Unit 3　The world of colours and light

A卷

Ⅰ. 阅读理解

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| 体裁 | 记叙文 | 子主题 | 美国绘画之父 |

　　Benjamin West, the father of American painting, showed his talent for art when he was only six years of age. But he did not know about brushes before a visitor told him he needed one. In those days, a brush was made from camel􀆳s hair. There were no camels nearby. Benjamin decided that cat hair would work instead. He cut some fur from the family cat to make a brush.

The brush did not last long. Soon Benjamin needed more fur. Before long, the cat began to look ragged(蓬乱). His father said that the cat must be sick. Benjamin was forced to admit what he had been doing.

The cat􀆳s lot was about to improve. That year, one of Benjamin􀆳s cousins, Mr Pennington, came to visit. He was impressed with Benjamin􀆳s drawings. When he went home, he sent Benjamin a box of paint and some brushes. He also sent six engravings(版画) by an artist. These were the first pictures and first real paint and brushes Benjamin had ever seen.

In 1747, when Benjamin was nine years old, Mr Pennington returned for another visit. He was amazed at what Benjamin had done with his gift. He asked Benjamin􀆳s parents if he might take the boy back to Philadelphia for a visit.

In the city, Mr Pennington gave Benjamin materials for creating oil paintings. The boy began a landscape(风景) painting. William Williams, a well-known painter, came to see him work. Williams was impressed with Benjamin and gave him two classic books on painting to take home. The books were long and dull. Benjamin could read only a little, having been a poor student. But he later said, “Those two books were my companions by day, and under my pillow at night.” While it is likely that he understood very little of the books, they were his introduction to classical paintings. The nine-year-old boy decided then that he would be an artist.

1. What is the text mainly about?

A. Benjamin􀆳s visit to Philadelphia.

B. William􀆳s influence on Benjamin.

C. The beginning of Benjamin􀆳s life as an artist.

D. The friendship between Benjamin and Pennington.

2. What does the underlined sentence in Paragraph 3 suggest?

A. The cat would be closely watched.

B. The cat would get some medical care.

C. Benjamin would leave his home shortly.

D. Benjamin would have real brushes soon.

3. What did Pennington do to help Benjamin develop his talent?

A. He took him to see painting exhibitions.

B. He provided him with painting materials.

C. He sent him to a school in Philadelphia.

D. He taught him how to make engravings.

4. William􀆳s two books helped Benjamin to 　　　　.

A. master the use of paints

B. appreciate landscape paintings

C. get to know other painters

D. make up his mind to be a painter

B

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| 体裁 | 说明文 | 子主题 | 敦煌莫高窟 |

　　(2020·山东威海期末)The Mogao Caves of Dunhuang, a treasure house of art of China, has been spanning over 1,000 years. The art inside here covers more than ten major genres, such as architecture, stucco sculpture, wall paintings, silk paintings, calligraphy woodblock printing, embroidery, literature, music and dance, and popular entertainment. But all these only existed because of one man􀆳s vision.

In 366 AD, a monk named Le Zun looked across the river at dawn and saw a thousand Buddhas appear on the golden cliff face of Mingsha mountain along the old Silk Road. The caves were then built by monks and mostly sponsored by people such as wealthy merchants, foreign dignitaries, as well as Chinese emperors.

But when trade in the Silk Road stopped, Dunhuang was soon forgotten and eventually, the Mogao caves were abandoned. The site however was still used as a place of worship by the local people of the 20th century when there was renewed awareness in its presence once more.

Most of the discoveries came from a Chinese Taoist monk named Wang Yuanlu who appointed himself as the guardian. The caves at that time were badly ignored, but Monk Wang recognized their value and instituted a programme of restoration, funded by whatever donations he could gather.

He then made one of the great discoveries in Chinese archaeology: an amazing cache, of over 50,000 documents and paintings, which had been hidden in Mogao Cave #17. The cave #17 came to be known as the Library Cave, which was walled up sometime early in the 11th century. A number of theories have been proposed as the reason for sealing the cave. One theory was that the cave had become a waste storeroom for precious, damaged and used documents and holy equipment and then sealed perhaps when the place came under threat. Another suggestion is that the cave was simply used as a book storehouse for documents which accumulated over a century and a half, then sealed up when it became full. Others suggested that the monks hurriedly hid the documents in advance of an attack by invaders.

