



教育图书



功能学具



学生之家

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01

培养核心素养，探究主题意义

Unit 4 HUMOUR

主题素养积累

When we are kids, we laugh a lot. Children laugh **dozens of** times a day; they laugh at small things and big things; they laugh at silly jokes and serious things. But as we become adults, it is much more difficult to laugh so easily. Do you laugh too little in your life? Should you remember how you used to laugh as a child?

In fact, laughter has a lot of benefits. It's a great way to relax, not just on a **purely** emotional level, but also physically. It can reduce your blood pressure. **And it contributes to the release of hormones and neurotransmitters, which is good for our health: if we are laughing, it means that all is well.**

In addition to this, laughing has a social function. It helps us feel more **at ease** around new people and also connects us with others. **Laughing together is great for bonding, no matter what the situation.**

A good idea to laugh as **carefree** as a child is to allow yourself to play. Play is a natural activity that promotes a lot of laughter, whether it's through video games, outdoor games, or board games. Discover what you like to play and have fun with it!

Beyond that, you can also cultivate (培养)

laugh at jokes. **Make a conscious effort** to include things, people, and events that make you laugh in your daily life. Try to see your friends more often. **Hang out with family members that are nice to be around, with whom you can have fun, laugh, and enjoy yourself.**

【主题词句背诵】

1. dozens of 十几个,几十个;许多
2. purely *adv.* 完全;仅仅
3. contribute to 促成,导致;有助于
4. at ease 心情放松,安逸,舒适
5. bond *v.* 增强关系,建立纽带
6. carefree *adj.* 无忧无虑的
7. make a conscious effort 有意识地努力
8. hang out 闲逛
9. And it contributes to the release of hormones and neurotransmitters, **which is good for our health:** if we are laughing, it means that all is well. 它有助于激素和神经递质的释放,这对我们的健康有好处;如果我们笑,这意味着一切都很好。
10. Laughing together is great for bonding, **no matter what the situation.** 无论在什么情况下,一起笑都有助于增进感情。
11. Hang out with family members that are nice to be around, **with whom you can have fun,**

02

夯实语言基础，搭建知识框架

词汇点睛

1. pretend *vi. & vt.* 假装,装作
(教材 P6) when someone **pretends** to be someone else

当有人假装成别人时

pretend to be + *n./adj.* 假装是……
pretend to do/to be doing/to have done...
假装做/正在做/做过……
pretend that... 假装……

【活学活用】

(1) 单句填空

- ① The secretary pretended _____ (read) an important document when the boss came in.
- ② He pretended _____ (forget) the misunderstanding between them on that night, but he couldn't make it.

句型透视

(教材 P7) **Laughter makes you ten years younger.** 大笑可以使你年轻十岁。

句型公式

make + 复合宾语(宾语 + 宾语补足语)

【句式点拨】

本句是“make + 复合宾语”的结构, you 作动词 makes 的宾语, ten years younger 作宾语 you 的补足语。

【相关拓展】

make 是一个常跟复合宾语的动词,即“make + 宾语 + 宾语补足语”,其宾补可以是名词、形容词、动词原形和过去分词。

(1) make + 宾语 + 名词。如:

Her persistent efforts **made the project a great success.**

她坚持不懈的努力使这个项目获得了巨大的成功。

课内基础巩固

❶ 单词拼写(每小题1分,共6分)

1. A good _____ (喜剧片) not only entertains but also brings people closer together.
2. As the _____ (情节) unfolds, we see the girl's hidden **potential** gradually emerge in the face of challenges.
3. She stood up too fast after sitting for hours and suddenly felt _____ (头晕目眩的).
4. We should pay attention to the quality of the food to ensure our physical _____ (健康).
5. Regular workshops aim to _____ (增强) **referees'** understanding of the latest rule changes.
6. She can **imitate** the British a _____ so

6. Regular exercise is of vital _____ (significant) for maintaining good physical and mental health.
7. His _____ (anxious) increased as he waited for the results of the medical test.
8. The government is promoting energy-saving measures to reduce the _____ (consume) of electricity and gas.
9. She gave a _____ (confuse) look when her friend suddenly changed the topic in the middle of the conversation.
10. Don't **pretend** _____ (know) everything; it's acceptable to ask questions.
11. The **referee** believes that this young athlete has the **potential** _____ (become)

课后素养提升

❷ 语法填空(每小题1.5分,共15分)

[2026·北京市丰台区高二期末]

A

Most weekends after chores, I walk the hillside with my neighbour Joy to watch fresh snow. It's 1. _____ (peace), especially when snowflakes swirl slowly. Joy loves catching snow crystals and tracing deer prints. When Joy runs ahead, I hear her gloves brushing softly against the snow. I sometimes shout for her to come back, worried that she might get someone 2. _____ (knock) over. The truth, though, is 3. _____ could be guessed—there's never anyone else here. Just me, Joy, and the beautiful white hill.

B

early: learn to steer AI tools instead of competing with them, and train for roles 9. _____ need on-site care, quick judgement or fresh ideas. These steps help us plan 10. _____ care. After all, our future should not be lost to machines.

❸ 阅读理解(每小题2分,共6分)

What's so funny?

In 1990, during a performance of my stage play, I kept focusing myself on one particular member of the audience. While everybody else laughed, there she sat, staring at the floor, with her fingers in her ears. I'll never forget her look of discomfort. That woman was my mother. I wish I could say her reaction that evening was an incident, but it was one of many I remember when I was first starting out as a

❶ 阅读表达(第1、2题各2分,第3题3分,第4题5分,共12分)

[2026·北京市八一学校高二月考]

When people are asked what's important in their lives, they often mention humour, yet philosophers would disagree.

