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# 大学英语四级考试指导

主编/徐秋梅 李萍香 王志茹

# GUIDE TO COLLEGE ENGLISH TEST BAND FOUR

湖北科学技术出版社

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## 前 言

本书以《大学英语教学大纲》和《大学英语四级考试大纲》为指导思想,参考多种大学英语教材历年全国大学英语四级考试(CET—4)试题编写而成。内容包括:阅读理解、词汇语法、完形填空、短文写作及综合测试五个部分。

本书与同类书籍比较,具有如下特点:

1. 针对性强:该书避免了某些同类书籍中盲目堆砌试题的倾向,而是根据我国学生学习英语的难点和疑点,以及四级考试中学生常犯的错误,有目的地精选练习题,具有较强的针对性,并经湖北大学多届学生试用,效果良好。本书能够使学生有的放矢地准备考试,在短期内大幅度地提高成绩。

2. 重点突出:鉴于《大学英语教学大纲》对学生听、说、读、写四种技能的要求不同,以及大学英语四级考试试卷中各个测试项目分数比重的差异等,本书在编著过程中注意突出重点。例如,阅读是《大学英语教学大纲》所规定的重点技能,在考试中的分数比重很大,本书就以大量篇幅,详细阐述了提高阅读能力的方法和应试技巧,并配有大量练习。又如,四级考试写作部分以说明文为主,本书就在介绍各种常用文体写作的同时,重点陈述说明文的写作手法,并配有大量范文。

3. 编写角度新:本书不仅介绍大学英语四级考试的应试技巧,而是在提高学生各方面能力方面,进行了探讨,使学生读完本书后,不但对考试技巧有所了解,而且提高了语言的运用能力。

另外,在编写过程中,本书还适当溶进了一些英语教材中的内容,以便引导学生将日常英语教程与四级考试的准备工作有机地结合在一起。同时,教师也可能使用本书的部分内容进行教学。

本书覆盖了《教学大纲》和《考试大纲》的内容,但不仅仅局限于此,而且还根据四级统考最新出题的内容和形式及考试发展趋势进行编写。全书内容代表了四级考试的水准和动态,并在此基础上适当拔高。

总之,本书阐述与例证并茂、演示与技巧并举,言之有物,读之有益,在各方面对于四级考试都能起到积极的指导作用。

本书不仅供准备参加四级考试的读者使用,而且,对于参加研究生考试,出国、晋升职称等多种考试的人员,均有一定的帮助。

本书各部分编写分工如下:

- 第一部分 (阅读理解):徐秋梅、王志茹;
- 第二部分 (语法结构和词语用法):李萍香、陶 涛;
- 第三部分 (完形填空):肖万珠、李萍香;
- 第四部分 (写作):王志茹、徐秋梅;
- 第五部分 (综合测试):陶 涛、刘 莉。

在本书的编撰过程中,我们参阅了英语四级考试方面的大量资料。由于篇幅所限,在此不能一一列出,借本书出版之际,谨向原作者表示诚挚的谢意。

编 者

1992年秋于武汉

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# 第一部分 阅 读

## I. 阅读指导

根据大学英语四级考试大纲的要求,阅读理解部分的主要目的是测试学生的阅读速度及通过阅读获取准确信息的能力。这些能力包括以下几个方面:

- (1)掌握所读材料的主旨和大意;
- (2)了解说明主旨和大意的事实和细节;
- (3)既理解字面的意思,也能根据所读材料进行一定的判断和推论;
- (4)既理解个别句子的意义,也理解上下文的逻辑关系。

阅读理解部分的考试,要求考生在35分钟内阅读四篇短文,总阅读量为1000词左右,每篇短文后有5个问题,考生根据文章内容从每题4个选择项中选出一个最佳答案。阅读部分在英语四级考试中所占比重最大,总题数20个,占卷面成绩的40%。因此提高阅读理解能力,是能否成功地通过全国四级英语统考不可忽视的关键。

学生在阅读理解测试中所遇到的主要障碍是:

- (1)词汇量偏少,生词偏多;
- (2)知识面偏窄,背景知识贫乏;
- (3)阅读速度慢,在规定的时间内不能完成阅读任务;
- (4)缺乏阅读方法和技巧。

如何克服上述障碍,提高阅读理解部分的应试能力呢?

