

1.

Every man dreams of having a good car. With luxury cars, like Bentley, Lamborghini and Rolls-Royce, going into the world of SUVs, if you have deep pockets, you will be spoilt for choice.

◆Lamborghini Aventador SVJ

Using a new aerodynamic system allows it to set a car lap record of 6: 44.97 at Nurburgring, one of the longest and most challenging circuits in the world. Plus, carbon fiber can be seen everywhere, which makes the car strong and lightweight. There're only 900 being built and you'll need to cough up \$517,770 to buy one.

◆Aston Martin DBX

The DBX is Aston Martin's maiden SUV product. It features a choice of two gas engines—a 4.0-liter V8 from Mercedes and a 5.2-liter V12 from its own. The price is predicted to be around \$250,000.

◆Audi E-tron

Being an eco-friendly motoring, it is an all-electric SUV that makes up for its rather ordinary appearance with design, luxury and technology. At the front and back are electric motors which insure progress is rapid. In addition to plenty of storage space, the Audi E-tron provides side cameras instead of side mirrors and air suspension that adapts to the terrain (地形). Hand over \$74,800 and it's yours.

◆Tesla Roadster

Tesla Roadster will turn most heads. Zero to 60 in 1.9 seconds means it will leave most cars for dust. The top speed is 250 mph, which is also unheard of for most cars—let alone an all-electric one. Having advanced autonomous driving systems and a huge touchscreen for surfing the Internet, it won't make you regret for paying \$200,000.

【1】What's special about Lamborghini Aventador SVJ?

- A. It offers two gas engines. B. It is an all-electric SUV.
C. It uses lightweight materials. D. It has the most challenging circuit.

【2】Which car is suitable if you want one with adaptable air suspension?

- A. Lamborghini Aventador SVJ. B. Aston Martin DBX.
C. Audi E-tron. D. Tesla Roadster

【3】Which of the following does Tesla Roadster provide?

- A. Self-driving systems. B. A gas-saving engine.
C. Side cameras. D. Much storage space.

2.

It's not unusual to see an unreasonable child lying on the ground drumming his heels. Beside him is a desperate mother yelling at the top of her lungs. Raising a well-behaved kid is really a head-scratching thing.

If you took all the parenting styles around the world and ranked them by their gentleness, the Inuit (因纽特人) approach would certainly rank near the top. All the moms mention one golden rule: Don't shout or yell at small children. Inuit's no-yelling policy is their central component to raising cool-headed kids. The culture views scolding, or even speaking to children in all angry voice, as inappropriate, although little kids are pushing parents' buttons.

Playful "storytelling" is another trick to sculpting kids' behavior. But this storytelling differs hugely from those fairy tales full of moral lessons. Parents "retell" what happened when a boy threw a tantrum (发脾气) by way of what Shakespeare would understand all too well: putting on a "drama". After the child has calmed down, the parents will review what happened when the child misbehaved, usually starting with a question: "Can you show us how to throw a tantrum?" Then the child has to think what he should do. If he takes the bait and performs the action, the mom will ask a follow-up question with a playful tone. For example: "Does that seem right?" or "Are you a baby?" She is getting across the idea that "big boys" won't throw a tantrum.

Kids' brains are still developing the circuitry needed for self-control. What you do in response to your children's emotions shapes their brains. So next time, seeing your boy misbehave, try using the Inuit's storytelling approach. And don't forget to keep cool. After all, boys will be boys.

【1】Which of the following best explains "pushing parents' buttons" underlined in Paragraph 2?

- A. Talking with parents. B. Playing with parents' buttons.
C. Exposing parents' faults. D. Making parents annoyed.

【2】What do we know about Inuit's "storytelling"?

- A. It aims at playing a trick on kids. B. It raises kids' awareness of morality.
C. It comes after a child misbehaves. D. It analyzes Shakespeare's dramas.

【3】What's the author's attitude to children's misbehavior?

- A. Cautious. B. Tolerant.
C. Uncaring. D. Skeptical.

【4】What's the main idea of the text?

- A. Inuit's approach to parenting.
B. Values of reading literary works.
C. Causes of children's misbehavior.
D. Parents' responses to "storytelling".

3.

A large body of research has been developed in recent years to explain many aspects of willpower. Most of the researchers exploring self-control do so with an obvious goal in mind: How can willpower be strengthened? If willpower is truly a limited resource, as the research suggests, what can be done to make it stay strong?

Avoiding temptation (诱惑) is an effective method for maintaining self-control, which is called the "out of sight, out of mind" principle. One recent study, for instance, found office workers less attracted to candy in the desk drawer than that on top of their desks, in plain sight.

The research suggesting that we possess a limited reservoir of self-control raises a troubling question. When we face too many temptations, are we to fail? Not necessarily. Researchers don't believe that one's willpower is ever completely exhausted. Rather, people appear to hold some willpower in reserve, saved for future demands. The right motivation allows us to tap into those reserves, allowing us to carry on even when our self-control strength has been run down. High motivation might help overcome weakened willpower—at least to a point.

Willpower may also be made less vulnerable (脆弱) to being exhausted in the first place. Researchers who study self-control often describe it as being like a muscle that gets tired with heavy use. But there is another aspect to the muscle comparison, they say. While muscles become exhausted by exercise in the short term, they are strengthened by regular exercise in the long term. Similarly, regular practices of self-control may improve willpower strength.

The evidence from willpower-exhaustion studies also suggests that making a list of resolutions on New Year's Eve is the worst possible approach. Being exhausted in one