

1.

As a little child, I was always plump (胖的). In college I started blowing up. It got out of control when I went to law school.

I'd made a decision a thousand times: I'm going to lose weight now. But what motivated (激发) me to get serious about it was turning 30. I weighed 414 pounds. I was always tired. Some of my family members have suffered from heart disease, and I was frightened. I also wanted to look better. So after my birthday, I walked into the office of a weight loss doctor.

She was very understanding. Her focus was on balanced meals and she wanted me to exercise.

Walking was all I could do at first. I started by walking a few blocks and gradually increased the distance, until one weekend, I heard myself saying, "Wow, this seems pretty easy." So I started to run.

I was losing nine or ten pounds a month, and I had more energy. I started to think about the New York City Marathon. For years, I watched the runners and thought, "This looks like fun, but I could never do that." But now I realized that maybe I could. I joined the New York Road Runners. I ran a 10km, then a half-marathon. I still wasn't confident I could run a full 26 miles. But I told myself I was going to do it, no matter what.

By my 33rd birthday, I was down to 180 pounds. I started formally training for the marathon. And on the morning of November 1, I stood on the Verrazano Bridge in Staten Island with more than 40,000 other runners, waiting for the event to start.

It was unbelievable to have the audience cheering me on, handing me cups of water. And I crossed the finish line. My friends sprayed (向.....喷射) me with beer, as if I'd won the Super Bowl. And at that moment, I knew: If I set my mind to something, nothing is impossible.

21. The underlined phrase "blowing up" in Paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. going weaker B. growing high
C. becoming healthier D. becoming fatter

22. From the passage we can know that the author _____.

- A. controlled his weight at college
B. may have a family history of heart attack
C. was satisfied with his figure as a kid
D. began to consider losing weight at 30

23. Which of the following sayings can best summarize the passage?

- A. A good beginning is half done.
B. Pride comes before a fall.
C. Where there is a will, there is a way.
D. Practice makes perfect.

2.

The forest in Senegal, a country in western Africa, is full of the chimps' usual noises. Suddenly dogs bark. Larger male chimps drop from the trees to face the threat while the others climb to safety. Then the dogs' young human masters appear.

One mother chimp with a tiny baby tries to run. The dogs attack and separate them. The two teenage boys quickly catch the baby chimp. But they don't act out of sympathy --- they save the baby so they can sell it.

After the teenagers return to their hometown, they visit a man who is said to be very interested in chimps. When they ask the man, Johnny Kante, if he wants to buy the baby, he replies, "That's not what we do." Kante is a member of a scientific team. Although Kante is angry with the teens for capturing the chimp, he hides his anger and persuades them to take him to the baby chimp.

Unsure of what to do next upon seeing the chimp, Kante calls Jill Pruetz, the head of the chimp research team. "I'm really worried," says Pruetz, doubtful that the mother is still alive. But knowing that wild chimps sometimes adopt orphans (孤儿), Kante and Pruetz decide they must try to return the baby chimp to its wild community.

Kante pays another visit to the teenagers. After he explains how much trouble they are in, because chimps are an endangered species, he requests they should give him the frightened baby without payment. They agree. Kante takes the baby chimp to his home and feeds her milk from a bottle whenever she cries.

The next morning, Pruetz and Kante leave the baby with another team member and begin their search for the wild chimps. Pruetz quickly finds the group in the woods. She recognizes the female that is without her child.

Pruetz is so excited that she runs the entire mile back to bring the baby chimp to the tree where the chimps are hanging out. The researchers place the baby on the ground near the tree and back away. Almost immediately, a male chimp drops to the ground and stares at the baby curiously. He carries her back to where the mother is waiting.

Pruetz still can't believe how fortunate they were to have reunited the mother and child. "Surprising is the only word I can think of," she says.

24. The dogs' master visit Johnny Kante to _____.

- A. sell the baby chimp