The first is how little they have said. The most that major philosophers like Plato, Hobbes, and Kant wrote about laughter or humour was a few paragraphs within a discussion of another topic. Martian anthropologists (人类学家) comparing the amount of philosophical writing on humour with what has been written on, say,

❷ 书面表达(共20分)

[2025·北京市顺义区高二期中]

假设你是高二学生李华,为了营造欢乐和谐的校园氛围,你校将举办校园“幽默秀”(Humour Show)活动,请给你的好友 Jim 写一封邮件,向他介绍活动情况,内容包括:

1. 介绍活动相关信息(时间、地点、内容);
 2. 希望对方参加并说明理由。
- 注意:1. 词数100左右;
2. 开头和结尾已给出,不计入总词数。

Dear Jim,

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Unit 4 HUMOUR

★ 提示：加底纹词汇为复现词汇

Period One Topic Talk

课内基础巩固

❶ 单词拼写(每小题 1 分,共 6 分)

1. A good _____ (喜剧片) not only entertains but also brings people closer together.
2. As the _____ (情节) unfolds, we see the girl's hidden **potential** gradually emerge in the face of challenges.
3. She stood up too fast after sitting for hours and suddenly felt _____ (头晕目眩的).
4. We should pay attention to the quality of the food to ensure our physical _____ (健康).
5. Regular workshops aim to _____ (增强) **referees'** understanding of the latest rule changes.
6. She can **imitate** the British a _____ so well that people often mistake her for a native speaker.

❷ 单句填空(每小题 1.5 分,共 18 分)

1. Her _____ (face) expressions clearly showed how excited she was about the good news.
2. It is a _____ (humour) attitude that helps us fight against stress in daily life greatly.
3. No sooner had the thunder crashed than the girl felt _____ (terrify) and hid herself.
4. During the English activity, their _____ (imitate) of cartoon characters' voices was very interesting.
5. He was _____ (embarrass) to realize he had worn two different shoes to school.

6. Regular exercise is of vital _____ (significant) for maintaining good physical and mental health.
7. His _____ (anxious) increased as he waited for the results of the medical test.
8. The government is promoting energy-saving measures to reduce the _____ (consume) of electricity and gas.
9. She gave a _____ (confuse) look when her friend suddenly changed the topic in the middle of the conversation.
10. Don't **pretend** _____ (know) everything; it's acceptable to ask questions.
11. The **referee** believes that this young athlete has the **potential** _____ (become) a world-class runner.
12. The performers skilfully **interacted** _____ the audience, turning the stage into a lively and engaging place.

❸ 短语填空(每小题 2 分,共 8 分)

1. It was the first time that she _____ (站起来) to answer the question bravely.
2. We should adjust our aim _____ (时不时) in order to go ahead continuously.
3. _____ (几天前), I participated in a traditional paper-cutting workshop, feeling proud of our rich cultural heritage.
4. Despite his physical discomfort, the runner _____ (继续) the marathon race and finally crossed the finish line.

Ⅶ 句型训练(每小题 3 分,共 9 分)

1. My suggestion is _____
_____ next month to help
the elderly in the community. (表语从句)
我的建议是我们下个月应该组织一次志愿
活动,去帮助社区里的老人。
2. The book _____
_____ has been very helpful in my

study. (定语从句)

你上次推荐给我的那本书对我的学习非常
有帮助。

3. When standing on the stage to deliver the
graduation speech, she was _____
her mind went blank. (so...that... 句型)
当她站在台上发表毕业演讲时,她如此紧
张,以至于脑子一片空白。

课后素养提升

Ⅶ 语法填空(每小题 1.5 分,共 15 分)

[2026·北京市丰台区高二期末]

A

Most weekends after chores, I walk the hillside with my neighbour Joy to watch fresh snow. It's 1. _____ (peace), especially when snowflakes swirl slowly. Joy loves catching snow crystals and tracing deer prints. When Joy runs ahead, I hear her gloves brushing softly against the snow. I sometimes shout for her to come back, worried that she might get someone 2. _____ (knock) over. The truth, though, is 3. _____ could be guessed—there's never anyone else here. Just me, Joy, and the beautiful white hill.

B

When was the last time a joke saved your day 4. _____ (good) than any advice? Maybe this morning a friend's funny words turned your bad mood into a smile. By the time you laughed, you 5. _____ (forget) your worry. Seeing humour is like opening a free gift. Some jokes are short, some need a second, but all can heal. Remember: problems shrink (变小) fast when laughter 6. _____ (share).

C

When 7. _____ (pick) a career, we follow passion, not fear. Yet recent data show AI 8. _____ (take) over roughly 8% of junior posts in areas like graphics, writing and coding—about 1.3 million openings gone over the past year. To stay wanted, we can act

early: learn to steer AI tools instead of competing with them, and train for roles 9. _____ need on-site care, quick judgement or fresh ideas. These steps help us plan 10. _____ care. After all, our future should not be lost to machines.

Ⅶ 阅读理解(每小题 2 分,共 6 分)

What's so funny?

In 1990, during a performance of my stage play, I kept focusing myself on one particular member of the audience. While everybody else laughed, there she sat, staring at the floor, with her fingers in her ears. I'll never forget her look of discomfort. That woman was my mother. I wish I could say her reaction that evening was an incident, but it was one of many I remember when I was first starting out as a playwright.

