

1.

A businessman had two sons. While he gave the younger son a lot of love and gifts, he neglected (忽视) the elder son. It was completely puzzling (令人费解) and no one knew why.

When the boys grew up, they were asked to manage the father's business. The elder son was absorbed in the business. From morning till late in the evening, he was busy working. Within a few years, he ran the business very well and even expanded (扩大) it.

What about the younger son? He didn't have much to do except have a good time. But the father believed that his favorite son would be a success. If the elder son could be a successful businessman, surely the younger one, with a higher education, would do much better.

A few years later, the results of his decision became clear. Uninterested in business, the younger son continued spending his time enjoying himself. And he went out of business. But the elder son's far smaller share (份) of business had expanded and he had proved himself to be a good decision maker.

Ashamed at the turn of events, the father met the elder son and was angry with the younger one. The elder son, who was listening to all this quietly, suddenly said he wanted to set up an independent business and live on his own.

"Why?" asked the father.

"I blame (责备) one person for the way my brother has turned out, and it's not him. You can't blame children for the faults (过失) of their parents, can you?" asked the elder son.

1. Before the younger son went into the father's business, he _____.

- A. was well-educated at school B. had achieved great success
C. often looked down upon his brother D. was interested in business

2. Why did the father treat the two sons differently?

- A. the elder son didn't work hard B. the younger son was hardworking
C. no one knew why he did it D. he wanted to do an experiment

3. Which is NOT the reason for the younger son's going out of business?

- A. he himself didn't work hard
B. his father didn't educate him properly
C. he was not interested in business at all
D. he was busy working every day

4. What does the text really want to teach us?

- A. Once something is done, you should do it well.
B. Parents are responsible for children's development.
C. Interest is the most important for success.
D. One has responsibility for what he himself has done.

2.

It was Monday. Mrs. Smith's dog was hungry, but there was not any meat in the house.

Considering that there was no better way, Mrs. Smith took a piece of paper, and wrote the following words on it: "Give my dog half a pound of meat." Then she gave the paper to her dog and said gently: "Take this to the butcher (屠夫) and he's going to give you your lunch today."

Holding the piece of paper in its mouth, the dog ran to the butcher's. It gave the paper to the butcher. The butcher read it carefully, recognized that it was really the lady's handwriting and soon did it as he was asked to. The dog was very happy, and ate the meat up at once.

At noon, the dog came to the shop again. It gave the butcher a piece of paper again. After reading it, he gave it half a pound of meat once more.

The next day, the dog came again exactly at noon. And as usual, it brought a piece of paper in the mouth. This time, the butcher did not take a look at paper, and gave the dog its meat, for he had regarded the dog as one of his customers. But, the dog came again at four o'clock. And the same thing happened once again. To the butcher's more surprise, it came for the third time at six o'clock, and brought with it a third piece of paper. The butcher felt a bit puzzled. He said to himself, "This is a small dog. Why does Mrs. Smith give it so much meat to eat today?"

Looking at the piece of paper, he found that there were not any words on it!

5. Mrs. Smith treated her little dog quite _____.

- A. cruelly B. kindly C. fairly D. friendly

6. It seemed that the dog knew well that the paper Mrs. Smith gave it _____.