# 2016年考研英语(二)真题

1. Happy people work differently. They're more productive, more creative, and willing to take greater risks. And new research suggests that happiness might influence (1) firm's work, too.

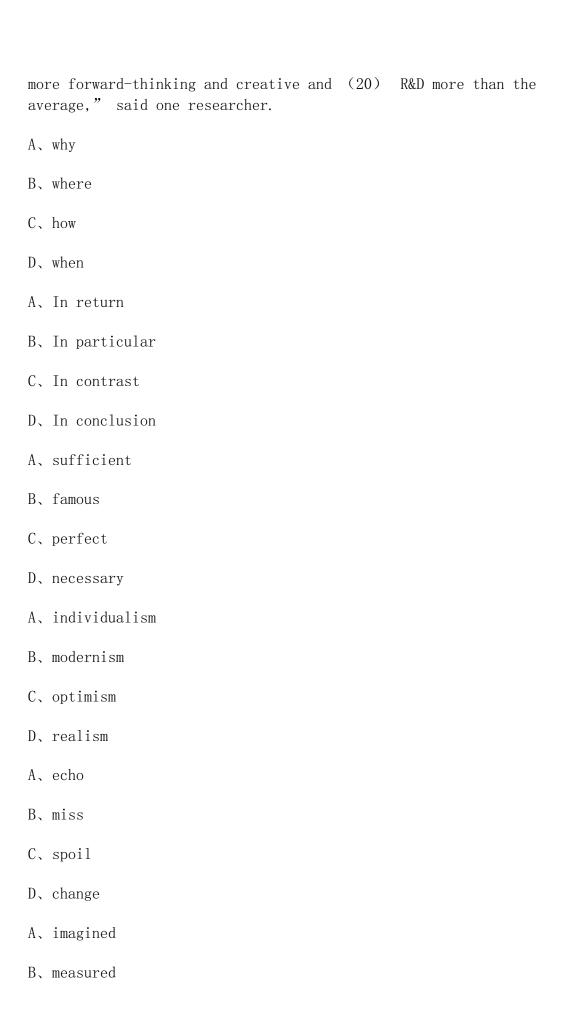
Companies located in places with happier people invest more, according to a recent research paper. (2) , firms in happy places spend more on R&D (research and development). That's because happiness is linked to the kind of longer-term thinking (3) for making investments for the future.

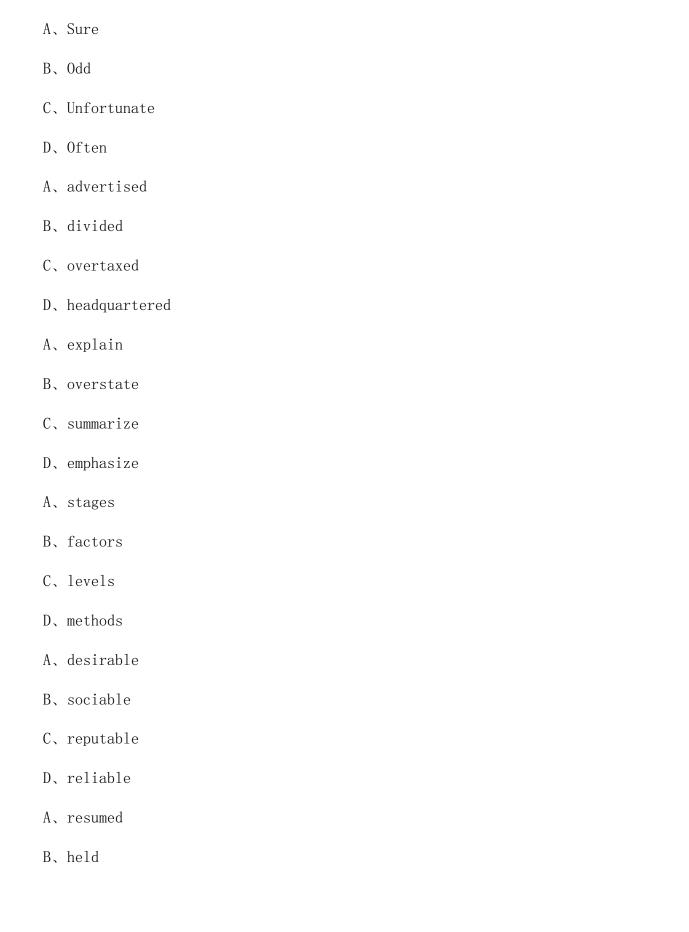
The researchers wanted to know if the (4) and inclination for risk-taking that come with happiness would (5) the way companies invested. So they compared U.S. cities' average happiness (6) by Gallup polling with the investment activity of publicly traded firms in those areas.

