



AET2
Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Tripos, Part II

Thursday 09 June 2022 13.30-16.30

Paper C11

Modern Chinese translation and writing 3

Answer **all** questions.

Write your number, **not** your name, on the cover sheet of **each** answer booklet.

STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS

20-page answer booklet

Rough Work Pad

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAMINATION

None

You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.

1. Translation into Chinese (32 marks).

The difference between a brain and a computer can be expressed in a single word: complexity. The human brain weighs three pounds, in which there are billions of cells. These cells are interconnected in an extremely complicated network that we have not yet started to unravel.

Even the most complicated computer that man has built cannot compare in intricacy with the human brain. Computer switches and components number in the thousands rather than in the billions. What's more, a computer switch is just an on-off device, whereas a human brain cell is itself a tremendously complex structure.

Can a computer think? That depends on what you mean by "think". If solving a mathematical problem is "thinking", then, yes, a computer can "think" and can do so much faster than humans. It is frequently said that computers solve problems only because they are "programmed" to do so. They can only do what humans programme them to do. However, one must remember that human beings also can only do what we are "programmed" to do by our genes.

But how long will it take to build a computer complex enough to duplicate the human brain? Perhaps not as long as some people think. We will perhaps build a computer that is at least complex enough to design another computer more complex than itself. This more complex computer could design one even more complex and so on and so on.

In other words, once we pass a certain critical point, the computers take over and there will be a “complexity explosion”. In a very short time thereafter, computers may not only duplicate the human brain, but far surpass it. Then what? Well, mankind is not doing a very good job of running the earth right now. Maybe, when the time comes, we ought to step gracefully aside and hand over the job to those that can do it better.

Adapted from Sun Wanbiao, Wang Enming. 2006. *An Advanced Course of Translation*, pp.61-3. Shanghai Foreign Language Education Press.

2. Translation into Chinese (33 marks).

According to an employment survey, women who apply for jobs in middle or senior management have a higher success rate than men in getting the job. Unfortunately, far fewer of them apply for these positions. The study, by recruitment consultants NB Selection, shows that while one in six men who appear on the interview shortlists get the job that they apply for, the figure rises to one in four for women.

Reasons for this higher success rate among women are difficult to isolate. One explanation suggested is that if a female candidate manages to get on a shortlist, then she has probably already proved herself to be an exceptional candidate. Dr Davies said that when women apply for positions, they tend to be better qualified than their male counterparts but are more selective and conservative in their job search. Women tend to research thoroughly before

(TURN OVER)

applying for positions or attending interviews. Men, on the other hand, seem to rely on their ability to sell themselves and to convince employers that any shortcomings they have will not prevent them from doing a good job.

This year the survey shows a doubling of the number of women serving as non-executive directors compared with the previous year. However, progress remains painfully slow and there were still only 18 posts filled by women out of a total of 354 non-executive positions surveyed. In business as a whole, there are a number of factors promoting greater equality in the workforce. Demographic trends suggest that the number of women going into employment is steadily increasing. In addition, a far greater number of women are now passing through higher education, making them better qualified to move into management positions.

However, Ariane Antal, Director of the International Institute for Organization Change in France, said, "It's still so hard for women to even get on the shortlists - there are so many hurdles and barriers. Until there is a change of attitude among employers, nothing will change."

Adapted from <https://english.7139.com/2469/05/67833.html>

3. Write an essay in Chinese on the following topic (35 marks).

我的大学生活
My university life

END OF PAPER

Page 4 of 4