## II. 提高阅读能力的方法

### 一、从文体入手,提高阅读效率

阅读的目的是为了获取文章中的主要信息,而文体就是信息在文章中的组织方式,这种组织方式是文章的脉络,把握住脉络,就可在较短的时间内获得较多的信息。

四级英语考试中阅读内容广泛、题材各异,包括人物传记、社会、文化、历史、日常知识和科普常识等。且体裁多样,大致包括叙述文,说明文及议论文等。

不同体裁的文章,采取的阅读方法应有所不同。下面分别介绍各种体裁的阅读方法。

1. 叙述文。叙述文是将所发生的事情通过笔头再现。在阅读中,应特别注意找出主要人物、事件、时间、地点、背景、主要情节及最终结局。这类文章通常按被叙述事物发生的时间顺序来组织,以时间贯穿全文。在几件事物中,又多按其重要性排列。这些文章中常用到时间状语及表示顺序的词,如 in 1978, two days later, first, second, 等等。下面是叙述文的一个例子:

In 1955, Martin Luther King Jr. gained national recognition for his non-violent methods used in a bus boycott in Montgomery. This peaceful boycott, under Dr. King's guidance, changed the law which re-

quirded black people to ride in the backs of buses. After this success, Dr. King used his nonviolent tactics in effect to change other discriminatory laws.

Dr. King urged Blacks to use nonviolent sit-ins, marches, demonstrations, and freedom rides in their efforts to gain full freedom and equality. Arrested for breaking discriminatory laws, Dr. King went to jail dozens of times, he became a symbol around the world for people to protest peacefully against unjust laws. In recognition of his work for peaceful changes, Dr. King received the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize.

1. According to the passage, as a result of his protest in 1955, Dr. King became \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) peaceful in his tactics
- B) famous in the United States
- C) frustrated in his efforts
- D) successful in the transportation business

2. The passage answers which of the following questions?

- A) When were discriminatory laws established in Montgomery?
- B) Who arrested Dr. King for breaking discriminatory laws?
- C) How many marches took place in 1955?
- D) What special award was given to Dr. King?

这篇记叙 Martin Luther King Jr. 的文章,分二段简述了小马丁路德·金领导以反对种族歧视为中心的民权运动的情况:

- (1) 领导黑人反对“乘车只能就坐后排”的种族隔离政策的斗争取胜而闻名全国。
- (2) 坚持以非暴力方式争取民权而获得诺贝尔和平奖。

如果能抓住文章大意,那么以上选择题就容易做了。显然,题 1 的答案是 B),题 2 的答案是 D)。

2. 议论文。议论文是用来表达作者观点的一种文体。它的结构是作者提出一个论点,然后加以论述。议论文多见于对人或事进行评论,掌握议论的主题,理解作者的观点,领会作者的态度,是阅读此类文章的重点。议论文的理解题有两类:一是针对原因或结果提问(属事实题),二是作者的观点和态度(属推测题)。例如:

Desertification(沙化), the loss of the soil's biological productivity, occurs naturally to a limited extent. The pace at which the process has spread recently, however, is largely man's own doing. This fact was highlighted by the great Sahal drought of 1968—1973. The worst effects of this drought were caused by nomadic (游牧的) people who had earlier been forced by national governments to adopt agricultural and grazing practices that were not in accord with their traditions. In common with those of other nomads among the world, such traditions involved never staying in one place so long as to exhaust the earth that provided them with sustenance(粮食、食物). When these people were not allowed to follow this tradition, the process of desertification moved ahead quickly.

1. According to the passage, what can be said of desertification?

- A) It is a wholly natural phenomenon.
- B) The Sahal drought was the first example of it.
- C) It does not occur naturally.
- D) Man has worsened this natural process.

2. Where does the author appear to lay the blame for the Sahal drought?



- A) on nomads around the world
- B) on some one in authority over the Sahal nomads
- C) on natural causes
- D) on the traditions of the Sahal nomads

3. Which of the following may be inferred about the author's attitude?

- A) He disapproves of nomads' traditional attitude to the soil.
- B) He approves of the recent pace of desertification.
- C) He approves of the nomads' new grazing practices.
- D) He approves of the nomads' traditional attitude to the soil.

