I. Grammar (20%): Choose the **best** answer for each blank. (**2 points** for each blank)

1. I will have my car _____ at the automotive center by the end of the month.
   (A. check B. checking C. be checked D. checked E. to check)

2. The monk is devoted to _____ Buddhism.
   (A. promote B. promoting C. be promoted D. promoted E. have promoted)

3. John would rather have a leisurely lunch at a good restaurant, _____ Frank prefers having a quick meal at his desk.
   (A. nevertheless B. where C. whereas D. even if E. despite)

4. All students' assignments should _____ on or before the due date.
   (A. submit B. submitted C. have submitted D. be submitting E. be submitted)

5.-10. Since the early twentieth century, many domestic farms have been using inorganic fertilizers as they readily dissolve in soil and are quickly absorbed by plants. However, it was eventually discovered that the faster absorption rate negatively affects plant growth and soil quality. Now, Green Agri-Company is introducing a new organic compost [6] _____ GreenGrowth, which can prevent plants from absorbing nutrients too quickly. To test the effectiveness of GreenGrowth, a farmer in West Virginia has [7] _____ the product for several months on small plots of vegetables on his farm. In a report [8] _____ by the company, the farmer stated that crop yields increased. This was because the fertilizer was suitable for the soil and allowed the plants to take in the nutrients slowly, [9] _____ them to retain both nutritive elements and water. Furthermore, the fertility of the soil improved significantly, [10] _____ an ideal environment for crop growth.

6. (A. call B. calls C. calling D. called E. to call)

7. (A. to utilize B. utilizing C. utilized D. been utilized E. utilize)

8. (A. publish B. publishing C. publishes D. been published E. published)

9. (A. enabling B. enabled C. enable D. has enabled E. was enabled)

10. (A. creates B. creating C. created D. to create E. had created)

II. Vocabulary (30%): Choose the **best** answer for each blank. (**3 points** for each blank)

11. A: Where is the conference _____? B: It's at the Grand Hotel.
(A. submission B. admission C. contribution D. revenue E. venue)

12. The widespread of Wuhan pneumonia _____ spreads very fast across countries and has negative impacts on world economy.
(A. quarantine B. epidemic C. inspection D. mechanism E. origin)

13. Ten _____ were held alongside Taiwan's local elections on Nov. 24, 2018.
(A. references B. referendums C. redundancies D. seminars E. results)

14.-16. The military [14]._____ reform bill was approved by the Legislative Yuan on June 20, 2018 and took [15]._____ on July 1, 2018. It sets the minimum monthly payment of NT$38,990 for retired military [16]._____.

14. (A. figure B. personnel C. pension D. enlistment E. recruitment)

15. (A. force B. enforce C. protest D. effect E. efficiency)

16. (A. veterans B. veterinarians C. vegetarians D. vehicles E. volunteers)

17-20. Taiwan government took proactive [17]._____ to prevent the new coronavirus from spreading to local communities. For example, to ensure a steady supply of masks, Taiwan government quickly [18]._____ manufacturers from exporting them, [19]._____ a rationing system and set the price at NT$6 (20 cents) a piece. Moreover, to significantly increase mask production, the government set up new production lines and [20]._____ soldiers to staff factories.

17. (A. majors B. mayors C. managers D. measurements E. measures)

18. (A. apprehended B. opposed C. banned D. deteriorated E. accelerated)

19. (A. implemented B. induced C. deduced D. liberated E. recruited)

20. (A. released B. relieved C. dismissed D. dispatched E. dismantled)

III. Reading Comprehension (24%): Choose the **best** answer for each item. (**3 points**/item)

TAIPEI (CNA) – Taiwan's democracy and its open and diverse environments are the main draws for foreign nationals who want to master their Chinese language skills, despite keen competition from China, according to local scholars.

"Taiwan still has a niche in this field over the long term, despite the fierce competition from China in vying for the top position in teaching Chinese to foreigners," Shen Yung-cheng (沈永正), previous chief of the Mandarin Training Center under National Taiwan Normal University, told CNA. Foreigners who learn Chinese for business and communication purposes tend to choose China, where simplified Chinese characters are used, he said. But those interested in exploring cultural heritage or studying classical Chinese literature will come to Taiwan, where traditional Chinese characters are used, he said.

Shen said he was optimistic about Taiwan's long-term advantages as the top destination for foreigners wanting to learn Chinese. Compared with the mainland, which is a one-party system ruled by the Communist Party of China, Shen said he believes that "Taiwan's democratic society and free and open environments are what draw foreign nationals wanting to master Chinese."

Since 2000, the number of Chinese learners has grown rapidly worldwide thanks to a fast-growing Chinese economy. It is estimated that more than 100 million people (excluding those in China, Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) speak Chinese in the world — 60 million of whom are ethnic Chinese and expatriates, while the other 40 million are non-ethnic Chinese learners and users. South Korea has the highest number of Chinese learners in the world — 10.6 million — out of a population of 50 million, it has been reported.