Although I'd established myself as a humourist, my mother never found me or my work particularly funny. We loved each other deeply, of course, but she was my hardest critic. "Is Drew really that funny?" she'd ask family members. To make matters worse, the feeling was mutual (相互的): though our social circle swore that she was funny, I never saw it. How could she be funny? My mother was supposedly very funny in her first language, Anishinaabemowin, but I didn't speak it. One of the characteristics of the language is that it is structured for maximum amusement.

For a while I was convinced I would never make her laugh. Then, in 2005, I succeeded. I

had published a book called, *Me Funny*. In it were dozens of essays deconstructing (解构) the humour in Anishinaabemowin. They cracked her up so much that she looked at me and declared, “Wow, that was funny!” I remember being relieved and very pleased.

In 2009, my mother passed away. I was in charge of planning the funeral along with two cousins. Because my mother was a shy woman, I can guarantee she would have found our group effort quite embarrassing. During the funeral, amidst the tears, family member after family member got up and recounted things she had done and said over the years. To my surprise, I found myself laughing. More and more stories about her surfaced. We laughed as we remembered her.

I couldn’t see my mother’s forest for my own trees. I wish I could have shared those laughs with her while she was alive, but I’m glad I finally made the connection.

- ()1. The author’s mother didn’t laugh when watching his play because _____.
A. she wasn’t interested in stage plays
B. she felt uncomfortable at the theatre
C. she couldn’t understand his humour
D. she had difficulty following the plot
- ()2. What finally helped the author understand his mother’s humour?
A. The release of his book.
B. The stories about his mother.
C. The audience’s feedback.
D. The social circle’s comments.
- ()3. What is the author’s purpose in writing this passage?
A. To express his sorrow.
B. To explain his humour.
C. To show his achievements.
D. To remember his mother.

📖 阅读七选五(每小题 2 分,共 10 分)

Want to make people laugh? 1. _____ Here are a few tips to keep in mind if your goal is to tickle some funny bones.

Consider your audience. Your audience,

whether it’s your parents in your living room or a paying crowd at an auditorium, must be able to connect with any situation you describe in your jokes. If they can’t relate to the joke, then it’s simply not funny to them. 2. _____ If you have to explain a joke to someone, the person might eventually understand it, but he or she probably won’t think it’s funny. This is the reason that many jokes don’t translate well into another language. They rely on an understanding of a particular culture.

3. _____ If your audience already knows (or can guess) the end of a joke before you tell it, then it’s not going to make them laugh. People laugh at the end of a joke because they’ve been told a story and led towards its ending, (unconsciously) thinking about what will happen next or how it will end. 4. _____ Surprise is part of the reason that you want to learn to tell jokes without laughing. If you laugh, then your listeners expect you to say something funny. If you tell a joke without laughing or smiling, then they’re more surprised when you get to the funny part.

Check your timing. Another important part of humour is timing, or delivering the punchline at the best possible moment. 5. _____ The reason is that this builds tension. The listener knows the end is coming and is waiting for it. When you finally tell the punchline, the listener feels a sense of relief and is more and inclined to laugh.

- A. Use surprise.
- B. Choose your jokes.
- C. Then you’ve got to know what’s funny.
- D. Make sure your jokes are often told within limited time.
- E. It’s often useful to pause before telling the last line of a joke.
- F. When we hear something that wasn’t what we were expecting, we find it funny.
- G. People love jokes that, based on their experience, make them say, “That’s so true!”

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Period Two Lesson 1 What's So Funny? (Reading)

课内基础巩固

❶ 单词拼写(每小题 1 分,共 8 分)

1. The soldier remained _____ (忠诚的) to his country until his last breath on the battlefield.
2. The warm _____ (氛围) at home comforts me after a long day.
3. After the eye _____ (外科手术), the doctor managed to restore the patient's vision to near perfect levels.
4. We _____ (尖声大叫) in excitement as our team scored the winning goal.
5. The _____ (中年的) man pretended to be busy on his phone to avoid an awkward conversation at the party.
6. _____ (后来), the family decided to adopt a healthier lifestyle by exercising daily and eating more vegetables.
7. The delivery man left the package just outside the d _____ and rang the doorbell.
8. During the financial c _____, many small companies had to cut costs to survive the difficult period.

❷ 单句填空(每小题 1.5 分,共 15 分)

1. She _____ (casual) swung her legs back and forth while sitting on the park bench, enjoying the sunny day.
2. From his _____ (innocence) expression, I could deduce that he knew nothing about the missing cookies.
3. The old bridge, damaged by years of natural erosion, is _____ (potential) at risk of collapse during heavy floods.
4. An _____ (announce) was made about a new discovery in the field of astronomy.

5. During the _____ (consult), the expert pointed out that the old vase was a rare antique from the Ming Dynasty.
6. A _____ (science) attitude includes being curious, objective and open to new ideas.
7. The teacher reminded us that _____ (examine) skills are as important as knowledge itself.
8. These traditions which deserve _____ (pass) down from generation to generation should never be ignored.
9. By studying its star formation rate, the growth of a galaxy can _____ (forecast) to understand its development.
10. If we lose our appetite _____ new things, we will gradually stop growing and fall behind the times.

❸ 短语填空(每小题 2 分,共 12 分)

1. She _____ (向上看) at the starry sky and felt amazed by the countless shining stars above her.
2. When faced with a difficult problem, she decided to _____ (求助于) her colleagues for help.
3. I won't _____ (泄露) any plots; read the review in the paper if you want to know them.
4. Thinking of his quarrel with his mother, he still _____ (感到沮丧) and hopeless at that time.
5. _____ (根据) the recent survey, anxiety levels among young adults have been on the rise.
6. Unable to believe the staggering price, the boy _____ (惊讶地又看了一眼).