这篇议论文的中心是“沙化”，即“土壤失去生物的生产能力”。这一现象是自然和人为二方面原因造成的。作者在此着重论述了人为造成“沙化”现象的责任在政府，即不顾游牧民族的传统生活习惯，强迫他们在某一地区长时期耕作放牧，必然导致“沙化”过程的迅速发展。

值得注意的是，在回答问题时，不要加个人的看法，而要注意顺着作者的思路回答问题。例如，题1按照原文，最精确的回答应该是D)。答题1，题3之类的问题，一定要立足于原文中作者的观点。由此可得出题2的答案是B，题3的答案是D)。

在阅读试题中，“According to the passage ...?”“What's the author's attitude...?”，“In the author's opinion...?”等之类的问题是提醒考生顺着作者的思路回答问题的。

3. 说明文。说明文是利用记叙形式解释或揭示某一事物的性质、构成、用途、使用方法等等。说明文的表现手法较多，有描写、分类，比较对比等。

(1)描写文的阅读重点是找出“中心事物”并弄清其特征。方法是扫描每个句子开头的几个字，是否表示同一事物，阅读时紧紧围绕“中心事物”进行，将信息与中心事物联系起来。

(2)分类文多用于表现科学题材的说明文中。这类文章是将主题分为若干次主题进行讨论，通过多个次主题说明，体现主题，阅读时要特别弄清文章给主题下的定义范围，各段要分清主题与次主题之间的关系。

(3)比较对比文的阅读重点是抓住事物的个性和共性，了解个性是为了回答有关事物的具体细节的事实题，而掌握共性则是为了回答推理题。

说明文主要是进行主观的介绍，但也夹带一点议论。如遇到科普类文章，除中心思想外，还应注意某些重要的数据事实等。

说明文在四级考试中出现最多，应注意其阅读方法。例如：

As in the field of space travel, so in undersea exploration new technologies continue to appear. They share a number of similarities with each other as well as some important differences.

Manned submersibles, like spaceship, must maintain living conditions in an unnatural environment. But while a spaceship must simply be sealed against the vacuum of space, a submersible must be able to bear extreme pressure if it is not to break up in deep water.

In exploring space, unmanned vehicles were employed before astronauts. In undersea exploration, on the other hand, man paved the way, and only recently, have unmanned remote — operated vehicles (ROVs) been put to use.

One reason for this is that communication with vehicles in orbit is much easier than talking to those underwater. A vacuum is an ideal medium for radio communications, but underwater communications are limited to much slower sound waves. Thus most undersea vehicles — particularly ROVs — operate at the

end of long ropes.

For a similar reason, knowing where you are undersea is much more difficult than in space. A spaceship's position can be located by following its radio signal, or by using telescopes and radar. For an undersea vehicle, however, a special network of sonar devices must be laid out in advance on the ocean floor in the area of a dive to locate the vehicle's position.

Though undersea exploration is more challenging than outer space in a number of respects, it has a distinct advantage: Going to the ocean depths doesn't require the power necessary to escape Earth's gravity. Thus, it remains far less expensive.

这篇文章为了说明人工操纵潜水艇的性质和功能,将其与宇宙飞船加以对照,找出其共同点与不同点,从而得出人工操纵潜水艇的明显优点,如掌握了以上这些内容,回答问题也就不难了。

掌握正确的阅读方法和技巧,是进行有效阅读的重要保证。

## 二、略读

略读是阅读的重要手段,它的目的是要求读者在有限的时间内迅速抓住文章的主题,以及大致了解文章的写作意图。掌握此方法的关键是在短暂的时间内,将阅读材料中的重要部分及有价值的细节找出来。略读时,不要对所有内容平均安排时间。通常对一篇文章略读时,必须以正常速度全部读完文章第一段和末尾段。因为第一段常常是对整篇文章主要内容的介绍,而末尾段又是对整篇文章的概括。从第二段开始的中间那些段落可采用略读。在阅读时要尽快找到文章重点,主旨大意,在较短时间内确定那些该读,哪些可忽略的部分。然后,对文章的重点再次扫描,对重要观点,重要结论及关键性的词语作上记号,加深记忆,以便解题时查找。

