

『英語で書く力。』付録一穴埋めトレーニング・ドリル！
頭や末尾の文字をヒントに（ ）の中に単語を書き込もう。

※ 解答はテキスト本文をご参照ください。

Section 01 *Describing Pictures*

Unit 01 A Business Presentation

① In this photo a group of people are in a conference room. ② This appears to (b) a photo of a business meeting of some kind. ③ We can assume that these people all work together. ④ All of the attendees are wearing business casual clothing, which is (l) formal than traditional business attire. ⑤ In the background is a monitor displaying several graphs showing a variety of data. ⑥ (C g) this use of modern technology, on the glass windows to the left are what appears to be dozens of "old-school" Post-It® Notes. ⑦ One of the people is standing (w e) the remaining six are seated around a table. ⑧ It's a good bet that the man standing likely just finished giving a presentation. ⑨ There's no way to tell what the meeting was about, but it (m) have been a successful one since all of the people are clapping with appreciation or delight.

Unit 02 A Pool in Paradise

① This photo shows an open-air villa with a stunning view. ② (W) it could be a residence, it is likely a rental unit. ③ On the other hand, it could also be the communal area of a resort. ④ The vegetation would indicate that it is in a tropical location, given (t) we can see several varieties of palm trees. ⑤ The entire villa is fashionably decorated and includes a variety of luxurious amenities. ⑥ Along (w) an infinity pool, there is a BBQ grill and ample seating. ⑦ A sofa and recliners surround the pool, and there are dining tables inside as (w) as on the patio. ⑧ This would be a perfect place to entertain guests. ⑨ This abode doesn't appear to be air-conditioned. It is equipped with ceiling fans, (h r). ⑩ In any case, if it gets a little too warm, you just hop in the pool! ⑪ In the distance another, perhaps similar home or villa can be seen.

Unit 03 Natural Disaster Response

① This picture (f s) a team of first responders. ② The team members are all wearing matching uniforms and helmets for their own safety. ③ (F) their appearance, we can assume that they are specialists who train for such a situation. ④ This is almost certainly the scene of a natural disaster, but it is difficult to ascertain exactly (w) happened. ⑤ Based on the extent of the damage, an earthquake is the most likely scenario. ⑥ Piles of rubble and collapsed buildings are visible, so the group pictured could be conducting a search and rescue operation. ⑦ The buildings don't (s m) to have been very modern and are likely a total loss. ⑧ In the upper-right hand corner we can see the top of another building that does not appear to have been damaged. ⑨ A portable generator is being used to supply power, either for machine tools (o) to provide lighting for once the sun goes down.

Unit 04 Grocery Shopping

① This (p o) captured a family at the supermarket. ② The woman is pushing a shopping cart full of groceries. ③ The man is carrying a little girl (w) is presumably their daughter. ④ The couple look to be in their mid-to-late twenties and the child appears to be about five years old. ⑤ All (t) of them are smiling and the couple is looking at the girl. ⑥ It's likely that she just said something funny. ⑦ It's hard to discern what they have already selected, but a leek is sticking up in the (b) of the cart. ⑧ (T) the left of the leek is an oblong item wrapped in paper — so my guess would be bread. ⑨ They are obviously in the fruit and vegetable section of the market. ⑩ The price tags and signboards are out of focus, so we can't see the prices. ⑪ (G n) the worldwide increase in the cost of goods, it's a sure bet they won't be smiling at checkout.

Unit 05 A Fender Bender

① It looks (l) two people were just in a car accident. ② While it does not appear to be a very bad collision, there is significant damage to the car on the (l). ③ Both drivers seem to be okay and are inspecting the damage. ④ That (b) said, the man on the left is holding the back of his neck. ⑤ This body language could be an indication of either whiplash or simply stress. ⑥ There are no police or paramedics on the scene yet, but they are (a t) certainly on the way. ⑦ Odds are, the driver on the left was probably at fault. ⑧ The driver in the back is almost always to blame when failing to stop in time. ⑨ From (w) we can see, weather does not appear to be a factor. ⑩ Amusingly, over the top of the car on the right we can just make out a warning sign with an exclamation point! ⑪ Related?! ⑫ Who knows.

Unit 06 A Christmas Party

① A (s) group of friends are having a Christmas party. ② There's no question it's Christmas (b) three of the four people shown are wearing Santa hats. ③ One of the ladies is wearing reindeer antlers on her head. ④ The fact that there are only four place settings means that these are the (o) guests. ⑤ This is obviously in someone's home, and to the left of the table is a decorated Christmas tree. ⑥ Other decorations are also visible here and there. ⑦ Most notably, a Christmas wreath has been mounted on the wall in the background and there is a Christmas-themed centerpiece on the dining table. ⑧ Speaking (o) dining, it appears that dinner is about to be served. ⑨ The menu includes roasted chicken, tossed salad, freshly baked bread and pie. ⑩ If I'm not mistaken, there are Christmas cookies for desert too! ⑪ I could be (w g), but my gut tells me that I'm right!

