

# 2026 National English Competition for College Students

(Type B – Preliminary)

参考答案及作文评分标准

## Part I Listening Comprehension (35 marks)

### Section A (15 marks)

1—5 CBADC 6—10 CDBAC

### Section B (10 marks)

11—15 CBADA

### Section C (10 marks)

16. About 30 minutes.

17. Echolocation and communication.

18. Series of clicks.

19. To demonstrate group identity./ To show they belong to the same school.

20. The 20th century.

## Part II Vocabulary & Grammar (15 marks)

21—25 BACDA 26—30 DACBC 31—35 DABCD

## Part III Cloze (10 marks)

### Section A (5 marks)

36. rehearse 37. claims 38. come up with 39. repetition 40. selective

### Section B (5 marks)

41. equality 42. unconventional 43. due 44. acceptance 45. liberation

## Part IV Reading Comprehension (30 marks)

### Section A (10 marks)

46—50 BDEAG

**Section B** (10 marks)

51. 30%.

52. With careful modulation.

53. Ageing is simply the result of physical decline over the years.

54. When the mice were exposed to a chemical in their drinking water.

55. They could be administered in creams or injections to rejuvenate human's skin, muscle or bones.

**Section C** (10 marks)

56. the outward-facing senses 57. mental health problems 58. emotional events

59. the impaired interoception 60. various exercises

**Part V Translation** (20 marks)

**Section A** (10 marks)

61. 数十年来,艺术史学家们一直在淡化梵高传奇的神秘色彩,却几乎无损梵高所受的广泛欢迎。他的画作拍价仍在攀升,梵高展的参观者依旧爆满,《星空》依然是宿舍和厨房墙壁上不可缺少的画作。是什么让梵高神话如此经久不衰?原因是梵高神话表面上是为艺术英勇牺牲的故事,但其实是让人感到满足、几乎是人人皆有的一种复仇幻想。任何一个曾经感到被人冷落、不受赏识的人都能认同梵高,希望有朝一日光鲜翻身,让批评家和怀疑自己的亲属无地自容。

**Section B** (10 marks)

62. Qinghai Lake is located in the northeast of the Qinghai-Xizang Plateau in western China. It is one of the country's largest inland lakes and the world's highest-altitude saltwater lake. With its unique natural scenery and rich ecosystem, it attracts countless tourists and photographers. *National Geographic* even named it "the most beautiful among China's five great lakes," and "the blue gem of the plateau." The beautiful scenery of Qinghai Lake is not confined to the lake itself. The surrounding grasslands, mountain ranges, forests, and snow-capped peaks all contribute to enchanting charm of this land.

**Part VI Error Correction** (10 marks)

These days, with the advent of cheap flights, visa-free travel and higher disposable incomes, more and more people are travelling abroad on holiday, whether for a festival, a beach holiday or an exotic long-haul holiday to a far-flung destination. The growth of tourism seem a win-win

63. seems

situation for all concerned—tourists get to see new places, and locals make money from tourism. Moreover, some experts are beginning to question whether tourism is such a good thing. One such expert is Dr Roger Roberts, a professor in urban geographical and tourism at the University of London. According to Dr Roberts, it is a certain level of tourism which brings benefits to a city or resort, but once the numbers across that threshold, the impact on the place concerned becomes more negative. A case in point is Venice, where, as ^ result of the massive influx of tourists, the price of an apartment has gone up ten-fold in the last 20 years, and locals find themselves priced out and having to move to the mainland. Another problem is the lack of interaction to the local culture. Adria Sacrest, a local historian from Barcelona, bemoans the fact that tourists who come to his city often leave with little and no idea about the Catalanian language or culture. The centre of Barcelona, he says, has become a kind of international tourist island, where mainly English is ~~being~~ spoken, and the restaurants, bars and tourist attractions could really be anywhere in the world. ‘Everything is becoming standardize in Barcelona,’ says Sacrest. ‘Twenty years ago, central Barcelona was a really interesting place to visit and if you went into a local bar, you could well be the only tourist there. But now it is more about bus tours, organized visits to the football stadium and a drink in an Irish pub.’

