**M2U5词汇学习（1） 拓展练习**

阅读下面短文，并按照题目要求作答。

For decades, American National Park visitors have been told that they hold the health and safety of the areas they visit in their hands. But as it turns out, stopping wildfires is simply not that easy, researchers say. And while some forest experts support plans that could greatly reduce the risk of widespread burns, they will cost billions of dollars and take decades. And even so risks will still exist.

The rapid increase in the frequency and intension (强度) of wildfires in recent years follows centuries of growing human influence on forests. We tend to put out wildfires as quickly as possible. But that instinct (本能) has allowed brush and trees that would normally die off in the occasional fire to continue growing in some areas. So when fires do **strike**, they can’t be controlled because these plants allow them to burn much more seriously.

Climate change has also created more favorable conditions for wildfires. Fires spread more quickly in warm temperatures caused by global warming. Conditions like climate change-related drought also increase the likelihood of wildfires. A lack of access to water kills trees and plants and dry conditions transform the brush into a material that burns easily.

“Due to climate change and other factors, fire seasons tend to be longer and drier,” says Dong Rideout, professor of forest and rangeland stewardship at Colorado State University. “It turns out that fuel treatment programs can **address** both.”

Newer strategies for controlling wildfires include a number of different methods for reducing forest and plant life. Government and forest protection officials have increasingly invested in programs to remove the extraneous (外来的) brush that helps fires spread quickly. Prescribed burns are one of the most effective—and controversial (引起争议的) —methods of reducing fire risk. In a prescribed burn, fire officials set fire to an area easily attacked by fire. Setting controlled fires allows forest workers to remove plant material under the conditions that they know will keep the fire from spreading too rapidly. Prescribed burns also help remove extraneous species that might destroy the native habitat, and in turn, create more dead brush that could lead to bigger fires.

The method has grown in popularity in recent years, but still faces challenges, particularly in areas where burns might threaten local air quality.

Efforts to use these preventive methods have been increased in recent years, but experts say funding needs to be increased rapidly before wildfires spread across the globe. Governments have devoted billions of dollars to addressing wildfires, but the money has largely gone to putting out existing fires, as the number and intensity of wildfires increases.

**Questions 1-5** Judge if the following statements agree with the information given in the passage. Choose A for TRUE if the statements agree with it; choose B for FALSE if the statements don’t agree with it; choose C for NOT GIVEN if the information the statements carry is not mentioned anywhere in the passage.

1. Fuel treatment programs slow down the process of climate change. ( )

2. Americans will create more methods to control wildfires. ( )

3. Prescribed burns can prevent extraneous species from increasing. ( )

4. Americans have succeeded in controlling wildfires. ( )

5. Climate change leads to longer fire seasons. ( )

**Question 6** Complete the process mentioned in para 2

1. Plants dies naturally
2. Humans influence works
3. New plants are planted
4. The frequency of fires increases

**Questions 7 to 8** Match the following words with their meanings in the passage. Note that there are two choices more than you need.

|  |
| --- |
| A. deal withB. hit sb. or sth.C. suddenly happenD. number of your house or name of a street |

7. strike

8. address

**Questions 9 to 10** choose the best answer from A, B, C or D.

9 . We can infer from the last paragraph that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

A. Governments should provide more funding for preventive methods

B. Governments are attempting to increase the funding for putting out existing fires

C. Governments’ efforts to deal with the problem of wildfires have been successful

D. Governments’ funding should be increased at the same speed as the development of wildfires

10. What would be the best title for the passage?

A. How does the American government deal with the problem of wildfires

B. The historical development of wildfires in America

C. The relationship between wildfires and America society

D. Why haven’t Americans been able to stop wildfires