(7) enough, firms' investment and R&D intensity were correlated with the happiness of the area in which they were (8). But is it really happiness that's linked to investment, or could something else about happier cities (9) why firms there spend more on R&D? To find out, the researchers controlled for various (10) that might make firms more likely to invest - like size, industry, and sales - and for indicators that a place was (11) to live in, like growth in wages or population. The link between happiness and investment generally (12) even after accounting for these things.

The correlation between happiness and investment was particularly strong for younger firms, which the authors (13) to "less codified decision making process" and the possible presence of "younger and less (14) managers who are more likely to be influenced by sentiment." The relationship was (15) stronger in places where happiness was spread more (16) . Firms seem to invest more in places where most people are relatively happy, rather than in places with happiness inequality.

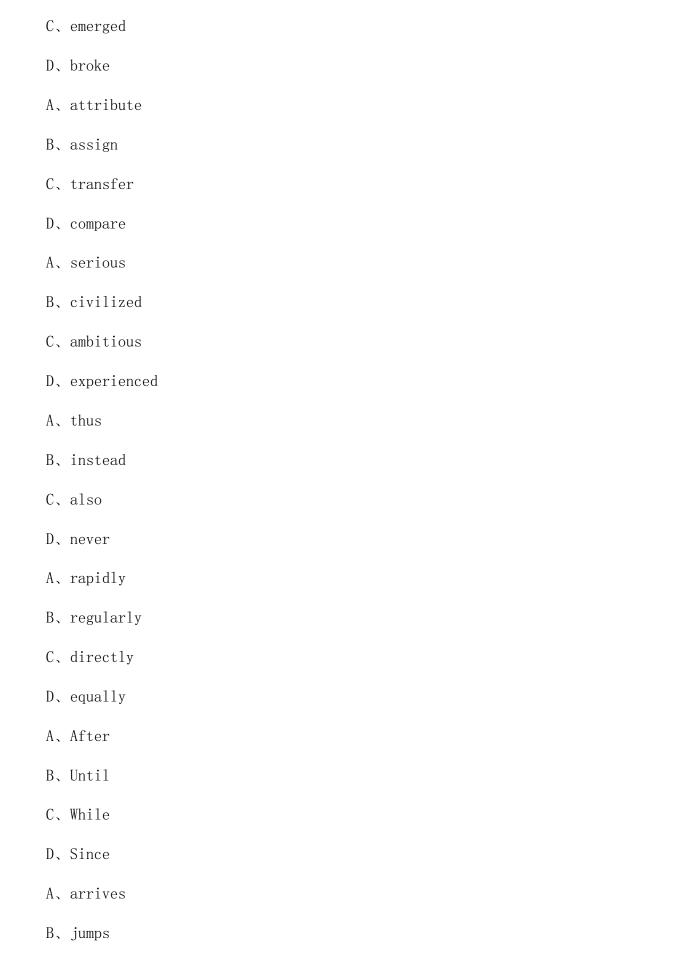
(17) this doesn't prove that happiness causes firms to invest more or to take a longer-term view, the authors believe it at least (18) at that possibility. It's not hard to imagine that local culture and sentiment would help (19) how executives think about the future. "It surely seems plausible that happy people would be





C, invented

D, assumed



- C, hints
- D, strikes
- A, shape
- B, rediscover
- C, simplify
- D. share
- A, pray for
- B, lean towards
- C, give away
- D, send out

#### 试题答案:

[['C'],['B'],['D'],['C'],['D'],['B'],['A'],['D'],['A'],['B'],['A'],['B'],['A'],['B'],['A'],['B']]

1,

It's true that high-school coding classes aren't essential for learning computer science in college. Students without experience can catch up after a few introductory courses, said Tom Cortina, the assistant dean at Carnegie Mellon's School of Computer Science. However, Cortina said, early exposure is beneficial. When younger kids learn computer science, they learn that it's not just a confusing, endless string of letters and numbers — but a tool to build apps, or create artwork, or test hypotheses. It's not as hard for them to transform their thought processes as it is for older students. Breaking down problems into bite-sized chunks and using code to solve them becomes normal. Giving more children this training could increase the number of people interested in the field and help fill the jobs gap, Cortina said.

