Part II　Listening Comprehension

News Report One

New York State plans to shut off the thundering waters of Niagara Falls—again. At least, the American side of the falls. This "once in a lifetime" event actually may take place twice in some folks' lives. (1) The New York State parks system wants to turn off the falls on the American side sometime in the next two to three years to replace two 115-year-old stone bridges that allow pedestrians, park vehicles and utilities access to Goat Island.

The American side of the falls were shut off in 1969 to study the buildup of rock at the base of the falls. When that happened, people came from all over the world to see the falls turned off.

People are curious by nature. They want to see what's underneath. In fact, those who first came to have a look did see something. (2) They found millions of coins on the bottom.

Questions 1 and 2 are based on the news report you have just heard.

(◆未听先知) 预览两道题各选项,由选项中出现的 tourists, stone bridges, Goat Island 和 boats and ships 等词可以推测,新闻内容与某个旅游景点有关,且该景点涉及水。

1. **Why does New York State want to turn off Niagara Falls?**

　B)。(◆详解) 新闻中提到,纽约州公园系统想在未来的两三年内关闭美国境内的尼亚加拉大瀑布,以更换行人、公园车辆和设备通往山羊岛的两座石桥,这两座石桥距今已有 115 年的历史了。因此答案为 B)。

2. **What did people find when Niagara Falls were shut off in 1969?**

　D)。(◆详解) 新闻结尾提到,1969 年尼亚加拉大瀑布被关闭后,人们发现河底有数百万的硬币。因此答案为 D)。

News Report Two

The Tunisian government said Monday that 45 people have been killed after gunmen attacked a town near the border with Libya.

The Interior and Defense ministries said that (3) the Tunisian government has closed its two border crossings with Libya because of the attack.

The Tunisian military has sent reinforcements and helicopters to the area, and authorities have been hunting several attackers who were still at large.

The violence came amid increasing international concern about Islamic State extremists in Libya. Officials of the Tunisian government are especially worried after dozens of tourists were killed in the attacks in Tunisia

last year.

Defense Minister Farhat Horchani said last week that (4) <u>German and American security experts were expected to come to help Tunisia devise a new electronic video supervision system on its border with Libya.</u>

Tunisia was targeted last year by three attacks that left 70 people dead and were claimed by Islamic State.

Questions 3 and 4 are based on the news report you have just heard.

（☎未听先知）预览两道题各选项,由选项中出现的 Libya, Tunisia, border crossings, terrorist attack 和 security 等词可以推测,新闻内容与突尼斯和利比亚边境发生的恐怖袭击有关。

3. **What did the Tunisian government do after the gunmen's attack?**

   C)。（☎详解）新闻中提到,由于这次恐怖袭击,突尼斯政府关闭了与利比亚接壤的两处边境通道。因此答案为 C)。

4. **What were German and American security experts expected to do in Tunisia?**

   D)。（☎详解）新闻中提到,德国与美国的安全专家预计会来帮助突尼斯设计一个新的电子视频监控系统,监视其与利比亚接壤的边境。因此答案为 D)。

| News Report Three |

(5) <u>Three university students in Santiago, Chile, have developed a plant-powered device to charge their mobile phones.</u>

(6) <u>The three engineering students got the idea for the device while sitting in their school's courtyard.</u> Their invention is a small biological circuit they call E-Kaia. (7) <u>It captures the energy which plants produce during photosynthesis</u>—a process of converting sunlight into energy.

A plant uses only a small part of the energy produced by that process. The rest goes into the soil. E-Kaia collects that energy. The device plugs into the ground and then into a mobile phone.

The E-Kaia solved two problems for the engineering students. They needed an idea for a class project. They also needed an outlet to plug in their phones.

One of the student inventors, Camila Rupcich, says the device changes the energy released from the plant into low-level power to charge phones.

The E-Kaia is able to fully recharge a mobile phone in less than two hours.

Questions 5 to 7 are based on the news report you have just heard.