5. What is the second paragraph mainly about?

A. The legend of Mogao Caves.

B. The end of the old Silk Road.

C. The discovery of Mogao Caves.

D. The development of the Silk Road.

6. What did Wang Yuanlu do to restore the caves?

A. He evaluated their value.

B. He raised donations in different ways.

C. He sent guards to protect them.

D. He persuaded government to do repairs.

7. What does “walled up” in the last paragraph mean?

A. Sealed. B. Built. C. Hidden. D. Discovered.

8. Why is Mogao Cave #17 considered a great discovery?

A. It used to be a library for monks.

B. It stored valuable historical materials.

C. It had a history of over 1,000 years.

D. It was deserted for mysterious reasons.

C

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| 体裁 | 议论文 | 子主题 | 古代艺术对现代艺术的影响 |

　　(2020·湖南雅礼中学质检)The term modern art sounds like it means art that is popular at the moment, but in fact, modern art is a style that originated over 150 years ago, and includes artists that by now have attained classic status, such as Picasso, Matisse, and Gauguin. And what􀆳s even more ironic(讽刺的) is that the movement they pioneered, considered revolutionary at the time, was inspired largely by an object of a traditional and ancient design.

As far back as the Renaissance, the primary European art movements emphasized conventional representation and adherence(遵循) to classical forms. But that began to change in the late 19th century as artists like van Gogh and Cezanne expanded the boundaries of painting. Soon, a movement arose that sought to create an entirely new style of art, and one way of doing so was to look beyond Western civilization.

Henri Matisse showed his friend Picasso a mask he had acquired made by the Dan tribe of the Ivory Coast. The mask awoke Picasso􀆳s curiosity, leading him to visit the Trocadero Ethnographic Museum in Paris in 1907. The visit was eye-opening for Picasso, who declared that African masks were what painting was all about. At this time, Picasso had been working on a painting of five naked women in a style that would later come to be known as Cubism. And while three of these ladies show facial features found in ancient Iberian art, a nod to Picasso􀆳s Spanish heritage, the faces of the two on the right closely resemble African masks. Created in 1907 after hundreds of sketches and studies, *Les* *Demoiselles* *d􀆳Avignon* has been considered the first truly 20th century masterpiece, breaking with many previously held notions in art.

Inspiration from ancient cultures started one of the most revolutionary movements in art history, but were these artists playing the role of explorers or conquerors, stealing ideas and profiting from cultures they considered primitive? Questions like this deserve scrutiny(审查), as artists continue to redefine standards. Perhaps not too long from now, the bold innovations(革新) of modern art will be overturned by a new set of pioneers drawing inspiration from another unlikely source.

9. The style of European art didn􀆳t experience any changes until 　　　　.

A. artists turned to nature for inspiration

B. artists looked beyond Western civilization

C. artists began to emphasize self-expression

D. artists expanded the boundaries of painting

10. What can we learn about *Les* *Demoiselles* *d􀆳Avignon*?

A. It combined different cultural elements.

B. Its distinctive style invited much criticism.

C. It broke away from all conventional styles.

D. It was inspired by a visit to the Ivory Coast.

11. What does the author try to convey in the last paragraph?

A. Artistic creation involves imitation and innovation.

B. The pioneering role of modern artists is questionable.

C. Drawing inspiration from different cultures is essential.

D. It􀆳s vital that the standards of art should change constantly.

12. What is the best title for the text?

A. A Glimpse into Modern European Art

B. The Pioneering Figures of Modern Art

C. Why We Should Redefine Modern Art

D. How Ancient Art Influenced Modern Art

Ⅱ. 阅读七选五

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| 体裁 | 议论文 | 子主题 | 艺术是情感的表达 |

　　(2020·山西4月统考)Nowadays people will say that being an artist should be a temporary dream, something only a select few can do. 　13　. It isn􀆳t just a painting or a song, but an expression of emotion that cannot be felt through just words themselves.

A craft of imagination can be more important than a craft of knowledge, and it is absolutely possible for the two to be combined. A piece of work isn􀆳t just something created without discipline or training. 　14　. An artist needs to learn how to complete the basics like a master before they can add in their own emotions and change the painting to be their own.

　15　. This is a great quote for all artists in the sense that each piece of art is different, but inspirations are shared. Students are taught the same thing over and over again, which is good. However, by teaching them to accept new ways of finding solutions or solving their issues, 　16　.

There are schools who want to take out the different forms of art found in public schools. 　17　. Every person needs a way to allow them to release stress in a healthy way, a way that can be shared with others or kept to themselves. If art, music is taken out of the school systems, then how are students supposed to learn about alternative ways to express themselves?