Students also benefit from learning something about coding before they get to college, where introductory computer-science classes are packed to the brim, which can drive the less-experienced ordetermined students away.

The Flatiron School, where people pay to learn programming, started as one of the many coding bootcamps that's become popular for adults looking for a career change. The high-schoolers get the same curriculum, but "we try to gear lessons toward things they're interested in," said Victoria Friedman, an instructor. For instance, one of the apps the students are developing suggests movies based on your mood.

The students in the Flatiron class probably won't drop out of high school and build the next Facebook. Programming languages have a quick turnover, so the "Ruby on Rails" language they learned may not even be relevant by the time they enter the job market. But the skills they learn — how to think logically through a problem and organize the results — apply to any coding language, said Deborah Seehorn, an education consultant for the state of North Carolina. Indeed, the Flatiron students might not go into IT at all. But creating a future army of coders is not the sole purpose of the classes. These kids are going to be surrounded by computers — in their pockets, in their offices, in their homes — for the rest of their lives. The younger they learn how computers think, how to coax the machine into producing what they want — the earlier they learn that they have the power to do that — the better.

- 1. Cortina holds that early exposure to computer science makes it easier to ( ).
- $3.\,\mathrm{In}$  delivering lessons for high-schoolers, Flatiron has considered their ( ).
- 3. Deborah Seehorn believes that the skills learned at Flatiron will ( ).
- 4. According to the last paragraph, Flatiron students are expected to ( ).
- 5. The word "coax" (Line4, Para.6) is closest in meaning to ( ).
- A, complete future job training
- B, remodel the way of thinking
- C, formulate logical hypotheses
- D, perfect artwork production
- A, experience
- B, academic backgrounds
- C, career prospects

- D, interest
- A, help students learn other computer languages
- B, have to be upgraded when new technologies come
- C, need improving when students look for jobs
- D, enable students to make big quick money
- A, compete with a future army of programmers
- B, stay longer in the information technology industry
- C, become better prepared for the digitalized world
- D, bring forth innovative computer technologies
- A, challenge
- B, persuade
- C, frighten
- D, misguide

试题答案: [['B'],['D'],['A'],['C'],['B']]

2. Biologists estimate that as many as 2 million lesser prairie chickens—a kind of bird living on stretching grasslands—once lent red to the often gray landscape of the Midwestern and southwestern United States. But just some 22,000 birds remain today, occupying about 16% of the species' historic range.

The crash was a major reason the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) decided to formally list the bird as threatened. "The lesser prairie chicken is in a desperate situation," said USFWS Director Daniel Ashe. Some environmentalists, however, were disappointed. They had pushed the agency to designate the bird as "endangered," a status that gives federal officials greater regulatory power to crack down on threats. But Ashe and others argued that the "threatened" tag gave the federal government flexibility to try out new, potentially less confrontational conservations approaches. In particular, they

called for forging closer collaborations with western state governments, which are often uneasy with federal action and with the private landowners who control an estimated 95% of the prairie chicken's habitat.

Under the plan, for example, the agency said it would not prosecute landowner or businesses that unintentionally kill, harm, or disturb the bird, as long as they had signed a range—wide management plan to restore prairie chicken habitat. Negotiated by USFWS and the states, the plan requires individuals and businesses that damage habitat as part of their operations to pay into a fund to replace every acre destroyed with 2 new acres of suitable habitat. The fund will also be used to compensate landowners who set aside habitat, USFWS also set an interim goal of restoring prairie chicken populations to an annual average of 67,000 birds over the next 10 years. And it gives the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (WAFWA), a coalition of state agencies, the job of monitoring progress. Overall, the idea is to let "states" remain in the driver's seat for managing the species, " Ashe said.

Not everyone buys the win-win rhetoric Some Congress members are trying to block the plan, and at least a dozen industry groups, four states, and three environmental groups are challenging it in federal court Not surprisingly, doesn't go far enough "The federal government is giving responsibility for managing the bird to the same industries that are pushing it to extinction," says biologist Jay Lininger.

