

## 【英文】隨堂練習第三回

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- ( ) 1. \_\_\_\_\_ by the horrifying murder scene, the little boy couldn't even utter a word, let alone cry for help.  
(A) Detached (B) Discharged (C) Paralyzed (D) Withdrawn
- ( ) 2. Innovations, such as the steam engine, electrification and digitalization, have \_\_\_\_\_ radical changes in the way in which we produce goods and services.  
(A) underpinned (B) underestimated (C) undercovered (D) undermined
- ( ) 3. Take an umbrella because \_\_\_\_\_, according to the weather forecast.  
(A) it rains (B) it has been raining  
(C) it was raining (D) it is going to rain
- ( ) 4. Willy wastes a lot of time playing online games because he is \_\_\_\_\_ them.  
(A) addicted to (B) improved with (C) entertained in (D) enjoyed by
- ( ) 5. In the recent popular TV series, \_\_\_\_\_ was gradually built up with questions revolving around who may have killed the protagonist.  
(A) suspense (B) succession (C) superstition (D) sovereignty
- ( ) 6. \_\_\_\_\_ the assignment, Jennifer uploaded her work on the designated platform.  
(A) Have finished (B) Having finished (C) Have to finish (D) To have finished
- ( ) 7. According to psychology, it is through \_\_\_\_\_ that people are able to examine their feelings.  
(A) commencement (B) adolescence (C) introspection (D) fulfillment
- ( ) 8. I \_\_\_\_\_ this for over 30 years before I retired in 2020.  
(A) have did (B) had doing (C) have done (D) had been doing
- ( ) 9. If you want to know the detailed numbers, please refer to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the paper. We did not put them in the main body of our paper.  
(A) internship (B) appendix (C) maintenance (D) prologue
- ( ) 10. It's surprising that the girl has \_\_\_\_\_ the famous cartoon character.  
(A) seen neither nor heard of (B) seen either heard of  
(C) neither seen nor heard of (D) either seen or heard of

For decades, habitat loss and hunting 11 a huge threat to the whooping cranes of North America. When the bird was listed as 12 in 1967, there were just 48 of them left in the wild. In 1978, a couple of whooping crane habitats were established in the U. S. and its northern neighbor, and the birds get to live and grow safely in Wisconsin, Florida, and at Wood Buffalo National Park in Canada. Due to this establishment of their 13, along with other measures including effective breeding and reproduction programs, and 14, the current population of this North America's tallest bird is now at about 600. Though the crane's future remains uncertain, it is one of conservation's 15 stories.

- ( ) 11. (A) will pose            (B) had posed            (C) are posing            (D) were posed
- ( ) 12. (A) dangerous            (B) extinct            (C) endangered            (D) lethal
- ( ) 13. (A) stadiums            (B) cemeteries            (C) landfills            (D) sanctuaries
- ( ) 14. (A) widely-promoted deals on trades  
(B) highly-recommended recipes for cooking  
(C) strictly-enforced bans on hunting  
(D) globally-founded sites for entertainment
- ( ) 15. (A) common myth            (B) great success            (C) sad truth            (D) sour grape

More than half a trillion dollars—that's the estimated value of all the stuff that U.S. shoppers bought last year only to return it, more than the economy of Israel or Austria. There's a direct link from returns to the eye-popping scale of U.S. shopping overall. In 2021, U.S. shoppers likely spent a record \$4.4 trillion. People tried new brands with unfamiliar sizes after seeing them on TikTok or Instagram. They overbought for the holidays and shopped exceedingly online, where returns are between two and five times more likely than with purchases from stores.

Where does it all go? According to experts, most returned goods have a very high probability of being in a landfill. That is what consumers don't realize — the life of a return is a very sad path. A lot depends on the product and the store's policies. For example, pricier clothes are very likely to get dry-cleaned and sold again as new. Sealed, never-opened packages might get sanitized and put back on the shelf. Electronics often get resold. Value is the big threshold: Is the product worth the cost of shipping back plus paying someone to inspect, assess damage, clean, repair or test? That's why stores abandon billions of dollars' worth of goods, refunding or replacing them without asking shoppers to send their unwanted items back. Experts estimate that retailers throw away about a quarter of their returns. Every year, U.S. returns create almost 6 billion pounds of landfill waste.

Luckily, many others get resold to a growing web of middleman companies. Some go to discount, outlet and thrift stores. Some go to sellers on eBay or other websites. Some get donated to charity or recycled. These options have ballooned over the past decade, paving the way for more and more returns to find a new home. As companies compete on flexible return policies, technology is also slowly getting better at avoiding returns in the first place: helping shoppers buy the right-size sweater or picture a new rug inside their room.

- ( ) 17. What is the passage mainly about?
- (A) An estimate, its measurement, and returns.
  - (B) A problem, its causes, and possible solutions.
  - (C) A method, its origins, and practical approaches.
  - (D) An online shopping system, its technology, and algorithm.
- ( ) 18. What does "More than half a trillion dollars" in the first paragraph refer to?
- (A) The value of goods US consumers bought in a year.
  - (B) The evaluation of Israel and Austria's economic scale.
  - (C) The combined amount of online and offline shopping.
  - (D) The total worth of retail products being returned to stores.



- ( ) 19. What does the author mean by "a very sad path" in the second paragraph?
- (A) Not all consumer goods are treated equal.
  - (B) Lots of new and usable products end up as garbage.
  - (C) Returned goods are not treated properly before being resold.
  - (D) Most stores have inappropriate policies that take advantage of consumers.
- ( ) 20. According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?
- (A) Sanitization of returned goods is mandatory, especially for pricier electronics products.
  - (B) Much of retail stores' annual profits and return on investment depends on online sales.
  - (C) To get a refund for damaged goods, the consumers have to go through a middleman.
  - (D) It is often costly for retailers to ask their customers to send the unwanted goods back.
- ( ) 21. Which of the following is an example of the "technology" mentioned in the final paragraph?
- (A) Sending advertisements to viewers based on their previous browses.
  - (B) Recycling returned goods by selling them in various discount outlets.
  - (C) Allowing buyers to see how a piece of furniture may look in their homes.
  - (D) Keeping track of consumer donations and rewarding them with discounts.