【第三阶段】【第 6 周】考研英语同源阅读 1

"Men are finished." That was the proposition in a debate at New York University（NYU）. Hardly. A World Bank report finds that, although particular groups of ill-educated young men are doing badly, and although women's lives have improved a lot in the past 20 years, sexual inequality at work is remarkably stubborn. Globally, women earn 10-30% less than men. They are also concentrated in "women's" jobs. Annoyingly, economic growth does not seem to narrow the gap.

This is surprising. You might expect that as countries get richer, jobs requiring brute strength would become less important. Rich countries also have larger public sectors, where the wage gap is smaller. Yet overall, the gap is no smaller in rich countries such as Britain than in poor ones such as the Philippines.

More striking, there is little sign that women are moving into traditionally male occupations. A hefty 11% of men work in construction; only 1% of women do.

Women cluster in retail and public administration, including education and health. This is true regardless of national income. Looking at Mexico and Sweden, the bank found that men and women tended to separate themselves into the same sorts of occupation in the two countries.

What explains all this? The World Bank suggests three reasons. First, discrimination. Some men think women are less capable, and some laws treat the sexes differently. Women also have fewer assets that can be turned into capital. This makes it harder for them to start businesses. In Japan, the bank found, food-processing firms prefer to sign export contracts with men, since they fear women will find it harder to meet the terms of the contract.

Next, women are sometimes less qualified than men. Though advances in female education are widespread, they are not universal. Among older workers, men tend to have spent longer studying. Also, male workers tend to have been employed for longer than women, giving them more work experience.

But the main reason that women cluster in low-paid fields, the bank argues, is that they do not control their own time. In rich Austria and Italy, women do at least three times as much housework and child care as men. In poorer Cambodia, they do 50% more. Everywhere, this constrains women's job choices.

Women are more likely than men to take part-time or informal work. This is sometimes a voluntary choice. But sometimes they are pushed by employers' attitudes or sexist laws, such as those requiring a woman to get her husband's permission to work. "Progress has been tremendous where lifting a single barrier is sufficient [for example, in education] ," concludes the bank. But

where multiple barriers exist, progress has been extremely slow. Manhattanites do not see this, however. The motion at NYU was carried.

1. According to Paragraph 1, which of the following is true?
   [A] The NYU debate was about whether men were losing priority in workplace.
   [B] Sexual inequality is about to disappear due to the economic growth.
   [C] On average women can earn as much as ill-educated men.
   [D] The economic development has changed women's career choices.
2. We can learn from Paragraphs 2 to 4 that _____.
   [A] jobs requiring less strength are more important in rich countries
   [B] The wage gap is larger in rich countries than in poor ones
   [C] women are confined to jobs that tend to offer less money
   [D] men and women tend to gather in different sorts of jobs
3. Discrimination against women is embodied in the fact that _____.
   [A] women are considered less talented than men in daily life
   [B] social divisions of labor are made clear in some laws
   [C] women own fewer properties which can be used for investment
   [D] women have difficulty in meeting the terms of contracts
4. According to Paragraphs 6 and 7, women _____.
   [A] are less educated and have less work experience
   [B] are provided with fewer job opportunities
   [C] cannot decide on their own destiny
   [D] are better at doing housework than working
5. It is implied in the last paragraph that _____.
   [A] women are more devoted to their families compared with men
   [B] women are more willing to take part-time jobs than men
   [C] many factors prevent the realization of sexual equality
   [D] NYU has taken actions to promote sexual equality

【答案速查】

1. A　　2. D　　3. C　　4. A　　5. C

【试题透析】

1. A

[解题思路] 根据题干关键词 Paragraph 1 定位至文章第一段。该段第一、二句指出纽约大学举办了一场辩论，该辩论的辩题是“男人们完了”（Men are finished），紧接着第三句指出这个说法几乎不能成立，第四句引用世界银行的报告进行了解释，虽然某些受教育程度低的年轻男性群体在职场上表现不佳，并且在过去二十年里，女性的生活状况有了明显改善，但职场中的性别不平等状况还是很难改变（sexual inequality at work is remarkably stubborn）。由此可知， 纽约大学辩论的话题是关于男性在职场中的地位的，即“男人们完了”是指男性在职场中失去了优势地位，选项[A]与原文相符，故为正确选项。

[干扰排除] 首段第四句指出，世界银行报告显示职场中的性别不平等状况很难改变，最后一句又强调，经济的发展似乎并没有缩小男、女收入的差距（does not seem to narrow the gap），即经济的发展并没有改变职场中的性别不平等，故选项[B]可以排除。该段第四句指出某些受教育程度低的年轻男性工作表现糟糕，而女性生活状况也有了明显的改善，这里并没有说明女性的平均工资可以达到受教育程度低的年轻男性的工资水平，选项[C]属于无中生有，可以排除。该段第六句指出职场中的性别不平等很难改变还体现在女性主要集中在“女性的”行业，由此可见，经济的发展并没有改变女性职业的选择，选项[D]可排除。

2. D

[解题思路] 根据题干关键词 Paragraphs 2 to 4 定位至文章第二至四段。第四段前两句指出，不管国民收入怎样，女性都集中在零售和公共管理领域（包括教育和健康领域）（Women cluster in retail and public administration, including education and health），接着第三句作者以墨西哥和瑞典两个国家为例，说明这两个国家的男人和女人都倾向于分别集中在相同的行业（tended to separate themselves into the same sorts of occupation in the two countries），由此可知，男性和女性通常集中在不同的行业，选项[D]与原文相符，为正确选项。

