

Unit 4

Fools learn nothing from wise men, but wise men learn much from fools.

愚者不学无术，智者不耻下问。

| 学习内容 | 题 材 | 词 数 | 建议时间 | 得分统计 | 做题备忘 |
|--------|--------|------|------|------|------|
| Part A | Text 1 | 社会生活 | 473 | /10 | |
| | Text 2 | 科普知识 | 416 | /10 | |
| | Text 3 | 商业经济 | 480 | /10 | |
| | Text 4 | 社会生活 | 424 | /10 | |
| Part B | 文化教育 | 710 | | /10 | |
| Part C | 商业经济 | 364 | | /10 | |

Part A

Directions: Read the following texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing [A],[B],[C] or [D].

Text 1

Graduating high school seniors looking to enter the workforce and other high school students searching for summer jobs are facing a tighter job market this year as the once red-hot U.S. economy continues to cool. Nationally, the jobless rate for 16-to-19-year-olds continues to rise. The unemployment rate for teenagers hit 14.2 percent in April, compared with 12.8 percent last year, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

“It’s very obvious that it’s going to be a little harder this summer, because businesses are much more reserved and cautious,” said Mark J. Gambill, the vice president of marketing at Manpower Inc., the nation’s largest temporary-employment agency. The New York City-based company recently surveyed 16,000 public and private employers. It found manufacturing, light industry, and high-tech firms were least likely to be seeking employees.

Temporary jobs typically are the first to suffer in a slowing economy, but other sectors that employ teenagers heavily have fallen on leaner times as well. For instance, the amusement, recreation, and hotel industries shed a combined 43,000 jobs in March and April, said John F. Stinson Jr., an economist at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. Ironically, the pinch comes as the nation’s overall jobless rate remains low. Statistics show that fewer teenagers have been jobless over the past few summers than at any time during the previous decade. “The jobless rates are still low by historical standards,” Mr. Stinson said. Ten years ago, for example, the unemployment rate for 16-to-19-year-old workers was 21.1 percent in June and 15.7 percent in July. Last year, the rate was 14.4 percent and 12.4 percent, respectively, federal figures show.

Experts say teenagers looking for summer work still can find jobs but not lots of pay. The continuing slump in the nation’s high-tech sector and lingering uncertainty over the general health of the economy have combined to limit teenagers’ job options to the type of work that American youths typically have thrived on — the retail and fast-food industries.

For the past several years, experts say, large numbers of teenagers found work with high-paying technology companies. But those heady days of \$50,000 starting salaries for those with computer skills and only a high school diploma have ended.

Nationally, some 2.8 million students are expected to graduate from public and private high schools this year, according to the U.S. Department of Education. Lacking some sort of post secondary education or training virtually ensures those graduates will garner low wages. Ron Bird,

the chief economist at the Employment Policy Foundation, a Washington-based nonprofit think tank, said economic projections show that wage growth for those with only a high school diploma will be the slowest among all groups.

“There is a fundamental shift evident in the U.S. economy, tied primarily to technology, that will reward more professional, management, and technical-type jobs as opposed to line operators,” he said.

1. The current unemployment rate for teenagers is

- [A] lower than ever before. [B] higher than in the previous decade.
[C] comparable to the overall unemployment. [D] higher than it was last year.

2. Current job prospects for teenagers in the high-tech industry are

- [A] highly profitable. [B] in decline.
[C] quite promising. [D] non-existent.

3. Currently, most jobs for high school students and graduates are available in

- [A] the high-tech sector. [B] temporary employment.
[C] retail stores. [D] amusement parks.

4. Which of the following individuals is directly quoted in this text?

- [A] The vice president. [B] High-tech industry analysts.
[C] A government economist. [D] A Washington economist.

5. This text is mainly about

- [A] the cooling of the U.S. economy.
[B] summer jobs prospects for teenagers.
[C] job competition between high school students and graduates.
[D] employment prospects for high school students and graduates.

Text 2

Surgeons will soon be able to enter the eye to carry out operations — at least in a virtual sense. Techniques derived from virtual reality — the computer system that immerses operations in an artificial computer-generated world — will allow surgeons to feel as if he could see the inside of the eye during an operation, creating the illusion that they are actually there.