## 三、注意阅读段落主题句及首尾段

一篇文章是一个有机整体,它要通过若干个段落,从不同侧面表达一个完整的主题。一般说来,论述性较强的文章或说明文,每一段或相关几段里总有一句话是主题句。主题句常放在段落的开头,有时也放在段落最后。读了主题句后,就能弄清每段大致的中心内容,而该段其余的句子则是用来进一步阐述和说明主题句提出的中心思想的。

除注意阅读主题句外,还应特别留心阅读文章的首尾段。一篇文章常分为三个部分:引言(Introduction),正文(Body),结论(Conclusion)。起首句的作用是点明文章论述的主题,文章的目的及所涉及的内容,具有提纲挈领的作用。结论即收尾段要简略回顾整篇文章的主要内容,以及作者自己的看法或结论,具有画龙点睛的作用,这种写作规律在英语论述中表现尤为明显。因此在做阅读理解试题时,注意阅读段落主题句和首尾段,尽快掌握文章要点。

## 四、扩大视野,注意词的整体性

同样一篇文章,阅读能力差的学生需时间长一些,而阅读能力强的学生则需时间短一些。原因就是:前者复视频繁且阅读视野狭窄。这里指的“阅读视野”就是眼睛在一瞬间所能接收或所能复盖的印刷符号。阅读能力强的学生一眼可以看四个左右的单词,容易掌握词的整体性将注意力放在句子中较大的单位上;而能力差的学生一眼只能接受一个或更少的单词。例如:A scientist / requires not only self-discipline / but hard training / and determination. 这个句子可分为四个词群,阅读时眼睛只要停顿四次而不是十二次。

词与词之间的搭配组合还起着一种相互制约的作用。孤立的单词可能在头脑里产生许多不同

的概念,如“hard”一词意思是“硬的,困难的,艰难的,严格的”等,只有在它与“training”一词搭配而受其限制时,才能得出一个具体的概念。如果阅读是逐字进行,而不是按词群进行,势必扩大大脑选择信息的范围,延长阅读时间,影响阅读效果。因此应努力学会一次扫描一句或数句的线式阅读法。

### 五、善于捕捉关键词

阅读时,常可遇到一些简单的句子,从表面上看,好像意思全懂,当做理解题时,往往就不知如何下手,或者会作出完全不同的理解。问题在于,读者对有关单词的意义了解不确切,或者不善于抓与理解有关的关键词。例如:They play basketball even in the dead of winter, throwing out little puffs (一股股)of steam as they shoot away at the netless rims (篮球架上篮圈)。针对这句话有一道题:

Which of the following is implied in the sentence?

- A) The kids play basketball only in winter.
- B) The kids are afraid of cold.
- C) The sports equipment is poor.
- D) The kids play basketball without rest.

如果对原句子中的“netless”不注意,很可能会忽视这个单词所包含的信息而进行错误的选择。“netless”是指“没有网子的球篮”,它的含义就应该是“运动条件差”,所以这道题的答案应该是C)。可见,善于抓关键词,对阅读理解来说是十分重要的。

### 六、利用文章的提示解决生词问题

词汇量的大小对读速与理解有十分明显的影响,因此平时要注意记忆单词,扩大词汇量,尽量减少阅读过程中的生词。然而,词汇量再大,阅读中仍然会碰到生词的,这就需要学会根据上下文来推测生词的词义,下面介绍几条主要的线索。

1. 定义提示。所谓“定义提示”是指文章中出现的对生词进行的直接解释,这类线索在有关自然科学题材的文章中出现较多。例如

Oceanography has been defined as "the application of all sciences to the study of the sea."

"Oceanography" 这个单词对于大多数同学来讲是生词,但通过定义提示,得知是“海洋学”的意思。

值得注意的是,凡是这类以某一词汇的定义开始的句子,往往都是文章的主题句,文章的其余部分都是围绕这个词加以说明的,因此在阅读中一定要将被解释的词弄懂弄通。

有些生词还可依靠某些“定义性”的词的意义来断定词义。例如:

To the west of this river are many kilometres of grassland "the Pampas" ...

