五年高考练

阅读理解

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If you want to disturb the car industry, you'd better have a few billion dollars: Mom-and-pop carmakers are unlikely to beat the biggest car companies. But in agriculture, small farmers can get the best of the major players. By connecting directly with customers, and by responding quickly to changes in the markets as well as in the ecosystems (生态系统), small farmers can keep one step ahead of the big guys. As the co-founder of the National Young Farmers Coalition (NYFC, 美国青年农会) and a family farmer myself, I have a front-row seat to the innovations among small farmers that are transforming the industry.

For example, take the Quick Cut Greens Harvester, a tool developed just a couple of years ago by a young farmer, Jonathan Dysinger, in Tennessee, with a small loan from a local Slow Money group. It enables small-scale farmers to harvest 175 pounds of green vegetables per hour—a huge improvement over harvesting just a few dozen pounds by hand—suddenly making it possible for the little guys to compete with large farms of California. Before the tool came out, small farmers couldn't touch the price per pound offered by California farms. But now, with the combination of a better price point and a generally fresher product, they can stay in business.

The sustainable success of small farmers, though, won't happen without fundamental changes to the industry. One crucial factor is secure access to land. Competition from investors, developers, and established large farmers makes owning one's own land unattainable for many new farmers. From 2004 to 2013, agricultural land values doubled, and they continue to rise in many regions.

Another challenge for more than a million of the most qualified farm workers and managers is a non-existent path to citizenship—the greatest barrier to building a farm of their own. With farmers over the age of 65 outnumbering (多于) farmers younger than 35 by six to one, and with two-thirds of the nation's farmland in need of a new farmer, we must clear the path for talented people willing to grow the nation's food.

There are solutions that could light a path toward a more sustainable and fair farm economy, but farmers can't clumsily put them together before us. We at the NYFC need broad support as we urge Congress to increase farmland conservation, as we push for immigration reform, and as we seek policies that will ensure the success of a diverse and ambitious next generation of farmers from all backgrounds. With a new farm bill to be debated in Congress, consumers must take a stand with young farmers.

词汇积累

innovation n.创造;创新;改革 sustainable adj.合理利用的,可持续的 crucial adj.至关重要的,关键性的 clumsily adv.笨拙地,不灵巧地 conservation n.保护,保持

1.The author mentions car industry at the beginning of the passage to introduce _____.

A.the progress made in car industry

B.a special feature of agriculture

C.a trend of development in agriculture

D.the importance of investing in car industry

2. What does the author want to illustrate with the example in Paragraph 2?

A.Loans to small local farmers are necessary.

B.Technology is vital for agricultural development.

C.Competition between small and big farms is fierce.

D.Small farmers may gain some advantages over big ones.

3. What is the difficulty for those new farmers?

A.To gain more financial aid.

B.To hire good farm managers.

C.To have farms of their own.

D.To win old farmers' support.

4. What should farmers do for a more sustainable and fair farm economy?

A.Seek support beyond NYFC.

B.Expand farmland conservation.

C.Become members of NYFC.

D.Invest more to improve technology.

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- ◎语篇解读 本文是一篇说明文。小规模农场主通过自身对行业的快速反应、使用快速收割机等手段在效率方面也不输于大规模农场主。但是现在的农业也面临一些困难,为了有一个更可持续的、更公平的农业经济局面,美国青年农会要获得更多的支持。
- 1.B 细节理解题。题干意思是:作者在文章开头提到汽车行业是为了引出____。根据第一段可知,作者提及汽车行业是为了引出农业的特点,故选 B。
- 2.D 推理判断题。题干意思是:在第二段通过举例作者想说明什么?由第二段内容可知,作者举例说明了在使用快速收割工具前后,小规模耕作生产效率有了极大的提高,使其能够与大规模农场竞争。故选 D。
- 3.C 细节理解题。题干意思是:对于新一代农民来说他们的困难是什么?根据第三段第二句话"一个重要因素就是确保土地的利用。"和第四段第一句话"对于超过一百万的最有资质的农民和经理的又一个挑战就是没有公民渠道——建设自己的农场的最大障碍。"可知,应该选 C 项。
- 4.A 细节理解题。根据题干关键词 "a more sustainable and fair farm economy(一个更可持续、更公平的农场经济)" 可把答案定位在最后一段。文章 第一段最后一句说明了美国青年农会(NYFC)的功能,最后一段第二句话中的"当我们督促议会去加强耕地保护的同时,我们需要更广泛的支持"可知答案应该选 A。