

1. 阅读理解

You probably know who Marie Curie was, but you may not have heard of Rachel Carson. Of the outstanding ladies listed below, who do you think was the most important woman of the past 100 years?

Jane Addams (1860-1935)

Anyone who has ever been helped by a social worker has Jane Addams to thank. Addams helped the poor and worked for peace. She encouraged a sense of community by creating shelters and promoting education and services for people in need. In 1931, Addams became the first American woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize.

Rachel Carson (1907-1964)

If it weren't for Rachel Carson, the environmental movement might not exist today. Her popular 1962 book *Silent Spring* raised awareness of the dangers of pollution and the harmful effects of chemicals on humans and on the world's lakes and oceans.

Sandra Day O'Connor (1930-present)

When Sandra Day O'Connor finished third in her class at Stanford Law School, in 1952, she could not find work at a law firm because she was a woman. She became an Arizona state senator and in 1981, the first woman to join the U.S. Supreme Court. O'Connor gave the deciding vote in many important cases during her 24 years on the top court.

Rosa Parks (1913-2005)

On December 1, 1955, in Montgomery, Alabama, Rosa Parks would not give up her seat on a bus to a white passenger. Her simple act landed Parks in prison. But it also set off the Montgomery bus boycott (抵制). It lasted for more than a year, and kicked off the civil-rights movement. "The only tired I was, was tired of giving in," said Parks.

【1】What is Jane Addams famous for in history?

- A. Her social work. B. Her teaching skills.
C. Her efforts to win a prize. D. Her community background.

【2】What was the reason for O'Connor's being refused by the law firm?

- A. Not having training in law. B. Her identity as a woman.
C. Her poor financial conditions. D. Her little work experience in court.

【3】Who made a great contribution to the civil-rights movement in the U.S.?

- A. Jane Addams. B. Rachel Carson.
C. Sandra Day O'Connor. D. Rosa Parks.

2. 阅读理解

An eight-year-old child heard her parents talking about her little brother. All she knew was that he was very sick and they had no money. Only a very expensive operation could save him now and there was no one to lend them the money. When she heard her daddy say to her tearful mother, "Only a miracle (奇迹) can save him now," the little girl went to her bedroom and pulled her money from its hiding place and counted it carefully.

She hurried to a drugstore with the money in her hand.

"And what do you want?" asked the salesman. "It's for my little brother," the girl answered. "He's really, really sick and I want to buy a miracle." Pardon?" said the salesman.

"My brother Andrew has something bad growing inside his head and my daddy says only a miracle can save him. So how much does a miracle cost?" "We don't sell a miracle here, child. I'm sorry," the salesman said with a smile.

"Listen, if it isn't enough, I can try and get some more. Just tell me how much it costs."

A well-dressed man heard it and asked, "What kind of a miracle does your brother need?"

"I don't know," she answered with her eyes full of tears. "He's really sick and mum says he needs an operation. But my daddy can't pay for it, so I have brought all my money."

"How much do you have?" asked the man. " \$ 1.11, but I can try and get some more," she answered.

"Well, what luck!" smiled the man. " \$ 1.11, the price of a miracle for your little brother."

He took up the girl's hand and said, "Take me to where you live. I want to see your brother and meet your parents. Let's see if I have the kind of miracle you need."

That well-dressed man was Dr. Carlton Armstrong, a famous doctor. The operation was successful and it wasn't long before Andrew was home again.

How much did the miracle cost?

【1】In the eye of the little girl, a miracle might be _____.

- A. something interesting B. something beautiful
C. some good food D. some wonderful medicine

【2】The little girl said again and again "I can try and get some more." That shows _____.

- A. she had still kept some money B. she hoped not to be refused
C. there was no need to worry about money D. she thought money was easy to get

【3】What made the miracle happen?

- A. The girl's love for her brother. B. The girl's money.
C. The medicine from the drugstore. D. Nobody can tell.

【4】From the passage, we can infer (推断) that _____.

- A. Andrew was in fact not so sick as they had thought
B. the little girl is lovely but not so clever
C. the doctor didn't ask for any pay
D. you are sure to get anything you want if you keep trying

3. 阅读理解

Do you always agree to do things that you are unwilling to do? Are you the type of person who always says "yes"? I've come to learn that it is very important to learn to say NO! It's okay. People are still going to like you. They may even respect you more because they know you are honest.

I'm not saying to say "no" to someone who really needs your help. I'm talking about refusing that meeting that you really do not want to attend or that birthday party that you don't want to be a guest at.

Think for a moment how you feel when you say YES to something that you really don't want to do. If you're like I once was, you can't sleep at night and you think about it too much. It weighs on your mind. You try to find ways out. Whatever you're saying to yourself, if you really wanted to go, you wouldn't have all of these thoughts.

So, why not just say NO from the beginning? Maybe you feel like if you don't show up at the meeting (by the way, it is not the one you must attend) your boss isn't