Researchers at the Biorobotics Laboratory of McGill University in Montreal are building a robot, known as Micro Surgery Robot-1 (MSR-1 for short), that will perform delicate operations under the control of a human surgeon. The robot is specifically designed for performing eye surgery but could have other applications, such as the removal of brain tumors. The system could also be used to allow surgeons and their students to practise simulated surgery that feel like the real thing — without the real consequences for the patients.

During the operations, the surgeon manipulates a set of control known as the master. These are connected through a high-performance computer to the robot. Both the master and the robot have two limbs. When the surgeon moves the master’s limbs, the robot’s limbs move in exactly the same way, except that the movements can be scaled down as much as a thousand times. This will eliminate hand tremor and poor accuracy and thus reduce the damage to the eye that can occur with present microsurgery techniques. Each of the robot’s limbs has a minimum movement of one micrometer — more than one hundred times the precision of the human hand.

The computer also creates a three-dimensional robot’s eye view of the inside of the eye that

the surgeon can see by wearing a virtual reality helmet that has a small lens in front of each eye.

To provide the surgeon with such a realistic experience, MSR-1 must be able to move rapidly, but this requires extremely fast computing. To handle the computational demands of instant interaction, the McGill team is constructing its own parallel-processing computer. It is also studying areas such as muscle mechanism, artificial intelligence and optics, and has already built another micro robot, MR-I, capable of manipulating a single living cell.

Although commercial applications of the new system are not expected for several years, its basic mechanical components will be ready for testing in a few months. "The day when micro robots will be able to perform surgery without human intervention is many years away," says Hunter, "in the meantime, a system such as MRS-1 is a necessary precursor."

6. "Virtual reality" is actually a computer system

[A] used for operation on the eyes.

[B] used to produce life-like illusions.

[C] used in virtual technology.

[D] used for difficult operations.

7. What is MSR-1 mainly designed for?

[A] For making inside-eye observations.

[B] For carrying out operations on human eyes.

[C] For cutting off brain tumors.

[D] For performing delicate operations.

8. The phrase "scale down" (Line 3,Para.3) probably means to

[A] reduce the proportion of the size properly.

[B] reduce according to a fixed pattern.

[C] make it diminish without limitation.

[D] cut back on the time properly.

9. What is the advantage of the virtual reality techniques in microsurgery?

[A] Surgeons can do operations without considering the consequences.

[B] It allows surgeons and their students to set their imagination free.

[C] It helps to do operations on human more accurately to reduce damage.

[D] It creates a three-dimensional view which can be seen by a robot.

10. It can be referred from the last paragraph that

[A] MSR-1 may be brought into practical application in a few years.

[B] as a necessary pioneer in medical science,MSR-1 has still a long way to go.

[C] the basic mechanical components of MSR-1 are being tested for **assemblage**.

[D] the commercial applications of MSR-1 will be expected in a few years.

Text 3

There is no market without income, and the youth segment qualifies on this important dimension. Their spending reached about \$ 55 billion in 1988, with approximately \$ 11 billion put in savings. Because many jobs are available in fast-food restaurants and other businesses that need young people for labor, over 30 percent of high school senior boys and nearly 25 percent of senior girls say they average over 20 hours of work a week during the school year.

The important facet of teen incomes is that they are almost entirely discretionary; that is, there are few, if any, fixed obligations such as taxes, rent, insurance, and utilities that these youths must meet. A notable result of increasing youth income is the increasing tendency of youths to buy more durable and high-priced products, from radios to designer jeans, cosmetics, and footwear. According to the president of a youth research company, "Products which were considered

luxuries a few years ago are deemed necessities by youths and parents alike”. Thus, some youths are experiencing “premature affluence”—they have a lot of spending money but will not be able to sustain that level of discretionary spending once they have taken on the burdens of paying for their own necessities.

Why do youths have such a strong consumption orientation? According to one researcher, three significant forces have molded their attitudes and consumer behavior. First, the experience of growing up in a period of economic optimism. A second factor is permissive child rearing, which has been linked by researchers to a reduced capacity for initiative and independence. Third, the new generation has a higher educational level and heavier exposure to the mass media.

These environmental forces have had a significant influence on their consumer-behavior orientations. The result has been that youths tend to be rather optimistic about their future financial situations and level of living. For example, almost all young people look forward to what has been labeled the “standard package”—the set of durable goods, clothing, food products, and services enjoyed by the majority of Americans. Although they used to be told to save their money, young people in America today are being raised to spend, according to an authority who conducts a yearly youth poll. It is also important to recognize that the teen market not only spends a great deal of money on its own, but also influences the amount spent by parents. In total, it represents an almost \$ 250 billion market in direct or indirect spending. Even children aged 4 to 12 directly influence \$ 132 billion of household purchases. Today’s parents recognize that their kids are a lot more involved in making family decisions than they were as children, and many teens are doing the family shopping. Corporations are recognizing this trend and capitalizing on the fact that children can be very persistent in their search for a particular item.

11. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

- [A] No Income, No Market.
- [B] Income and Spending of the Youth.
- [C] Direct and Indirect Spending of Children.
- [D] Premature Affluence in the Society.

12. By saying “The important facet...entirely discretionary”(Line 1, Para. 2), the author means that

- [A] the youths do not need to get parents’ permission before spending their money.
- [B] the youths do not have burdens of paying for their own necessities.
- [C] the youths tend to buy luxuries instead of life necessities.
- [D] the youths are careful in spending their money.

13. The youths’ behavior is strongly consumption-oriented partly because

- [A] they are independent and take the initiative in everything.
- [B] they don’t receive good education.
- [C] they are greatly influenced by mass media.
- [D] they spend their childhood in hard times.

14. The result of the influence of environmental forces on youths is that

- [A] they tend to be optimistic about their future.
- [B] they tend to be selfish and arrogant.
- [C] they become more aware of environmental problems.
- [D] they become more active in protecting environment.

15. **What can we infer about most American youths from the last paragraph?**

- [A] They are more liable to save than to spend .
- [B] They are optimistic about the national economy.
- [C] They spend a lot of money on the “standard package”.
- [D] They have recognized their involvement in household purchases.

Text 4

Women looking for love on the Net this Valentine’s Day may get more roses if they flaunt their wealth rather than their good looks, a study of online personal ads suggests.

Don Strassberg, a psychologist at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, says he was intrigued when he discovered how many people were turning to the Internet to seek a partner in life. “I was infatuated with the possibilities of the medium,” he says. “You can reach a wide variety of people cheaply.”

Strassberg wanted to understand the motivation that drives weird lonely hearts, as previous research on personal ads has focused mostly on those placed in newspapers. These studies concluded that men tend to be attracted by a woman’s slimness and beauty, while women like their men tall and rich.

These are exactly the preferences that evolutionary biologists would predict. The theory goes that men are looking for a woman in prime reproductive condition, while women tend to seek a man with the resources to help her care for a child.

To discover whether the same rules hold on the Net, Strassberg and his student Stephen Holty crafted fictitious ads and place them on three popular Internet dating bulletin boards. Although the ads described both virtual men and women, only those for the female cyber dates attracted enough responses to permit analysis. Each ad claimed to be written by a woman between 26 and 28 years old who was easy-going and optimistic, although all used slightly different language. A control ad gave no further details. The other three labeled the woman “very attractive”, “passionate and sensitive” or “financially successful and ambitious”.

After a week, these descriptions drew 507 responses. Each cyber suitor was sent a polite reply thanking him for his interest, but explaining that his would-be companion had reunited with an old beau.

The control and passionate personas fared the worst, with 103 and 90 replies respectively. The attractive persona garnered more—129 admirers in all. But the woman with money came out top with 185 replies.

“This is very strange. It goes against everything I’ve heard before,” says psychologist Irene Frieze of the University of Pittsburgh. “I’m curious about the users of these sites.”

So are men who look for partners on the Net a bunch of money grabbing, passionless misfits? Strassberg agrees that the bulletin boards he studied may attract an unusual clientele. But he thinks the explanation may be that Net users are more educated and affluent, and are simply looking for someone of a similar background.

16. Strassberg’s study was designed to find out

- [A] what is the most popular medium to place personal ads in.
- [B] preferences of those who place online personal ads.
- [C] effectiveness of placing personal ads on the Internet.

[D] people's attitude toward online personal ads.

17. It can be inferred that evolutionary biologists would think

[A] a slim-bodied woman is more likely to be reproductively successful.

[B] female beauty can be passed along to the next generation.

[C] a tall man is necessarily a rich man.

[D] men and women should have similar preferences.

18. The word "virtual" (Line 3, Para. 5) most probably means

[A] actual [B] fundamental [C] imaginative [D] ordinary

19. Which of the following is true according to the text?

[A] Cyber suitors seemed to be most impressed by the beautiful woman.

[B] Most cyber suitors preferred the economically successful woman.

[C] The would-be companion had reunited with an old lover.

