**阅读理解—记叙文拓展提升作业**

**1**

The summer of 2016, the ship MV Treasure sunk, creating an oil spill. Thirteen hundred tons of fuel oil were flowing right in the middle of the African Penguins’ habitat. Soon the oil covered about 20,000 penguins. Without swift help, the seabirds would have no chance for survival. Volunteers were showing up by the thousands and I also took part in what was the largest animal rescue operation ever.

A warehouse was turned into a rescue center near the habitat and hundreds of pools were built to hold about 100 oiled birds each. When walking into the center, I couldn’t believe my ears. I had expected to walk into a chorus of honking and squawking. Instead, the center sounded like a library. The penguins were dead silent. My heart ached for the painful birds. Cleaning them all seemed like an impossible task. But we had to carry on like doctors in an emergency room. There was no time for doubt. Cleaning oil off a penguin wasn’t easy. Even with more than 12,500 volunteers, it took a month to bathe all 20,000 birds at the center.

While volunteers were busy bathing the oiled penguins, another crisis(危机) was developing. Oil from the spill had started moving north. Tens of thousands of penguins were in the oil’s path. But we already had our hands full with 20,000 recovering birds. If any more birds were oiled, we wouldn’t have enough resources to save them.

One researcher came up with an idea: What if the penguins were temporarily moved out of harm’s way? Experts decided to have a try. Volunteers rounded up the penguins and released them 500 miles away. The hope was that by the time the seabirds swam home, the oil would be gone. The plan worked! Another 20,000 penguins were saved.

The entire penguin rescue took about three months. More than 90% of the oiled penguins were successfully returned to the wild. Looking back on the rescue, I am still amazed by the work of the volunteers. What I could hardly believe was that we accomplished an impossible task.

1．The African penguins were in danger because of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A．a knock by a ship B．a spill of oil

C．a change of habitats D．a lack of help

2．When walking into the rescue center, the author felt \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A．ambitious B．hopeless C．shocked D．inspired

3．The crisis was ended by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A．stopping the flow of the oil

B．cleaning the polluted habitat

C．asking more volunteers to help

D．moving the penguins from home

4．The author mainly intends to tell us that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A．many hands make great work

B．where there is a will there is a way

C．the future of wildlife is in our hands

D．unite to make the earth pollution-free

**2**

“Hi, Mrs. Grady,” said Mark when their neighbor opened her door. “Would you like us to shovel your sidewalk and driveway?” Shoveling was Jamie’s idea, a way to earn enough money for the new Ocean Kingdom video game that came out the next day.

 Mrs. Grady was happy, “That would be wonderful, boys. I think the job is getting to be too much for me.”

 “It will cost 10 dollars,” Jamie said. “If that’s OK,” Mark added.

 “Oh dear,” Mrs. Grady said disappointedly, “I haven’t been able to get to the bank. I can offer homemade cookies, but I realize that’s not what you had in mind.”

Mark was going to say that Mrs. Grady could pay them another time, but Jamie cut him off. “We’ll come back later.”

Mrs. Grady doesn’t look like the person who’d come to Mark’s rescue last summer when Mr. Dunn’s dog Goldie had just wanted to play, but Mark didn’t feel comfortable around big dogs. He wanted to call for help, but his tongue seemed locked behind his teeth. Then Mrs. Grady’s front door had flown open. She must have seen him from across the street. “Hold on, Mark. I’m coming!” “Goldie” she’d called. As soon as Goldie had turned her head, Mrs. Grady had slipped between Mark and the dog. She wasn’t much taller than Mark, but she’d stood firm as a rock in front of him. “Goldie, go home!” Then she’d swept her broom to hurry the dog along. “Get!” Goldie had obeyed.

When Mark showed thanks to Mrs. Grady, Mrs. Grady laughed. “It was nothing. Good neighbors watch out for each other, don’t they?”

And now Mrs. Grady needed Mark as much as he’d needed her last summer. He smiled and waved at Mrs. Grady, then his shovel deep into the snow.

 “Hey!” Jamie shouted. “What are you doing?” Mark couldn’t explain about Goldie and watching out for neighbors. “I like Mrs. Grady’s cookies,” he said.

1. Why did Jamie and Mark plan to clear the snow for Mrs. Grady at first?
A. To help the lady. B. To visit New Kingdom.

C. To do volunteer work. D. To earn pocket money.

2. Mrs. Grady couldn’t pay them most probably because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

A. she didn’t have enough cash B. she couldn’t find the bank

C. she thought it was worthless D. she couldn’t afford it

3. According to the story, which of the following words can be used to describe Mrs. Grady best?

A. Greedy. B. Hopeful. C. Hardworking. D. Helpful.

4. Which of the following proverb can best summarize the story?

A. A penny saved is a penny earned. B. Kindness is repaid with kindness.

C. Birds of a feather flock together. D. Actions speak louder than words.

**3**

A star athlete at the college where I work recently stopped by my office. After committing a few unforced errors during a weekend match, she was riven by self-criticism. “I’m at peak fitness, and I practice hard. How is

 this happening?” **S**he asked.

