

1.

Jenny was a pretty five-year-old girl. One day when she and her mother were checking out at the grocery store, Jenny saw a plastic pearl (珍珠) necklace priced at \$2.50. Her mother bought the necklace for her on condition that she had to do some housework to pay it off. Jenny agreed. She worked very hard every day, and soon Jenny paid off the necklace. Jenny loved it so much that she wore it everywhere except when she was in the shower. Her mother had told her it would turn her neck green!

Jenny had a very loving daddy. When Jenny went to bed, he would read Jenny her favorite story.

One night when he finished the story, he said, "Jenny, could you give me your necklace?"

"Oh! Daddy, not my necklace!" Jenny said. "But you can have Rosy, my favorite doll. Remember her? You gave her to me last year for my birthday. Okay?"

"Oh no, darling, that's okay." Her father brushed her cheek with a kiss. "Good night, little one."

A week later, her father once again asked Jenny for the necklace after her favorite story. "Oh, Daddy, not my necklace! But you can have Ribbons, my toy horse. Do you remember her? She's my favorite."

"No, that's okay," her father said and brushed her cheek again with a kiss. "God bless you, little one. Sweet dreams."

Several days later, when Jenny's father came in to read her a story, Jenny was sitting on her bed and her lip was trembling. "Here, Daddy," she said, holding out her hand. She opened it and her beloved pearl necklace was inside. She let it slip into her father's hand.

With one hand her father held the plastic pearl necklace and with the other he pulled out of his pocket a blue box. Inside the box was a real, beautiful pearl necklace. He had had it all along. He was waiting for Jenny to give up the cheap necklace so he could give her a real one.

21. What did Jenny have to do to get the plastic pearl necklace?

- A. She had to listen to her father tell a story every night.
- B. She had to help her mother do some housework.
- C. She had to ask her father to pay for the necklace.
- D. She had to give away her favorite toys to the poor children.

22. From the text we know that _____.

- A. Jenny's mother paid a lot for the plastic pearl necklace
- B. Jenny got a real pearl necklace from her father
- C. Jenny didn't like Rosy and Ribbons any longer
- D. Jenny wore the necklace everywhere even in the shower

23. Jenny's father asked for her plastic pearl necklace repeatedly in order to _____.

- A. get it for himself
- B. train her character
- C. donate it
- D. put it away

24. What can be the best title for the text?

- A. A Lovely Girl
- B. Father and Daughter
- C. An Unforgettable Childhood
- D. A Pearl Necklace

2.

The composing career (作曲生涯) of Albert Roussel got off to a changeable start, and received one of its biggest successes from a lie.

Roussel became an orphan (孤儿) at the age of eight and went to live with his grandfather. He built on the music he had learned from his mother, entertaining himself by reading through the family music collection and playing operatic selections and popular songs on the piano. Three years later Roussel's grandfather died, and his mother's sister took him in. Her husband arranged for young Albert to take piano lessons. Summer vacations at a Belgian seaside added a second love to his life — the sea. He studied to be a soldier in the navy, but still made time to study music.

In the French Navy, he and two friends found time to play the music of Beethoven and other composers. Roussel also began composing. At the Church of the Trinity in Cherbourg on Christmas Day 1892, he had his first public appearance as a composer. That success encouraged Roussel to write a wedding march, and one of his fellow naval officers offered to show it to a famous conductor, Edouard Colonne. When Roussel's friend returned with the manuscript (手稿), he reported that Colonne had advised Roussel to give up his naval career and devote his life to music.

Not long afterward, at the age of 25, Roussel did just that. He applied the qualities that he had developed in the navy to his composing and became a major force in twentieth century French music. As for Edouard Colonne's inspiring advice that Roussel should devote his life to music, Roussel's naval friend later admitted that he had made it up and that he had never even shown Roussel's manuscript to the conductor.

25. What information can we get from the second paragraph?

- A. Albert came to love the sea after summer vacations at the seaside.