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Loving family

Vocabulary and collocations

- 1 Complete the following sentences with the proper form of the words given in the box.

rehearse	switch	emotional	recall	relieved
encouragement	press	bury	longingly	intelligent

- 1 Her father's kind words gave her the _____ to keep going.
- 2 I often _____ the joyful moments we spent together during family holidays and celebrations.
- 3 After finishing the difficult exam, he felt _____ and hopeful about the results.
- 4 He stared _____ at the photo of his family, wishing they were together.
- 5 She _____ her brother to join the family dinner despite his busy schedule.
- 6 Music has the power to evoke deep _____ responses in people.
- 7 My sister is a(n) _____ student who always finds creative solutions to difficult problems.
- 8 The family gathered in the living room to help the children _____ for the school play.

- 9 She tried to _____ her sadness by focusing on the happy memories of her family.
- 10 She decided to _____ her major from biology to psychology after discovering her true passion.

2 Choose the suitable definition for the underlined word in each sentence.

- 1 We heard a faint noise slowly coming from the room.
A. feeling that you are going to become unconscious
B. not strong or clear
- 2 Despite his small frame, he carried the heavy box without any difficulty.
A. the general shape formed by the bones of sb.'s body
B. the structure or main supporting parts of a piece of vehicle or other objects
- 3 She wrote a detailed entry in her journal about the family trip to the beach.
A. an act of going into or getting into a place
B. a piece of writing in a diary or a book containing information such as a dictionary
- 4 Going back home stirred a lot of childhood memories in him.
A. to make sb. have a strong feeling or reaction
B. to make sth. move slightly
- 5 While opportunities are limited, his hunger for learning is intense.
A. a strong need or desire for sth.
B. lack of food, esp. for a long period of time, that can cause illness or death
- 6 Her parents remind her to cherish family values and traditions passed down for generations.
A. to keep sth. pleasant in your mind for a long time
B. to think that sth. is very important and to wish to keep it
- 7 The sudden noise triggered a chain reaction of panic in the crowded room.
A. to make a machine or piece of equipment start to work
B. to make sth. happen
- 8 Some students realized they had forgotten to erase the incorrect answers on the answer sheets.
A. to remove writing from paper
B. to destroy sth. completely

3 Complete the following sentences with suitable collocations from the box. Make changes where necessary. Sometimes, more than one collocation is possible.

Verbs that often go before discomfort / longing				
discomfort	feel	express	cause	avoid
longing	nurture	have	supress	feel
Adjectives that often go after terribly / reassuringly				
terribly	sorry	interested	wrong	cold
reassuringly	calm	steady	familiar	simple
Nouns that often go after deliver / taste				
deliver	line	speech	result	judgment
taste	moment	success	failure	freedom

- 1 It is almost impossible to _____ without tasting failure once in your life.
- 2 In winter, the weather is _____, so we always need to put on extra layers to stay warm.
- 3 He began to _____ as the dark clouds gathered over the horizon.
- 4 The smell of freshly baked bread was _____.
- 5 They _____ a great _____ to hear their son's voice again.
- 6 The teacher asked each student to _____ about their favorite book.
- 7 They _____ their deep _____ about the lack of security arrangements for the event.
- 8 Her voice was _____, putting everyone at ease.
- 9 She was _____ in the mysterious book she found at the library.
- 10 Despite his efforts to _____ his _____ for freedom, the desire grew stronger with each passing day.

4 Choose the best word to complete each sentence.

- 1 The villagers _____ against the construction project, fearing it would harm the environment.
- A. protested B. opposed
- C. disagreed D. differed

it was 2) _____ with laughter, love, and care. My parents worked hard to create a safe and happy 3) _____ for us.

I still remember one particular summer when my father spent weeks 4) _____ building a treehouse for my brother and me. It wasn't perfect – some planks were uneven, and the paint was a little 5) _____ – but to us, it was the most magical place in the world. My mother would often bring us snacks, and she always smiled 6) _____ as she watched us play. There were tough times, too. I 7) _____ one winter when my brother fell ill. My parents stayed by his side day and night, taking care of him. It was 8) _____ like these that made me truly understand the strength of family love.

Now, as an adult, I often find myself 9) _____ on those precious days, especially when facing challenges or doubts. The memories of my childhood always 10) _____ my heart and remind me to cherish the love of my parents.

Grammar and structure

- 1 Scan the QR code in Grammar and structure in the Student's Book to learn about present participles used as adverbials. Then translate the Chinese sentences into English according to what you have learned.

