

112-1 高二克漏字比賽文章 (共 15 篇文章，擇其中 10 篇作為比賽選文)

(1)

Many of us get rid of food we can't finish without much hesitation. But when we discard food, we are contributing to a serious global issue: food waste. Roughly one-third of all food, 1.3 billion tons each year, is wasted. Restaurants, especially all-you-can-eat buffets, discard heaps of food daily. Supermarkets regularly exclude produce from shelves if it isn't attractive enough.

The consequences of wasting food are substantial. Economically, food waste results in financial losses. Socially, wasted food is food that could have been used to feed the poor. Environmentally, food loss represents a waste of the Earth's resources. For example, the amount of land needed to grow all the world's wasted food annually would be around the size of China. Moreover, wasted food produces a large amount of greenhouse gas emissions.

Many countries intend to challenge food waste. French laws ban supermarkets from trashing unsold food. Instead, supermarkets give it away to charities. Germany has initiated improvements to food packaging so that consumers can better inspect the product, since the sell-by date often doesn't reflect the food's actual state. In Taiwan, they have instituted a program that sends kitchen waste to feed livestock. There is similar cooperation in Japan, where 35 percent of food waste goes to pig farms.

Governments are leading the mission to reduce food waste, and you can help. To begin with, shop wisely—don't be tempted to buy food in excess. Treat sell-by dates as guidelines rather than restrictions. Then, learn how to store food so it doesn't go bad easily. Lastly, in restaurants, don't leave leftovers. Ask for a doggy bag so you can gobble it down later.

(2)

When it is time to prepare for an exam, many students study by rereading their textbooks in earnest. However, obediently drilling the same chapters over and over may not be the most economic occupation of time. You get most of the useful information from a text during your initial reading. The second time around, your mind tells you that you know the information already. When the brain feels like it is just reciting something it already knows, it can become more easily distracted.

A good strategy is to create questions about the material and then try to answer them. If you are learning about a war, ask yourself where and when it took place and how it started. The way, your strengths and weaknesses regarding the text will become evident. Even if you don't get all the answers right, the procedure of asking and answering will make you less forgetful of your material.

There are other good approaches to retaining information. Drawing pictures to represent information works especially well for the sciences. For example, instead of reading over geography texts again, you can illustrate the continents and label them. Creating images helps you picture things more vividly, and clarify how things are related. Flash cards are an active learning tool for learning vocabulary words. When we are using these, we should review both what we are not familiar with yet and what we already know. However, cramming right before the deadline is not an adequate method. This style of study is sure to leave you with shortages in your knowledge foundation. Instead, grant yourself enough

time to have gaps between study sessions.

Like any part of the body, the brain needs to be trained with diligence. Choose the right methods of exercise so you don't waste time and energy while studying.

(3)

As anyone who has visited the United States will tell you, tipping in America can be a real headache. In most countries, the rules for tipping in a restaurant are pretty straightforward. If a service charge is expected, it is automatically included on your bill. In the US, however, it is up to the customer to judge how much the server deserves.

While the precise origin of tipping is uncertain, it is commonly believed to have begun in seventeenth-century England. Overnight guests to private homes would give money to the host's servants. Later, people began tipping at coffeehouses and other establishments. In the 19th century, rich American tourists brought the custom back home. Gradually, the custom became fixed in American culture. Tipping has died out in England, but leaving no tip in the US should occur only when the service is truly rotten.

A major reason for this tipping culture is that tipped employees earn less than minimum wage. Employers only pay three dollars per hour in some states, meaning tips are not a bonus—they are a necessity for earning a sufficient income. Many people protest that paying serving staff a fair wage should be the employer's responsibility, not the customer's. Danny Meyer is a New York restaurateur and the architect of a policy he calls "hospitality included." Ten of his restaurants have switched to a strict no-tipping policy. Customers, though, can't expect to be stingy. The menu prices are raised to make up for waiters' wages being bumped up; hence the final bill will be about the same.

It remains to be seen what results Meyer's voluntary management decision will yield. America's obsession with tipping could potentially become a thing of the past!

(4)

Naked shopping is a term that understandably confuses many people. The vast majority of people would likely be too embarrassed to go shopping in the nude. However, naked shopping has nothing to do with the clothes that you do or don't wear when you go to the store. Instead, it refers to using as little packaging as possible particularly plastic packaging that's hard to recycle.