The farmers there put up wire fences and make a big fields. In the fields they keep cattle and grow alfalfa. Alfalfa is a kind of plant. The farmers feed the cattle with it.

由于“pampas”和“alfalfa”分别都被定义所限定,读者不难断定前者就是grassland的名称,而后者则是喂养牲口的一种饲料。即使读者并不确切知道The pampas是“南美大草原”的专称,也不知道alfalfa是“紫花苜蓿”这样的具体词义,但这并不妨碍读者进行有效的阅读。

上面这个例子说明“定义性”词义判断,一般是根据单词与单词之间的相互关系来断定词义。

2. 同义词、近义词、反义词提示。有些生词的含义可以通过同义词、近义词、反义词的出现猜出来。例如:

(1) You feel "charge up", ready for action.

"charge up" 这个词组可能许多学生不熟悉,但逗号后面有同义词组"ready for action" 就对这个词组起到了注解的作用“准备采取行动”。

(2) He felt narked at Tom's unfair criticism. When Tom noticed his annoyance, he stopped immediately.

从句子中,可以判断 "narked" 与 "annoyed" 意思相近,意为“恼火”。

(3) He faced great peril in the forest that night. But the brave man came out following morning safe and unharmed.

可以判断 "peril" 的意思与 "safe" 相反,是“危险”的意思。

3. 例证提示。有些词义是可以通过例证得知词的意思的。

例如: Do you participate in one of the more popular avocations, such as jogging, stamp collecting?

句子中 "jogging" (跑) 和 "stamp collecting" (集邮) 都有个共同特征,即均属于“业余爱好”的范围,因此不难断定 "avocations" 的词义了。

4. 词根提示。在阅读时,不少生词的意思也可以根据它们的构词形式来猜测。例如:你可能从未碰到过 uncontrollable 这个词,但你知道词根 control 的意思,通过分析该词的三个组成部分 un, control, able 你可以猜出该词的含义。一个词可以有两个甚至多个前缀和后缀,因此根据词根加不同的前、后缀的形式就可猜出它的含义。如

comfort (舒服) → comfortable (舒适的) → comfortably → (舒适地) → uncomfortable (不舒服的) → discomfort (不舒服,不自在)

convert (转变、转换) → reconvert (再转变) → convertible (可改变的,可变换的) → unconvertible (不可变换的)

再看看下列句子:

(1) Jack is a bookish person. He never goes to cinemas and rarely watches TV.

这句话中的 "bookish" 是 "book" 加后缀 "ish" 构成的形容词,知道了词根的意思,这个形容词的意思便清楚了,即“书生气的,书呆子”等。

(2) The man said that he knew very little about music and he was unqualified to teach the course.

"unqualified" 是词根 "qualified" (取得资格,具备合格条件), "加前缀 un 和后缀 ed 构成的形容词,意指“不具备合格条件的,没有资格的”。

5. 句意提示。句意提示是利用句子或文章中其他部分的描写与生词之间的关系来推断词义。有时很难猜出某些生词的确切意思,但可以猜出它们的大概含义,这要求读者在阅读中进行积极的思维。例如:

(1) They play in the heat of the afternoon with not much more to fuel them than a can of soda and a store-bought pie.

(2) The man has got car mania. He spends all his money on buying both old and new cars. His wife threatens to leave him forever if her husband does not give up that expensive hobby.

根据上下文的意思,不难猜出(1)句中 "fuel" 的意思是“吃点东西”,(2)句中的 "mania" 的意思是“癖好,过分的爱好”。

有时还可通过同一复合句中的两个句子或独立的两个句子,在句意上的相互比较来判断生词词义。例如:

I became angrier and angrier as John talked, but I refrained from saying anything.

由于句中使用了转义词“but”，从而使并列复合句中的前后在意义上处于对比的状态，因此就自然可以断定 refrain 就是 hold back 的意思。

又如：

By anticipating the murderer's next move, the police were able to arrive at the woman's house before the murder occurred.