1 这只狗跟着它的主人进了房间。

2 她微笑着走进了教室，吸引了所有学生的注意力。

3 男孩站在窗边，看着外面的风景。

4 我想在家里多待一周，享受和家人在一起的时光。

5 我们转过身，看见一位老人正在向公园走去。

6 到达火车站时，他发现火车已经开了。

2 Read the following tips and translate the English sentences into Chinese.

部分否定

代词或副词（如 all、every、both、everybody、everyone、many、everything、always、often、completely、quite 等）与 not 搭配使用时，表示部分否定，意为“并非都是”“不是每个都是”“不完全”等。例如：

[1] Not everyone can be a princess, but there is no shame in that. (Para. 9, iExplore 1)

不是所有人都能成为公主，但这没什么可羞愧的。

[2] She is not completely wrong.

她也不是完全错误。

如果以上两句话要表达全部否定，则应该写为：

[1] Nobody can be a princess ...

[2] She is not wrong at all.

1 I don't agree with everything you said in the meeting yesterday.

2 Not all of the dishes at the restaurant were delicious.

3 Not all students in our class like playing basketball.

4 The good and the beautiful don't always go together.

5 She isn't entirely convinced by the argument presented in the debate.

6 Not everyone enjoys spicy food, especially during hot summer days.

3 Read the following tips and complete the sentences by translating the Chinese in brackets into English.

表语前置的倒装句

在英语句子中，如果谓语提到主语前面，则句子为倒装语序，即：

正常语序：主语 + 谓语 + 表语

倒装语序：表语（或其他成分）+ 谓语 + 主语

例如，... somewhere in these albums was a photo of her he hoped to rediscover (Para. 2, iExplore 2) 是一个倒装结构，其正常语序应该为 a photo of her he hoped to rediscover was somewhere in these albums。在这个倒装结构中，作表语的 somewhere in these albums 被前置了，这是因为主语 a photo of her he hoped to rediscover 较长，将表语前置可以让句子前后更加平衡。

倒装句可用于书面表达或正式场合，以增强句子优美感和节奏感。例如：

“Gone are the days when a cycle trip in the city with our childhood friends was the best adventure we used to have.”。在这句话中，表语 gone 前置，倒装的目的是突出 gone 这一状态。

表语前置的形式包含多种，如形容词短语作表语前置、分词短语作表语前置和介词短语作表语前置等。例如：

[1] Important to the project are teamwork and communication.

[2] Hidden in the forest was a small cottage with a wooden roof.

[3] In the middle of the park is a beautiful fountain surrounded by flowers.

1 Happy are _____ (知足者).

2 _____ (在桌子上的) were my keys and a notebook.

- 3 _____ (和我们的健康密切相关的) are our diet and exercise frequency.
- 4 _____ (坐在地上的) were a group of children playing guitars.
- 5 _____ (在它旁边的) is another restaurant where we can taste Chinese food.

Reading

Section 1

Read the passage with seven statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once.

- A “Whose turn is it to pick the movie?”
- B That is how we usually start Friday nights in our family. We order pizza, settle in, and watch movies about superheroes, talking dogs, or singing princesses. It’s not fancy or elaborate, but it is an excellent bonding activity for my family.
- C Family bonding is the simple act of spending time together. The event can be daily, weekly, or even monthly, depending on the family structure. What’s important is that the family can enjoy each other’s company, get to know one another on a deeper level, and feel that special bond.
- D Our world is a busy, hectic (繁忙的) place. It’s far too easy for parents and children to fill their lives with activities that alienate them from one another. A family bonding routine ensures parents take time away from work to spend with each other and their kids. Even if it can only be scheduled once per week, family bonding time is essential for keeping and developing relationships as families grow.

- E** The time spent together reminds children they're valued members of the family. The simple act of realizing parents place the utmost importance on family bonding time shows children they're worthy of consideration and love. The memories created during those activities are something a kid takes with them throughout their life. There have been studies that show family bonding has positive long-term effects on mental health. Children who bond with their parents and siblings have even been shown to have increased brain development as infants.
- F** A regular family bonding activity is the time to watch the communication between each family member flourish. The interaction doesn't have to be intense. It may not be the time to talk about grades or the meaning of life, though these are important subjects. Something as simple as asking if your children's favorite ice cream flavor has changed can lead to a meaningful and memorable exchange. When your children know that you care about the little things, they will be more likely to talk to you about the big things.
- G** My family has movie nights once per week. We also seek special events every month. We may go to a baseball game, a museum, or mini-golf. The activity is less important than the fact that we are sharing the time together. One of my favorite family bonding routines is a simple meal out of the house. We have a favorite restaurant that the whole family enjoys. We started going there when my son, who is now 15, was still in a high chair. In fact, we have been to that restaurant so often that we no longer need to order. The children continue to be thrilled when their favorite foods are brought to them without even seeing a menu. We laugh, talk, eat, and people-watch from the large windows at the front of the restaurant. It's an easy, no-pressure way to spend time together.
- H** Believe it or not, family bonding can go wrong. Parents can put so much pressure on themselves that they become overbearing. Children may feel smothered by their parents' desire to create the perfect bonding activity.
- I** When things don't go as planned, parents might behave in a counterproductive way. Avoid this mistake by keeping one goal in mind: Enjoy each other's

