-processed" foods. "That means they go through multiple processes and have a lot of added ingredients (配料)," she said. "An alternative burger, for example, might have quite a bit of sodium (钠), as well as additives." Some of these additives are on the market for a while before the scientific community determines them to be harmful, Banna added. "Anytime you see a long list of ingredients, including 'natural flavors', take it as a warning sign. In other words, eschew products with lengthy ingredient lists," said Sofia Popov, a microbiome scientist in Copenhagen. "Who knows what's actually in it?"

Perhaps convenience is the best argument for buying an alternative meat product you can simply cook straight out of the box, but some health experts suggest other plant-based healthful options can be simple, too. For example, on a busy day, Banna said she was able to throw together a tempeh (a traditional soya product) dish which she put in a little oil, vinegar and other seasonings. "We definitely obtain nutrients from animal-based food iron and zinc and other minerals as well. But it also contains fat and cholesterol, so it's good to control our intake," said Banna. "Vegetarian substitutes can be very tasty so we shouldn't shy away from them."

28. What is the common belief on consuming red meat?

- A. It is beneficial to our planet.
- B. It can stimulate the economy.
- C. It should be served with vegetables.
- D. It may make us suffer from heart disease.

29. What does the underlined word "eschew" in paragraph 2 mean?

- A. Avoid.
- B. Provide.
- C. Inspect.
- D. Purchase.

30. What does Banna advise people to do?

- A. Take in more minerals.
- B. Turn to convenient food instead.
- C. Seek for plant-based meals.
- D. Choose some animal-based substitutes.

31. What can be the best title for the text?

- A. Why Is Plant-based Meat Dying?
- B. Are Fake Meat Products Good For You?
- C. Fake Meat: Food's Future Or A Fashion?
- D. What Happened To The Plant-based Meat?

### 3. 【九师联盟 2024 届高三第二次质检英语试题】

When micro-plastics end up in farm fields, the pollution can damage plant growth. But two young researchers now report that combining fungi(真菌) with certain farm wastes can partly overcome that problem.

May Shin, 20, and Jiwon Choi, 18, met in a research design class at the Fryeburg Academy, a high school in Maine. May had desired to explore how micro plastics might affect the ecosystem. Jiwon was crazy about plants and fungi. The young scientists cooperated to test how long-lived plastics might affect farm crops.

Scientists have shown certain fungi can aid root growth and a plant 's nutrient uptake. Those organisms are named arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi( AMF). Certain farm wastes, like straw, can provide nutrients to plants and help stabilize their roots. Such wastes are also known as mushroom substrate( 基质 ) and people often grow mushrooms in them.

May and Jiwon planted over 2 ,000 scallion(大葱) seeds in pots of soil. Half the seeds got soil polluted with micro plastics. The rest grew in plastic-free soil. The plants then were further divided into four groups. The young scientists added AMF to the soil in one group. Another group had a top layer of mushroom substrate. A third group got both treatments. The last group got none. For three weeks, the pair tracked how many scallions sprouted(发芽) in each group and measured the plants' height once each week.

About twice as many scallions sprouted in clean soil compared to that containing plastic bits. But among plants surviving in the polluted soil, a combination of AMF and mushroom substrate helped them out. Those getting both treatments grew 5. 4 centimeters per week. That was faster than either of the treatments alone or those getting none.

Jiwon and May then looked at the plant roots with a microscope. Where AMF had been added, it grew into those roots. That increased the scallion roots' surface area , May said, which should promote their uptake of nutrients. So “I see this project as coming up with a sustainable solution for plant growth in polluted soils,” said May.

28. Why did May and Jiwon work together?

- A. To see the effects of long -lived plastics on farm crops.    B. To find the relationship between plants and fungi.  
C. To design a research on the growth of plants.                      D. To explore the way that the ecosystem works.

29. What is the author s purpose in writing paragraph 3?

- A. To prove the existence of micro plastics.                      B. To compare fungi with farm wastes.  
C. To tell the advantage of farm wastes.                      D. To provide some related information.

30. What aspect of the study is the fourth paragraph mainly about?

- A. Its purpose.                      B. Its design.                      C. Its findings.                      D. Its reasons.

31. How can AMF and mushroom substrate make plants grow faster?

- A. By keeping the plants more resistant to pollution.    B. By allowing the plants' deep area more freedom.  
C. By making nutrients more available to the plants.    D. By exposing the roots to a larger surface area.