Unit 07 Cooking Up a Storm

① This is a picture of two women who are in the process of preparing a meal. ② They appear (t) be cooking in a commercial kitchen. ③ We can surmise that because of its size and the sheer number of appliances. ④ This could be a restaurant, but (t) again it also could be a kitchen in a cooking school. ⑤ Both of the ladies are wearing aprons over their street clothes. ⑥ (N r) of the women are wearing uniforms or hair nets, so on second thought this is probably not a restaurant. ⑦ The woman on the left is holding a dish above a frying pan. ⑧ She seems to be using a spatula to plate the food. ⑨ Meanwhile, the woman on the (r) looks to be preparing a side dish of some kind. ⑩ On the cutting board to the right, we can see tomatoes, garlic, cheese and perhaps basil. ⑪ Whatever they are cooking, you can't go (w g) with those ingredients!

Unit 08 How the 2% Live

① This picture features a massive three-story mansion. ② (W) its tiled roof and columns, the house is typical of the Spanish architectural style. ③ The property is located on the waterfront and includes its own private deep-water dock. ④ The back of the house is covered in a myriad of windows, designed to maximize the view. ⑤ (S d) by palm trees, it's a good bet that this house is located in South Florida. ⑥ Location aside, (t) is no question that the owner is rich, if not famous. ⑦ Several sets of tables, chairs and loungers are visible in the yard around the residence. ⑧ A large yacht is moored at the dock, ready to be used at a moment's (n e). ⑨ It is often (s) that the ultra-wealthy represent only 2% of the population. ⑩ Most people can only dream of living in a place like this. ⑪ After seeing this picture, I will have nightmares about cleaning the windows.

Unit 09 Dinner and Drinks

① In this photo, a group of friends are out together at either a bar (o) restaurant. ② Three men and three women are sitting around a table smiling and laughing. ③ This could be (t) couples, or simply six individuals hanging out. ④ It's impossible to tell the nature of their relationship, other than the (f) that they are obviously friends. ⑤ The atmosphere is very casual, as is the clothing they are all wearing. ⑥ All of them appear to be in their upper twenties. ⑦ There are three glasses of draft beer pictured, so they are certainly old (e) to drink. ⑧ Two of the men have beards, while one is clean-shaven. ⑨ One of the bearded men is eating what looks like a tortilla chip. ⑩ We can just make out what looks like a burger, French fries and potato chips, so the food is typical American fare. ⑪ (W) it not for the cellphone visible, this picture could well be 40 years old!

Unit 10 Road Trip

① This snapshot shows a family of four who are about (t) go for a drive. ② The parents are sitting up-front, and their little girl is sitting in the backseat. ③ (N) to her is the family dog—a Golden Retriever. ④ Labrador breeds are well-known and popular because they are very good with children. ⑤ (N) doubt a well-loved member of the family, the dog is the center of attention in this photo. ⑥ The car is left-hand drive, so we can assume that this picture was likely taken (s e) in North America. ⑦ The trees around them are in full bloom, so we can also presume that it is late spring or summer. ⑧ Wherever they are bound for, it is probably not too far away. ⑨ We can ascertain that since there is no sign of any luggage in the car, although admittedly it could be in the backseat. ⑩ Only the dog is facing forward (s) maybe he should drive!

Section 03 *Expressing Opinions*

Unit 21 **Chemical pesticides should be banned entirely.**

贊成

① The use of pesticides poses a significant threat to both the environment and human health. ② (T e), I am convinced that banning pesticides and promoting organic farming is a step towards both a healthier and more environmentally responsible future.

③ (F) off, it's a known fact that pesticides contaminate soil and water and can also harm plant and animal species (t) are not pests. ④ By embracing organic farming, which relies on natural methods (l) crop rotation and composting, I am confident we can preserve soil fertility and safeguard water resources for future generations.

⑤ (M r), the dangerous side-effects of pesticide exposure cannot be overlooked. ⑥ Studies have linked pesticide in food to various health issues, including cancer and reproductive problems. ⑦ Transitioning to organic farming would go far to eliminate these dangers and risks.

⑧ Furthermore, not (o) is organic farming healthier for people it is better for the environment as well. ⑨ By cultivating diverse crops and creating natural habitats, organic farms become homes for beneficial insects, birds and microorganisms that are crucial to the ecosystem.

⑩ The bottom line is, banning pesticides and supporting organic farming is a necessary step to pave the way for a safer, (m) resilient and responsible food supply chain.

Unit 21

反对

① The people who want to (b) pesticides in favor of organic farming fail to acknowledge the intricate realities of global food production. ② (W e) organic farming holds appeal for its perceived environmental and health benefits, an outright ban on pesticides would present significant challenges and I don't think it is a realistic solution.

③ Pesticides are important tools for farmers worldwide, enabling them to combat pests and diseases efficiently, thereby helping crop yields and ensuring food security. ④ (W) pesticides, there is no doubt that agricultural productivity would plummet, leading to reduced food stores and potential economic turmoil.