company. Don't expect kids to open up right away. Let them embrace family bonding on their own schedules. They may prefer to play video games or spend a weekend watching TV animation instead of spending time with their families. It's okay to give in to this from time to time. Let your children know you're on their side, but come to an agreement. Set limits on screen time while encouraging bonding with the family. They may resist at first, but they will eventually understand.

- J I met with a parent educator a few months ago who was adamant (坚决的) that parents avoid yelling during family bonding. The moment a parent feels anger building inside of them, for whatever reason, they should take a moment to remember what it felt like to be young. Empathizing with children, even sharing with them that you have been exactly where they are, can go a long way toward building a proactive relationship.
- K My go-to example is a long-term spat (小争执) I had with my father. He was a musician who wanted his children to be musicians as well. He insisted we learn piano, percussion, and guitar. Singing lessons sometimes lasted hours. We would play music and sing together as a family multiple times per week. It is no understatement to say that I hated music. I had no interest in learning music or singing. The bonding time was forced on me, and I resented it so much that, decades later, I still have nightmares about it. As a teenager, I vowed that I would let my children make their own choices (within reason). When my children resist our bonding activities, my husband and I give them the opportunity to make alternative suggestions. It almost always works in our favor.
- L My husband and I are both writers. Like many parents, we have to balance our work lives with our families. However, we decided long ago, while we were still talking about having children, that we would prioritize family time. I usually have a deadline to meet. My husband is constantly in research mode. Still, we have strict rules for ourselves that the hours from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. are reserved for the kids. That plan worked very well for many years. We ate dinner around the table, had family walks after meals, and often played board games or basketball in the driveway.

M By instituting a weekly family bonding activity, we ensure that we always have a few hours together, no matter what distractions the world throws our way. Family bonding creates a truly unique relationship within a family unit. It fosters mutual respect and a caring atmosphere.

- _____ 1 Studies have shown that family bonding activities can have a positive impact on mental health and brain development in children.
- _____ 2 It is important for parents to avoid putting too much pressure on themselves to create the perfect bonding activity.
- _____ 3 The author learned the importance of giving children the freedom to choose bonding activities through her own childhood experiences.
- _____ 4 The author and her husband prioritize family time despite their busy work schedules as writers.
- _____ 5 Family bonding activities should focus on enjoying each other's company rather than pressuring children to open up immediately.
- _____ 6 Simple questions about a child's favorite things can lead to meaningful conversations.
- _____ 7 Family bonding can help family members enjoy each other's company and understand one another better.

Section 2

Read the following two passages and choose the best answer to each of the questions after the passage.

Questions 1-5 are based on the following passage.

Your father and I met 20 years ago. Back then, I thought I needed someone who met all of the items on my "checklist," and your dad met none of them. We were friends, but I was too silly to give in to the idea of being more. One very hot and humid day, after having told your dad the night before that I needed a coffee table for my apartment, he showed up at my door. A neighbor of his was throwing away their coffee table, and he not only asked for it for me, but also drove it to me, and carried it, by himself, up two flights of stairs to my apartment. When he got to my door,

he was proud, but also nervous, as if he had gone too far, and a bit embarrassed as he was sweaty and worried I'd hate it (because, frankly, that coffee table was being thrown away for a reason). Luckily for me, it was the first time that I was actually smart enough to look into his eyes and see something that I had failed to realize. And it was of the utmost importance to me – a deep kindness. I fell in love with him at that moment, in the hallway of an apartment building in Virginia, and have never looked back.

We aren't a perfect couple because there is no such thing. But we work hard to stay in love. Your dad shows me every single day that there is nothing more important to him than the two of you and me. Like the way he can't wait to teach you something new when you ask a question. Or the way he supports my career, my interests, my activities, and me with all that he has. I hope that you will find love and friendship as amazing and wonderful as what Daddy and I have. It makes all the difference in the world.