64. However

65. geography

66. there

67. cross

68. a

69. with

70. or

71. ~~being~~

72. standardised

## Part VII Writing

### Section A (10 marks)

73. Omitted

### Section B (20 marks)

74. Omitted

#### 作文评分标准：

##### 一、评分原则

1. 本题满分为 Section A 10 分、Section B 20 分，按四个档次给分。
2. 评分时，先根据文章的内容和语言初步确定其所属档次，然后以该档次的要求来衡量，确定或调整档次，最后给分。

3. Section A 词数少于 100 个词或多于 120 个词的, Section B 词数少于 140 个词或多于 180 个词的, 从总分中减去 2 分。

4. 如书写较差, 以致影响阅卷, 将分数降低一档。

## 二、各档次给分范围和要求

第四档(很好): Section A 9~10 分; Section B 16~20 分

完全符合写作格式的要求, 覆盖多个内容要点, 表达思想清楚, 文字通顺, 连贯性很好, 基本上无词汇和语法错误。

第三档(好): Section A 6~8 分; Section B 11~15 分

基本符合写作格式的要求, 有个别地方表达思想不够清楚, 文字基本通顺、连贯, 有少量词汇和语法错误。

第二档(一般): Section A 3~5 分; Section B 6~10 分

不太符合写作格式的要求, 漏掉内容要点, 表达思想不清楚, 文字多处出现词汇和语法错误, 影响了对写作内容的理解。

第一档(差): Section A 1~2 分; Section B 1~5 分

未达到写作格式的要求, 明显遗漏主要内容, 表达思想混乱, 有较多词汇和语法的重大错误, 未能将信息传达给读者。

0 分

白卷; 作文与题目毫不相关; 内容太少, 无法评判; 所写内容无法看清。

# 2026 National English Competition for College Students

(Type B – Preliminary)

听力录音原文

## Part I Listening Comprehension

### Section A

*In this section, you will hear **two** conversations. Each conversation will be read only **once**. At the end of each conversation, there will be a **one-minute** pause.*

*Listen to each conversation. Then read the **four** choices marked **A, B, C** and **D**, and decide which is the best answer according to what you hear. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **answer sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

### Conversation One

**Advisor:** Hi, you are Sylvia, aren't you?

**Sylvia:** Yes, that's right.

**Advisor:** Good to meet you, Sylvia. Take a seat. So you wanted to meet today to talk about your future career.

**Sylvia:** Yes, that's right. I'm just finishing my second year in Business Studies. I need to think about my summer job and then the courses to take next year, but I'm not sure what career to go into.

**Advisor:** So what have you enjoyed studying so far?

**Sylvia:** Well, I like some of the more creative courses like marketing, advertising and sales.

**Advisor:** Careers in marketing can be very creative, especially if you're good with language and design.

**Sylvia:** Yes, I was thinking about copywriting—the language of advertising.

**Advisor:** Bear in mind, though, that a good marketing role can be difficult to get, particularly in a field like copywriting. I'll email you some information about short courses and training programmes. Are there any other careers you would consider?

**Sylvia:** Well, I'm good at maths and I've taken some accounting courses.

**Advisor:** Accounting can be a good choice. There's a lot of career stability, and financially speaking the pay is very high.

**Sylvia:** What are the downsides?

**Advisor:** There're a lot of difficult exams to pass, and training is a very lengthy process—nearly five years.

**Sylvia:** Do you have any other suggestions? I like working with people more than data.

**Advisor:** Have you considered human resources?

**Sylvia:** No, not really. What types of role can I have?

**Advisor:** There're a wide variety of roles. Also, one of the main benefits of human resources is that you can work for a wide range of companies. It's also not limited to particular areas of the country or specific sectors.

**Sylvia:** What are the main areas one can work in?

**Advisor:** Well, one is training staff and another is recruiting new staff and dealing with staff leaving.

**Sylvia:** The training might be interesting, but I'm not sure about working in recruiting and I can't imagine telling someone they've lost their job.

**Advisor:** So you have to make a lot of challenging decisions. Have you thought about a career outside of business? Are there any other areas that interest you?

**Sylvia:** Well, I quite like the idea of being a lawyer, but I haven't studied law.

**Advisor:** Well, that's not necessarily a problem. You can do a law conversion course after your degree. It would take an additional two years to complete.

**Sylvia:** I wouldn't mind that.

**Advisor:** Well, the profession is certainly respected and it pays well, but that also means lots of people want to do it. When you finish your courses, you still need to do more training—that means a trainee position. It's also incredibly competitive. There're many candidates for each job.

**Sylvia:** So how competitive is the job market?

**Advisor:** Well, it's changed a lot in recent years. Ten years ago, half of our graduates had full-time jobs within six months.

**Sylvia:** But it got much worse a few years ago, didn't it?

**Advisor:** It did. So ten years ago, about 70% had jobs within a year. Four years ago, only 50% got jobs in this timeframe.