[D] Some cyber suitors were refused by the targeted woman.

20. In the last paragraph, the author

[A] challenges a theory given by evolutionary biologists.

[B] explains a phenomenon that affluent women are the most popular.

[C] strengthens an argument that men are greedy for money

[D] provides evidence that men like slimness and beauty

Part B

Directions: You are going to read a text about the tips on *How to Avoid the Common Mistakes in Interview*, followed by a list of examples or explanations. Choose the best item from the list [A]-[F] for each numbered subheading (21-25). There is one extra item which you do not need to use.

We've all heard stories of job candidates who looked great on paper but who were absolute disasters in person. With fewer and fewer interview opportunities available in this competitive market, it's essential to make the best possible first impression. You can learn from the mistakes of others and avoid the top 5 worst interview blunders.

21. Inconsistency

The people who will be interviewing you are usually old and seasoned hands at the job. They are quick to notice inconsistencies, hesitations, and uncertainties. They may challenge something you say just to see how you respond. If you back off, change, justify, qualify, over explain, or retract what you said earlier, they may suspect that you've been exaggerating or lying to them, and are likely to probe further.

22. Poor attitude

You should go for an interview with enthusiasm and an open mind while presenting yourself in an upbeat and professional manner.

23. Failure to match communication styles

It's almost impossible to make a good first impression if you can't communicate effectively with an interviewer. But you can easily change that situation by mirroring the way the interviewer treats you. Allowing the interviewer to set the tone of conversation can vastly improve your chances of making a favorable impression. You can put the interviewer at ease — and make yourself seem more like him or her — by mirroring his or her communication style.

24. Asking about benefits, vacation time or salary

Wait until you've won the employer over before beginning that discussion. Salary and benefits are definitely what applicants care about most. However, it's not only rude but also irrational at the first beginning of the interview to ask such things. When a job seeker asks about benefits or other employee perks during the first interview, a bad signal reflecting your image will be delivered to the interviewer.

25. Not to the point

In conclusion, just as a strong resume wins you an opportunity to interview, strong interview skills will win you consideration for the job. You already know that you won't earn an interview unless your resume sets you apart as a candidate of choice. Similarly, you should know that polishing your interview skills can mean the difference between getting the job offer — and being a runner up.

Start your job search with a resume that creates a stellar first impression, and then back those facts up with your extraordinary interview skills. You will have made yourself a better candidate by avoiding these five interview pitfalls. And no one will have to talk about you as the candidate who “almost” got the job.

[A] When interviewers respond to your statement with a skeptical look, a pause, or a comment, like “Really?”, you've to keep you cool, just smile politely, nod, and wait for them to continue. If you become uncomfortable, you can always ask, “Have I answered the question to your satisfaction?”, or “Was there anything else you wanted me to talk about?”

[B] Many candidates make the mistake of answering the question with a general statement. But interviewers want to hear about a specific time when you had this experience. The way to prepare for this type of question is to identify and tailor your stories before the interview. This question offers an opportunity to emphasize awards, compliments or bonuses received for a job well done. A story can relate a great many skills. One really good story is worth 50 general answers.

[C] If they are giving you the courtesy of their time and consideration, the least you can do is to respond in kind. If you decide during the interview that you don't want the job, or that you may not be sufficiently experienced or qualified to receive the offer, don't adopt negative. Continue to manifest positive.

[D] For example, if the interviewer seems all business, don't attempt to loosen him/her up with a joke or story. Be succinct and businesslike. If the interviewer is personable, try discussing his/her interests. Often the items on display in the office can offer a clue. If asked a direct question, answer directly. Then follow up by asking if more information is needed.

[E] You can imagine, what if a car salesman asked to see your credit report before allowing you to test driving the cars?

[F] Even if your last boss was Attila the Hun, never, never state your ill feelings about him/her. No matter how reasonable your complaints, you will come out the loser if you show that you disrespect your boss because the interviewer will assume that you would similarly trash him or her. When faced with the challenge of talking about former employers, make sure you are prepared with a positive spin on your experiences.

Part C

Directions: Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese.

Economics has often been criticized as a science concerned only with the short-term, to the exclusion of consideration of how short-term goals affect long-term consequences. While it is true that economics is generally focused on achieving short-term maximization of resources, it must be kept in mind that the long term is never neglected. 26)One of the most intrinsic concepts in the field of economics is game theory, which examines how the choices immediately facing an individual will affect his subsequent breadth of choices that emerge afterward.