句中利用 by 短语结构，表示了警察在事先已采取了某种手段，才得以在谋杀案发生之前抵达现场。结合整句句义，可判断出“anticipating”的基本词义应是“预测”。

### III. 阅读理解测试答题技巧

通过分析各类阅读理解试题，特别是大学英语四级考试模拟试题及全国统考试题，阅读理解题可分为客观和主观两大类。

客观理解题是针对文章的具体细节而设置的，答案可直接从原文中找到，这类题约占总题目的70%左右。

主观理解题可细分为判断主题(main idea)，题目(title)，命题目的(purpose)，短文出处(source)，文章含义(implication)，推论(inference)和结论(conclusion)等。主观理解题常常是以下面这些形式出现的：

What's the main idea of the first paragraph?

Which of the following is implied in the passage?

What's the purpose of the author for writing the article? 等等。

针对不同的题型，如何采取对策呢？

如前所述，阅读理解题型一般为两大类，多以三种形式出现：a. 事实型理解题。b. 主题型理解题，c. 判断推理型理解题。

#### 一、事实型理解题的答题对策

这类题是针对原文中的具体细节提问的，大多数可在原文中找到现成的答案，按理说是容易做的。但事实并非如此，这是因为被问及的事实往往不是以其本来面目出现的，而是以新的方式加以陈述的，这就需要考生具有识别能力，能够在选择项中找出与原文事实在意义上相符的答案，又不被其文字表达上的差异所迷惑。事实上，四级考试中很少给直接能“对号入座”的客观理解题，而是或多或少地捌点弯。考生经常遇到这种情况，似乎原文都看懂了，对文章里的事实也有了了解，可在回答问题时不知选哪一项为好。这是因为考生虽理解了原文，但对题意和四个选项没有理解，实际上A)、B)、C)、D)、中3个干扰项有一定规律可循，如某篇文章中有一句这样的话“*We are concerned to develop the abilities of all our pupils to the full, not just their academic ability*”。

针对这句话，有下面一道选择题：

The author argued that a teacher's chief concern should be the development of the students

- A) personal qualities and social skill
- B) total personality
- C) learning ability and communicative skill
- D) intellectual ability

解题时,考生首先要明白题意,知道题目是就原文哪个部分提问的。此题的正确答案是B)。B)中"total personality"就是指原文中的"ability of all our pupils to the full";而A)句中只有前半部分事实与原文相符;C)句所及的事实是原文中没有涉及的事实;D)句与原文事实完全不符。这三个非正确答案中,以A)句最难判断,因其间包括着部分事实。在这种情况下,凡选择项中包含有部分与原文不符的内容,这项选择就一定是错误的,但如果选择项中只包括原文的部分事实而非全部,则是正确答案。如A)句中去掉后半部分,就可算是正确答案。

总之,回答事实型理解题,要以原文为依据,识别似是而非的选择项,去伪存真,找准原文出处,从而得出正确的答案。

## 二、主题型理解题的答题对策

主题型理解题主要是考学生的综合概括能力,即在四个选择项中找出一个能够概括并代表所述事物共性的句子,其他三个干扰项,一般都有下面的情况:

1. 过于笼统,不着边际;
2. 过于具体,只涉及原文的细节或部分;
3. 原文没有提及的内容;
4. 不确切,不扣题,没说到点子上。

例如:Because of the energy crisis, scientists in the oil consuming nations have become increasingly interested in the potential of solar energy. Some experts estimate that the present supply of fossil fuel will not last until the end of the twentieth century. The problem that solar energy researchers face is how to harness the sun's energy effectively and inexpensively. One of the most popular methods currently being tested uses rooftop solar collectors and underground storage tanks. An advantage of a properly working system of this type is that it will not create any environmental pollution. Another advantage of using solar energy is that the cost of the fuel, the sun's rays, is zero. When a solar heating system is working at maximum efficiency, it can provide up to 80 percent of winter heating needs.