This student believes she should be able to control the outcomes of her life by virtue of her hard work. She has a sense that hours on the field should get her exactly where she needs to go. Many students have similar mentality. When they win, they feel powerful and smart. When they fail, they are crushed by self-blame. If my achievements are mine to control, they reason, my failures must be entirely my fault, too.

We talk often about young adults struggling with failure because their parents have protected them from discomfort. But there is something else at play: a false promise that they can achieve anything if they are willing to work for it.

Psychologists have sourced this phenomenon to a misapplication of “mindset” research, which has found that praising children for effort will increase academic performance. A 2018 analysis found that while praising effort over ability may benefit economically disadvantaged students, it does not necessarily help everyone.

One possible explanation comes from Suniya Luthar***,*** who argued in a research paper that for teens in wealthy, pressure-cooker communities, “it is not a lack of motivation and perseveranc***e*** that is the big problem. Instead, it is unhealthy perfectionism, and difficulty with backing off when they should, when the desire for achievements is over the top.” They push themselves onward in face of impossible goals. A 2007 study found that teens who refused to give up impossible goals showed higher levels of C-reaction protein, a marker of systemic inflammation(全身炎症) linked to heart disease and other medical conditions. A 2014 study showed a connection between the perfectionist tendencies and depression.

The cruel reality is that you can do everything in your power and still fail. Instead of allowing our kids to beat themselves up when things don’t go their way, we adults should help students pursue success in healthier ways in part by redefining failure as a feature, not a bug, of learning. At Smith College where I teach, students are asked to explore how setbacks and missteps made them stronger or more effective. We would be wise to remind our kids that life has a way of sucker-punching(意外打击) us when we least expect it. It’s often the people who learn to say “stuff happens” who get up the fastest.

1. Why was star athlete trapped by self-blame?

        A. She broke down during the match.

       B. She didn’t try her best in the match.

 C. She believed hard work should pay off.

        D. She thought she should have practiced harder.

2. What can we learn from Paragraph 5?

A. Lack of motivation and perseverance leads to teens’ failure.

B. Praising children for effort increases academic performance.

C. Children struggle with failure due to parents’ over-protection.

D. Unhealthy perfectionism causes physical and emotional stress.

3. According to the author, adults should \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

        A. help students learn from failure

        B. protect students from discomfort

        C. reward students for their hard work

        D. explore the cause of students’ failure

4. Which of the following does the author probably agree with?

        A. Effort equals achievement.

        B. Motivation is the key to success.

        C. Success is not always under control.

        D. Effort is more important than ability.

**4**

A few weeks ago, I called an Uber to take me to the Boston airport for a flight home for the holidays. As I slid into the back seat of the car, the warm intonations(语调) of the driver’s accent washed over me in a familiar way.

  I learned that he was a recent West African immigrant with a few young children, working hard to provide for his family. I could relate: I am the daughter of two Ethiopian immigrants who made their share of sacrifices to ensure my success. I told him I was on a college break and headed home to visit my parents. That’s how he found out I went to Harvard. An approving eye glinted at me in the rearview window, and quickly, we crossed the boundaries of rider and driver. I became his daughter, all grown up?the product of his sacrifice.

  And then came the fateful question: “What do you study?” I answered “history and literature” and the pride in his voice faded, as I knew it might. I didn’t even get to add “and African-American studies” before he cut in, his voice thick with disappointment, “All that work to get into Harvard, and you study history?”

  Here I was, his daughter, wasting the biggest opportunity of her life. He went on to deliver the age-old lecture that all immigrant kids know. We are to become doctors (or lawyers, if our parents are being generous)—to make money and send money back home. The unspoken demand, made across generations, which my Uber driver laid out plainly, is simple: Fulfill your role in the narrative(故事) of upward mobility so your children can do the same.

I used to feel anxious and backed into a corner by the questioning, but now as a junior in college, I’m grateful for their support more than anything. This holiday season, I’ve promised myself I won’t get annoyed at their inquiries. I won’t defensively respond with “but I plan to go to law school!” when I get unrequested advice. I’ll just smile and nod, and enjoy the warmth of the occasion.

