

考試科目	英文寫作	所別	英國語文學系	考試時間	2 月 2 日(四) 第一節
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Read the passage carefully and complete the writing tasks that follow.

### PASSAGE

Most people who bother with the matter at all would admit that the English language is in a bad way, but it is generally assumed that we cannot by conscious action do anything about it. Our civilization is decadent and our language—so the argument runs—must inevitably share in the general collapse. It follows that any struggle against the abuse of language is a sentimental archaism, like preferring candles to electric light or handsome cabs to aeroplanes. Underneath this lies the half-conscious belief that language is a natural growth and not an instrument which we shape for our own purposes. Now it is clear that the decline of a language must ultimately have political and economic causes: it is not simply due to the bad influence of this or that individual writer. But an effect can become a cause, reinforcing the original cause and producing the same effect in an intensified form, and so on indefinitely. A man may take to drink because he feels himself to be a failure, and then fails all the more completely because he drinks. It is rather the same thing that is happening to the English language. It becomes ugly and inaccurate because our thoughts are foolish, but the slovenliness of our language makes it easier for us to have foolish thoughts. The point is that the process is reversible. Modern English, especially written English, is full of bad habits which spread by imitation and which can be avoided if one is willing to take the necessary trouble. If one gets rid of these habits, one can think more clearly, and to think clearly is a necessary first step towards political regeneration: so that the fight against bad English is not frivolous and is not the exclusive concern of professional writers.

1. According to the passage, what causes bad language in the end? Write a paragraph of about 150 words to elaborate. (25%)
2. According to the passage, what is the first stage that can make "the process" "reversible"? Write a paragraph of about 150 words to elaborate. (25%)
3. Do you agree or disagree with the author's main point? Write a typical argumentative essay of around 600 words to show your standpoint. (50%)

備

註

- 一、作答於試題上者，不予計分。
- 二、試題請隨卷繳交。