- 1 What does the mother imply about her initial thoughts of the child's father?
 - A. She didn't see him as a potential partner.
 - B. She thought he was the perfect match.
 - C. She fell in love with him because of his kindness.
 - D. She believed they were incompatible and should not be friends.
- 2 Why does the writer mention the incident with the coffee table?
 - A. To show that her husband was proud but nervous when he was young.
 - B. To demonstrate how strong her husband was when they first met.
 - C. To show what made her fall in love with her husband.
 - D. To show her children how important it is to help each other.
- 3 What does the mother suggest about maintaining a successful marriage?
 - A. It depends on sharing common interests and goals.
 - B. It requires constant acts of kindness and generosity.
 - C. It happens naturally when two people are deeply in love.
 - D. It is about accepting imperfection and working hard together.
- 4 What does the mother say about her husband's role in their family?
 - A. He prioritizes his work over family life.
 - B. He values his wife and child above all else.

- C. He is focused on teaching his child discipline.
 - D. He struggles to balance family and personal interests.
- 5 What key message does the mother try to convey in the passage?
- A. Parenting helps couples grow closer and overcome difficulties.
 - B. Marriage is easy when both partners share similar values and goals.
 - C. A strong relationship is built on kindness, effort, and support.
 - D. Love can grow when you learn to appreciate someone's inner qualities.

Questions 6-10 are based on the following passage.

Growing up with siblings is a unique experience that shapes who we are. I have an older sister and a younger brother, and together, we've shared countless memories – both joyful and challenging. Siblings are often our first playmates, our closest allies, and sometimes, our fiercest competitors.

One of the greatest joys of having siblings is the constant companionship. My sister and I used to spend hours creating imaginary worlds with our toys, while my brother and I bonded over our love for sports. These shared experiences created a deep sense of connection that has lasted into adulthood. Even now, we often reminisce about the silly games we played or the adventures we had together.

However, growing up with siblings isn't always easy. I remember countless arguments over who got the last piece of cake or whose turn it was to pick the TV show. These disagreements sometimes felt like the end of the world at the time, but they taught us valuable lessons about compromise, patience, and forgiveness.

As we grew older, our roles in each other's lives changed. My sister became someone I could turn to for advice, while my brother became a source of encouragement during difficult times. We no longer argue over trivial things but instead focus on supporting each other through life's challenges.

Having siblings is like having lifelong friends who know you better than anyone else. They've seen you at your best and your worst, and they love you all the same. While the journey isn't always smooth, the bond between siblings is one of the most rewarding relationships a person can have.

- 6 What does the author imply about the overall experience of having siblings?
- A. It becomes less important as people grow older.
 - B. It involves more challenges than joys.
 - C. It is primarily about competition and rivalry.
 - D. It is a unique journey that shapes one's character.
- 7 What lesson did the author learn from childhood arguments with their siblings?
- A. The value of avoiding unnecessary conflicts.
 - B. The best ways of expressing one's feelings.
 - C. The necessity of establishing personal boundaries.
 - D. The need to move past disagreements.
- 8 Why does the author describe how their relationship with siblings changed as they grew older?
- A. To explain why adults rely less on their siblings.
 - B. To show how sibling relationships evolve over time.
 - C. To emphasize the growing distance between siblings.
 - D. To argue that childhood bonds are stronger than those formed in adulthood.
- 9 What does the author suggest about the bond between siblings in adulthood?
- A. It requires constant effort to maintain.
 - B. It weakens as life grows busier.
 - C. It becomes one of mutual reliance and care.
 - D. It depends on shared childhood experiences.
- 10 What is the key message the author conveys in the last paragraph?
- A. Siblings are more important than friends in one's life.
 - B. The bond between siblings is natural and requires no effort.
 - C. Childhood arguments can permanently damage sibling bonds.
 - D. Siblings know you best and love you through ups and downs.

Translation

1 Translate the English sentences into Chinese.

1 While watching old family videos, I was lost in memories of my childhood, recalling the laughter and love we shared.

2 When you have something important on your mind, talking to a family member may help you find clarity and feel supported.

3 During the summer holiday, my sister and I decided to take a break from our busy schedules and visit our grandparents in the countryside.

4 As we sat on the porch, bathed in the golden light of the setting sun, we shared stories about the challenges we had overcome together.

5 Looking back on my school days, I realize that the encouragement from my parents was every bit as important as the support I received from my teachers.

2 Translate the Chinese paragraph into English.

春节是中国人最重要的传统节日。每年这个时候，无论多忙，人们都会千方百计回家与家人团聚。春节不仅是一个节日，更是一种情感纽带，将亲人紧紧联系在一起。家人围坐在一起吃年夜饭，分享过去一年的故事和感悟。那种温馨的氛围令人难忘。

Writing

- 1 Write an English summary of the text “Best day of my life.” You should write no more than 80 words.
- 2 Write about a family member who has influenced you the most. Describe how this person has impacted your life through their actions, words, or values. Include specific examples and explain why they are important to you. You should write at least 100 words.