⑤ Additionally, while I do believe that organic farming is commendable, it often involves (h) production costs and lower yields compared to conventional methods. ⑥ This increase in cost could make organic produce inaccessible to lower-income consumers, thus leading (t) food inequality.

⑦ In conclusion, (r r) than pushing for an outright ban on pesticides, I feel that efforts should focus on promoting sustainable pesticide use through strict regulations and education. ⑧ Other techniques (s) as integrated pest management could also be beneficial. ⑨ This approach maximizes the benefits of pesticide use while minimizing environmental and health risks.

Unit 21

中立

① I think that the use of pesticides in agriculture is a complex issue. ② We have to consider environmental impact, food security and economic viability. ③ If the issue is examined objectively, one must recognize (b) the benefits and drawbacks associated with pesticide use.

④ On (o) hand, pesticides play a crucial role in increasing agricultural productivity by controlling pests and diseases that threaten crop yields. ⑤ The elimination of pesticides could lead to food insecurity and potential economic hardship. ⑥ Pesticides help ensure consistent food quality and affordability, (t y) meeting the demands of a growing global population.

⑦ On the (o) hand, concerns about the adverse effects of pesticides on human health and the environment cannot be ignored. ⑧ Prolonged exposure to certain pesticides has been associated with serious health conditions. ⑨ Therefore, I support the responsible and regulated use of pesticides, coupled (w) the promotion of alternative pest management strategies and organic farming. ⑩ I sincerely believe this can mitigate these risks while maintaining agricultural productivity.

⑪ To (s) it up, the situation calls for a balanced approach that considers the various implications of pesticide use and I firmly believe regulation is the key. ⑫ (B) prioritizing safety, sustainability and innovation in agricultural practices, we can strive towards a more resilient and equitable food supply.

Unit 22 Smoking should be banned completely in all public areas and restaurants.

贊成

① I completely agree with the idea that smoking in any and all public places should be done away (w). ② There are several reasons I base my opinion on.

③ For (o) thing, it is a proven fact that smoking is bad for one's health. ④ If this were not the case, there would not be any legal reason (t) make manufacturers print warnings on the packaging of tobacco products. ⑤ There is also the issue of second-hand smoke, whereby peoples' health can be adversely affected simply by breathing in the smoke of others.

⑥ (I) addition, there's also the inconvenience smoking causes to others. ⑦ For example, the stench of cigarette smoke adheres to clothes. ⑧ Those of us (w) do not smoke do not wish to smell like it. ⑨ Another nuisance is litter. ⑩ Smokers who smoke in the street or in parks have a habit of discarding their cigarette butts on the ground.

⑪ Lastly, there are many (e s) of smoking being banned already in countries around the world. ⑫ Smoking in many states in the US is banned completely, even in bars, hotels, etc. ⑬ The (s) is true for Canada. ⑭ There is no reason why Japan can't follow suit and ban smoking in all public places as well.

Unit 22

反对

① I am wholeheartedly (a t) the notion that smoking should be banned completely. ② There are many reasons for this.

③ Number one: smoking is a (m r) of personal choice. ④ I don't have a right to tell other people what kind of clothes to wear. ⑤ Nor is it my place to say people should (o) shouldn't wear certain perfumes or colognes.

⑥ Number (t): I have not been presented with any specific scientific data that clearly shows second-hand smoke is harmful to others. ⑦ If it is in fact true that smoking is dangerous to me because I smoke, that is something I accept. ⑧ That too, is a personal choice.

⑨ (T y), smoking in congested areas like trains, buses and other public transport is already prohibited. ⑩ This is a reasonable level of regulation, (b) to place an outright ban on smoking anywhere is utterly ridiculous and totally unacceptable. ⑪ After all, it is the taxes from cigarettes that are used to build many of the amenities and buildings people are trying to ban smoking from.

⑫ Smokers are people too and should enjoy the same freedoms (a) those who choose not smoke.

Unit 22

中立

① It doesn't matter to me whether smoking is banned in public places. ② I can understand (b) sides of the debate, but the issue is irrelevant to me.

③ I guess my initial reaction would be, if cigarettes are so bad for people, (w) does the government allow them to be sold? Tobacco products are often blamed for a number of maladies, including cancer and heart disease. ④ If there is data to back up this claim, then how can the (s e) of such products be justified, I wonder.

⑤ Personally, I have to admit that I don't like cigarette smoke, and it is irritating to have to have my clothes cleaned to be rid of the smell (a) a night in a bar. ⑥ That (b) said, I am not sure I could support a blanket ban on smoking. ⑦ It is only prudent that, just like anything else, it should be voted on. ⑧ If the majority of the population agrees to it, then I think it would be fair.

⑨ To sum it (u), I think there are more important problems to spend time and money on. ⑩ I would like the government to deal with those issues before taking up something as trivial (a) a smoking ban.

Unit 23 **Something needs to be done about overtourism.**

贊成

① (S)-called "overtourism" is a new word to describe a new problem. ② With more people having money to travel, huge numbers of tourists are flocking to destinations around the world. ③ (W) the money tourists spend can be a boon to the economy, having too many tourists presents serious headaches for their hosts.

