

Directions: *There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 2** with a single line through the centre.*

Passage Two

Questions 51 to 55 are based on the following passage.

Music is a universal language. In every culture and country, you will find music. It is vitally important across the globe and has the potential to bring people together in peace and harmony. One of my favorite experiences in music is seeing musicians from different cultures come together and perform as a group. When each culture brings its own unique qualities to the group, an entirely new sound is achieved. This can create extraordinary results. People can communicate with each other using music as the common language.

One common musical thread between cultures is known as the pentatonic scale. It is astonishing how many cultures share this tool in approaching music. The pentatonic scale consists of five notes; "penta-" meaning 5, and "tonic" meaning tone or note. This scale can be found in music everywhere including that of Native Americans, Africans, and Asians. It is also found in popular music, blues, jazz, and rock. Using this five-note scale, musicians from around the globe have a medium through which they can relate, communicate, perform, and ultimately understand each other.

Music is tied to specific perceptual(感知的), mental, and emotional faculties, including language (all societies put words to their songs), motor control (people in all societies dance), sound analysis (all musical systems have a distinct pitch and quality), and aesthetics(美感) (their tunes and rhythms are balanced between repetitiveness and chaos).

There is no known society that existed without music. Although each culture has their own specific style and approach to music, you will find that the purposes behind music are very similar across the board. Music essentially serves to express or change emotions. It can cheer you up, sadden you, anger you or excite you. Music is often ceremonial: used in religion, ceremony, and celebration. Music can simply be recreational: entertaining, joyful and fun. Any way you have used music, it is almost certain that every other culture has used music in the very same way. And that is something that bonds all of us. We all share a deep love for music and it has the power to unite us.

51. In what way is music important?

- A) It is able to create novel and extraordinary emotions.
- B) It has the power to unite people throughout the world.
- C) It allows different cultural groups to sing in harmony.
- D) It is the only language favored by all peoples of the world.

52. Why does the author like to see musicians from different cultures perform together?

- A) Their musical experience can be compared.
- B) A novel language can be created.
- C) Their unique skills can be displayed.
- D) Fantastic results can be achieved.

53. What does the passage say about the pentatonic scale?

- A) It is present in music all around the world.
- B) It is helpful to understanding music.
- C) It is the basis for musicians' creation.
- D) It is a medium for ordinary people to relate.

54. What is the fundamental role of music in people's life?

- A) To bring them together.
- B) To show their identity.
- C) To express their emotions.
- D) To keep them entertained.

55. In what aspect is music similar throughout the world?

- A) The way people respond to it.
- B) The role it plays in society.
- C) The joy it brings to people.
- D) The way it is made use of.