For example, consider the case of a manager of a business who must decide whether to create a shoddy product, aware of the fact that ignorant buyers will buy an equal amount of the item regardless of its quality, since they know nothing about it yet. 27)Assume that creating a shoddy product is less expensive than creating merchandise of higher quality, short-term economics would argue that it is the best course of action for the manager to create the low-quality item, since the same reward would be achieved for a lower price.

More properly applied economics, however, would demand further consideration, taking into account the long-term. 28)While creating a shoddy product in the long term would boost short term profits, it would also cause buyers not to purchase from the manager's company in the future, resulting in a significant loss in long-term profits. Consequently, the boost in short-term profit would have to be weighed against the loss in long-term profits, providing a more realistic and applicable aspect to the decision making process. When game theory comes into play, economics becomes a more useful tool in real-world situations.

29)Having examined the way in which game theory is applied, its name now makes sense—game theory is similar to a chess game, in which the effects of one's choices on the other players in "the game" must be considered prior to action. In that sense, the application of economics to practical decision-making becomes at once more complicated yet more sensible. 30)One must always be thinking ahead and anticipating future scenarios based on current situations, for although economics is concerned with maximization, maximization is a long-term, not a short-term goal.

做题点拨与全文翻译

Part A

Text 1

语境词汇

- 1.reserved a.有所保留的；预订的
- 2.cautious a.小心的，谨慎的
3. lean a.收益差的；瘦的 vt.依赖
4. shed vt.去掉；流出，流下 n.棚，库
5. pinch n.困苦；捏，掐 vi.捏，掐
6. respectively adv.各自地，分别地
7. slump n. 萧条期 vi. 暴跌；沉重或突然倒下
8. heady a.令人陶醉的；易使人醉的
9. fundamental a.基本的，重要的，必要的
10. garner vt.收集并（通常）储存某物

难句突破

Graduating high school seniors (looking to enter the workforce) **and other high school students** (searching for summer jobs) **are facing a tighter job market**[this year][as the once red-hot U.S. economy continuous to cool.]

【分析】复合句。as 引导时间状语从句；主句中的两个现在分词短语“looking to ...”和“searching for ...”分别作两个并列的主语的定语。

【翻译】想要找工作的应届中学毕业生和那些打算在暑假打零工的中学生今年面对的就业形势比较紧张，这是因为一度红红火火的美国经济持续低迷。

The continuing slump (in the nation's high-tech sector) **and lingering uncertainty** (over the general health of the economy) **have combined to limit teenagers' job options to the type of work** (that American youths typically have thrived on)—{the retail and fast-food industries}.

【分析】复合句。本句的主语由两个名词短语组成，每个短语都分别由一个介词短语作为后置定语修饰。在宾语的补语成分中，“that”引导的定语从句修饰“work”，同时“the retail and fast-food industries”作“work”的同位语。

【翻译】全国高科技产业持续不景气，经济总体形势仍徘徊不定，二者综合起来限制了青少年的择业方向，他们只能选择那种美国青年人通常有所作为的工作——零售业和快餐业。

本文属“观点论证型”分析说明文，主要通过一系列的例证以及数据分析说明美国当前青少年的就业状况。第一、二段，提出青少年就业形势紧张，并分析了其原因：经济不景气，企业需求相对较小，尤其在制造业、轻工业和高科技公司；第三、四段，主要说明了工作短缺与美国全国总失业率低这一对矛盾的问题。第五、六、七段，通过专家和权威机构与过去的情况相对比，对未来的青少年的就业情形做出了预测。

答案解析

1. 【题眼】列举处设题

【解析】选[D]。事实细节题。根据题干关键词“current unemployment rate”定位于第一段最后一句话，“The unemployment rate...14.2 percent, ... 12.8 percent last year...”故选[D]；再根据第三段倒数一、二句提供的十年前的和去年的六、七月份的数据判断[A]和[B]错误；第三段第三句提到全国的总失业率时明确指出总失业率很低，故排除[C]。

2. 【题眼】段尾句设题

【解析】选[B]。事实细节题。文章提到“high-tech industry”的地方有三处：第二段最后一句、第四段第三句、第五段第一句；其中第五段最后一句谈到：“过去几年，大批青少年在薪水丰厚的科技公司打工，但现在这种情况已经一去不返了”，故[A]错误；再从其他两处只能推断出[B]；[C]、[D]均不正确。