An early adopter of naked shopping was Nude Foods, the first plastic-free grocery store in South Africa. Customers are encouraged to bring reusable containers to the store. For those who forgot to do so, brown paper bags are provided free of charge. Or else, they have the option of purchasing glass jars and bottles for liquids, reusable cotton bags for dry goods, and mesh bags for fresh produce. Plastic in any form is simply not an option.

Naked shopping is a response to the increasing desire of consumers to live a zero-waste lifestyle wherever and whenever possible. In recent years, there has been growing concern over various environmental issues facing the planet. One problem that has consistently been at the top of this list is

plastic pollution in the oceans. It is estimated that around 14 million tons of plastic end up in our ocean annually, and this figure will double in less than 20 years unless action is taken. While naked shopping is certainly not the only solution to the crisis, it may play a small role in eventually overcoming it.

(5)

Nowadays, many people are trying to lead more energy-efficient lives to protect the environment. One particularly useful thing people can do is purchase an electric car. Most people are aware that electric cars are far more energy-efficient than traditional fuel-burning cars. However, what they may not realize is that once they have bought an electric car, the music they listen to while driving also affects their energy consumption.

An experiment conducted by a South Korean car manufacturers in 2022 invited a number of drivers to drive their new electric cars. The company asked the drivers, who were all new to electric vehicles, to drive their cars over an 18-mile distance, inclusive of a traffic jam moving along at a glacial pace, country roads, and expressways with dual lanes. Some of these drivers were instructed to listen to Beethoven while driving. Others were required to listen to a range of pop artists, such as Kanye West and Adele. The results revealed that the relaxing nature of Beethoven's music resulted in those cars using less battery power than the cars whose drivers listened to pop music. This is because pop music tends to have a higher tempo and heavier beat.

So if you own an electric car but still want to make a greater environmental contribution, you can listen to your favorite piece of classical music. However, if you don't care about power consumption and want to drive faster, just put on some fast-paced pop tracks !

(6)

Talk to any pet owner, and they will tell you how important their animal is to them. Most people think of pets as an integral part of the family and take their health very seriously. So, it should come as no surprise that the field of veterinary science is prominent. A variety of historical texts indicate that people have been tasked with caring for animals since we began domesticating them.

Records indicate that there were jobs related to animal care in both ancient China and Egypt. However, professional knowledge regarding animal health was still rudimentary. Mesopotamia, often identified as the cradle of civilization, is said to be the place where veterinary profession originated. The discovery of model livers and surgical instruments at various early Mesopotamian sites demonstrated the existence of animal doctors and related expertise. The first expert in healing animals was a man who lived in the Mesopotamian region around 3000 BCE named Urlugaledinna. He is acclaimed as the “father of veterinarians.”

The first school dedicated to veterinarian medicine was opened in Lyon, France, in 1761. After observing the devastation caused by the cattle plague at that time, the founder established the college in the hope of seeking remedies. Later in 1791, the London Veterinarian College was opened, which marked the start of the development of veterinary science. At first, people primarily studied horses.

Since they were an essential form of transportation and were vital for militaries, maintaining their health was of significant importance.

The profession eventually expanded to livestock and other farm animals, and then household pets. These days, veterinarians can specialize in hundreds of animals. Thanks to these experts, our pets and other animals can live long and healthy lives.

(7)

If you ever find yourself in the southeastern United States, keep an eye out for blue bottles that are hanging from trees or planted on rods. These displays are called bottle trees. And even though they might look like ordinary garden decorations, they have a much deeper history and meaning. The most popular theory is that the tradition started in Africa in the ninth century. People who lived near the Congo River used glass bottles to trap evil spirits. These spirits were thought to be drawn to the shiny bottles. Once they entered the bottles, they were unable to get away. They would be stuck inside the bottles until the sun rose the next morning and killed them. In the seventeenth century, the tradition was brought to America through the slave trade. In modern times, these bottle trees can still be found across the southeastern US. Though they certainly make any garden space more attractive, don't be fooled: These seemingly innocent decorations might actually be a clever trap for evil spirits!