（☎未听先知）预览三道题各选项,由选项中出现的 battery, mobile phone, charger 和 device 等词可以推测,新闻内容与手机充电有关。

5. **What did the three university students invent?**

   C)。（☎详解）新闻开头提到,智利圣地亚哥的三名大学生发明了一种为手机充电的植物动力设备。因此答案为 C)。

6. **When did they get the idea for the invention?**

   A)。（☎详解）新闻中提到,这三名工程系的学生坐在学校的院子里时萌生了发明这种设备的想法。因此答案为 A)。

7. **What does the speaker say about the invention?**

   D)。（☎详解）新闻中提到,这种设备可以捕捉植物在光合作用中产生的能量。因此答案为 D)。

Section B

| Conversation One |

M：Good morning. What can I do for you?

W：Good morning. Could I talk to Jeffry Harding please?

M：Speaking.

W：Hello, Jeff. It's Helen. (8) <u>I got your message on the answering machine.</u> What's the problem?

M: Oh, Helen. Well, it's the Grimsby plant again, I'm afraid. (9) <u>The robots on Line 3 have gone wrong. And the line is at a standstill.</u>

W: Can't you replace them with the stand-ins?

M: I'm afraid not. The stand-ins are already in use on Line 6. And the ones from Line 6 are being serviced.

W: When did this happen, Jeff?

M: Well, they've been making a low continuous sound for a day or two. But they finally went dead at 2:30 this afternoon.

W: I see. (10-1) <u>What did you do? Have you tried the whole plant?</u>

M: (10-2) <u>Not yet, Helen. I thought I'd better get your OK first.</u>

W: OK. Get on the phone to Tom, and try to get their stand-ins over tonight. We have to be back at full capacity tomorrow morning. Is it a major job to repair our robots?

M: About a week. That's what the maintenance engineer says.

W: Right. Well, if you can get the ones from Tom, please ask Tom to inform Sheffield that he may need their stand-ins in case of emergency during the next week.

M: OK. Thank you very much, Helen.

W: You are most welcome.

M: (11) <u>Sorry to spoil your day off.</u>

W: It doesn't matter.

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

(🔊未听先知) 预览四道题各选项，由选项中出现的 workshops, plant, fix 和 broken production line 等词可以推测，对话内容与工厂设备的维修有关。

8. **What did the man do before the telephone conversation?**

   B）。(🔊详解) 对话中，女士说她收到了答录机上的信息，由此可知，男士此前给女士打过电话并留了言。因此答案为 B）。

9. **What does the man say about Line 3 in the Grimsby plant?**

   C）。(🔊详解) 对话中男士提到，三号线上的机器人出了故障，导致整条生产线都停滞了。因此答案为 C）。

10. **What is the man's purpose in calling the woman?**

    A）。(🔊详解) 对话中，女士问男士机器人出现故障后他做了什么，有没有试一下整个车间，男士回答说还没有，他想先征得女士的同意。因此，男士打电话的目的是征得女士的同意，故答案为 A）。

11. **Where is the woman at the time of the conversation?**

    B）。(🔊详解) 对话结束时，男士对女士说抱歉打扰了她的休假。由此可知，女士在对话发生时正在休假，故答案为 B）。

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Conversation Two

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W: This is Kerry Burke from *New York Daily News*. (12/13) <u>I'm speaking to Delroy Simmonds, an unemployed Brooklyn man who missed a job interview Tuesday for the best of reasons: He was saving the life of a 9-month-old boy who was blown into the path of an oncoming subway train by a high wind.</u>

M: Everybody is making me out to be some sort of superhero. I'm just an ordinary person, and a father of two. Anybody in that situation would have done what I did.

W: You were going to an interview when the incident occurred, right?

M: Yes, I was on my way to apply for a maintenance position. I've been looking for a job for a year and more. I'm looking for something to support my family.

W: Tell us what happened at the station.

M: (14) <u>There was a strong wind. It had to be 30 to 40 miles an hour. There was a woman with four kids. One was in a pushchair. The wind blew the baby onto the tracks.</u>

W: (15) <u>Witnesses said people were looking on in horror as the child's mother, identified by sources as Maria Zamara, stood frozen in shock. In the distance, people could see the train rounding a bend, headed into</u>

the station. I guess you were not aware of any of these, right?

