

1. 阅读理解

Wolfsheim returned to me (Nick, narrator of the story).

"I understand you are looking for a business connection," he said.

Gatsby answered for me, "No, this isn't the man. He's just a friend. We'll talk about that another time".

"I'm sorry. I made a mistake." He seemed disappointed.

Our food arrived and Mr Wolfsheim started to eat hungrily. Gatsby leaned towards me. "I'm sorry, old sport. I think I made you angry this morning."

"I don't like mysteries," I replied coldly. "Why did you involve Miss Baker? Can't you tell me yourself?"

"Oh, she doesn't mind," he said.

Then he looked at his watch, jumped up suddenly and hurried from the room.

"He has to telephone," Wolfsheim explained. He followed Gatsby with his eyes. "A handsome man and a perfect gentleman, isn't he?"

"Yes."

"He is an Oxford man."

"Oh."

"He went to Oxford College in England. Do you know it?"

"I've heard of it."

"It's one of the most famous colleges in the world."

"Have you known Gatsby long?" I enquired.

"For several years," he answered. "I met him just after the war. After talking to him for an hour, I knew he was a gentleman—the kind of man you would introduce to your mother, or your sister."

"Yes."

"Yeah, Gatsby's careful about women. He would never look at a friend's wife."

When Gatsby returned, Wolfsheim drank his coffee and got up. "I enjoyed my lunch," he said, "but now I'm going to leave you two young men together."

"Don't hurry, Meyer!" Gatsby said, but there was no enthusiasm in his voice.

"You're very polite, but I'm an old man," Wolfsheim replied. "You stay here and discuss your sports and ladies."

After he had left, Gatsby said, "Everyone in New York knows him."

"Is he an actor?"

"No, Meyer Wolfsheim's a gambler." Gatsby hesitated, then added coolly, "He's the man who fixed the World Series in 1919."

I was shocked. I had never imagined that only one man was responsible for cheating fifty million people.

"How did he do that?" I asked.

"He just saw an opportunity."

"Why isn't he in jail?"

"They can't get him, old sport. He's a smart man."

【1】What impression of Gatsby is Mr. Wolfsheim trying to give Nick?

- A.Dangerous and should never be trusted.
- B.On the edge of bankruptcy with bad investment
- C.Interested in politics other than anything else
- D.A gentleman who is worthy of people's trust

【2】What do you think the relationship between Gatsby and Wolfsheim is?

- A.Business partners. B.Relatives.
- C.Neighbours. D.Friends.

【3】Which of the following word can be used to describe Gatsby's attitude to Wolfsheim?

- A.positive B.supportive
- C.appreciative D.sensitive

2. 阅读理解

Late US artist Andy Warhol is believed to have once said, "In the future, everyone will be world-famous for 15 minutes."

But in this age of social media, selfies (自拍), and the Internet, it's hard to say what "fame" actually is.

In the movie Vox Lux (《光之声》), which was first shown this month at the Venice Film Festival, US director Brady Corbet tries to answer that question.

"Fame is a commodification of everything, where violence becomes something you sell, news becomes something you sell, even private life does," the movie's star Natalie Portman told reporters at the Toronto International Film Festival.

In the movie, the Israeli-US actress plays the lead role of Celeste, a pop singer who's 14 years into a hugely successful career. By that point, however, the character has become bitter (忿忿不平的) and her fame is beginning to fade — compared to her younger self, a sweet and carefree girl who suddenly finds herself in the spotlight.

This is a classic (经典的) tale of a rise to fame, but in today's world of social media, it's easy for just about anyone with a smartphone to become famous. But as more and more people search for the spotlight, this may add pressure on many of us to keep up with the "perfect" lives we see on the Internet.

"It appears that most people ... are living lives full of nothing but happiness, love, and rewarding events and experiences," psychologist (心理学家) Kurt Smith wrote on HuffPost.

That isn't to say that everyone uses their popularity to make others feel bad about themselves. Take UK beauty blogger Em Ford for example. In 2015, the online star, known for her makeup tutorials (教程), posted a video in which she slowly removed her flawless makeup, showing her bad skin underneath (在下面). "I wanted to create a film that showed how social media can set unrealistic expectations for both women and men," Ford wrote in the video's description.

So, it seems that the definition of fame changes all the time. But if Vox Lux teaches us one lesson, it's that if we're lucky enough to obtain the "commodity" of fame, we should spend it wisely.

【1】What is fame in Natalie Portman's eyes?

- A.It is something one should try to avoid.
- B.It is becoming famous in a short time.
- C.It changes everything in our life into a commodity.
- D.It is the popularity created by social media, selfies and the Internet.

【2】What is the movie Vox Lux mainly about, according to the article?

- A.It's about how fame puts pressure on all of us.