④ One such problem is (w n) the influx of tourists overwhelms the local infrastructure. ⑤ Suddenly, local people living in areas popular among tourists find themselves (u e) to park their cars, use public transport or even eat at their own favorite restaurants.

⑥ Another significant problem (t) strikes me is tourist behavior. ⑦ Nowadays it seems many tourists visit places just so they can post on social media. ⑧ Instead of having a genuine interest, they want to go there (b) "everyone else is." ⑨ News stories abound of tourists damaging and disrespecting cultural heritage sites.

⑩ I wholeheartedly support the idea of limiting the number of tourists allowed to enter a country at one time. ⑪ Another viable option is to create special taxes for tourists. ⑫ That money can then be used to add infrastructure to support (b) locals and tourists alike.

Unit 23

反对

① I think this whole concept of "overtourism" is overblown. ② Countries (a d) the world spend millions of dollars to promote tourism. ③ Some countries get most of their GNP from tourism. ④ Whether that is a good thing (o) not is another question entirely.

⑤ I hear people complain about crowds or infrastructure issues. ⑥ (I) there are not enough facilities for tourists, then that is the fault of the local or federal government, (n) the tourists. ⑦ People who live in locations tourists visit choose to live there. ⑧ If a person doesn't like dealing with tourists and crowds, in my opinion they should simply move elsewhere.

⑨ It is a matter of course that when a country with a large population experiences economic growth, they travel. ⑩ This can be as tourists or as immigrants. ⑪ I (v w) this as natural trend that is unavoidable.

⑫ Another often-touted "fix" is to raise prices or add taxes (t) target tourists. ⑬ This practice is unfair to the point of being racist. ⑭ I will concede that visitors to a country need to be respectful of the culture and people who are hosting them. ⑮ In the end, however, taking drastic measures to limit tourism will (o y) serve to hurt the economies of the countries taking those steps.

Unit 23

中立

① As I see (i), tourism has always had its good and bad aspects. ② Imagine going to a famous spot you've seen in pictures, only to (f) it jam-packed with tourists. ③ It's not just crowded streets; it's like everything's overwhelmed — from the roads to the bathrooms. ④ As anyone who has experienced it knows, it's not just the inconvenience of crowding; it's about how overtourism hurts the place too.

⑤ All those visitors mean more trash, more pollution, and more strain on (l) resources. ⑥ I think social media is a big part of the problem. ⑦ The more we share those cool pictures on social media, the (m) other people want to go there.

⑧ I don't subscribe (t) the idea of limiting tourists or imposing special taxes. ⑨ I just think we need to do things differently. ⑩ Instead of just going to the big famous places, we (c) explore lesser-known spots. ⑪ People also need to be educated and mindful of how we as tourists affect the environment and local communities.

⑫ Travelling is not just about having fun; it's about being responsible. ⑬ If we want to keep enjoying all these amazing places, we've (g) to take care of them too.

Unit 24 Social media has a negative impact on mental health.

贊成

① (H g) experienced the pervasive influence of social media on my own life, I can attest to its negative effects on mental health. ② (W e) it offers a platform for connectivity and self-expression, the dark side of social media often goes unnoticed. ③ From the non-stop comparisons (t) the enviable pictures of others, it breeds feelings of inadequacy and self-doubt.

④ The pursuit of "likes" and recognition becomes a measure of self-worth, overshadowing genuine human connections. ⑤ Moreover, many experts agree that the anonymous nature of the online world encourages cyberbullying, (w h) can lead to feelings of isolation and despair.

⑥ The addictive nature of social media is another huge mental health issue, as users can find themselves trapped in a cycle of mindless scrolling and "surfing" various social media applications. ⑦ This constant stream of information can disrupt sleep patterns, increase stress, and contribute (t) feelings of loneliness and depression.

⑧ As someone who values genuine human connection and self-compassion, I believe it's vital to recognize the toxic impact of social media (o) mental well-being. ⑨ We must try to strike a (b) between our online and offline lives by real and meaningful relationships and face-to-face communication. ⑩ Only then can we form a healthier relationship with technology.

Unit 24

反对

① (I) you ask me, the benefits of social media far surpass its potential negative impacts on mental health. ② While it's true (t) social media can sometimes lead to feelings of inadequacy and stress, I believe its positive aspects are far more important.

③ Firstly, social media serves as a valuable tool for staying connected with friends and family, especially in today's fast-paced world (w e) distance often separates us. ④ It enables us to share moments of joy, offer support during tough times, and maintain meaningful relationships, regardless (o) physical distance.

⑤ Additionally, there is no question that social media fosters self-expression and creativity. ⑥ Whether by sharing artwork, pictures or personal stories, social media (a s) people to showcase their talents and connect with like-minded people, creating a sense of belonging.

⑦ Furthermore, it's a well-(k) fact that social media can be a source of inspiration and motivation, with many users finding encouragement and support from online communities dedicated to personal growth, mental health improvement, and self-care.