3. 【题眼】特殊标点处设题

【解析】选[C]。事实细节题。第四段第二句谈到：“全国高科技产业持续不景气，...他们只能选择美国年轻人通常有所作为的工作——

全文翻译

想要找工作的应届中学毕业生和那些打算在暑假打零工的中学生今年面对的就业形势比较紧张，这是因为一度红红火火的美国经济持续低迷。[1]全国范围内 16 至 19 岁青少年的失业率继续上升。美国劳工部数据显示，今年四月份青少年失业率为 14.2%，而去年是 12.8%。

“很显然，今年夏天的就业会比较困难，因为各公司都变得更加有所保留、更加谨慎了。”马克·J·甘布里尔说道。他是人力资源公司市场部副总，该公司是全国最大的临时职业介绍机构，总部设在纽约市。人力资源公司最近对 万名公共及私人雇主进行了调查，[2]结果发现制造业、轻工业及高科技公司招聘员工的可能性最小。

一般来说，经济发展速度放慢，首当其冲的就是临时工，而其他平时大量雇佣青少年的部门在经济不景气的时候生意也会大受影响。例如，娱乐、休闲和饭店行业三四月份共计裁掉 万份工作，[4]这是美国劳工统计局经济学家小约翰·F·斯廷森提

零售业…”，其中破折号后的内容是对前面的进一步说明，故选项[C]正确，而选项[A]错误；而文章第三段中第一句提到经济发展放慢，首当其冲的是临时工，紧接着提到娱乐业的裁员，故排除[B]、[D]。

4. 【题眼】引言处设题

【解析】选[C]。事实细节题。第三段中引用了 John F. Stinson Jr. 的话，他是 an economist at the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics，由此推断出 [C]正确；[A]与第二段提到的 Mark J. Gambill, the vice president of marketing at Manpower Inc. 有本质的区别，单纯的 the vice president 指的是国家的副总统，故应排除；[B]文章中未提及；而选项[D]“一个华盛顿的经济学家”是对第六段第三句“一个设在华盛顿的智囊团的首席经济学家”的曲解，故错误。

5. 【解析】选[D]。主旨大意题。文章主要通过一系列的分析来说明当前青少年主要是中学生找临时工作和中学毕业生的就业形势。“the cooling of the U.S. economy”只是作者分析过程中的一个原因，所以不能选[A]；选项[B]在文中根本没有提到；选项[C]太过具体，不符合题意。选项[D]能最全面地概括文章的宗旨，所以为本题答案。

供的数据。具有讽刺意味的是，这种临时性工作和青少年工作短缺的情况出现时，美国全国的总失业率却一直很低。统计数字显示，最近几年夏天找不到工作的青少年人数比前十年任何时间的人数都少。斯廷森说：“按以往的标准来看，现在的失业率仍然很低。”例如十年前，至 岁工人的失业率六月份为 ，七月份 ；而联邦数据表明，去年六、七月份该失业率分别为 和 。

专家们说，打算打暑期工的青少年仍能找到工作，但是薪水不会很高。[3]全国高科技产业持续不景气，经济总体形势仍徘徊不定，二者综合起来限制了青少年的择业方向，他们只能选择那种美国青年人通常有所作为的工作——零售业和快餐业。

专家们说，在过去几年，大批青少年在薪水丰厚的高科技公司打工。只有中学毕业证但掌握计算机技能的人起薪可以拿到 万美元，但是如今那种令人陶醉的日子已经一去不复返了。

美国教育部说，预计今年全国从公共和私立中学毕业的学生约有 万。由于中学毕业后没有接受别的教育或培训，这些毕业生几乎注定只能领取低薪。罗恩·伯德是“就业政策基金会”（一个设在华盛顿的非赢利性智囊团）的首席经济学家。他说经济预测显示，在各群体中，只有中学毕业证书的人的工资增长是最慢的。

他说：“现在美国经济出现了一种根本性转变，该转变主要与技术紧密相关，它将更多地对专业型、管理型和技术型工作人员，而非生产线操作员，予以回报。”

Text 2

语境词汇

1. virtual reality 虚拟现实
2. immerse vt.使沉浸于，使专心于；使浸入
3. artificial a.虚拟的；人造的；人为的
4. illusion n.错觉，幻想；假象
5. simulated a.模仿的；伪装的
6. eliminate vt.消除，排除；忽略；淘汰
7. instant a.立即的，即食的 n.片刻，刹那

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