**Sylvia:** And today?

**Advisor:** It has got better. Here, look at this chart. Two-thirds get a job in their first year after graduating.

**Sylvia:** And about a third have secured one within six months.

**Advisor:** That's right.

## **Conversation Two**

**Bonnie:** If I could come in here, Gary. I mean, there are loads of expressions in most languages to the effect

that change is a good thing. In English, for example, someone who doesn't embrace change is said to be 'stuck in his ways'. If we're tired of being indoors or watching TV, we say we need a 'change of scenery', then there's a proverb which goes: 'a change is as good as a rest'. So, all these are positive views of change, promoting change as something which suggests a whole host of worthy experiences to do with newness, difference, the excitement of the unknown, the adventure of the unpredictable.

**Gary:** True, Bonnie, but there's also a saying, 'Don't fix it if it isn't broken'. and there's another which is 'change for change's sake'. So this is the other side of the coin, and these expressions represent change as something threatening, because they disturb the existing equilibrium. And I could quite easily feel both of these contrasting sentiments at different times.

**Bonnie:** What about change in the business world? I think anyone who fails to move with the times, update and adjust is doomed, because otherwise the product or service in question will no longer be relevant as time moves on. It's even a requirement of high-level jobs, specified in management contracts. It's taken as read that you have to embrace change and you're a fool if you don't. It's not even on the discussion table. The result, in practice, can be quite bewildering, with constantly shifting goals and policies and an obsession with rebranding and changing names for everything.

**Gary:** But in many companies it's tantamount to high treason to express a dissenting voice of conservatism, or to be seen as putting a spanner in the works. Change is a must.

**Bonnie:** Actually, that puts me in mind of something that's evident in all walks of life, even education, and that's feedback forms. There's a bit of an obsession with being customer-led and constantly asking for customer feedback in the form of questionnaires.

**Gary:** Yes, you find it in libraries, museums and schools.

**Bonnie:** And it leads to a situation where the tail wags the dog. One person's sheet says, 'I didn't like x' and argues that case well, and this view is seized upon in an instant response, regardless of whether it's actually a representative comment of the larger sample, and a whole system gets changed unnecessarily.

**Gary:** Well, I guess if you invite people to make comments about potential changes, they'll think of anything that comes into their heads and write it, whether or not they are happy with the system that's actually in place.

**Bonnie:** Just to change the subject slightly, I was thinking that on a day-to-day level change can be irritating: things like unexpected road works on your journey home from work. Or if you normally go swimming on a Wednesday evening at six, and then the pool times change and there's a class on instead at that time, then your routine gets broken. You had a nice little system for a while and it's really annoying until you find a way round it.

**Gary:** And that's typical of change. In the working environment it's initially a pain for everyone and no one likes it because they've just got confident in their new routine again following the last changes. But usually people come round to seeing the point of the change, and in due course that change becomes the new accepted status quo, which you don't want to change.

**Bonnie:** Yes, so does change ultimately lead to happiness?

**Gary:** Well, the relationship between change and perceived happiness is also interesting. There's nothing that makes me happier than going out on my bike into the countryside by myself for an hour in the sun. But I know that if I did that day in day out, I'd soon be tired of it. So, I guess what I'm saying is, an activity like that is mostly enjoyable because most of the time you're stuck in an office, and so this enables you to escape from your stressful working life. If it's no longer a change, then it ceases to be something happy.

## Section B

*In this section, you will hear **five** short news items. Each item will be read only **once**. After each item, there will be a **fifteen-second** pause. During the pause, read the question and the **four** choices marked **A, B, C** and **D**, and decide which is the best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the **answer sheet** with a single line through the centre.*

11. A record-breaking bridge opened to traffic on Sunday in China. The Huajiang Grand Canyon Bridge in mountainous Guizhou Province is now the world's tallest bridge. It stands at a lofty height of 625 meters above the Beipan River. This engineering project also has the longest span of any bridge that has been constructed in rugged terrain. This bridge is 2,890 meters long, with the main span stretching 1,420 meters. The crossing will have a significant impact on the economy, logistics, and travel times in the region. It will slash the travel time between the two sides of the Beipan River from two hours to just two minutes. A spokesperson said it would revitalize the rural areas of Guizhou.
12. A stunning new museum has opened in Egypt's capital city, Cairo. The Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM) held an inauguration ceremony on Saturday attended by a host of dignitaries including kings and heads of state. Egypt's President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi said GEM "is set to become an international cultural and scientific hub, contributing to enhancing tourism promotion in Egypt". Authorities hailed the museum, which cost more than \$1.2 billion to build, as "Egypt's gift to the world". A local tour guide hopes it will "usher in a new golden age of Egyptology". The location of GEM is also likely to attract visitors as it is situated in Giza and offers panoramic vistas of the Sphinx and the Pyramids. The museum has been billed as the world's largest archaeological site dedicated to an ancient civilization.
13. The natural world contains a yet-to-be-discovered, untapped plenty of remedies to help doctors. The lat-

