1. Cloze test: Choose the best answer to fill in the parenthesis. (10x3% = 30%)
   a. Prevailing 1. (A. informative B. imperative C. normative) views of
democracy in America assume that the press is responsible for providing citizens with
basic information about contemporary issues and political figures. Communication
scholars and political scientists have not been too 2. (A. sanitary B. sanctimonious C.
sanguine) about how well the media perform that function, however.
   b. Roughly a hundred years ago the modern era of communications begins. A
precise date is unnecessary but the decade of the 1890s can serve as the 3. (A.
apprehensive B. approximate C. appreciative) moment when, in the United States,
space and time were enclosed, when it became possible to think of the nation as
everywhere running on the same clock of awareness and existing within a 4. (A.
heterogeneous B. homogeneous C. miscellaneous) national space. This
"communications revolution," 5. (A. pressured B. prescribed C. presented) by the
growth of the telegraph and the penny press in the decades before and after the Civil
War, decisively began in the 1890s with the birth of the national magazine, the
development of the modern mass, urban newspaper; the domination of news 6. (A.
articulation B. enunciation C. dissemination) by the wire services; and the creation of
early, primitive forms of electronic communication.
   c. In their 7. (A. maternalistic B. fraternalistic C. paternalistic) fashion traditional
editors were apt to hold stories about a politician’s sex life, unless the 8. (A.
pecadilloes B. armadillos C. tangelos) were deemed to affect his or her job
performance.
   d. Rep. Bob Barr, Flynt’s investigators found, was guilty of king-size hypocrisy:
An outspoken foe of abortion, the Georgia lawmaker had 9. (A. acquitted B. acquiesced
C. contradicted) to his then-wife having an abortion in 1983. And he had invoked a legal
privilege during his 1985 divorce 10. (A. procurement B. proclamation C. proceeding)
so he could refuse to answer questions on whether he’d cheated on his second wife with the
woman who is now his third.

II. Translation: please translate the following into Chinese. (40%)
   1. An increasing number of states have adopted electoral reforms that enable voters to
cast their ballots before election day. Although all states have provisions to allow
the elderly, infirm, and those out of the state to vote by mail before election day,
this privilege has been significantly augmented in recent years. Six states sanction
citizens to cast an absentee ballot by mail for any reason. (13%)
2. Events do not just happen; nothing in human history is inevitable or accidental. Things happen because men work, sacrifice, and often scheme to accomplish human goals. However, some human goals have often been unaccountably thwarted while others have been miraculously fulfilled. (13%)

3. Final interpretations are difficult to make in any study of history. The following interpretation is not the only possible interpretation of the events associated with the Separation from Britain. Because the position presented here was the one taken by many colonists as a justification for dissolving their allegiance to the Crown, it therefore deserves our serious attention. (14%)

III. Reading comprehension (10x3%=30%)

The variables under examination here, although many are significant, clearly do not account for all of the variance in readership. The usage of an electronic newspaper is a complex behavior and it is influenced by a huge number of variables. Access to the technology, interest in news in general, the availability of local news or news of interest to relatively compact psycho-graphic groups all could impact the dependent variable here. It is nevertheless important to try to identify those influences that might run across individual differences.

1. What is the main subject of this passage?
(A) Many demographic variables affect the dependent variable.
(B) The availability of local news affects the interest in news in general
(C) Factors that affect the usage of an online newspapers
(D) Access to technology impacts the news interests.

2. According to this passage, what should be the dependent variable?
(A) Attitude toward the online paper
(B) Educational level
(C) Interest in news in general
(D) Readership

3. Which variable is not included in this passage?
(A) Availability of local news
(B) Access to the technology
(C) Attitude toward the online paper
(D) Usage of an online paper

As was to be expected, January 1, 1900, was greeted everywhere by the usual state of predictions regarding the prospects for the last century of the second millennium. Naturally, predictions varied. By and large the dominant note sounded on the occasion of the turn of the century in the leading journals of the Western world, and among Western statesmen, was self-
congratulatory. The pervasive tone was of complacent satisfaction with the status quo, of almost intoxicated praise for the prosperity that was said to be increasingly widespread and---in the case of America---of great expectations for enhanced economic and political power.

The New York Times, in its "Business Outlook" dated January 1, 1900, proclaimed that "prosperity has entered into every line of industry in the United States. The producer from the soil has had unusual prosperity, as have the workers in mines, mills, and workshops. It concluded its diagnosis by asserting, "in America, unbounded prosperity may be looked forward to during our forward march, making us the foremost Nation of the world."

4. What is the main subject of this passage?
(A) Human beings had many great accomplishments in the last century.
(B) The pervasive tone at the start of this century was complacent.
(C) The general atmosphere at present is gloomy.
(D) The New York Times predicted that the United States would be one of the two superpowers in the 20th century.

5. According to this passage, the general mood at the beginning of the 20th century was:
(A) Foreboding
(B) Equivocal
(C) Wishy-washy
(D) Upbeat

6. According to this passage, which is a true statement?
(A) The year 1900 was greeted with incertitude.
(B) The New York Times predicted a glistening future in 1900.
(C) The industrial prosperity came to America in the 19th century.
(D) The producers from the soil had had medium prosperity.

With the advent of the Internet, 24-hour cable television news, talk radio and a general coarsening of the popular culture, the notion of the press as gatekeeper seems a quaint relic. Today's media landscape offers so many back doors for salacious stories to find their way into the public consciousness that we have entered a world without gates to keep. The late-night monologues of Jay Leno and David Letterman can put a story into play long before it has been checked out. And the situation has been complicated by a new phenomenon: Targets now disclose that they are being investigated before a single word reaches print or air.

7. What should be the best headline of this passage?
(A) Leno vs. Letterman
(B) Gatekeepers without gates
(C) Salacious stories rampant in TV news
(D) The advent of the new media

8. Based on the passage, Leno and Letterman's monologues should be:
   (A) Radio news programs
   (B) TV talk shows
   (C) TV news hours
   (D) Talk radio programs

The fate of every significant writer, posthumously, is to become a chameleon. While on the scene, he or she limits, by his or her presence, what we make of the work; after all, writers may answer back and actually argue with us. Once safely dispatched to the beyond, they are at our mercy, all constraints removed, and their intentions and meaning can be safely disregarded.

The posthumous author is the paradigmatic case for poststructuralism for the great hyperdemocracy of death vividly affirms two of the doctrines central principles: the author is dead, literally and figuratively, and the conversation safely one-sided; and the meaning of the texts is unstable, for the living are free to enlist the dead in any of a thousand improbable causes.

9. What is the main theme of the two paragraphs?
   (A) Writers may answer back and argue with the readers.
   (B) The living are free to enlist the dead in any of a thousand improbable causes.
   (C) When a writer is dead, his works can be interpreted in different ways.
   (D) Usually, a writer's works become popular after his death.

10. It cannot be inferred from the passage:
   (A) When writers are alive, they may limit what we make of their works.
   (B) The posthumous author is the paradigmatic case for poststructuralism.
   (C) Once safely dispatched to the beyond, the writers are at our mercy.
   (D) The fate of a famous writer, posthumously, is stable.