

1.

You drive down the highway with your family or friends in the car, camping equipment and spare clothes in the back. Your windows are down and the wind is hitting you in the face. These are the makings of a classic US road trip.

Road trips are quite common in the country, especially during the Thanks-giving holiday, which is the busiest travel time of the year in the country for families and friends who want to get together.

And for students, going on a road trip is traditional after graduating from high school or college with their schoolmates. It usually involves traveling great distances across the US and camping out whenever possible. Destinations are different depending on where in the country someone is located. But they all show the same kind of adventure. Popular spots to travel to include Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Canon.

However, the most famous of all road trip journey is travelling across the US on Route 66. Route 66 begins in Chicago and ends in Los Angeles. The route goes past many of the lesser-known states. However, it's the bizarre (稀奇古怪的) and wonderful small attractions that draw many road trippers to them. The attractions one sees on these trips are quite strange and very difficult to explain to non-American. They are filled with gas stations that still look like they did back in the 1950s and small restaurants known as "mom and pop restaurants" where you can eat a greasy cheeseburger with a delicious milkshake. Route 66 is also filled with quite unusual, but still fascinating wonders.

Deep down, US road trips show the spirit of freedom and openness. The idea is that if you have a car, you have freedom to escape, to discover, to find yourself, to lose yourself. It's a powerful call, one that is part of the US' identity and culture. It is a must-do for anyone who plans to spend time in the US to see the country and all of its wonders. An old saying—"It's not the destination, it's the journey"—best explains what the experience of a road trip truly offers.

1. The first paragraph is designed to \_\_\_\_.

- A. present the topic    B. list some facts  
C. raise a question    D. give an example

2. What attracts US road trippers most on Route 66?

- A. Lesser-known states.  
B. Mom and pop restaurants.  
C. Gas stations and delicious foods.  
D. Strange attractions and fantastic wonders.

3. What is the author's purpose in writing the text?

- A. To introduce US road trips.  
B. To spread American culture.  
C. To stress the importance of a road trip.  
D. To attract US road trippers to Route 66.

2.

I am a working woman with a secret life: I keep house. An off-and-on lawyer and professor in public, in private I launder and clean, cook and devote serious time and energy to a domestic (家务的) routine, not so different from my grandmothers did as "housewives." When I want a good read, I reach for my collection of old housekeeping handbooks. I enjoy housekeeping and the comforts it provides.

I have almost entirely hidden this passion for housekeeping though I am writing a long story about it. No one meeting me for the first time would doubt that I spend my time knitting and remembering household facts. I knew I would not want this information about me to get around. After all, I belong to the first generation of the women who worked more than they stayed home.

Being viewed as over domestic can get you socially ostracized. When I made hand-rolled pasta (意大利面) for a dinner, I learned the hard way that some guests will find this annoying, as they do not feel comfortable eating a meal that they regard as the product of too much trouble. When my son was in nursery school, I made the mistake of spending a few hours sewing for him a Halloween dressing, receiving hard stares of many fellow parents who had bought a Batman or Esmeralda costume. Many times my courage in writing the story failed me when painful silences followed my confession (坦白) about the long book, "NO, not a history of housework, an explanation of it—a practical book on how you make the bed and make a comfortable home." I managed to hold on partly because not everyone responded with that stare; there was support as well. And I was struck that no one responded with coldness. The topic was clearly hot-too hot for some people to handle, heartwarming to others.

4. What makes the author enjoy housekeeping?

- A. The joy and comfort from housekeeping.  
B. Her wish to be different from others.  
C. The influence of her grandmothers.  
D. Her love to her family.

5. Which is closest in meaning to the underlined word in Paragraph 3?