- 1. The major reason for listing the lesser prairie as threatened is  $(\ )$  .
- 2. The "threatened" tag disappointed some environmentalists in that it ( ).
- 3. It can be learned from Paragraph3 that unintentional harm-doers will not be prosecuted if they ( ).
- 4. According to Ashe, the leading role in managing the species is ( ).
- 5. Jay Lininger would most likely support ( ).
- A, its drastically decreased population
- B, the underestimate of the grassland acreage
- C, a desperate appeal from some biologists
- D, the insistence of private landowners
- A, was a give-in to governmental pressure

- B, would involve fewer agencies in action
- C, granted less federal regulatory power
- D, went against conservation policies
- A, agree to pay a sum for compensation
- B, volunteer to set up an equally big habitat
- C, offer to support the WAFWA monitoring job
- D, promise to raise funds for USFWS operations
- A, the federal government
- B, the wildlife agencies
- C, the landowners
- D, the states
- A, industry groups
- B, the win-win rhetoric
- C, environmental groups
- D, the plan under challenge

### 试题答案: [['A'],['C'],['A'],['D'],['C']]

3. That everyone's too busy these days is a cliché. But one specific complaint is made especially mournfully: There's never any time to read.

What makes the problem thornier is that the usual time-management techniques don't seem sufficient. The web's full of articles offering tips on making time to read: "Give up TV" or "Carry a book with you at all times" But in my experience, using such methods to free up the odd 30 minutes doesn't work. Sit down to read and the flywheel of work-related thoughts keeps spinning-or else you're so exhausted that a challenging book's the last thing you need. The

modern mind, Tim Parks, a novelist and critic, writes, "is overwhelmingly inclined toward communication." It is not simply that one is interrupted; it is that one is actually inclined to interruption". Deep reading requires not just time, but a special kind of time which can't be obtained merely by becoming more efficient.

In fact, "becoming more efficient" is part of the problem. Thinking of time as a resource to be maximized means you approach it instrumentally, judging any given moment as well spent only in so far as it advances progress toward some goal immersive reading, by contrast, depends on being willing to risk inefficiency, goallessness, even time-wasting. Try to slot it as a to-do list item and you' 11 manage only goal-focused reading-useful, sometimes, but not the most fulfilling kind. "The future comes at us like empty bottles along an unstoppable and nearly infinite conveyor belt," writes Gary Eberle in his book Sacred Time, and "we feel a pressure to fill these different-sized bottles (days, hours, minutes) as they pass, for if they get by without being filled, we will have wasted them". No mind-set could be worse for losing yourself in a book. So what does work? Perhaps surprisingly, scheduling regular times for reading. You'd think this might fuel the efficiency mind-set, but in fact, Eberle notes, such ritualistic behavior helps us "step outside time's flow" into "soul time". You could limit distractions by reading only physical books, or on single-purpose e-readers. "Carry a book with you at all times" can actually work, too-providing you dip in often enough, so that reading becomes the default state from which you temporarily surface to take care of business, before dropping back down. On a really good day, it no longer feels as if you're "making time to read," but just reading, and making time for everything else.

- 1. The usual time-management techniques don't work because ( ).
- 2. The "empty bottles" metaphor illustrates that people feel a pressure to ( ).
- 3. Eberle would agree that scheduling regular times for reading helps ( ).
- 4. "Carry a book with you at all times" can work if ( ).
- 5. The best title for this text could be ( ).
- A, what they can offer does not ease the modern mind
- B, what challenging books demand is repetitive reading
- C, what people often forget is carrying a book with them
- D, what deep reading requires cannot be guaranteed

- A, update their to-do lists
- B, make passing time fulfilling
- C, carry their plans through
- D, pursue carefree reading
- A, encourage the efficiency mind-set
- B, develop online reading habits
- C, promote ritualistic reading
- D, achieve immersive reading
- A, reading becomes your primary business of the day
- B, all the daily business has been promptly dealt with
- C, you are able to drop back to business after reading
- D, time can be evenly split for reading and business
- A, How to Enjoy Easy Reading
- B, How to Find Time to Read
- C, How to Set Reading Goals
- D, How to Read Extensively

试题答案: [['D'],['B'],['D'],['A'],['B']]

4. Against a backdrop of drastic changes in economy and population structure, younger Americans are drawing a new 21st-century road map to success, a latest poll has found.

Across generational lines, Americans continue to prize many of the same traditional milestones of a successful life, including getting married, having children, owning a home, and retiring in their sixties. But while young and old mostly agree on what constitutes the finish line of a fulfilling life, they offer strikingly different

paths for reaching it.

Young people who are still getting started in life were more likely than older adults to prioritize personal fulfillment in their work, to believe they will advance their careers most by regularly changing jobs, to favor communities with more public services and a faster pace of life, to agree that couples should be financially secure before getting married or having children, and to maintain that children are best served by two parents working outside the home, the survey found.