1. Why did the author feel warm at the driver’s accent?

      A. The driver took her to the Boston airport.

      B. The author became the driver’s daughter.

      C. The driver worked hard to provide for his family.

      D. The author’s parents were also African immigrants.

2. What disappointed the driver？

A. The author’s attitude towards him.

B. The school that the author is attending.

C. The author’s major in history and literature.

D. The author’s interests in African-American studies.

3. Why are immigrant kids expected to be doctors or lawyers?

A. Their parents want them to move upward in society.

B. Their parents are high-achieving as well.

C. They have much more knowledge.

D. They are very smart in general.

4. How did the author react to the driver’s questioning？

A. Getting upset.                               B. Feeling satisfied.

C. Defending herself.                        D. Appreciating his concern.

**5**

Jeremy Locke, who owns a roofing and construction company in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, had always been wanting to repair the roof of Jeanette MacDonald’s home. Whenever he drove past the woman’s home, he assumed that the roof was under repair because the job had already been taken on by another group of repairman- but as the weeks wore on, the roof continued to worsen without any signs of repair.

“I had it in my mind that if no one steps up to help this lady in our community, I ‘d be more than happy to,’’ Locke told CBC’.

When Locke finally reached out to MacDonald’s about fixing her roof for free, however she politely declined his offer because she did not like to accept charity. That being said, she had already applied for government grant to fix the roof and she said she was more than happy to hire Locke once her grant application was approved.

Unfortunately, MacDonald never received the approval.

As the stubborn Canadian senior refused to accept any assistance from Locke, the sympathetic construction worker played an innocent trick in order to get her to accept his help. He invited MacDonald to enter a raffle that his business was holding for a free roof. After the grandmother-of-four accepted one of the raffle tickets, Locke told her that she was the winner-because she was the only one who had entered the raffle.

Thanks to his sweet little plan, Lock and his crew are starting work on the roof this week, which is expected to cost his company about $9,000.

Macdonald, meanwhile, told CBC that she doesn’t know how to express her gratitude to Locke, saying that she is her “guardian angel”.

“There’s nobody out there like him,” she added.

1. What did Locke desire to do for MacDonald?

 A. Repair her roof.

 B. Find a repairman.

 C. Run a charity.

 D. Raise money.

2. Why did Macdonald refuse Locke’s offer initially?

 A. She didn’t trust him.

 B. She had won a raffle.

 C. She didn’t like free help.

 D. She has got an official help.

3. How did Locke finally make MacDonald change her mind?

 A. He persuaded her to give up her application.

 B. He invited her to enter his business.

 C. He gave her about $9,000.

 D. He told her a white lie.

4. Which of the following words best describe Locke?

 A. Stubborn and tricky.

 B. Wealthy and innocent.

 C. Determined and warm-hearted.

 D. Different and ambitious.

**6**

Traveling on an airplane can be a very tiring task even in the best of circumstances, which is why when Sophie Murphy boarded a recent flight from Sydney to Melbourne and noticed an “awful tension” in the cabin, she first thought **it was caused by** typical bad-tempered passengers. But as the flight neared its end, it became obvious that something was very wrong.

A teenage boy with Down syndrome who was traveling with his family had become upset and would not return to his seat, **regardless of** the cabin crew’s warnings over the loudspeaker that it was almost time to land. The pilot was forced to circle above the airport, delaying the landing—and angering people on the already tense flight.

“If it was a cartoon,” remembered Murphy, “there would have been smoke coming out of people’s ears.”

As the boy’s elderly parents and adult brothers and sisters tried **to persuade him to get** off the floor and back into his seat, but in vain, Murphy, 42—who had been a teacher for more than 20 years—stood up and quickly headed to the back of the plane.

She found the boy in the passage between rows of seats, lying on his belly, and lay down on her stomach to face him. She began chatting calmly with him, asking his name, his favorite book, and his favorite characters. He told her he felt sick and she tried to comfort him.

Minutes later, he allowed her to hold his hand—and then together they got properly back into airplane seats. Murphy asked for sick bags, and held them as the boy threw up several times, including on her. As she helped him clean up, she repeatedly told him everything would be okay and that they’d get through it together.

After the plane was finally able to land, no one was impatient to step off the flight as one might expect. Instead, calmed passengers—obviously following Murphy’s amazing example—allowed the boy and his family to depart first, smiling at them as they passed. His parents tearfully thanked Murphy for what she had done, and a doctor sitting nearby also let her know he had even taken notes on her expert way of handling the situation.

**1. The landing was delayed because \_\_\_\_\_.**

A. a family ignored the warnings

B. **a boy refused to sit in his seat**

**C. smoke was coming out of the engine**

D. the pilot was forced to change the **destination**

2. Murphy successfully handled the “awful tension” by \_\_\_\_\_.

A. fighting against unfair treatment B. calling on other passengers to join her

**C. communicating with** the boy D. asking **an experienced doctor to help**

**3. What changed the angry passengers’ attitude at last?**

 **A. The boy’s improvement. B. The** plane’s safe **landing.**

 **C. The crew’s** behavior. **D. The teacher’s** efforts.

4. Which of the following words can best describe Murphy?

A. Generous and cautious. B. Patient and enthusiastic.

C. Wise and cooperative. D. Kind and **cool-headed.**