⑧ While it's essential to acknowledge the potential drawbacks of social media, such as "fake news" and cyberbullying, I staunchly believe that its positive impact on connectivity, creativity, activism, and support outweighs the negatives, making it a valuable tool for enhancing mental (w)-being.

Unit 24

中立

① (W) respect to the question of whether social media has a negative or positive impact on society, I think it is obvious that the answer is yes to both. ② One can make a case that social media has become an invaluable tool for communication and creative expression. ③ (Y) you could also argue that it can be detrimental, and even harmful to people.

④ (O) the plus side, social media allows people to stay in touch and communicate easily with friends and family far-away. ⑤ It also allows users to connect with people who have similar interests.

⑥ That (b) said, I would be remiss not to point out a major drawback. ⑦ People have become (o)-accustomed to clicking so-called "emoji" icons and attempting to communicate complex feelings in short texts. ⑧ This is not a replacement for face to face or even voice communication, which has been the cultural norm for thousands of years.

⑨ As the saying goes, there are two sides to every (c). ⑩ It is my position that this applies to social media as well. ⑪ Used properly, it can be positive and an excellent resource. ⑫ Abused, it can have devastating effects on a person's mental and even physical health. ⑬ The (k) is in moderation.

**Unit 25 The most important thing about a job is
how much money a person makes.**

贊成

① Whether they admit it or (n), anyone knows the most important thing about one's job is how much money they make. ② Let's face it, almost no one works because they want to. ③ They work (b) they need to pay their bills or support their family.

④ Our entire society is built upon the concept that we spend our lives working until we reach retirement age. ⑤ The more money we make, the (m) comfortable our lifestyle can be. ⑥ (O) top of that, money provides more freedom to do whatever one wants when they are not working.

⑦ Money is also naturally how we evaluate success socially. ⑧ The type of clothes we wear and the type of car we drive are status symbols that indicate (h) successful we are as well as how good we are at our job.

⑨ (A r) important point to consider is that, in this everchanging world and economy, jobs are not guaranteed. ⑩ The more money that can be earned and saved can provide a cushion for any lean times that might be experienced.

⑪ There may be people out there who would rather do something they love or an easier job for less money, but I am not (o) of them.

Unit 25

反对

① I think the notion that money is the most important thing about a job is silly. ② Money cannot buy happiness, and there are far (m) important factors to employment than the bottom line.

③ It (d) matter how much money you make if you do not have time to spend it. ④ For example, someone who is preoccupied with how much money they have may spend all their time working to the exclusion of their family or friends. ⑤ There are many cases where someone dedicates their life to their job, (o) to regret it later. ⑥ (S) pass away when they finally retire. ⑦ Others, for example, may realize they want to get married and have a family too late in life.

⑧ It seems to me that taking satisfaction in the job itself, whether providing a service, building a product, or what have you, should be far more important (t) how much money is being earned. ⑨ Don't get me wrong — I'm not (s) I don't like money or don't think people should be fairly compensated for their work. ⑩ It's just that I don't feel that should be the determining factor on how someone's work is appreciated.

⑪ My personal (t) on the matter is that enjoying what you do is far more important than how many zeros are on your paycheck.

Unit 25

中立

① In today's world of increasing focus on materialistic things, I can see where some people may hold to the opinion that money is the most important aspect of a job. ② (H r), I think there are many ways to look at this issue.

③ (N) one can deny that earning money is important. ④ I am just not convinced it is the most important thing. ⑤ People are more remembered for what they do (t) how much they have. ⑥ Scientists, writers and athletes are examples of people who can leave a true legacy (t) will far supersede any monetary contribution. ⑦ A legacy is immortal, whereas money is not.

⑧ We are all equally important in society, regardless (o) our walks of life. ⑨ Some of these extremely important jobs pay menial salaries. ⑩ Janitors and cleaning staff keep places clean. ⑪ Soldiers and police officers keep the peace and offer protection. ⑫ Who's to say that one is better than another?

⑬ As (f) as I'm concerned, taking pride in one's work is the most important aspect of a job. ⑭ It's only natural that we all strive to improve our station in life, but it's up to the individual to (d e) what is most important, and live their lives accordingly.

Unit 26 Technology has made the world a better place.

贊成

① I believe it's a foregone conclusion that technology has made the world a better place to live. ② This is undoubtedly true (w n) one considers the advances that have been made in transportation, communication and physical health.

③ Only a hundred years or so (a), a horse and buggy was still the major mode of transportation, as it had been for more than a millennium. ④ Technological advancements have, in the intermedium, (g) birth to automobiles, trains and airplanes. ⑤ We have progressed so far that nowadays, people even take space travel for granted.

⑥ Communication is another area where the benefits of technology are very apparent. ⑦ For example, we have gone from handwritten letters, (w h) took days, weeks or months to be delivered, to instantaneous communication via cell phones and e-mail. ⑧ To today's youth this type of communication is the norm, but to older people it appears that what was once thought of only as science (f) has become a reality.

⑨ Speaking (o) younger and older people, the medical field is another prime example of positive technological growth. ⑩ Many tools to help people live longer and healthier lives have been developed, new medicines, surgical techniques and genetic analysis to name (j) a few.

