五年高考练

阅读理解

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Preparing Cities for Robot Cars

The possibility of self-driving robot cars has often seemed like a futurist's dream, years away from materializing in the real world. Well, the future is apparently now. The California Department of Motor Vehicles began giving permits in April for companies to test truly self-driving cars on public roads. The state also cleared the way for companies to sell or rent out self-driving cars, and for companies to operate driverless taxi services. California, it should be noted, isn't leading the way here. Companies have been testing their vehicles in cities across the country. It's hard to predict when driverless cars will be everywhere on our roads. But however long it takes, the technology has the potential to change our transportation systems and our cities, for better or for worse, depending on how the transformation is regulated.

While much of the debate so far has been focused on the safety of driverless cars(and rightfully so), policymakers also should be talking about how self-driving vehicles can help reduce traffic jams, cut emissions(排放)and offer more convenient, affordable mobility options. The arrival of driverless vehicles is a chance to make sure that those vehicles are environmentally friendly and more shared.

Do we want to copy—or even worsen—the traffic of today with driverless cars?Imagine a future where most adults own individual self-driving vehicles. They tolerate long, slow journeys to and from work on packed highways because they can work, entertain themselves or sleep on the ride, which encourages urban spread. They take their driverless car to an appointment and set the empty vehicle to circle the building to avoid paying for parking. Instead of walking a few blocks to pick up a child or the dry cleaning, they send the self-driving minibus. The convenience even leads fewer people to take public transport—an unwelcome side effect researchers have already found in ride-hailing(叫车)services.

A study from the University of California at Davis suggested that replacing petrol-powered private cars worldwide with electric, self-driving and shared systems could reduce carbon emissions from transportation 80% and cut the cost of transportation infrastructure(基础设施)and operations 40% by 2050. Fewer emissions and cheaper travel sound pretty appealing. The first commercially available driverless cars will almost certainly be <u>fielded</u> by ride-hailing services, considering the cost of self-driving technology as well as liability and maintenance issues(责任与维护问题). But driverless car ownership could increase as the prices drop and more people become comfortable with the technology.

Policymakers should start thinking now about how to make sure the appearance of driverless vehicles doesn't extend the worst aspects of the carcontrolled transportation system we have today. The coming technological advancement presents a chance for cities and states to develop transportation systems designed to move more people, and more affordably. The car of the future is coming. We just have to plan for it.

词汇积累

1.possibility n.可能性 2.potential n.可能性

3.transformation n.转化;转换;改革 4.affordable adj.买得起的;负担得起的 5.option n.选择

6.commercially adv.商业上 7.appealing adj.吸引人的 8.driverless vehicle 无人 驾驶汽车

9.environmentally friendly 环保的 10.side efforts 副作用

1.According to the author, attention should be paid to how driverless cars can .

A.help deal with transportation-related problems

B.provide better services to customers

C.cause damage to our environment

D.make some people lose jobs

2.As for driverless cars, what is the author's major concern?

A.Safety. B.Side effects.

C.Affordability. D.Management.

3. What does the underlined word "fielded" in Paragraph 4 probably mean?

A.Employed. B.Replaced.

C.Shared. D.Reduced.

4. What is the author's attitude to the future of self-driving cars?

A.Doubtful. B.Positive.

C.Disapproving. D.Sympathetic.

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◎语篇解读 本文是一篇议论文。主要讨论有关无人驾驶汽车的发展前景和面临 的问题。

1.A 推理判断题。根据第二段 While much of the debate so far has been focused on the safety of driverless cars(and rightfully so), policymakers also should be talking about how self-driving vehicles can help reduce traffic jams, cut emissions(排放) and offer more convenient, affordable mobility options.可知,政策制定者应该讨论无人驾驶车怎么帮助削减交通阻塞, 减少尾气排放,提供更方便、更便宜的出行选择,由此可见人们应该多关注无人驾驶车怎么帮助处理与交通有关的问题。故选 A。

2.D 推理判断题。根据文章第一段 But however long it takes, the technology has the potential to change our transportation systems and our cities, for better or for worse, depending on how the transformation is regulated.可知,不管花多长时间,这项技术都有可能改变我们的交通系统和我们的城市,不管是好是坏,这取决于如何这种转变如何被规范,再根据文章最后一句话 The car of the future is coming. We just have to plan for it.可知,我们需要为 其做好计划,故作者的主要关注点是对这种转变的管理规范,故选 D.

3.A 词义猜测题。根据第四段 The first commercially available driverless cars will almost certainly be <u>fielded</u> by ride-hailing services, considering the cost of self-driving technology as well as liability and maintenance issues(责任与维护问题).可知,鉴于自主驾驶的费用以及责任和维护问题,无人驾驶

车几乎可以肯定将会被打车服务使用。故画线词是"被应用"的意思。A. Employed 被应用;B. Replaced 被取代;C. Shared 被分享;D. Reduced 被减少。 故选 A。

4.B 观点态度题。根据文章最后一段 The coming technological advancement presents a chance for cities and states to develop transportation systems designed to move more people, and more affordably. The car of the future is coming. We just have to plan for it.中的 advancement,move more people, and more affordably.以及 plan for it 可 推知,作者是积极的态度。故选 B。