M: No. I just jumped down and grabbed the baby. The train was coming around the corner as I lifted the baby from the tracks. I really wasn't thinking.

W: What an amazing story. Thank you very much.

Questions 12 to 15 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

(🔊未听先知) 预览四道题各选项,由选项中出现的 saved, a baby-boy's life, train crash, subway 和 tracks 等词可以推测,对话内容涉及拯救一个小男孩于一场与地铁有关的事故。

12. **What did Kerry Burke from *New York Daily News* say about the man?**

A)。(🔊详解) 对话开头女士提到,这位男士为了拯救一个9个月大的男孩错过了面试。故答案为 A)。

13. **What do we learn about the man from the conversation?**

B)。(🔊详解) 对话开头女士提到,男士是布鲁克林的一名失业人士,而他为了救一个9个月大的男孩错过了面试。由此可知,男士目前仍处于失业状态,因此答案为 B)。

14. **What caused the incident?**

C)。(🔊详解) 对话中男士提到,当时有一股强风,时速达到三十到四十英里,有一位母亲带着四个小孩,其中一个在婴儿车里的小孩被风吹到了地铁轨道上。由此可知,引发此次事件的是一股强风,故答案为 C)。

15. **How did the mother react when the incident occurred?**

A)。(🔊详解) 对话中女士提到,目击者称,人们都惊恐地看着,小孩的母亲也被吓得站在那里一动不动。因此答案为 A)。

Section C

Passage One

There's one sound that gets a big reaction from kids on a hot day, the sound of an ice-cream truck. Maria McCartney has been in the mobile ice-cream business since 2005.

(16) "When I was a little girl, I saw an ice-cream truck and knew I wanted to have one someday," McCartney said.

During the hot days of summer, Maria and her daughter drive an ice-cream truck through neighborhoods and parks in Billings.

It's not about making money for this former elementary school teacher. Rather, (17) she wants to preserve the tradition of the neighborhood ice-cream truck.

"Truly my favorite part is to see the kids jumping up and down and they just get so excited. It's great to build a memory for them too. There's not a lot of these ice-cream trucks around anymore. The parents come out barefoot and screaming, ready to buy ice-cream; they remember when they were kids and they saw a truck," she said.

While the treats may be ice cold, Maria has a warm heart for little faces. (18) Her truck features a donation bucket for kids who don't have money for ice-cream.

"When there are three kids and only two of them have money, I always make sure the third one gets something because I can't drive away and have that third one not have something," she said.

Questions 16 to 18 are based on the passage you have just heard.

(🔊未听先知) 预览三道题各选项,由选项中出现的 ice-cream business, ice-cream truck 和 ice-cream 等词可以推测,短文内容与冰激凌生意有关。

16. **What does the speaker say about Maria McCartney?**

D)。(🔊详解) 短文中提到,玛利亚·麦卡特尼说在她还是个小女孩的时候,看到冰激凌卡车,就希望有一天自己也能有一辆。因此答案为 D)。

17. **Why does Maria go into the mobile ice-cream business?**

   A)。(**详解**) 短文中提到,玛利亚卖冰激凌并不是为了赚钱,而是为了保留街区冰激凌卡车的传统。因此答案为 A)。

18. **Why does Maria put a donation bucket in her truck?**

   C)。(**详解**) 短文结尾处提到,玛利亚的冰激凌卡车有个捐赠桶,这是为了让没有钱的孩子也能吃到冰激凌。因此答案为 C)。

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Passage Two

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We know we have to pay for what we get. If we buy food, we have to pay for it. If a doctor treats us, we know there will be a bill to pay. These are private bills. But there are also public bills to be paid. They are paid by the government. In turn we get the needed services. (19-1) <u>We pay for these services through taxes.</u>

What would happen if everyone stopped paying taxes? The water supply would stop; the streets might not be cleaned; schools would be closed. We would not want to live in such a city. (20) <u>The chief duty of every government is to protect persons and property. More than three-fourths of government expenses are used for this purpose.</u> The next largest amount of public money goes to teach and train our citizens. Billions of dollars each year are spent on schools and libraries. Also, a large amount of public funds is spent on roads.

