

考試科目	寫作與閱讀 B	系別	英國語文學系	考試時間	7月10日(五) 第四節
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**I. Reading comprehension (35%).** Translate the underlined parts in the following article and then answer two short questions.

Fathers Need Support to Spend More Time on Children and Chores

by Peter Walker

Encouraging men to become more involved as fathers is the key to achieving gender equality, according to a landmark international study that shows women remain overwhelmingly more responsible for childcare and domestic duties despite their increasing role in paid employment.

(1) Hands-on fathers also help produce happier and better-educated offspring, as well as gaining significant benefits to their own physical and mental health, the inaugural State of the World's Fathers report argues.

The 288-page report, an analysis of almost 700 studies on the subject from every nation for which data is available, highlights the continuing (2) gender disparities over childcare and other domestic duties.

Despite now being 40% of formal workforce globally, women still spend between two and ten times longer than men caring for children or older people, and there is no country where men and boys share unpaid domestic and care work equally with women and girls.

A key part of the problem is a lack of official support for involved fatherhood, with paid paternity leave either non-existent or very brief in most countries, said the report, produced by *Mencare* an international NGO campaigning on fatherhood that has links to groups including "Promundo" and "Save the Children."

"Unless men and boys participate equally in unpaid work in the home, and unless governments, employers and families expect and support this involvement, gender equality will not be achieved," it argues. "Men's emotional lives and their wellbeing and happiness will continue to be constrained, and they and their children will (3) miss out on one of the most significant relationships of their lives."

The study, published to coincide with Father's Day this Sunday, identifies the massive gender imbalance in childcare and other unpaid domestic work as a key element of the problem. Even across the developed nations of the OECD women undertake an average of twice as much domestic duties as do men, with the ratio rising to eight times as much in South Africa and ten times more in India.

One study cited by the report found that even between 1965 and 2003, married, employed men in 20 industrialised nations, including the UK and US, contributed on average only an extra six hours a week to domestic chores. Nowhere did the time spent by men exceed 37% of that of women.

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This disparity helped explain why women earn on average 24% less than men around the globe, the report noted. Father who participate in childcare and other domestic duties tend in turn to bring up boys more likely to accept equality, it added, while the daughters of men who share domestic chores are more likely to aspire to higher-paying jobs.

The report's authors call for governments to introduce more ambitious (4) paternity leave entitlements. While more than two-thirds of fathers say they would happily work less to spend more time with their children, of the 92 nations currently giving paternity leave about half offer less than three weeks. More generous provision has "the potential to transform gender relations", the study argues, noting UK research that found fathers who took time off after their children's birth were much more likely to help with duties like (5) night feeds even a year later.

The report stresses the wider beneficial effects of more paternal involvement, saying involved fathers have been shown to boost their children's cognitive development, mental health and social skills. Men who say they have close connections with their children tend to live longer, happier lives, and are more productive at work.

More benefits still occur when fathers are actively involved before their children's birth, the study found, with men's presence at antenatal visits being linked with fewer women dying in childbirth and, in more developed nations, with better rates of breastfeeding.

While 80% of men around the world will become a biological father during their lives, the authors say, the issue of more parental and domestic involvement by men is "virtually invisible in public policies and in public discourse".

Nikki van der Gaag, an academic and author who co-wrote the report, said the findings were crucial in efforts to boost equality: "When fathers take on their fair share of the unpaid care work, it can alter the nature of the relationships between men and women and children, as both fathers and mothers will have more time for their children, women are released from some of their double burden, and fathers get to experience the joys, satisfactions, and stresses of caring for their children.

"Taking up roles as caregivers also offers men the opportunity to begin to break free from the narrow concepts of manhood and fatherhood, providing their sons and daughters with positive role models, improved health and development, and higher hopes for the future."

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1. Provide Chinese translations to the five underlined portions in this article. Please number your answers on the answer sheet. (15%)

2. Short answer questions: If you feel the need to highlight the exact words of the author in your answer, remember to place them inside quotation marks. Don't just copy and paste. (20%)

A. What is the major concern for the author? What are the possible solutions to the problem that concerns him?

B. Are there any other solutions you may think of to improve "paternal involvement" in looking after children?

**II. Paragraph revision (15%).** We are often advised to start a sentence with a familiar idea that has been introduced, touched upon, or discussed in the previous ones. For the sake of the smooth sentence flow, it is not acceptable to surprise your readers by bringing up a brand-new topic towards the beginning of the sentence, as the advice goes. Revise the following passage according to this "old-before-new" principle and try to make sentences connected more smoothly.