Ⅳ 句型训练(每小题 3 分,共 9 分)

1. Jack _____
the power cut occurred.
杰克正在实验室工作,这时停电了。
2. Nervous and anxious, Zahra wondered _____
_____.

what she was expecting.

萨拉既紧张又焦虑,不知道哥哥带来的是不是她所期待的东西。

3. I was ashamed of _____
_____.
我为我所做的事感到羞愧。

课后素养提升

Ⅴ 完形填空(每小题 1.5 分,共 15 分)

[2024·北京市昌平区高二期末]

Bob was a bit of a couch potato, but he had a great sense of humour and loved to make his family and friends laugh.

One day, Bob 1 he wasn't getting any younger so he decided to join a health club to get in shape and 2 his family and friends.

Bob arrived at the health club with a big smile on his face, ready to show everyone what he was made of. He 3 for a membership, and then headed to the weight room.

Bob walked over to the weight bench and attempted to lift the bar. To his surprise, he couldn't even lift it! It was so 4 that it didn't budge an inch.

Feeling 5, Bob looked around to see if anyone was watching him. 6, his family and friends had all decided to come to the health club that day to cheer him on. Bob's wife, children, and friends were all gathered around the weight bench, watching him 7 to lift the bar. His wife smiled and said, "I thought you said you were in shape!"

Bob looked at her and replied, "I AM in shape! Round is a shape, right?"

Everyone burst out laughing, and Bob's embarrassment quickly turned into a 8. He continued to work out at the health club, but he never took himself too seriously. He knew the most important thing was to have fun and enjoy the process of getting healthier.

In the end, Bob did get in shape, and his family and friends were proud of him, but they

were even prouder of his ability to make them 9 and bring joy into their lives, even during his most 10 moments.

- ()1. A. admitted B. realized
C. imagined D. predicted
- ()2. A. ignore B. comfort
C. annoy D. impress
- ()3. A. made up B. looked up
C. signed up D. stayed up
- ()4. A. heavy B. smooth
C. huge D. cold
- ()5. A. astonished B. embarrassed
C. depressed D. confused
- ()6. A. Finally B. Suddenly
C. Unfortunately D. Usually
- ()7. A. struggle B. pretend
C. offer D. hesitate
- ()8. A. trap B. burden
C. magic D. joke
- ()9. A. forget B. argue
C. laugh D. panic
- ()10. A. pleasant B. awkward
C. urgent D. lucky

Ⅵ 语法填空(每小题 1.5 分,共 15 分)

[2024·北京市丰台区高二期末]

A

Gather together a couple of good friends and take a leisurely walk through the streets—this is 1. _____ many youngsters in China enjoy doing when they visit a new city. This is called Citywalk, a new way for young people to interact with a city and make friends. The trend is spreading from first-tier cities such as Beijing and Shanghai to second and third-tier

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cities, 2. _____ (encourage) more participants to get involved. Some cities have included Citywalk in their plans 3. _____ (promote) cultural tourism and leisure tours.

B

Over the past several decades, many different benefits of humour 4. _____ (explore). Few people know that humour plays an important role in social interactions with peers, and 5. _____ (ultimate) in school success. School entry is the time 6. _____ parents fade into the background and social interaction with peers becomes increasingly important. The use of humour that is socially acceptable leads to a lower likelihood of being looked down on, while overusing self-disparaging (自贬的) humour leads to a 7. _____ (high) likelihood of being looked down on.

C

Go to kindergarten, elementary school, high school, and finally, college. Most American kids 8. _____ (expect) by their parents to get an education and have a good life. For Tara Westover, the outlook was quite different. 9. _____ (raise) in a poor family in Idaho, Tara was not allowed to have a proper education. Her father kept her out of school, wanting her to stay at home and help with the family's work. How did Tara fight 10. _____ the right to get educated? Find the answer in the bestseller *Educated*.

Ⅶ 阅读七选五 (每小题 2 分, 共 10 分)

[2025 · 北京市顺义区高二期末]

“But I’m just not funny!” Many people feel this way, and maybe you’ve felt it too. 1. _____ It helps us cope and tap into inner resources like resilience (恢复力). It can also improve thinking and learning. Most importantly, humour builds stronger friendships when used kindly. The best part? Humour isn’t a natural talent—it’s a skill anyone can learn. Below are practical ways to develop this skill.

Start by observing others’ humour. 2. _____

Be a humour sponge (海绵). Websites, TV shows, and funny friends are all great resources. Watch how your funny friends do it. Praise your funny friends by retelling and revisiting their funny stuff. You can spread joy by simply noticing and sharing good humour.

While prepared jokes work, most humour is organic, occurring naturally in daily life. Take a moment and think about all the funny things pets, kids, and especially adults do by accident. Likely you have some embarrassing stories that, with the passage of time, have become flat-out funny. Not long ago, I thought a thief was breaking into my house, but it was just a wild turkey attacking its reflection in a glass door. 3. _____

Natural humour is common, but you can take it to the next level with “humour habits”. One effective way to enhance your sense of humour is to keep a humour journal. 4. _____ Then reflect on how they made you feel. This simple practice helps you appreciate the humour around you and can boost your mood. The more you focus on humour, the more you’ll notice it in your daily life and enjoy it.

Just as journaling can sharpen your humour skills, so can purposely building your humour identity. Visualize yourself overflowing with funny ideas, using them to spread laughter, joy, and ease. 5. _____ Good humour is a generative gift: the more you share, the more you are likely to receive.

