

1.

Tristan da Cunha, a 38-square-mile island, is the farthest inhabited island in the world, according to the Guinness Book Records. It is 1,510 miles southwest of its nearest neighbor, St. Helena, and 1,950 miles west of Africa. Discovered by the Portuguese admiral (葡萄牙海军上将) of the same name in 1506, and settled in 1810, the island belongs to Great Britain and has a population of a few hundred.

Coming in a close second—and often wrongly mentioned is the most distant and—is Easter Island, which lies 1,260 miles east of its nearest neighbor, Pitcairn Island, and 2,300 miles west of South America.

The mountainous 64-square-mile island was settled around the 5th century, supposedly by people who were lost at sea. They had no connection with the outside world for more than a thousand years, giving them plenty of time to build more than 1,000 huge stone figures, called moat, for which the island is most famous.

On Easter Sunday, 1722, however, settlers from Holland moved in and gave the island its name. Today, 2,000 people live on the Chilean territory (智利领土). They share one street, a small airport and a few hours of television per day.

21. It can be learned from the text that the island of Tristan da Cunha _____.

- A. was named after its discoverer
- B. got its name from Holland settlers
- C. was named by the British government
- D. got its name from the Guinness Book of Records

22. Which of the following is most famous for moat?

- A. Tristan da Cunha.
- B. Pitcairn Island.
- C. Easter Island.
- D. St. Helena.

23. Which country does Easter Island belong to?

- A. Britain.
- B. Holland.
- C. Portugal.
- D. Chile.

2.

Sandra Cisneros was born in Chicago in 1954 to a Mexican American family. As the only girl in a family of seven children, she often felt like she had “seven fathers,” because her six brothers, as well as her father, tried to control her. Feeling shy and unimportant, she retreated (躲避) into books. Despite her love of reading, she did not do well in elementary school because she was too shy to participate.

In high school, with the encouragement of one particular teacher, Cisneros improved her grades and worked for the school literary magazine. Her father encouraged her to go to college because he thought it would be a good way for her to find a husband. Cisneros did attend college, but instead of searching for a husband, she found a teacher who helped her join the famous graduate writing program at the University of Iowa. At the university's Writers' Workshop, however, she felt lonely—a Mexican American from a poor neighborhood among students from wealthy families. The feeling of being so different helped Cisneros find her “creative voice.”

“It was not until this moment when I considered myself truly different that my writing acquired a voice. I knew I was a Mexican woman, but I didn't think it had anything to do with why I felt so much imbalance in my life, but it had everything to do with it! That's when I decided I would write about something my classmates couldn't write about.”

Cisneros published her first work, *The House on Mango Street*, when she was twenty-nine. The book tells about a young Mexican American girl growing up in a Spanish-speaking area in Chicago, much like the neighborhoods in which Cisneros lived as a child. The book won an award in 1985 and has been used in classes from high school through graduate school level. Since then, Cisneros has published several books of poetry, a children's book, and a short-story collection.

24. Which of the following is TRUE about Cisneros in her childhood?

- A. She had seven brothers.
- B. She felt herself a nobody.
- C. She was too shy to go to school.
- D. She did not have any good teachers.

25. The graduate program gave Cisneros a chance to _____.

- A. work for a school magazine
- B. run away from her family
- C. make a lot of friends
- D. develop her writing style

26. According to Cisneros, what played the decisive role in her success?

- A. Her early years in college.
- B. Her training in the Workshop.
- C. Her feeling of being different.
- D. Her childhood experience.

27. What do we learn about *The House on Mango Street*?

- A. It is quite popular among students.
- B. It is the only book ever written by Cisneros.