Most of the needed funds is raised by taxes. The law orders us to pay taxes. We have no choice in the matter.

(21) <u>Years ago the government made money by selling public lands.</u> But most of the best public lands have now been sold. There are still some public lands that contain oil, coal and other natural resources. They could be sold, but we want to save them for future years. (19-2) <u>So, we all must pay our share for the services that make our lives comfortable.</u>

Questions 19 to 21 are based on the passage you have just heard.

(**未听先知**) 预览三道题各选项,由选项中出现的 taxes, money, Educating, Improving, Protecting 和 Building 等词可以推测,短文内容与税收及其用途有关。

19. **What does the speaker mainly talk about?**

   A)。(**详解**) 短文开头提到,我们通过交税来享受这些服务,而在短文结尾又提到,我们必须为让我们的生活变得更加舒适的服务支付一定的费用。由此可知,本文主要谈论的是交税的原因,故答案为 A)。

20. **What is most of the government money used for?**

   C)。(**详解**) 短文中提到,每个政府的主要职能就是保护人身和财产安全,超过四分之三的政府开销都用在此目的上。因此答案为 C)。

21. **How did the government raise money to pay public bills in the past?**

   B)。(**详解**) 短文中提到,以前政府通过出售公有土地来筹集钱款,故答案为 B)。

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Passage Three

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(25) <u>Did you know that, besides larger places like France and Germany, Europe is home to several extremely tiny countries?</u> One of these countries contains less than a square mile of land. Another is surrounded on all sides by Italy. Yet each is an independent land, with its own government, trade, and customs.

One of the best known of these small countries is Monaco. (22) <u>It is situated on the Mediterranean Sea and surrounded by France on three sides.</u> (23) <u>Monaco became familiar to Americans when its ruler, Prince Rainier, married the American actress Grace Kelly.</u> Rainier's family has ruled Monaco almost continuously since 1297. The land has been independent for over three hundred years.

Andorra, with an area of some 200 square miles, is considerably larger than Monaco. This country is located in the Pyrenees Mountains, with France on one side and Spain on the other. Potatoes and tobacco are grown in Andorra's steep mountain valleys. (24) <u>One of the products it exports is clothing.</u> Andorra is also known for its excellent skiing locations.

Within the Alps in Central Europe is Liechtenstein, a tiny country of about 30,000 people who speak mostly German. Liechtenstein uses the same money as its neighbor Switzerland, but it has been an independent country since the 1860s. Taxes are low, so many businesses have their headquarters here. The country makes and exports a lot of machinery.

Other small, independent states in Europe are San Marino and Luxembourg. Each of these has unique qualities as well.

Questions 22 to 25 are based on the passage you have just heard.

（**未听先知**）预览四道题各选项,由选项中出现的 located, European continent, surrounded, ruler, Tobacco 和 Machinery 等词可以推测,短文内容与欧洲的某个或某些国家的地理、历史及经济有关。

22. **What does the speaker say about Monaco?**

　　D)。（**详解**）短文中提到,摩纳哥位于地中海沿岸,三面与法国接壤。因此答案为 D)。

23. **Why did Monaco become familiar to Americans according to the speaker?**

　　B)。（**详解**）短文中提到,摩纳哥的雷尼尔王子娶了美国的女演员格蕾丝·凯莉之后,美国人才对摩纳哥熟悉起来。因此答案为 B)。

24. **What is one of the products Andorra exports?**

　　D)。（**详解**）短文中提到,服装是安道尔公国出口产品中的一种,故答案为 D)。

25. **What does the speaker mainly talk about?**

　　C)。（**详解**）短文开头就提出一个问题:除了法国和德国这样的大国家,你知道欧洲还有许多相当小的国家吗? 接下来便讲述了摩纳哥、安道尔和列支敦士登这些小国家的一些情况,并在短文最后一语带过其他欧洲独立小国家——圣马力诺和卢森堡公国,指出他们也有自己的特别之处。由此可知,讲话者主要讲述的是欧洲的小国家,故答案为 C)。