- A. Listen to their jokes, laugh, and learn.
- B. However, humour holds surprising power.
- C. It’s always a good idea to know your audience.
- D. At the end of each day, write down the funniest moments.
- E. As you deepen your skills, your “humour energy” will energize others.
- F. Yet studies show hurtful humour actually reduces people’s sense of happiness.
- G. So let’s share and celebrate the light-hearted moments that unfold in everyday life.

Period Three Lesson 2 Why Do We Need Humour?

课内基础巩固

❶ 单词拼写(每小题 1 分,共 5 分)

1. Actually, the new policy has a _____
(影响深远的) impact on the **well-being** of all citizens.
2. The new training method could **potentially** _____
(使充满活力) the entire team and boost their performance.
3. When you're under stress, both your _____
(免疫的) system and **appetite** can be negatively affected.
4. She **innocently** asked the question, not realizing it would make him _____
(脸红).
5. Proper warm-up exercises can prevent m_____ injuries before you are playing any intense sports.

❷ 单句填空(每小题 1.5 分,共 9 分)

1. The _____ (psychology) experiment involved observing how people react under **anxiety**.
2. The _____ (tense) before the performance was broken when the actor made a funny mistake on stage.
3. "Scoring an own goal" in football means _____ (accidental) kicking or heading the ball into one's own net.
4. The **middle-aged** man tried to hide his _____ (embarrass) by **casually** changing the topic.
5. After the **surgery**, the patient was at risk of _____ (infect), so the doctor carefully **examined** the wound every day.
6. She whispered _____ her best friend about the surprise party plans during lunch break.

❸ 短语填空(每小题 2 分,共 10 分)

1. Proper time management can _____
(对……有积极的影响) productivity.
2. To avoid making things worse, never **announce** any important decisions while you are _____
(心情不好).
3. How greatly children _____
(从……中受益) contact with nature for their physical and mental **well-being**!
4. She felt hurt when her colleagues made remarks about her fashion sense _____
(嘲笑她) in the office.
5. The child's **scream** _____
(引起了我的注意), and I rushed to the **doorway** to see what happened.

❹ 句型训练(每小题 3 分,共 12 分)

1. _____ the air around me had frozen, too scared to breathe or move an inch. (as if)
我感觉周围的空气仿佛凝固了,吓得不敢呼吸,也不敢动一下。
2. The trip to the mountain village last summer was unforgettable, _____
_____. (定语从句)
去年夏天去山村的旅行令人难忘,它让我们体验了当地文化,欣赏了美丽的风景。
3. Please choose to be positive _____
_____.
即使你正承受着压力,也请选择保持积极的心态。
4. The most important thing is _____
_____.
(表语从句)
最重要的事情是你应该尽你最大的努力去帮助那些需要帮助的人。

Ⅶ 阅读理解(每小题 2 分,共 14 分)

A [2025·北京市延庆区高二期末]

Dr Wiseman started “the laugh lab” project in September. It is the largest study of humour. Participants are invited to log on to the laugh lab website, give a few personal details, tell their favourite jokes and judge the jokes told by other people.

The project will last for a year, and the organisers hope to finally discover the world’s funniest joke. But there is also a serious purpose. The researchers want to know what people from different nations and cultures find funny. And they want to find out the differences between the male and female sense of humour. The idea is that if we want to understand each other, we have to find out what makes us laugh.

This is a subject that has long attracted psychologists and philosophers. Most of the time, people are not completely honest. We do things that society expects us to and say things that help us get what we want. But laughing cannot be controlled. When we laugh, we tell the truth about ourselves. By December over 10,000 jokes had been submitted (递交). This gave the scientists enough evidence to make early conclusions. It seems that men and women do have different senses of humour, for instance.

“Our findings show the major differences in the ways in which males and females use humour,” said Dr Wiseman. “Males use humour to appear superior to others, while women are more skilled in languages and prefer wordplay.”

Researchers also found that there really is such a thing as a national sense of humour. The British enjoy what is usually called “toilet humour”.

But the French like their jokes short and sharp: “You’re a high priced lawyer. Will you answer two questions for \$ 500?” “Yes. What’s the second question?” The Germans are famous for not having a sense of humour. But the survey found that German participants were more likely to find submitted jokes funny than any other nationality. Perhaps that proves the point. Is this joke funny? I don’t know, but let’s say yes, just to be safe.

Dr Wiseman and his workmates also submitted jokes created by computers. But none of those who took part in the survey found any of them amusing. Perhaps this is relief. Computers already seem like they can do everything. At least they should leave the funny stuff to us.

() 1. The purpose of “the laugh lab” project is _____.

- A. to find the funniest joke in European countries
- B. to get more personal details about participants
- C. to know what funny people are like from different nations and cultures
- D. to find out the differences between the male and female sense of humour

() 2. We can infer from the passage that _____.

- A. most of the people all over the world are completely honest
- B. scientists have collected enough evidence to make final conclusions
- C. men and women have similar senses of humour
- D. jokes created by computers are less amusing to people

- ()3. What is the best title for the passage?
- A. Funny or not?
B. Laugh louder!
C. Men laugh better
D. Watch out for the trap in jokes!

B

When we think about what makes humans unique, a good sense of humour is often high on the list. Laughter and playful teasing seem like traits only we possess. However, recent research suggests that animals—particularly great apes—may also engage in behaviour that resembles humour.