Chen Po-hsi (陳柏熹), chief executive officer of the state-run Steering Committee for the Test of Proficiency, said the politically motivated U.S.-China trade war will have only a limited impact on private-sector exchanges between the two countries, as most foreign Chinese learners are business people. Over the past 16 years, China has been using government funds to establish hundreds of Confucius Institutes on campuses at universities in other countries to promote Chinese language and culture, Chen said. In contrast to China's aggressive approach in sending teachers and selecting materials for its Confucius Institute's overseas branches, Taiwan plays an "**auxiliary**" role in terms of promoting the learning of Chinese in other countries, he said. But it has also benefited from the rising interest worldwide in learning Chinese. In recent years, the number of foreign nationals taking part in the national-level Chinese aptitude test in Taiwan has exceeded

50,000 annually, Chen noted.

Taiwan now has become a popular destination for Chinese learners across the world, according to Bi Tzu-an (畢祖安), director-general of the Department of International and Cross-strait Education Affairs under the Ministry of Education. The quality of Chinese teaching is better in Taiwan than China, thanks to its well-trained teachers, good teaching materials and methods, Bi contended. The number of foreign students who come to Taiwan to learn Chinese has been rising at an annual rate of between 7 percent and 10 percent per year, he said.

Education Ministry statistics show that in 2017, 23,539 foreign nationals came to learn Chinese in Taiwan, up from 19,977 in 2016, 15,526 in 2014 and 13,898 in 2012. Japan, South Korea and the U.S. were the top three sources of students. Most of the foreign students studying Chinese at his center are from Japan, South Korea, Vietnam and Indonesia, according to Shen.

It has been reported that 500,000 foreign nationals are now studying Chinese in China, double the 2015 level. More than 60 countries have mandated through legislation that learning Chinese be incorporated into their national education systems, while the U.S., Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, Mongolia, Australia and New Zealand have listed Chinese among the ranks of second foreign languages, from its past status as a third foreign language, it was reported.

21. Based on this article, what is the main reason why more and more foreigners learn or study Chinese all over the world?
(A. Because Taiwan has become a more popular sightseeing destination.
B. Because Taiwan's democracy arouses more foreigners' interest in studying Chinese.
C. Because Confucianism becomes more popular across the world.
D. Because the economy of Mainland China has grown fast since 2000.)

22. Based on this article, when did China start promoting Chinese language and culture abroad?
(A. In 2000 B. In 2012 C. In 2004 D. In 2016)

23. How does Mainland China promote Chinese language and culture abroad?
(A. By setting up Confucius Institutes at universities in foreign countries
B. By sending teachers to high schools in foreign countries
C. By giving Chinese teaching materials to elementary schools in foreign countries
D. By helping some foreign countries stipulate that Chinese should be included in their national curriculum)

24. Based on this article, which of the following statements is **NOT** true regarding Chinese teaching?
(A. Taiwan's teachers are better than China's.
B. Taiwan's teaching materials are better than China's.
C. Taiwan's tuition fees are lower than China's.
D. Taiwan's teaching methods are better than China's.)

25. Based on this article, which of the following statements is true?
(A. The U.S.-China trade war has a great influence on the number of people learning Chinese in the USA.
B. South Korea has the largest number of ethnic Chinese learners in the world.
C. There are 100 million non-ethic Chinese learners and users in the world.
D. Chinese is currently considered a second foreign language by eight countries.)

26. Who are more likely to learn Chinese in Taiwan?
(A. Those who study Chinese for business purpose
B. Those who study Chinese for communication purpose
C. Those who study Chinese classical literature
D. Those who study Chinese for finding better jobs)

27. How many foreigners studied Chinese in Mainland China in 2015?
(A. About 500 thousand B. About 250 thousand
C. About 50 thousand D. About 20 thousand)

28. Which is closest in meaning to the underlined word "**auxiliary**" in Paragraph 5?
(A. assisting B. important C. major D. influential)

IV. Translation (10%): Translate the following passage from English into Chinese.

29. Sleeping is very important. Less sleep is linked to more accidents, aggression and, possibly, attention deficit disorders. It may increase the risk of drug use, sports injuries and lower academic performance. Poor sleep or less sleep is also associated with weight gain and obesity. That is because poor sleep affects hormones that regulate appetite. Those who get adequate sleep tend to eat fewer calories than those who don't. Moreover, good sleep can enhance concentration, problem-solving skills and memory, whereas poor sleep has been shown to impair brain function.

V. Short English Composition [短篇英文作文] (16%):

Write a short English composition on the following topic. It should contain two paragraphs with at least 200 English words in total. The **"Instructions"** below will tell you what should be included in each paragraph.

30. Topic: The Person I Thank the Most

Instructions: In the first paragraph, please describe the person you thank the most and explain why by giving at least two examples. In the second paragraph, please write how you can or would like to return the favor to this person with one or two examples.