From career to community and family, these contrasts suggest that in the aftermath of the searing Great Recession, those just starting out in life are defining priorities and expectations that will increasingly spread through virtually all aspects of American life, from consumer preferences to housing patterns to politics. Young and old converge on one key point: Overwhelming majorities of both groups said they believe it is harder for young people today to get started in life than it was for earlier generations. While younger people are somewhat more optimistic than their elders about the prospects for those starting out today, big majorities in both groups believe those "just getting started in life" face a tougher a good-paying job, starting a family, managing debt, and finding affordable housing.

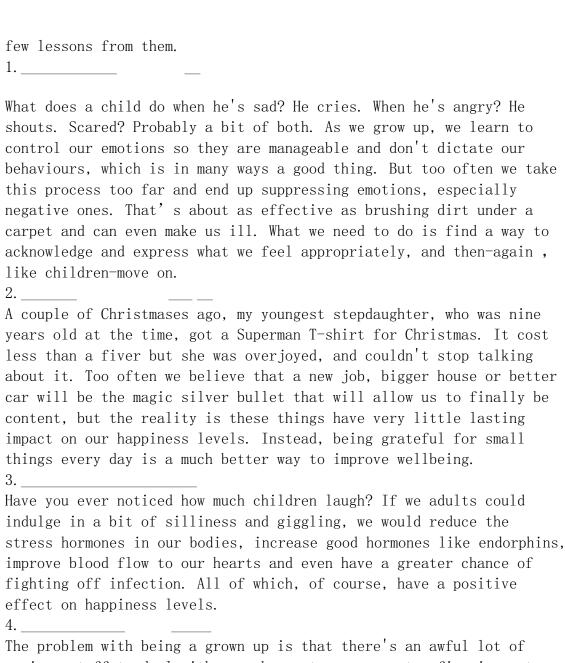
Pete Schneider considers the climb tougher today. Schneider, a 27-yaear-old auto technician from the Chicago suburbs says he struggled to find a job after graduating from college. Even now that he is working steadily, he said. "I can't afford to pay my monthly mortgage payments on my own, so I have to rent rooms out to people to mark that happen." Looking back, he is struck that his parents could provide a comfortable life for their children even though neither had completed college when he was young. "I still grew up in an upper middle-class home with parents who didn't have college degrees," Schneider said. "I don't think people are capable of that anymore."

- 1. One cross-generation mark of a successful life is ( ).
- 2. It can be learned from Paragraph 3 that young people tend to  $\ (\ )$  .
- 3. The priorities and expectations defined by the young will ( ).
- 4. Both young and old agree that ( ).
- 5. Which of the following is true about Schneider?
- A, trying outdifferent lifestyles
- B, having afamily with children
- C, working beyondretirement age

- D, setting up aprofitable business
- A, favor a slowerlife pace
- B, hold anoccupation longer
- C, attachimportance to pre-marital finance
- D, give priority to childcare outsidethe home
- A, becomeincreasingly clear
- B, focus on materialistic issues
- C, depend largelyon political preferences
- D, reach almostall aspects of American life
- A, good-paying jobs are less available
- B, the old mademore life achievements
- C, housing loanstoday are easy to obtain
- D, gettingestablished is harder for the young
- A, He found a dreamjob after graduating from college.
- B. His parentsbelieve working steadily is a must for success.
- C, His parents' good lifehas little to do with a college degree.
- D, He thinks his job as a technician quite challenging.

试题答案: [['B'],['C'],['D'],['D'],['C']]

1. As adults, it seems that we are constantly pursuing happiness, often with mixed results. Yet children appear to have it down to an art-and for the most part they don't need self-help books or therapy. Instead, they look after their wellbeing instinctively, and usually more effectively than we do as grownups. Perhaps it's time to learn a



The problem with being a grown up is that there's an awful lot of serious stuff to deal with——work, mortgage payments, figuring out what to cook for dinner. But as adults we also have the luxury of being able to control our own diaries and it's important that we schedule in time to enjoy the things we love. Those things might be social, sporting, creative or completely random (dancing around the living room, anyone?)—it doesn't matter, so long as they're enjoyable, and not likely to have negative side effects, such as drinking too much alcohol or going on a wild spending spree if you're on a tight budget.