⑪ Arguably, there may be some downside to technology, but our world is certainly better for it.

Unit 26

反对

① Despite (b) forced to use technology that has become available and commonplace in everyday life, I am not convinced that it has necessarily made the world a better place.

② (T) computers and the internet, for example. ③ Due to these impressive technological innovations, a wide variety of information is accessible to anyone. ④ That is generally construed to be a good thing, but it has its pitfalls. ⑤ For example, people can look up almost any subject on the internet, and immediately have immense amounts of information at their fingertips. ⑥ (H r), much of the information is incorrect.

⑦ Another painfully obvious problem posed by technology is the (l) of privacy. ⑧ Millions of people every year fall prey to crimes such as identity theft, financial scams and the illicit collection of personal data by third parties.

⑨ Certainly, technology has made (i) easier to communicate. ⑩ However, I have my doubts as to whether it has made communication better. ⑪ It could be argued that the ease with which we can communicate remotely or electronically has made communication impersonal and cold. ⑫ Once considered a must, face-to-face communication is quickly becoming a (t g) of the past.

⑬ Given the above, I think it is important to make a distinction (b) the convenience technology has provided, and the continuing dangers that exist because of it.

Unit 26

中立

① All things that make an impact have both (p) and cons. ② Technology is certainly no different. ③ The important thing, in my opinion, is to find a balance. ④ While technology is all around us in many different forms, let's take cell phones as an example.

⑤ The incredible advancement of smartphone technology has basically put computers in the palms of people's hands. ⑥ There is no (q n) that this is a powerful tool for working and communicating. ⑦ On the flip (s), however, this can be a dangerous distraction. ⑧ Every year thousands of people die in car accidents where cell phones are the cause or are at least directly involved.

⑨ The development of a myriad of apps, social media sites and games have also turned cell phones into entertainment centers (a) well. ⑩ It is now possible to play games, watch TV and interact with friends (w) even moving. ⑪ This has some people concerned that people both young and old can become addicted, and the lack of physical exercise is the (p) to be paid. ⑫ This has even led to an "unplugged vacation" campaign, where families take trips together and leave their cell phones and tablets at home.

⑬ Technology is a powerful tool, but as (w) all powerful tools, it can be dangerous as well. ⑭ As such, we have to be very careful as to how much and in what manner we use it.

Unit 27 A college degree is required to be financially successful.

贊成

① While there are rare examples (t) the contrary, I certainly believe a college degree is necessary to be financially successful. ② (I) fact, it could now almost be argued that an undergraduate degree is not enough to guarantee employment in today's competitive job market.

③ When (i) comes to finding a job, having a college diploma and the associated resume is going to be (w t) makes the first impression on a potential employer. ④ Likely, they will be looking for recruits with the knowledge and practical skills colleges provide. ⑤ Furthermore, the field of study immediately allows them to evaluate where such a new hire could best be utilized.

⑥ Apart (f) finding a job, when talking about financial success it's also important to think about money management. ⑦ There are many people out there who, despite not having college degrees, have considerable income. ⑧ Most college graduates, however, tend to be more informed about managing debt, saving and investing. ⑨ Whereas those without a degree are (l) likely to be prepared for retirement.

⑩ In the not-so-distant past, it was a foregone conclusion that graduating from college would translate directly into a well-paying job. ⑪ Now, as the number of graduates exceeds the jobs available there is even more competition. ⑫ This (m s) that not only having a degree, but having the right degree, is vital for financial success.

Unit 27

反对

① Most of us grew up with parents, teachers and society in general drilling it into our heads that a college degree was (n y) for financial stability and success. ② From where I stand, that is certainly not the case.

③ (F) off, there are countless examples of people who have obtained a level of financial success most of us can't begin to fathom, (w) ever graduating from college. ④ Here are some self-made billionaires you may have heard of. ⑤ Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft, Michael Dell, inventor of the Dell brand of computers, and Mark Zuckerberg, who started Facebook are just three examples of dropouts who are not (o) wealthy, they have also changed the world as we know it.

⑥ In addition, the cost of college tuition has ballooned to a frightening level. ⑦ Many people (w) do manage to graduate from college are burdened with staggering debt from student loans. ⑧ This tends to negate a large part of any financial advantage their diploma might offer.

⑨ Lastly and perhaps most disappointing is the fact (t) a large percentage of college students party their way through school, graduating with arbitrary degrees. ⑩ (H g) squandered the precious opportunity to gain critical thinking skills and applicable knowledge, they have little chance of obtaining the success that a diploma might offer.

Unit 27

中立

① If you ask me, the question of whether or (n) a college degree is necessary to obtain financial success is an unfair one.

② To begin with, all college degrees are not the same. ③ Many degrees, such (a) literature or history, for example, tend to lock a graduate into teaching. ④ This will automatically limit their potential income. ⑤ Likewise, people's idea of financial success varies radically (f) person to person. ⑥ For (i e), some people may consider owning their own home to be the epitome of success, while to others being a millionaire might not even qualify.