4. 【“天一大联考●皖豫名校联盟”2024届高三第一次大联考英语试题】

Long exposure to fine particulate air pollutants ( PM<sub>2.5</sub> ) and nitrogen dioxide ( NO<sub>2</sub> ) may increase non-lung cancer risk in older adults, according to a study led by Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health. In a study of millions of Medicare beneficiaries, the researchers found that exposures to PM<sub>2.5</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> over a 10-year period increased the risk of developing colorectal and prostate cancers. The researchers also found that even low levels of air pollution exposure may make people particularly susceptible to developing these cancers.

“Our findings uncover the biological possibility of air pollution as a crucial risk factor in the development of specific cancers, bringing us one step closer to understanding the impact of air pollution on human health,” said Yaguang Wei, a research fellow in the Department of Environmental Health. The study was published online on August 1, 2023, in Environmental Epidemiology.

Researchers studied data from national Medicare beneficiaries aged 65 or older, collected from 2000 to 2016. All subjects were cancer-free for at least the initial 10 years of the study period. Separate analyses looked at cancer risk under the impacts of air pollutants for various subgroups by factors including age, sex (for colorectal cancer only), race, average BMI, and socioeconomic status.

Findings from the nationwide analysis showed that long-term PM<sub>2.5</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> exposures increased the risk of developing colorectal and prostate cancers. For breast cancer, NO<sub>2</sub> exposure was associated with a decreased risk, while the association for PM<sub>2.5</sub> was uncertain. The researchers suggested that the mixed associations may be due to variations in the chemical composition of PM<sub>2.5</sub>, which is a complex mixture of solid and liquid particles(颗粒).

“The key message here is that U. S. air pollution standards are inadequate in protecting public health,” said senior author Joel Schwartz, professor of environmental epidemiology. “Current NO<sub>2</sub> standards are also inadequate. Unless all of these standards become much, much stricter, air pollution will continue to result in thousands of unnecessary cases of multiple cancers each year.

28. What does the underlined word “susceptible” in paragraph 1 probably mean?

- A. Sustainably able to be bought or used.                      B. Physically or mentally attacked.  
C. Doubtful whether something is true or useful.            D. Very likely to be influenced or harmed.

29. How did the researchers conduct their study?

- A. By asking national Medicare beneficiaries questions.  
B. By looking at cancer risk of air pollutants for all groups.



We recorded the first dances of the bees. The bees that could not follow the dances of experienced bees produced dances with significantly more directional, distance and disorder errors than the dances of control bees.

We then tested the same bees later, when they were experienced dancers. Bees who had lacked teachers now produced significantly fewer errors, possibly because they had more practice or had learned by eventually following other dancers. The dances of the control bees remained just as good as their first dances.

Complex communication is often difficult to produce even when individuals are born with some knowledge of the correct signals. Bees are born with some knowledge of how to dance, but they have to learn how to dance even better by following experienced bees.

28. Why does the author say the experiment on the two children is a misguided experiment?

- A. Language learning is a social activity.
- B. Language learning has changed greatly.
- C. Children are born with human speech.
- D. Children develop differently in language.

29. What does the underlined word "isolated" in paragraph 6 indicate?

- A. Old bees could not produce waggle dances.
- B. Old bees could not observe waggle dances.
- C. Young bees were separated from older ones.
- D. Young bees could follow experienced bees.

30. What do we know about the bees whose dances remained as good as their first dances?

- A. They had little practice in waggle dances.
- B. They had learned waggle dances without teachers.
- C. They were experienced in teaching waggle dances.
- D. They had learned waggle dances before their first dances.

31. What does the last paragraph serve as?

- A. A guide to complex communication.
- B. An answer to why language should be learned.
- C. An example of nonhuman communication.
- D. A proof that bees are born with some knowledge.

**6. 【河南省 TOP 二十名校 2023-2024 学年高三上学期调研考试英语试题】**

Laurie Santos, the psychology professor behind Yale University's most popular course, recently launched a free six-week class aimed at teenagers, called "The Science of Well-Being for Teens". It was developed to address rising rates of anxiety and depression and suicide (自杀) rates for kids between 9th and 12th grades, Santos says.

In the first lesson, she mentions one of the course's pre-recorded lectures: Our brains lie to us about what

makes us happy. “For adults, this may mean pursuing money or success at work, and for teens this might mean focusing on the perfect grades and getting into the best colleges,” Santos says. “The problem isn’t that we’re not putting work into feeling better—it’s that we’re doing the wrong things, prioritizing the wrong behaviors.”