Having said all of the above, it's important to add that we shouldn't try too hard to be happy. Scientists tell us this can backfire and actually have a negative impact on our wellbeing. As the Chinese philosopher Chuang Tzu is reported to have said: "Happiness is the

absence of striving for happiness. "And in that, once more, we need to look to the example of our children, to whom happiness is not a goal but a natural byproduct of the way they live.

- A, Be silly
- B, Have fun
- C, Express your emotions
- D, Don't overthink it
- E, Be easily pleased
- F, Notice things
- G, Ask for help
- A, Be silly
- B, Have fun
- C, Express your emotions
- D, Don't overthink it
- E, Be easily pleased
- F, Notice things
- G, Ask for help
- A, Be silly
- B, Have fun
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- F, Notice things
- G, Ask for help

试题答案: [['C'],['E'],['A'],['B'],['D']]

1, Translate the following text into Chinese.

The supermarket is designed to lure customers into spending as much time as possible within its doors. The reason for this is simple: The longer you stay in the store, the more stuff you'll see, and the more stuff you see, the more you'll buy. And supermarkets contain a lot of stuff. The average supermarket, according to the Food Marketing Institute, carries some 44,000 different items, and many carry tens of thousands more. The sheer volume of available choice is enough to send shoppers into a state of information overload. According to brain-scan experiments, the demands of so much decision-making quickly become too much for us. After about 40 minutes of shopping, most people stop struggling to be rationally selective, and instead begin shopping emotionally - which is the point at which we

accumulate the 50 percent of stuff in our cart that we never intended buying.

问题内容:

试题答案:

超市设计的目的就是为了让消费者花尽可能多的时间在店内。原因很简单:你在店里待的时间越长,看到的东西就越多,你买的东西也就越多。超市里有各种各样的商品。根据食品营销研究协会的调查,平均每家超市约有 44000 种不同种类的商品,有的超市甚至有成千上万的商品。根据脑补扫描试验,迅速做出决定对我们来说太难。购物 40 分钟以后,大多数人已经不再是理性选择,而开始感性消费。这就是为什么我们的购物车里有 50%的商品是我们原本不打算购买的。

- 1. Suppose you won a translation contest and your friend Jack wrote an email to congratulate you, and ask advice on translation. Write him a reply to
- 1) thank him;
- 2) give your advice.

You should write neatly on the ANWSER SHEET.

Do not sign you own name at the end of the letter, use "Li Ming" instead.

Do not write the address .

问题内容:

试题答案:

Dear Jack,

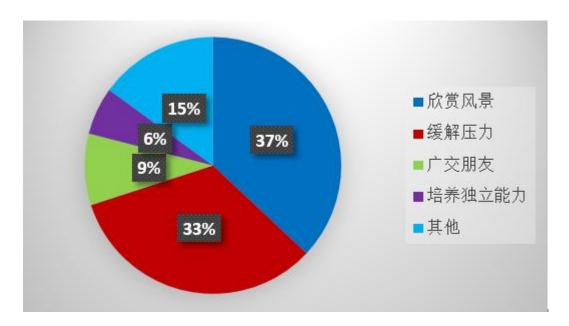
Thank you for your congratulation! Since you asked for advice on how to translate, I would like to give some suggestions as follows. To begin with, you should have a right attitude toward translation, because some students think that they learn it just for examination. In addition, you can read some academic works on translation. Third, as a famous saying goes "practice makes perfect", you should keep practicing every day.

I'm sure you'll be an excellent translator. Looking forward to your reply!

Sincerely yours, Li Ming

- 2. Write an essay based on the following chart. you should
- 1) interpret the chart and
- 2) give your comments.

You should write about 150 words.



## 问题内容:

#### 试题答案:

As clearly reflected in the above pie chart, the purpose of students' travelling demonstrates obvious differences in one university of China. According to the data given, 37% of college students aim to enjoy the beautiful scenery. Next comes the purpose of relieving pressure, accounting for 33%. The percentages of making friends, pursue to be independent and others accounting for 9%, 6% and 15% respectively.

There are several factors to explain this phenomenon. Firstly, with the rapid development of economy and society, college students are becoming rich, enabling them to afford the journey. Secondly, students' attitude towards travelling has changed. They regard it as a way to enrich their experience, broaden their eyesight, enlarge their acquaintances and cultivate their ability to be independent. Thirdly, travelling seems to be one way for college students to reduce stress.

Taking all these factors into account, with the fast pace of campus life, more and more students will choose travelling as a way to improve and relax themselves.