(8)

Determining whether food has spoiled can be a tricky task, and the confusion over "use by" and "best before" labels often results in safe and edible food being tossed away. This issue contributes significantly to the global food crisis, with roughly one-third of the food produced for the world being wasted and millions of people in dozens of countries facing severe hunger each year. However, a groundbreaking invention called Mimica Touch aims to help tackle this crisis by providing a more accurate method of evaluating the safety of food purchased.

Consisting of a label that transforms in texture when food spoils, Mimica Touch features a plastic sheet with ridges inside a covering that indicate spoiled food. The plastic bumps are covered with a thin layer of gelatin that decays at the same rate as the food. When the gelatin turns from a solid state to a liquid state, the label transforms from firm and smooth to soft and bumpy, indicating that the food has gone bad.

Solveiga Pakštaitė came up with the concept for Mimica Touch while she was a student at Brunel University in London. The goal of the original project was to help people with vision problems check the expiry date on packaged food. Pakštaitė said she was inspired by banana skins, which change texture as they ripen. Although Mimica Touch began as a university project, the invention has the potential to considerably reduce the huge quantity of food that goes to waste every year. Moreover, it could help consumers enjoy the food they purchase more safely and for longer periods.

(9)

There are probably not many things in life that we take for granted more than toilet paper. We only really think about it when we run out of it. While the need for something to clean ourselves with has existed since the dawn of humankind, toilet paper as we know it is actually a relatively recent invention.

Before there was paper of any kind, early humans used natural materials such as leaves, moss, tree bark, and animal fur to wipe themselves. The ancient Romans used a sponge attached to a stick to do this. The earliest recorded use of paper for personal cleaning dates back well over 2,500 years to ancient China. By the 14th century, a form of toilet paper had been used on a large scale in Chinese society.

It was not until the 1850s that the first commercial toilet paper was patented by American inventor Joseph Gayetty. Prior to his invention, people used any kind of paper that they happened to have on hand, including newspapers and pages torn from magazines. While Gayetty's product consisted of flat sheets, it was only decades later that the first perforated toilet paper rolls were introduced, which quickly became the preferred style. With the rise of flush toilets in the 20th century, toilet paper gained even more popularity since heavier forms of paper often led to clogged pipes.

Despite toilet paper being readily available today, billions of people worldwide still rely on alternative methods for wiping themselves due to cultural practices or lack of access.

(10)

Students nowadays do a considerable amount of their work on computers. Without a doubt, computer technology and the internet are incredibly helpful for education. Computers have limitations, though, and aren't necessarily that great in all instances. When it comes to taking notes and studying, writing things down by hand is far superior to typing.

Research has shown that using a pen or pencil to write rather than typing things on a computer or a phone offers a deeper sensory experience. Handwriting combines coordinated motor skills, touch sensation, and visual perception. All these elements support the natural learning process. Scientists have even proven that writing things by hand stimulates parts of the brain that typing doesn't. This means information that has been written down is stored better in our minds and is easier to access whenever we need it.

It should go without saying that handwriting presents great benefits for students constantly trying to memorize and recall details from lectures and textbooks. One study in particular illustrated the usefulness of handwritten notes for learning a new language. It observed various groups of students who were tasked with learning the Arabic alphabet. It turned out that the group of students that had to write notes by hand learned the alphabet a lot more quickly. Not only that, they were also able to apply the knowledge they learned by creating and recognizing words. So, before you go to class, make sure you have a notebook and a pen with you.

(11)

Are you prone to a bad mood in the darker months of winter than in the brighter months of summer? If so, you're not alone. Many people react negatively to the lower amounts of sunlight in winter. Getting too little sun can even cause people to suffer from a form of depression known as Seasonal Affective Disorder.

What if you lived in the far north? In some small Arctic towns, the sun disappears below the horizon for up to three months a year. Imagine having to cope with living in darkness all day and all night. Residents of the tiny Norwegian town of Rjukan, which spends half the year in a shadow by surrounding mountain ranges, have decided to take action.

Between September and March, Rjukan, nestled deep in a mountain valley, goes without direct sunlight. The town has constructed three giant mirrors upon the mountainside above the town to battle this darkness. The computer-controlled mirrors can keep track of the sun while continually reflecting its light to the town square below for a couple of hours daily. When spring comes, the town holds its Sun Festival. Parades, music, and dances fill the streets. Townsfolk and tourists alike join in the fun.