A. a student􀆳s horizon can be expanded

B. “Art is theft” was said by Pablo Picasso

C. students can express themselves well in speech classes

D. Obviously, they are not fully aware about what art means

E. It is the emotion as well as the training within the painting

F. Unfortunately, this can hurt a student more than help them

G. Thus, the importance of art education can never be too emphasized

B卷

Ⅰ. 阅读理解

A

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| 体裁 | 说明文 | 子主题 | 鸡蛋艺术 |

　　(2021·湖北四地七校期中联考)In spring, chickens start laying again, bringing a welcome source of protein at winter􀆳s end. So it􀆳s no surprise that cultures around the world celebrate spring by honouring the egg.

Some traditions are simple, like the red eggs that get baked into Greek Easter breads. Others elevate the egg into a fancy art, like the heavily jewel-covered “eggs” that were favoured by the Russians starting in the 19th century.

One ancient form of egg art comes to us from Ukraine. For centuries, Ukrainians have been drawing complicated patterns on eggs. Contemporary artists have followed this tradition to create eggs that speak to the anxieties of age: Life is precious, and delicate. Eggs are, too.

“There􀆳s something about their delicate nature that appeals to me,” says *New* *Yorker* cartoonist Roz Chast. Several years ago, she became interested in eggs and learned the traditional Ukrainian technique to draw her very modern characters. “I􀆳ve broken eggs at every stage of the process—from the very beginning to the very, very end.”

But there􀆳s an appeal in that vulnerability(易损性). “There􀆳s part of this sickening horror of knowing you􀆳re walking on the edge with this, that I kind of like, knowing that it could all fall apart at any second.” Chast􀆳s designs, such as a worried man alone in a tiny rowboat, reflect that delicateness.

Traditional Ukrainian decorated eggs also spoke to those fears. The elaborate patterns were believed to offer protection against evil.

“There􀆳s an ancient legend that as long as these eggs are made, evil will not exist in the world,” says Joan Brander, a Canadian egg-painter who has been painting eggs for over 60 years, having learned the art from her Ukrainian relatives.

1. People in many cultures honour the egg because 　　　　.

A. it is their major source of protein in winter

B. it is a welcome sign of the approach of spring

C. it can bring wealth and honour to them

D. it can easily be made into a work of art

2. What does the underlined word “elevate” in Paragraph 2 mean?

A. Carve. B. Promote. C. Place. D. Lower.

3. Why does Chast enjoy the process of decorating eggs?

A. She is never sure what the final design will look like until the end.

B. She always achieves great pleasure from designing something new.

C. She never knows if the egg will break before the design is completed.

D. She believes there won􀆳t be evil in the world once the egg is made.

4. The following statements are right EXCEPT that 　　　　.

A. the decorated “eggs” are favoured as a form of fancy art in Russia

B. contemporary artists draw on eggs to reflect anxieties of people today

C. the delicate nature of eggs appeals to Roz Chast

D. eggs provide a hard and unique surface to paint on

B

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| 体裁 | 说明文 | 子主题 | 《蒙娜丽莎》效应 |

　　(2020·山东新高考模拟)It􀆳s common knowledge that the woman in Leonardo da Vinci􀆳s most famous painting seems to look back at observers, following them with her eyes no matter where they stand in the room. But this common knowledge turns out wrong.



A new study finds that the woman in the painting is actually looking out at an angle that􀆳s 15.4 degrees off to the observer􀆳s right—well outside of the range that people normally believe when they think someone is looking right at them. In other words, said the study author, Horstmann, “She􀆳s not looking at you.” This is somewhat ironic, because the entire phenomenon of a person􀆳s gaze(凝视) in a photograph or painting seeming to follow the viewer is called the “Mona Lisa effect”. That effect is absolutely real, Horstmann said. If a person is illustrated or photographed looking straight ahead, even people viewing the portrait from an angle will feel they are being looked at. As long as the angle of the person􀆳s gaze is no more than about 5 degrees off to either side, the Mona Lisa effect occurs.

Horstmann and his co-author were studying this effect for its application in the creation of artificial-intelligence avatars(虚拟头像) when Horstmann took a long look at the “Mona Lisa” and realized she wasn􀆳t looking at him. To make sure it wasn􀆳t just him, the researchers asked 24 people to view images of the “Mona Lisa” on a computer screen.

So why do people repeat the belief that her eyes seem to follow the viewer? Horstmann isn􀆳t sure. It􀆳s possible, he said, that people have the desire to be looked at, so they think the woman is looking straight at them. Or maybe the people who first coined the term “Mona Lisa effect” just thought it was a cool name.