⑦ It's clear that many companies require a college degree before even considering a job applicant. ⑧ But working for someone else is not always the path to wealth, success or happiness. ⑨ This is exactly (w) more and more young people are branching out and starting their own businesses.

⑩ What it comes down (t) is, in my opinion, there is no guaranteed recipe for success, and the definition of success is unique to the individual. ⑪ If becoming successful is the goal, getting there is the point. ⑫ (H) you got there is irrelevant.

Unit 28 Modern surveillance technology is necessary in today's world.

贊成

① I'm a firm believer that modern surveillance techniques (p) a crucial role in enhancing public safety, security, and efficiency of emergency and first responders. ② Firstly, surveillance technologies such as CCTV cameras in public places and facial recognition software help deter crime and ensure rapid response to emergency incidents, (t y) safeguarding citizens. ③ These tools have been proven to assist law enforcement in identifying suspects and preventing potential threats, contributing significantly to crime reduction.

④ (M r), we live in a dangerous world that faces threats both foreign and domestic. ⑤ I subscribe (t) the notion that enhanced surveillance, such as real-time satellite tracking or financial monitoring allows governments to better secure their borders, track dangerous individuals and prevent potential terrorism.

⑥ Furthermore, while naysayers whine about privacy violations, I submit that if I have nothing to "hide" and do not commit crimes, then I have (n g) to "fear" from these technologies.

⑦ In conclusion, (w e) I admit that concerns about privacy are valid and must be addressed through appropriate regulations and oversight, modern surveillance techniques undeniably provide invaluable benefits to society. ⑧ By improving security, preventing crime, and enhancing efficiency, these technologies contribute to creating safer and more productive environments for individuals and communities (a).

Unit 28

反对

① I staunchly oppose the use of modern surveillance techniques (b e) I believe they represent violations of personal privacy and civil liberties that outweigh their purported benefits. ② Firstly, the widespread use of CCTV cameras and facial recognition systems infringes upon individuals' (r t) to anonymity and can lead to unwarranted tracking and profiling by authorities. ③ This type of surveillance impedes free expression and behavior and undermines the fundamental freedoms (t) democratic societies cherish.

④ In addition, it is undeniable that the collection and storage of vast amounts of personal data (p s) risks of misuse and unauthorized access. ⑤ Data breaches and leaks through hacking are not uncommon, exposing individuals to identity theft and other forms of exploitation. ⑥ I am a firm (b r) that this erosion of privacy also fosters a culture of distrust between citizens and governments. ⑦ I would go so far (a) to say it also undermines social cohesion and democratic values.

⑧ To (s) it up, while I concede that security concerns are valid, oversight and stringent regulations are required to safeguard personal privacy and civil liberties. ⑨ These are fundamental rights. ⑩ Balancing security needs with respect for individual rights is essential to maintain democracy and ensure a just and equitable future for all.

Unit 28

中立

① (W) it comes to modern surveillance technology, be it facial recognition, the use of cameras or the monitoring of phone calls, I don't have much of an opinion (f) or against. ② I can see arguments for both sides.

③ The biggest reason for my neutral (s), however, is a lack of information. ④ Hollywood would have us believe that both governments and large corporate entities have the ability to "hear and see" everything the average person does. ⑤ I for one, am not thoroughly convinced that this is in (f) the case.

⑥ (A r) aspect to consider is that to some degree, this has always been happening throughout history. ⑦ The only difference today is that the technology is better, making the collection of data easier. ⑧ The control of information, whether it be census polling (for taxation) (o) spying (for security), have been used by governments for millennia.

⑨ From my perspective, the collection of data and other so-called surveillance is simply part of the social contract. ⑩ If you want the convenience of shopping from your phone, free GPS maps, and international video calling, for example, then there ultimately is a (p) to pay ... and if that price is a little privacy, I think it's worth it.

Unit 29 Digital payment systems should replace cash currency.

贊成

① Many countries around the world are moving away from hard currency, implementing a variety of cashless payment systems. ② Whether it (b) QR-Code-based systems via smart phones or rechargeable multi-use passes like transit cards, digital payment provides a plethora of benefits to society.

③ (F) openers, from the standpoint of hygiene, most people are aware that bills and coins that make up currency are some of the dirtiest things humans come into contact (w) in daily life. ④ Digital payments do (a) with the need for handling dirty money. ⑤ (Especially since "laundering" money is illegal.)

⑥ On top of that, digital payments provide savings to both individuals and governments by doing away with the need for spare change. ⑦ Coins are burdensome to carry and hard to spend. Long gone are the days (w n) a person could buy something with a single coin. ⑧ In addition, it actually costs governments more to make them than the coins are worth.

⑨ Last (b) not least, another consideration is safety. ⑩ Street criminals often target and rob people carrying cash. ⑪ In addition, criminal organizations like the mafia depend on cash payments to hide their profits. ⑫ I for (o) think doing away with cash would severely hamper these nefarious activities.