(12)

When you visit a museum, you will typically see some signs that read, "No Touching". It should be common sense that one is not supposed to touch any of the exhibits. Occasionally, as with the Louvre's Touch Gallery or the British Museum's Hands On desks, visitors are granted the opportunity ---- even encouraged----to directly touch certain art displays. Most times, however, museums do not allow the handling or touching of valuable pieces. If everyone could touch the Mona Lisa, for example, the face, eyes, and smile of the lady would be wiped off the canvas. Fiona Candlin, a professor of museology at Birkbeck College in London, has long contemplated why people want to engage directly with objects of art.

Candlin speculated that there must be a rational explanation for why people have the impulse to touch what they look at. For most people, a museum visit is considered a purely visual experience, but that may be because we are told not to touch the items on display. In fact, one museum attendant hired to keep an eye out for visitors who cannot resist the urge to touch art pieces without permission said, "You stop a hundred people touching and there are two hundred more. It's like trying to turn back the sea." Candlin wrote the book, *Art, Museums, and Touch* (2010) to better explain this phenomenon. Candlin concluded in the book that people instinctively touch new things because touch is an integral part of humans' learning experience. Perhaps this is why most people learn better through "hands-on" experiences.

(13)

Once, there was a woman named Rosa Parks. She grew up in Montgomery, Alabama, where she would often take the bus. She was an African American, and those like her would often hear a voice coming from the driver's seat, telling them that they had to sit in the back. It was against the rules for

black people to sit in the front. One reason for this was that African Americans at the time were seen as being unequal to whites. But despite this, there were still some people fighting to give African Americans equal rights.

On December 1, 1955, Parks boarded a bus in Montgomery, but she didn't move to the back, as she had always tended to do. Instead, she took a seat in the front. The driver ordered her to move back, but she said no. Unable to make her move, the bus driver called the police, and Parks was arrested. She was charged with a crime, but the furious black community decided to help. From that day on, more and more black people refused to ride the bus. The conflict soon became violent. For over a year, though the buses kept running, there were far fewer paying customers. This pressure enabled Parks to win a lawsuit, allowing blacks to sit where they pleased. Today, Parks is a hero, and a statue of her was even erected in Montgomery. It shows her in her simple act of defiance, sitting on a bus.

(14)

If you've never experienced identity theft, count yourself lucky. If I had just taken a few basic precautions, it might not have happened to me. But hackers are sitting with their eyes staring at their monitors. They are waiting for an easy target, and I was just that. Why they had the chance to get me was the mere act that I used the same password for too many accounts. Every day, I signed in to my Facebook account, for example, using the same password that I used for online banking. Never did I think my information would be in danger. However, by not using different passwords, I really put my online security at risk. Unfortunately, hackers obtained my Facebook password. Then, using the information found on my page, they were able to get access to my bank account. This happens to about one in thirty Americans every year; in other words, it's actually quite common. Like me, all of these victims then have to go through a long process of proving their identity and disputing the transactions made by the hackers. Although I had reported it to the police, they have so far found no trace of the hackers' crime. So don't be like me; protect your identity at all costs.

(15)

Thanks to social networks, news spreads faster than ever before. However, a study shows that whatever we choose to read online, fake news, it seems, spreads faster than real stories. The extensive study, conducted by researchers at MIT, examined Twitter in particular. And it is human users that spread fake news stories most often lest you think it is bots, the study revealed. False or misleading stories, for example, are 70 percent more likely to be shared on Twitter than true stories. Also, keep in mind that, according to the study's data, fake news stories reach 1,500 people six times faster than real stories. The study involved examining the tweets and retweets of people from all walks of life from 2006 to 2017. Enlisting the help of six different fact-checking organizations was key to determining whether stories shared were true or false. All in all, the team conducted research on 126,000 "cascades" of tweets. Categories that came up most often were politics, with another being urban legends in second place, and still another being classified as business in third. In all categories, why did people tend to avoid

sharing real stories but rush to share fake ones? Quite simply, the researchers say, we like things that surprise us. In short, most fake news stories are shocking, and that prompts people to share them more than a normal, “boring” true story.