[干扰排除] 第二段第二句提出也许人们会认为随着国家变得富有，单靠蛮力的工作会变得不那么重要（jobs requiring brute strength would become less important），该句隐含的意思是——那么男性在职场的优势地位应有所改善了，但第三、四句接着指出尽管在一些富裕国家公共部门的工资差距较小（the wage gap is smaller），但是其总体上的工资差距并不比贫穷国家的小，言外之意，无论国家是贫穷还是富有，两性的工资差异仍然很明显，可见，该段说明了性别之间工资差异依然明显， 并没有提及不需要蛮力的工作的重要性，选项[A]与原文不符，可以排除。第二段最后一句指出，总体看来，富裕国家工资差距并不比贫穷国家的小（the gap is no smaller in rich countries），但不能由此推出富裕国家工资差距就会比贫穷国家的大，故选项[B]可以排除。第三段指出没有迹象表明女性正在进入传统的男性行业（there is little sign that women are moving into traditionally male occupations）， 第四段指出

不管国民收入怎样，女性都集中在零售和公共管理领域，这里作者是在强调女性仍从事原有的“女性的”工作，并未提及她们是否集中在赚钱不多的工作上，选项[C]可以排除。

3. C

[解题思路] 本题考查对女性的歧视问题，故可定位至第五段。该段集中讨论了导致职场中男女不平等的第一个原因：歧视。第四句指出一些男性认为女性不如他们有能力（less capable），而且有些法律区别对待不同的性别（some laws treat the sexes differently），第五句还指出女人们拥有相对较少的可转化为资本的资产（have fewer assets that can be turned into capital），这使得女性更难于开展自己的商业活动（harder for them to start business），即女性占有相对较少的可用于投资的资产也是受到歧视的体现，选项[C]与原文相符，为正确选项。

[干扰排除] 该段第四句指出一些男性认为女性不如他们有能力，这里所指的能力是职场中表现出的工作能力，而不是日常生活中的天赋，选项[A]与原文不符，可以排除。第四句指出有些法律区别对待不同的性别，即法律中也存在性别歧视，但文中并未指出法律条款对社会分工有明确的规定，选项[B]可以排除。该段第七句指出，在日本，食品加工公司更喜欢和男人签订出口合同，因为他们担心女人会认为难以履行合同中的条款，可见食品公司更愿与男人签合同才是对女性歧视的表现，而认为女性难以履行条款只是导致他们歧视行为的偏见心理，故选项 [D] 可以排除。

4. A

[解题思路] 根据题干关键词 paragraphs 6 and 7 定位至第六、七段。第六段第一句首先提出该观点：女性有时资历不如男性。紧接着第二、三句指出第一个原因，即女性受教育仍不普遍（not universal），男性通常花更长的时间学习，第四句指出了第二个原因，即男性比女性受雇佣时间更长（employed for longer than women），因此工作经验更丰富（more work experience），由此可知，女性有时工作能力不及男性是因为她们在接受教育与工作经验方面不及男性，选项[A]与原文相符，故为答案。

[干扰排除] 第六段最后一句指出男性通常受雇时间更长、工作经验更丰富，此处作者只是强调工作时间长给男性带来更丰富的工作经验，并没有说明男性比女性有更多的工作机会，选项[B]可以排除。第七段首句指出女性集中在低收入行业的主要原因是她们无法控制自己的时间（they do not control their own time），这集中体现在女性通常要比男性花更多的时间在做家务和照顾孩子上，而不是说女性不能掌控自己的命运，选项[C]与原文不符，可以排除。第七段说明了女性花费更多的时间在家务和孩子上，作者通过列举奥地利、意大利、柬埔寨等国家的例子说明了这一点，并在最后一句指出这限制了女性工作的选择（this constrains women’s job choices），由此可知，女性因忙于家务而不能很好地控制自己的时间限制了她们的工作选择，但不能说明比起工作她们更擅长做家务，故选项[D]可以排除。

5. C

[解题思路] 根据题干关键词 the last paragraph 定位至最后一段。该段第一句指出，女性做兼职或非正式工作的可能性比男性大，接着第二、三句指出了导致这一状况的原因：除了女性有时是自愿的以外，还有雇主的态度和存在性别歧视的法律也促成了这一状况的发生（pushed by employers' attitudes or sexist laws），第五句因而指出如果存在各种各样的障碍（multiple barriers），促进男女平等的进程就会非常缓慢（progress has been extremely slow），由此可知，上文指的是由于存在各种各样的障碍，使得消除职场性别差异的进程缓慢，阻碍了性别平等的实现，选项[C]与原文相符，为正确选项。

[干扰排除] 最后一段指出女性更有可能做兼职或非正式的工作，这有时是出于她们自己的意愿，而有时却是受雇主态度和性别歧视的法律的逼迫，即有时她们的选择非自愿的，因此不能推知与男性相比，女性就更顾家，这有时只是不得已而为之，选项[A]无法从该段推出，故排除。由该段第一至三句可知，导致女性更倾向于找兼职或非正式工作的原因包括主观原因和客观原因，所以不能一概而论，说女性主观上更愿意做兼职工作，选项[B]与文意不符，可排除。由第二至五句可知，由于各种障碍的存在导致女性更倾向于兼职或非正式工作，即各方面因素阻碍了职场中性别平等的实现。最后两句指出曼哈顿人并没有看到这些，所以纽约大学的辩论还是以“男人们完了”为辩题，这说明他们认为男人在职场中已经失去优势地位，职场中已不存在性别不公了，所以他们是不会采取促进性别平等的措施的，故选项[D]也可排除。