est discovery comes from researchers from Georgetown University and other research institutions in the USA. They believe their exploration of how reptiles excrete waste could help treat human ailments. The scientists analyzed the tiny “pee crystals” that reptiles use in place of urine to excrete waste. The crystals are a solid form of uric acid, which is a potentially harmful by-product created when the body breaks down nitrogen in food. Too much nitrogen in our bodies can lead to health problems like gout and kidney stones. Our bodies flush most of the uric acid waste away when we pass water. The study is published in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*. Researcher Dr Jennifer Swift believes the team’s findings could help us better understand and treat uric acid-related problems like gout and kidney stones.

14. The Internet abounds with all manner of diets and dietary advice. In recent years, much has been written about the benefits of intermittent fasting. This is confining daily eating to an 8-hour window, leaving a 16-hour gap without any food. Proponents of this dietary schedule say it improves metabolism and assists in cellular repair. However, a new long-term study has cast doubt on its merits. Researchers at the Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine in China concluded that people who restricted their eating to fewer than eight hours a day faced a 91 per cent higher risk of dying from cardiovascular diseases than those who ate over 12 to 16 hours. The researchers analyzed data from around 20,000 adults over a six-year period. Lead researcher Dr Victor Wenzhe Zhong said he was taken aback by his findings. He said: “We were surprised to find that people who followed an eight-hour, time-restricted eating schedule were more likely to die from cardiovascular disease.”
15. Predicting volcanic eruptions is never easy. For centuries, volcanologists and seismologists have studied the activity beneath Earth that might indicate an eruption. Forecasting when a volcano might erupt has been somewhat unreliable. However, scientists from NASA and the Smithsonian Institution say they are a step closer to providing more accurate forecasts of when a volcano might blow. NASA used images from space to detect changes in the colour of leaves. The research was based on a 2019 study from McGill University. This study showed that an increase in carbon dioxide levels emitted by two active volcanoes in Costa Rica had an impact on the colour of leaves in the surrounding areas. Current methods of predicting an imminent volcanic explosion include checking seismic activity, changes in ground height, and carbon dioxide and sulphur dioxide emissions. NASA said the new method of monitoring changes in the colour of leaves from space could help in foretelling eruptions.

### Section C

*In this section, you will hear **one** monologue. The monologue will be read **twice**. After listening, answer the questions using **no more than eight words**. Write the answers on the **answer sheet**.*

It is only recently that we have become aware of the hauntingly beautiful sounds made by the humpback

whales. The hydrophone, a microphone that can be used in water, was developed by the British scientist Ernest Rutherford, and is particularly good at detecting the presence of submarines underwater. During the Cold War, a Bermudian named Frank Watlington was working for the US government, and it was his job to use hydrophones to listen out for Russian submarines. While he was doing this, Watlington noticed that humpback whales appeared to ‘sing’. Later, Watlington’s work was taken up by two other researchers, Roger Payne and Scott McVay, who studied the nature of these humpback whale ‘songs’. They found that the various sounds produced by the whale formed a song which lasts for about 30 minutes and is then repeated by the whale for hours or even days.

Scientists believe there are two main reasons for whales to make sounds: echolocation, so that the whales know what objects (and perhaps food) are around them; and communication. Whales are capable of communicating to other whales over huge distances. Sound waves travel faster through water than through air, and the sound of a whale can travel thousands of kilometers through the oceans.

Many different species of whale are capable of making noises and some of them are believed to use echolocation. Some whales look for food, such as squid, down to a depth of 1.5 kilometers, and at that depth there is virtually no light at all. Without being able to locate their food, the whales are going to go hungry. The whales send out series of clicks and listen out for the echo of the sound. From this, they are able to work out what is around them and can respond accordingly. In addition to echolocation, humpback whales in one school tend to sing virtually the same song. Perhaps like football supporters they are demonstrating group identity, showing that they belong to the same school. Other schools, particularly those found in other oceans, sing songs which are quite different.

For millions of years, whales have swum in the great oceans of the world and only recently have they had to contend with a predator: human. In the 18th and 19th centuries, many countries had fleets of ships which set out to bring back whales. The 20th century saw the development of factory ships which were capable of killing and processing thousands of whales. It wasn’t until 1986 that an agreement was signed to stop whale hunting, and scientists hope that the number of whales will recover.

**This is the end of the listening part. Please transfer your answers to the answer sheet.**