Instead of focusing on reaching a financial milestone or perfect grades, aim to program your brain with thoughts and behaviors that make you feel better, Santos recommends. Regularly connecting with friends, taking care of your health and learning how to accept negative emotions all contribute more significantly to your well-being than having the right job, car or relationships, she adds in a course lecture.

The timing of the teen-specific course, which already has at least 17,000 members, is good. More than a third of teens self-report experiencing poor mental health, and nearly half feel constant sadness or hopelessness during the pandemic, according to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention survey that surveyed participants through mid-2021. Even before the COVID-19 pandemic hit, those numbers had already increased by 40% from 2009 to 2019, the CDC noted. The agency’s survey also found that 20% of teens had seriously considered and 9% had attempted suicide.

Santos says she wants to help change those numbers by making the science of happiness accessible. “Happiness isn’t just about enjoying our day-to-day lives,” she adds. “It helps you land jobs and live longer, contributing to your success when you’re not really chasing it.”

28. Why did Laurie Santos start a free class?

- A. To assist college students in finding good jobs.
- B. To encourage young children to get perfect grades.
- C. To attract more students to apply to Yale University.
- D. To help teenagers deal with mental health problems.

29. Which of the following shows Laurie Santos’ opinion?

- A. People today know well how to be happier.
- B. Today’s people don’t pursue happiness properly.
- C. Adults do better in pursuing happiness than teens.
- D. Rich people know how to accept negative emotions.

30. What do the numbers in paragraph 4 mainly indicate?

- A. Teenagers were happier before mid-2021.
- B. Few teenagers know their health problems.
- C. Teenagers’ mental health issues are serious.
- D. The teen-specific course has gained popularity.

31. What’s the author’s main purpose in writing the text?

- A. To explore the factors for teenagers’ unhappiness.
- B. To introduce an effective way to live a successful life.
- C. To recommend a free course about happiness for teens.
- D. To warn teenagers to pay more attention to their

health.

**7. 【福建省百校联考 2023-2024 学年高三上学期期中联考英语试题】**

Imagine you can open your fridge, open an app on your phone and immediately know which items will go bad soon. This is one of the applications that a new technology developed by engineers at the University of California San Diego would enable. The technology combines a chip (芯片) integrated into product packaging and a software update on your phone. The phone becomes capable of identifying objects based on signals the chip sends out from specific frequencies, in this case Bluetooth or WiFi. In an industrial setting, a smartphone equipped with the software update could be used as a radio frequency identification (RFID) reader.

The work uses breakthroughs in backscatter (反向散射) communication, which uses signals already generated by your smartphone and re-directs them back in a format your phone can understand. Effectively, this technique uses less power than the latest technology to generate WiFi signals.

The custom chip, which is roughly the size of a grain of sand and costs only a few pennies to produce, needs so little power that it can be entirely powered by LTE signals, a technique for wireless broadband communication for mobile devices. The chip turns Bluetooth signals into WiFi signals, which can in turn be detected by a smartphone with that specific software update.

The technology's broader promise is the development of devices that do not need batteries because they can harvest power from LTE signals instead. This in turn would lead to devices that are significantly less expensive that last longer, said Dinesh Bharadia, one of the paper's senior authors.

“E-waste, especially batteries, is one of the biggest problems the planet is facing, after climate change,” Bharadia said. For future research, the team will integrate this technology into other projects to demonstrate its capabilities, and they also hope to commercialize it, either through a startup or through an industry partner.

28. How does the chip interact with the phone?

- A. By providing power for the phone. B. By producing LTE signals for the phone.  
C. By giving Bluetooth signals to the phone. D. By sending WiFi signals back to the phone.

29. What is the potential of the technology according to Bharadia?

- A. Reducing e-waste. B. Making batteries cheap.  
C. Supplying power to LTE signals. D. Decreasing the cost of LTE signals.

30. What will the team do in the future?

- A. Invest in new technologies. B. Bring the technology to market.  
C. Improve the quality of the device. D. Commercialize more research projects.

31. Which is the most suitable title for the text?

- A. New technology turns smartphones into RFID readers B. Smartphones need to be equipped with soft updates  
C. RFID readers obtain new chips and have new functions D. Backscatter communication makes the best of smartphones

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