A study led by primatologist (灵长类动物学家) Isabelle Laumer at the Max Planck Institute reveals fascinating insights. “We documented young apes deliberately sneaking up to hit adults, then waiting expectantly for a reaction,” Laumer explains. “This isn’t random play—it meets all the criteria of intentional teasing.” Over 75 hours of video recordings showed this behaviour mirrors how human children joke: repetitive, surprising, and aimed at seeking responses. The researchers noted that the apes even paused to watch for the adult’s reaction, much like a child waiting to see if their joke landed.

But humour in animals may not be limited to apes. Dog owners often notice their pets making breathy, snorting sounds during play, which some scientists interpret as laughter. In a 2025 study, researchers found that playing these sounds to shelter dogs reduced their stress levels. Similarly, dolphins emit joyful sounds during play-fighting, elephants trumpet excitedly when playing, and some parrots tease other animals—like confusing dogs with whistles—just for fun.

Why might animals exhibit humour? In humans, laughter strengthens social connections and eases tension. Scientists argue that playful teasing in apes or “laughter” in dogs could serve a similar purpose—breaking the ice and reinforcing relationships. Some researchers believe these behaviours may have evolved (进化) to help animals manage complex social ranks or reduce conflict. However, Laumer cautions that more research is needed to confirm this theory, as observing humour in animals remains challenging.

While we may never know if animals understand punchlines, their behaviours hint at humour’s deep evolutionary roots. As Laumer reflects: “The line between human and animal laughter isn’t as sharp as we thought.”

- ()4. What did Laumer’s study find about young apes?
- A. They enjoy teasing others.
B. They often fight in groups.
C. They seek adult protection.
D. They learn from human kids.
- ()5. What does the underlined word “trumpet” in Paragraph 3 mean?
- A. Wag. B. Smile.
C. Nod. D. Shout.
- ()6. Why might animals show humour?
- A. To improve social status.
B. To strengthen social bonds.
C. To win in complex conflicts.
D. To get much more pleasure.
- ()7. What can be a suitable title for the text?
- A. Animal social behaviours
B. Do animals copy our laughs?
C. Animals play tricks too
D. Why animals understand humour?

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Period Four Lesson 3 My Favourite Comedian (Reading)

课内基础巩固

❶ 单词拼写(每小题 1 分,共 6 分)

1. The brilliant student won a large _____ (奖学金), which would cover the **expense** of his study in the university.
2. The movie's **plot** was _____ (大部分) predictable, but the ending shocked everyone.
3. Although he _____ (获得) a great **reputation**, he chose to retire from public life to enjoy peace.
4. In some cultures, it's considered rude to _____ (咀嚼) with your mouth open at the table.
5. She looked at herself in the m_____, practising her **facial** expressions for the upcoming **cross talk** performance.
6. The scientist e_____ many difficulties in his research, but his determination **energised** him to keep going.

❷ 单句填空(每小题 1.5 分,共 15 分)

1. This _____ (create) attracted a lot of attention thanks to its mixture of modern and traditional Chinese elements.
2. The decision to study **astronomy** was _____ (pure) based on his passion for exploring the universe.
3. She was _____ (astonish) to see her old friend at the coffee shop, whom she hadn't seen for years.
4. The _____ (amuse) **comedian** made the audience laugh continuously throughout the show.
5. Everyone knows that success _____ (rare) happens overnight.
6. The problem of climate change is a _____ (universe) concern, requiring global cooperation to solve.

7. I was appreciative of having a _____ (rely) teammate who contributed significantly to our group assignment.
8. Never can a _____ (talent) person succeed without continuous practice and determination.
9. The _____ (nation) basketball team won the championship, bringing wild joy to fans across the country.
10. The scientists were convinced _____ the **potential** benefits of the new drug for treating **blood vessel** diseases.

❸ 短语填空(每小题 2 分,共 10 分)

1. The **forecast** said it would be sunny, but _____ (正相反), dark clouds gathered and it started to rain.
2. The other members of my team _____ (试图安慰) me, but I barely heard their words.
3. She waited for the result _____ (担心地) while walking back and forth restlessly.
4. What a successful team needs is to _____ (依赖) each other's strengths.
5. He _____ (忙着准备) the **cross talk** performance and he practised again and again.

❹ 句型训练(每小题 3 分,共 9 分)

1. _____ carried him through the dark moments in his life. (强调句)
正是他勇敢的心和坚定的信念,支撑他度过了人生中的黑暗时刻。
2. She looked at me _____.
她看着我的样子,好像以前从未见过我。

3. _____, he
just stood there, frightened to death. (分词

作状语)
一走进房间,他站在那里,吓坏了。

课后素养提升

Ⅴ 完形填空(每小题 1.5 分,共 15 分)

[2025·北京市顺义区牛栏山第一中学高二月考]

For years, Vince Rozmiarek has been the man behind the jokes at Indian Hills Community Centre, sharing his funny puns on the regular-changing roadside sign (公路指示牌).

Seven years ago, he 1 the job to build a new sign for announcements when he started volunteering at the community centre. He found himself with a lot of free time and had no idea how to use it, so he figured this little side job would keep him 2. At first, he took things 3, but when April Fool's Day came around, he found the perfect 4 to have some fun.

He used the roadside sign to make one-liner jokes, and it received a great response from the locals. Realizing that his humour was appreciated, Vince decided to make his jokes more of a 5 thing. He looked through books to find great things to write, in hopes of getting a good 6 out of people passing by the small town of Indian Hills.

In 2015, the members of the Community of Indian Hills decided to bring his jokes and puns to social media. A Facebook page was specially created, and pictures of his roadside signs got 7 a couple of times per week to the page, which now has more than 84,000 8. Each post got thousands of shares and hundreds of people commenting their favourite puns, one of whom wrote, "You always 9 my day! Thanks for the smiles."

