

1.

I was at a busy traffic crossing to cross to the other side. There was a family—a man, his wife and an old lady, waiting to cross with me.

Then, the light finally turned green and all of us began to walk quickly across the road. The light was very short, and changed to red in no time. I noticed that both the man and his wife had crossed along with me but the old lady was left behind. I quickly realized what was happening.

When the light turned green again, I ran over to the other side, offering her my right hand as we quickly walked together to the other side of the road. I used my left hand to stop any oncoming(即将来临的)traffic so that even if the crossing signal turned red, we could make it to the other side safely. In the meantime, both the man and his wife realized that they had left the old woman behind and they ran back. The old lady was in tears and told me, “Young fellow, you are more caring than my son,” and gave me a warm handshake(握手). The man and woman were sorry about what had happened and also thanked me. Before leaving, the old lady gave me a big smile, which I have remembered even to this day. She kept waving and waving until we couldn't see each other anymore.

1. The author turned back to _____.

- A. make sure he understood what had happened
- B. keep the old lady safe
- C. stop oncoming traffic
- D. help the old lady cross the road

2. The man and his wife _____.

- A. didn't know the lady at all
- B. planned to let the old lady wait
- C. didn't thank the author
- D. went back to help the old lady finally

3. What does the author remember to this day?

- A. The opportunity to help the old lady.
- B. The man and his wife's care for the old lady.
- C. The smile the old lady gave him.
- D. The warm handshake the old lady gave him.

2.

Sir Edmund Hillary is best known for being the first, along with climbing partner Tenzing Norgay, to reach the top of Mount Everest(珠穆朗玛峰). However, he also made many visits to Antarctica(南极洲). In 1957, he led the first trip over ice to the South Pole. Hillary also helped his home country, New Zealand, build a research center on Antarctica, called Scott Base. He visited it in January 2007, when he was 87 years old.

In the 1900s, many people like Hillary saw Antarctica as an exciting place. Scientists are interested in how glaciers(冰川) flow and melt. They also worry that global(全球的) warming is making glaciers melt faster. It has caused a 75 percent increase in ice loss in the last 10 years, according to a new study. Scientists say ice loss could cause water levels around the world to rise faster than expected. Ice is melting faster than expected because of global warming.

Researchers in Antarctica are studying many other subjects too. Some use the cold weather and clear air as a way to study things that affect other parts of the globe. Antarctica has the cleanest air in the world. That allows scientists to compare the air there to the air in polluted places. Antarctica is the darkest place on earth, so it is a great place to study the stars. Some scientists are even studying penguin droppings(企鹅粪). They have developed a new test to learn more about penguins' diets.

4. What is Sir Edmund Hillary best known for?

- A. He was the first to reach the top of Mount Everest.
- B. He went to Antarctica many times.
- C. He led the first trip to the South Pole.
- D. He helped build a research center on Antarctica.

5. The final result of global warming is that _____.

- A. there would be no ice
- B. water levels could rise faster
- C. the climate would become warm
- D. the ocean would be polluted

6. Who of the following would NOT be interested in Antarctica?