C One of the Lumiere Brother’s earliest films was a 30-second piece which showed a section of a railway platform flooded with sunshine. A train appears and heads straight for the camera. And that is all that happens. Yet the Russian director Andrei Tarkovsky, one of the greatest of all film artists, described the film as “a work of genius”. “As the train approached”, wrote Tarkovsky, “panic started in the theatre: people jumped and ran away. That was the moment when cinema was born. The frighten audience could not accept that they were watching a mere picture. Pictures were still, only reality moved; this must, therefore, be reality. In their conclusion, they feared that a real train was about to crush them.”

D Early cinema audiences (观众) often experience the same confusion. In time, the idea of film became familiar, the magic was accepted--but it was never stopped being magic. Film has never lost its unique power to embrace its audiences and transport (送达) them to a different world. To Tarkovsky, the key to that magic was the way in which cinema created a dynamic image of the real flow of events. A still picture could only imply (暗示) the existence of time, while time in a novel passed at the whim of the reader. But in cinema, the real, objective flow of time was captured.

E One effect of this realism was to educate the world about itself. For cinema makes the world smaller. Long before traveled to American or somewhere else, they knew what other places looked like; they knew how other people worked and lived. Overwhelmingly, the lives recorded--at least in film fiction--have been American. From the earliest days of the industry, Hollywood has dominated (主导) the world film market. American imagery--the cars, the cities, the cowboys--became the primary (主要的) imagery of film. Film carried American life and values around the globe.

F And, thanks to film, future generation will know the 20th century more intimately (熟悉地) than any other period. We can only imagine what life was like in the 14th century or in classical Greece. But the life of the modern world has been recorded on film in massive, encyclopedic (百科全书式的) detail. We shall be known better than any bypassing generations.

G The “star” was another natural consequence (后果) of cinema. The cinema star was effectively born in 1910. Film personalities have such an immediate presence that, inevitably, they become super-real. Because we watch them so closely and because everybody in the world seems to know who they are, they appear more real to us than we do ourselves. The star as magnified (放大的) human self is one of cinema’s most strange and enduring legacies.

H Cinema has also given a new lease of life to the idea of the story. When the Lumiere Brothers and other pioneers began showing off this new invention, it was by no means obvious how it would be used. All that mattered at first was the wonder of movement. Indeed, some said that, once this novelty (新颖) had worn off, cinema would fade away. It was no more than a passing gimmick, a fairground attraction.

I Cinema might, for example, have become primarily a documentary (纪录片的) form. Or it might have developed like television--as a strange, noisy transfer of music, information and narrative. But what happened was that it became, overwhelmingly, a medium for telling stories. Originally these were conceived (想象) as short stories--early producers doubted the ability of audiences to concentrate (集中) for more than the length of a reel. Then, in 1912, an Italian 2-hour film was
hugely successful, and Hollywood settled upon the novel-length narrative that remains the dominant cinematic convention of today.

J And it has all happened so quickly. Almost unbelievably, it is a mere 100 years since that train arrived and the audience screamed and fled, convinced by the dangerous reality of what they saw, and perhaps, suddenly aware that the world could never be the same again—that, maybe, it could be better, brighter, more astonishing, more real than reality.

Questions 11-15
Which paragraph contains the following information? Write the correct letter, A-J, in boxes 1-5 on your answer sheet.

11. The location of the first cinema.
12. How cinema came to focus on stories.
13. The speed with which cinema has changed.
14. How cinema teaches us about other cultures.
15. The attraction of actors in films.

Questions 16-19
Do the following statements agree with the views of the writer in this passage? In boxes 6-9 on your answer sheet, write YES if the statement agrees with the views of the writer, NO if the statement contradicts the views of the writer, and NOT GIVEN if it is impossible to say what the writer thinks about this.

16. It is important to understand how the first audiences reacted to the cinema.
17. The Lumière Brother’s film about the train was one of the greatest films ever made.
18. Cinema presents a biased view of other countries.
19. Storylines were important in very early cinema.

Question 20
What is the best title for this passage?
A. The rise of the cinema star
B. Cinema and novels compared
C. The domination of Hollywood
D. The power of the big screen

第三节：书面表达 (150 words) (20 分)

You should complete and write this task within 30 minutes and approximately in 150 words.

Some people believe that visitors to other countries should follow local customs and behavior. Others disagree and think that the host country should welcome cultural differences.

- Discuss both these views and give your own opinion.
- Give reasons for your answer and include any relevant examples from your own knowledge or experience.

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