Although Vince never thought what he did

would go 10 on social media, he is glad he is able to make so many people smile with his roadside sign posts.

- ()1. A. took over B. took up
C. brought about D. brought in
()2. A. organized B. content
C. occupied D. entertained
()3. A. responsibly B. randomly
C. personally D. seriously
()4. A. stage B. mission
C. opportunity D. platform
()5. A. regular B. moral
C. creative D. selective
()6. A. reputation B. deal
C. review D. laugh
()7. A. edited B. printed
C. uploaded D. downloaded
()8. A. customers B. followers
C. volunteers D. sponsors
()9. A. make B. ruin
C. admit D. save
()10. A. global B. viral
C. crazy D. numb

Ⅵ 语法填空(每小题 1.5 分,共 15 分)

A

The island of Alicudi, which is to the north of Sicily, has too many goats and it's searching 1. _____ people to adopt them. 2. _____ if you want one you will have to catch it yourself. The number of goats on Alicudi 3. _____ (increase) significantly in the last few years and they've been causing problems. People have said that the animals have been breaking walls, damaging gardens and even going into homes.

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B

The tiny pup, called “Roo”, lost her front legs and had to jump on her hind legs for mobility. So, the Steel Eagles Robotics Team put their mind to work and began building a wheelchair, 4. _____ gave Roo two wheels in place of her front legs. In October 2023, Roo 5. _____ (fit) with her first wheelchair by the team, which used a 3D printer. And their goal is 6. _____ (give) back to the community and do things that are actually helpful to the community.

C

Humour is a balancing act and BrainPOP, an educational platform, can help teachers create an appropriate balance because the 7. _____ (learn) activities support any course in a dynamic and kid-friendly way. Julie Kuzma from a public school expresses 8. _____ (recognize). She appreciates that humour is a significant content principle BrainPOP employs. She also emphasizes that humour in the classroom is not about making jokes but about 9. _____ you make students feel a certain way. In her experience, humour builds trust and makes students feel connected and 10. _____ (see).

Ⅷ 阅读七选五(每小题 2 分,共 10 分)

[2024·北京海淀高二期末]

The benefits of making fun of yourself

Being able to laugh at yourself isn’t always easy. However, making light of your weaknesses and life challenges can have a number of benefits. While it might sound surprising, being able to make fun of yourself can be good for your self-esteem (自尊). 1. _____

Making fun of yourself is a form of self-critical humour, which can involve being too modest, or even laughing at yourself humorously. 2. _____ However, research suggests they

tend to be more self-confident. When this type of humour is used to maintain a positive attitude in difficult situations, it can help enhance well-being and self-esteem.

3. _____ Making fun of yourself may help make you more likable and build stronger relationships with others. Interestingly, research suggests that both men and women think that being able to make fun of yourself is an attractive trait, despite differences in their ways of using humour.

Laughter has been shown to have a number of stress-fighting benefits. 4. _____ When you view situations as threats, stress levels increase. Shifting to a mindset that allows you to see these situations as challenges can transform this into what is known as “good stress” that helps you feel more empowered.

Making fun of yourself can have some benefits, but it’s important not to take things too far. If making fun of yourself starts negatively impacting your mental health or well-being, it’s time to take a step back. 5. _____ If you embrace your weaknesses and imperfections to a reasonable degree, you will feel happier and improve your relationships and overall well-being.

- A. Find a balance that works for you.
- B. Laughing at yourself helps accept yourself.
- C. People are more drawn to others who can laugh at themselves.
- D. Being able to laugh at yourself can relieve stress by changing your view.
- E. Making fun of yourself in difficult situations can reduce your stress greatly.
- F. People with such a sense of humour are sometimes regarded as having low self-esteem.
- G. It might even improve your relationships and help you face challenges more effectively.

Period Five Grammar

课内基础巩固

语法专练——进行时

❶ 单句填空(每小题 1.5 分,共 15 分)

1. We _____ (struggle) for days, but things on Elephant Island are going from bad to worse.
2. Until the last moment of his life, Lin Junde _____ (organize) scientific materials.
3. Ladies and gentlemen, I _____ (update) you on the current news at BBC Channel 4 at 7:00 pm tomorrow.
4. Given these cultural differences, Canada _____ (celebrate) Multiculturalism Day every year since 2002.
5. I _____ (sign) an organ donation agreement this time tomorrow.
6. I _____ (play) ping-pong all morning, so I'm sweating buckets.
7. By the time the owner arrived, the house _____ (burn) for an hour and was still on fire.
8. At this time tomorrow, she _____ (make) a speech at a convention in Denmark.

9. In the past week, I _____ (learn) to play the guitar, but I am still unable to play a full song so far.

10. They _____ (search) the area for three days and two nights, but haven't found anybody.

❷ 语法 + 写作(每小题 3 分,共 12 分)

1. I'm afraid I can't go shopping with you this Sunday afternoon because _____.

我恐怕这个星期日下午不能和你一起去购物了,因为那时我正在参加讲座。

2. People _____ through art for thousands of years.

数千年来人们一直在通过艺术表达自己的思想和理念。

3. She _____ and was very tired.

她一整天都在工作,非常累。

4. The organization _____.

该组织一直在采取各种措施来拯救濒危动植物。

课后素养提升

❸ 阅读理解(每小题 2 分,共 16 分)

A

Politicians often use humour to win public support, but scientists traditionally avoid jokes, worried that a lighthearted tone might reduce their authority and, consequently, the trustworthiness of their findings. A new study challenges this idea, showing that well-chosen humour can actually make scientists more likeable and their

research more trustworthy.