Unit 29

反对

① I think the idea of replacing cold-hard currency with some newfangled digital payment system is ludicrous and it concerns me on several levels. ② (S)-called "cashless" payment systems are a way for governments to exert more control and negatively impact individual choice and freedoms. ③ There are a number of other factors to consider (a) well.

④ Many cashless payment systems are provided by third-party apps and credit companies. ⑤ What happens (i) there is a system glitch or failure? ⑥ If everything is computerized, how does a person prove they actually have or had the money (t) begin with? ⑦ Currency is insured by the federal government. ⑧ Are these cashless systems insured? ⑨ I don't think so.

⑩ Another problem I have (w) cashless payment is privacy. ⑪ Using digital payments leave a paper trail for anyone to follow. ⑫ I believe that, within the law, where and how I spend my hard-earned money is up (t) me.

⑬ Ultimately, I concur with the age-old adage that says "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." ⑭ (U I) you can convince me who is providing the convenience of cashless payments, how secure they are, and that it isn't going to eventually cost me, I'm sticking with cold-hard cash.

Unit 29

中立

① (W) it comes to the topic of cashless payment systems, I have mixed feelings. ② One the (o) hand, I think they can be convenient alternatives to cash transactions. ③ On the (o) hand, I think traditional currency still has a valuable role to play in society.

④ Cashless payments are undeniably convenient and quick. ⑤ What bothers me is that they may be too convenient. ⑥ Similar to casino chips and credit cards, I fear people's spending might get (o) of hand because they could lose touch with the fact that scanning a barcode is still spending money.

⑦ Another thing that troubles me is the risk of personal information (s) as bank accounts, spending habits etc. being leaked or misused. ⑧ Of course, the same issue has been around for decades with credit cards, and that hasn't stopped people (f) using them.

⑨ It seems to me that most people still have an emotional attachment to cash, as "cash is king" has been drilled into our psyche. ⑩ I am a huge fan of not having to carry and count small change. ⑪ So, to that end, I think cash and cashless can and should co-exist. ⑫ That's my two-(c) worth, anyway.

Unit 30 Despite the lack of evidence, there is life on other planets.

贊成

① I believe there is indeed life on other planets. ② The caveat is, of course, "other planets" does not simply refer (t) the small number of planets in our solar system.

③ The universe is simply too vast for there (n) to be life somewhere. ④ With trillions of planets and billions of galaxies, the chances (t) we humans are alone in universe is almost statistically impossible. ⑤ Astronomers around the world are finding more and (m) Earthlike exoplanets — planets outside our solar system — on an almost daily basis.

⑥ Of course, the larger question would be (w) that alien life might look like. ⑦ We might not yet have the capability to even begin to look for extraterrestrial life, but maybe we don't have to look outward. ⑧ Microbes and other living organisms here on Earth are continually (b) found in places we previously assumed to be devoid of life. ⑨ Taking this a step further, it is not a stretch to imagine that if life can exist in environments that would be (t) harsh for us humans here on Earth, then it's certainly possible or even likely that this is happening on other planets as well.

⑩ I am confident that the question is not whether or not life exists on other planets, it is simply a matter of when we will find it.

Unit 30

反对

① I think the idea that there is life on other planets is quite farfetched. ② (W e) it's true that the universe is immensely large, the combination of particular circumstances necessary to create life are (t) complex to exist elsewhere.

③ For example, not (o) does the planet have to be orbiting a stable star, it has to be a precise distance from that sun and a certain size to maintain a breathable atmosphere. ④ (N) only that, water, carbon and heavy metals must be present, as these are considered the building blocks of life.

⑤ Another flaw in the theory that life exists elsewhere is the failure to consider all of the things that can end life before or just (a) it begins. ⑥ Asteroid impacts, extreme changes in temperature, solar radiation and supernovas are all things that we here on earth have been lucky enough to avoid or survive. ⑦ Many people are ignorant of the (f t) that many times in our own history, we narrowly escaped being snuffed out.

⑧ I'm a fan of the age-old adage seeing is (b g), and until I see concrete evidence proving that life exists elsewhere, I won't be a believer.

Unit 30

中立

① I would be thrilled (t) find out we are not alone in the universe, but if the foremost scientists and astronomers in the world cannot say with any certainty that life exists, (w) am I to have an opinion?

② However, I do think that the exorbitant amount of money spent by governments around the world on the search for extra-terrestrial life is a waste of valuable resources that would be (b) spent elsewhere. ③ That doesn't mean that I am opposed to space science, but I am (a t) searching for signals and signs of "intelligent life."

④ As (f) the idea that UFO's have visited Earth, I think that is outrageous. ⑤ Similarly, I find the popular assertion that ancient civilizations (c t) have made their amazing technological and scientific advancements without the help of interstellar beings from a superior race to be ludicrous and ignorant. ⑥ On the one hand, the odds may be that there is life, or even intelligent life somewhere in the universe. ⑦ On the (o) hand, the chances that they were able to develop the technology to travel the vast distances of space or even be aware of Earth are truly "remote."

⑧ In the end, even if we someday find evidence of the existence of life elsewhere, it will have little or no impact on who we are or how we live our lives here on Earth.