"The power to create and communicate a new message to fit a new experience is not a competence animals have. Information about distance, direction, source, and richness of pollen in flowers constitutes the only information that can be communicated by bees, for example. Their genetic code limits the number and kind of messages that they can communicate. A limited repertoire of messages delivered in the same way, repeated for generation after generation, is characteristic of animals of the same species."

(The above paragraph is taken and adapted from *Style: Lessons in Grace and Clarity*.)

**III. Summary writing (20%).** The following passages are adapted from an online article entitled "Marketing & Education Initiatives for Encouraging Alternative Transportation Use in Decatur." Summarize the passages in one paragraph of about 120 words.

By encouraging alternative transportation use, Decatur's Community Transportation Plan can help the City obtain national recognition for forward-thinking transportation agenda, attract new development, and support the City's long term growth.

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The City of Decatur has been very successful with a range of special events and economic development programs designed to attract residents and visitors to downtown shops, restaurants, festivals, and concerts. Coordinating with this Transportation Plan can boost both the success of the events as well as the promotion of alternative transportation within the City.

The City can offer a range of incentives for taking alternative transportation trips to downtown. Partnering with retail shops and restaurants, the City can offer discounts for cyclists in conjunction with the current Thursday night extended shopping hours. Further, the City can designate the blocks of Ponce de Leon Ave between Commerce Dr and Church Street as a pedestrian mall closed off to automobile traffic on certain Saturdays. Bringing more walkers or cyclists to the downtown area increases sidewalk travel and helps expose retail and restaurant shops to increased business.

Festival events attract a large number of residents and visitors which potentially strains automobile parking resources. Promoting walking or parking trips to downtown decreases the need for parking spaces as well as lowers congestion and encourages physical activity amongst attendees. Having visible signage promoting walking and cycling, offering raffles for anyone attending the festival without a car, or offering shuttle service from neighborhoods to the downtown area can all help encourage residents to attend the event without a car.

Safe and convenient bicycle parking is a key requirement for encouraging and supporting bicycle travel within the City. As Decatur moves towards increasing the number of bicycle parking spaces throughout the city, local businesses and offices should be key partners to install and maintain high-quality bicycle parking racks. Many private businesses recognize the benefits of bicycle transportation and can personalize their bicycle parking facilities to attract attention or recognition around their locations. Signage and uniquely-shaped racks both serve as advertisements for businesses that choose to improve their local bicycle parking.

While permanent bicycle parking can be encouraged or required throughout the City, Decatur's success with event planning offers a prime opportunity for using temporary parking facilities to encourage bicycling to City events. Several manufacturers offer portable bicycle racks which are easily transported and assembled. The City can designate roped-off areas with volunteer attendants to offer "valet parking" for bicycles as well as monitor parking locations close to a festival entrance.

The City currently partners with the regional Clean Air Campaign to promote and support alternative transportation trips. The Campaign's Cash for Commuters and Commuter Prizes programs offer money or incentives for workers who log their daily commutes on the program website. The City of Decatur has offered smaller scale Smart Commute Days in the past, offering prizes, t-shirts, and lunches to city employees taking an alternate mode to work on that day. The City should continue to offer events and

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incentives to encourage alternative commuting within the city staff, and to demonstrate leadership and alternative transportation feasibility within the City.

**IV. Composition (30%).** Some companies monitor employees' internet activity. Do you agree or disagree that companies should be permitted to do this? In about 500 words, state your opinion and provide reasons or examples to support your response.



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- 一、作答於試題上者，不予計分。
- 二、試題請隨卷繳交。

考試科目	西洋文學概論 B	系別	英國語文學系	考試時間	7月10日(五) 第二節
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請於答案卷上作答，否則將不予計分。

1. Explain how the imaginations of the afterlife in the *Odyssey*, *Aeneid*, and the *Apocalypse* are different and in what sense these differences show different beliefs in different cultures about the meanings of this life. (25%)
2. Allegory was one of the most often used literary devices in the Middle Ages. Define it, and explain how and why it was used by giving examples from Dante's *Divine Comedy*. (25%)
3. Define stoicism and choose one literary or philosophical text from the Greek tradition, one from the Roman tradition, and one from the Christian tradition to show how these three texts seem to promote, illustrate, or question stoicism. (25%)
4. Discuss how Italian Renaissance writers such as Petrarch, Machiavelli, Boccaccio, Ariosto, and Castiglione provided inspiration to other writers throughout Europe. Give specific examples. (25%)

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