Led by Alexandra Lynn Frank from the University of Georgia, the research tested humour's role in science communication through social media. The team created posts from a fictional scientist, Dr Jamie Devon, sharing cartoons about artificial intelligence (AI). These posts used three humour styles: playful comparisons (like giving robots human characteristics),

mean jokes about technology, or a mix of both. Some posts had no humour as a comparison.

Over 2,200 participants viewed these posts in an online experiment. They rated how funny the content was, how much they liked the scientist, and how credible the information seemed. Results revealed that light, positive humour—such as showing AI as a curious robot asking questions—made the scientist feel more approachable and the research more reliable. However, mean or unfriendly jokes reduced trust in the scientist.

“Humour helps people connect with scientists,” Frank explained. “When we laugh, we’re more open to listening.” But she stressed that jokes must feel natural, adding, “If the audience doesn’t find it funny, it could backfire.” For example, playful cartoons worked better than making fun of tech failures.

The study advises scientists to avoid tough jokes targeting individuals. Instead, gentle humour that simplifies complex ideas—like comparing climate change to the Earth having a “fever”—can build interest and fight misinformation. While focused on AI, these tips apply to fields like health or environmental science.

In today’s fast-paced digital world, humour could help scientists stand out on social media. Funny posts may attract more viewers, make tough topics easier to understand, and build public trust. The key is balancing fun with facts: lighthearted jokes don’t weaken authority but create friendly, memorable connections.

Frank’s team hopes their findings encourage scientists to experiment with humour. As one participant noted, “A scientist who jokes feels more human—like someone I’d trust.”

- () 1. Why do the scientists avoid using jokes in their communication?
- A. Because they think that using jokes wastes research time.

- B. Because they are afraid that jokes might confuse the public.
- C. Because they fear that jokes could make their work appear unreliable.
- D. Because they are worried that jokes might distract people from scientific facts.

- () 2. What does the underlined word “backfire” in Paragraph 4 probably mean?
- A. Be effective.
- B. Make people laugh.
- C. Be natural.
- D. Have the opposite result.
- () 3. According to the study, what kind of humour is recommended for scientists?
- A. Jokes that target individuals.
- B. Playful comparisons and gentle jokes.
- C. Making fun of technology failures.
- D. Using complex ideas to create humour.
- () 4. What can be learned from the participant’s comment in Frank’s team’s study?
- A. The audience should trust what scientists say.
- B. Lighthearted jokes make the posts easier to memorize.
- C. Frank’s team has succeeded in creating a relaxed academic atmosphere.
- D. Experiments with appropriate funniness actually gain greater acceptance.

B

Comedy and psychology

Earlier this year I did a part-time comedy course. The class was taught by Ryan, a professional comedian. I had performed a show, which wasn’t originally meant to be a comedy. However, the audience laughed at my first joke, and then continued to laugh throughout the routines that were meant to be serious. So it was the audience who told me I was funny, but I didn’t understand why or how to control the comic moments. So, I joined the course to learn.

“Turn off your editor that makes you say the right thing and remember how to be a child,” explained Ryan. “Don’t try to be clever. Don’t try too hard to be funny...and knowing all about the theory of humour is unlikely to help you much. Just behave in a silly way. That’s what people want to see on stage.”

I’d say that understanding the psychology of humour has actually helped. Recently I came across the book *Inside Jokes: Using Humour to Reverse-Engineer the Mind*. Its main idea is that any self-directed intelligent system will need to correct its own fault. There’s a risk that the occasional error will be made. If this was boring or burdensome, we’d be less willing to do it. However, evolution has made the process fun.

Here’s a joke in the book: two fish are in a tank. One says to the other, “Do you know how to drive this thing?” It works on the principle that we have started to imagine one thing—that the tank is the typical container people keep fish in—and, just in time, the following words tell us that our first assumption was wrong—it’s a heavy vehicle. For correctly figuring out the error, we are rewarded with a pleasurable feeling. The joke is an efficient way of encouraging this natural reaction, and comedians have become experts in slightly touching this mental funny-bone in order to make us laugh.

Ryan was right when he said that knowing the theory of humour wouldn’t help us that much as a comedy. During one exercise in the course, four of us were told to perform an opera. Susan and Caroline sang earnestly on either side of the stage, and I brought Henry to the floor, where we wrestled (摔跤) each other like out-of-control teenagers. The rest of the group was in uncontrollable fits of laughter. As

a performer, I’ll never appreciate just why it seemed so funny. But the point is that I would never have written this on the paper. It was a joyous, found moment.

- () 5. Why did the author attend the comedy course?
- A. He wanted to see how the theories worked in practice.
 - B. He discovered he had some natural ability in comedy.
 - C. He worried about how other performers would find him.
 - D. He got unpleasant experiences when performing a comedy.
- () 6. Ryan required the people on the comedy course to _____.
- A. copy their favourite performance
 - B. imagine other people’s reactions
 - C. help themselves feel comfortable
 - D. behave in a more playful manner
- () 7. What is the purpose of the joke mentioned in Paragraph 4?
- A. To discuss what humour brings about exactly.
 - B. To give an example of another kind of humour.
 - C. To prove the point about psychology of humour.
 - D. To show why some people are funnier than others.
- () 8. What view does the author put forward in the end?
- A. Visual humour is what appeals to people most.
 - B. What people find funny is often unpredictable.
 - C. Theories explaining humour tend to be mistaken.
 - D. Learning comic skills proves to be a difficult task.

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