5. What is generally believed about the woman in the painting *Mona* *Lisa*?

A. She attracts the viewers to look back.

B. She seems mysterious because of her eyes.

C. She fixes her eyes on the back of the viewers.

D. She looks at the viewers wherever they stand.

6. What gaze range in a painting will cause the Mona Lisa effect?

A.  B. 

C.  D. 

7. Why was the experiment involving 24 people conducted?

A. To confirm Horstmann􀆳s belief.

B. To create artificial-intelligence avatars.

C. To calculate the angle of Mona Lisa􀆳s gaze.

D. To explain how the Mona Lisa effect can be applied.

8. What can we learn from the text?

A. Horstmann thinks it􀆳s cool to coin the term “Mona Lisa effect”.

B. The Mona Lisa effect contributes to the creation of artificial intelligence.

C. Feeling being gazed at by Mona Lisa may be caused by the desire for attention.

D. The position of the ruler in the experiment will influence the viewers􀆳 judgment.

Ⅱ. 完形填空

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| 体裁 | 记叙文 | 子主题 | 用脚画画的女孩 |

　　(2021·山东济南莱芜一中第一次考试)Minh Best, born without arms, loves to paint and she􀆳s found a unique way to approach her work. To 　9　 her paintings, she uses her foot to hold the brush. The girl has not let anything 　10　 her back, especially from doing what she loves: painting.

Her paintings have 　11　 from an artistic hobby into a way for Minh and her parents, Sarah Best and Justin Best, to raise money for her to 　12　 Camp No Limits. “Camp No Limits is a camp for children with limb(肢体) differences,” Sarah Best said. “We are trying to 　13　 to West next year as there are campers like Minh and we want her to 　14　 them.”

Online and direct messages with specific requests are 　15　 ways Minh􀆳s paintings have been sold. “Several people have told us, with tears in their eyes, how 　16　 they are to get to see her do what she loves,” Sarah Best said.

The family has already raised more than $5,000, helping pay for travel 　17　 to two camps just this year. “　18　 she attends these camps, she􀆳ll know she􀆳s just one of the crowd,” Sarah Best remarked.

As her drawings continue to 　19　 the shelves, Minh􀆳s family would love to be able to help other kids attend these camps and offer financial assistance through these 　20　. “Attending these camps, she􀆳s already 　21　 others as well,” Best said. “Again, her love for life is just catching and it gives people of all ages 　22　, even at these camps.”

Minh will continue to paint, cook, dance and do everything that brings her joy 　23　 limitations.

9. A. sell B. enjoy C. promote D. make

10. A. hold B. call C. bring D. give

11. A. risen B. grown C. ranged D. stayed

12. A. attend B. witness

C. experience D. deliver

13. A. move B. walk C. travel D. cycle

14. A. argue with B. catch up with

C. fit in with D. agree with

15. A. normal B. common C. original D. unique

16. A. blessed B. annoyed

C. considerate D. adorable

17. A. plans B. books C. aims D. expenses

18. A. Since B. Though C. When D. Because

19. A. run into B. pass down C. apply for D. fly off

20. A. lessons B. classes C. donations D. comments

21. A. hurt B. inspired C. prevented D. offended

22. A. money B. hope

C. experiences D. paintings

23. A. without B. despite C. over D. through

Ⅲ. 语法填空

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| 体裁 | 说明文 | 子主题 | 涂鸦艺术的发展 |

　　(2020·浙江绍兴上虞区二模)Graffiti is writings, drawings or marks made on walls in public places. In most cases, it is often 　24　 mixture of writing and pictures, usually 　25　 (mark) with a tag, which is unique 　26　 an artist or a group. Graffiti is now popular all over the world.

Graffiti is believed to become popular in the United States in the 1960s. Young adults in cities like New York would use paint to spray their tag on walls. 　27　, New Yorkers used to see graffiti as something 　28　(disturb). Up to the 1970s, most people hated graffiti and painting graffiti was illegal and graffiti artists 　29　(punish) by fines.

Later, the image of graffiti and graffiti artists changed a lot and graffiti was no longer only found in the subways or the poor areas of cities but also in the 　30　(gallery) of Manhattan art world. In the late 1980s the popularity of hip hop music helped to spread the culture of graffiti, first at home in the United States and then 　31　(international).

Recently, graffiti 　32　(gain) the reputation of “street art” and it has become a movement expressing the street culture of young people. You can even find graffiti in places 　33　 you least expect to see it—in advertisements, on clothes, on toys and even in newspapers.

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28. 　　　　　29. 　　　　　30. 　　　　　31.

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