The main topic of this passage is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) the shortage of fossil fuel
- B) the problem that energy researchers face
- C) an environmental pollution problem
- D) an inexpensive energy source

本文的主题是什么?根据原文,这篇文章的主题应该是“最经济的能量来源—太阳能的利用”,正确答案应是D)。因为A)过于具体,只涉及原文的某个细节;B)过于笼统;C)不确切,扣题不紧,没说到点子上。

## 三、判断推理型理解题的答题对策

这是阅读理解题中最难的一种。要求考生从文章字里行间去寻觅意思,即从文章的措词和表现手法中去细细揣摩那些言外之意,或根据一般常识进行逻辑推理。

推理一要有事实根据,二要合乎逻辑。推理题所表达的是原文没有作正面陈述的内在含义,只有以原文为基础,才能挖掘出字里行间的正确含义。

推理题的四个选择项中,三个干扰项常常表现为:

1. 与原文事实相矛盾;

2. 偏离文章主题,主观臆造;

3. 违反逻辑推理。

例如: Washington Irving was, in fact, one of the most successful writers of his time both in England and in the United States, delighting a large general public and at the same time winning the admiration of fellow writers like Scott in Britain and Poe and Hawthorne in the United States.

What is implied by the comment about Scott, Poe and Hawthorne?

A) Irving enjoyed great popular admiration.

B) Scott, Poe and Hawthorne were primarily responsible for Irving's success.

C) Irving's work was not only popular, but also of high quality.

D) More Americans than Britons admired Irving.

这题如选择 A), 属于没有辨认出原文的重要事实, 而作出了不合逻辑的推理; 如选择 B), 属于偏离文章主题, 主观臆造, 或者不完全理解原文的含意; 如选择 D), 与原文事实不符。

正确答案应该是 C)。因为英国的 Scott 和美国的 Poe 与 Hawthorne 都是 Irving 同时代有影响的作家, 既然 Irving 能赢得他们的赞赏, 说明 Irving 的文学作品质量是相当不错的, 所以既为广大群众所喜爱, 又能得到同行高手们的赏识。这个推理才符合逻辑。

由此可以得出, 推理的原则是: 推理 = 事实 + 逻辑, 事实是推理的基础, 而逻辑是推理的灵魂。

#### 四、根据题目先后查找答案的阅读方法

英语四级考试时, 阅读理解部分只有 35 分钟, 时间有限。为了在有限的时间内, 更快, 更准确的作出理解题, 可采取先读文章后面的问题, 然后再寻读文章的方法。这就是说, 根据题目先后, 查找相应段落, 快速选出答案, 这样针对性较强, 解题时间就会短, 此方法多用于解答事实型理解题。当然并不是所有文章都能采取这种方法, 如碰到一些内容较复杂, 较难理解的文章, 理解试题又属推理型时, 还是应迅速浏览全文, 了解文章概貌后, 再作题较为合适。

通常有这样一种情况, 在阅读测试时文章难度大, 则其理解测试题多为事实型; 如果文章较简单, 则其理解测试题属推理型的比重较大, 掌握了这个特点, 考生可根据不同的阅读目的及要求, 采用不同的阅读方法。

此外, 为了提高阅读速度, 考生还要不断克服阅读中的不良习惯, 如: 逐字逐句的点式阅读, 即用手或笔指着单词及句子, 轻声朗读, 或默读, 或心读。还有的考生一段话或一句话没看懂, 要反复看几遍等等。其实阅读时完全可以跳过一个难点继续往下看, 后面的内容可能会提供一些解答难点的线索, 有些难点对整篇文章的理解并无多大影响, 看不懂也没关系不必反复阅读。

对于准备参加大学英语四级考试的考生来说, 阅读方法和技巧固然是重要的, 但是应该清楚认识到: 对于一篇文章理解深透的基础仍是词汇, 语法和背景知识, 即语言能力和一般知识水平。因此, 学生在刚进校时, 就必须立即开始有计划的训练, 扎实地打好语言基础, 要大量阅读各种题材的文章, 拓宽文化视野, 扩大背景知识。在反复的实践中, 培养出语言感和临场的熟练反应。只要坚持训练, 持之以恒, 是能够顺利通过全国大学英语四级考试。

## IV. 阅读练习

### Passage 1

The standards of science teaching are set by the university professor who, in principle at least, divides his time equally between teaching and scientific research. The professor writes the textbooks, develops and directs the college science curriculum, and trains the elementary and high school teachers in science. Indirectly or directly the university professor is responsible for the quality of science teaching at every level from kindergarten through graduate school. If science curricula and teacher training are to be improved, the professor must lead the way, for only he has the necessary resources: the insight into the structure and content of science, control of teacher training in science, and the resources for instructional research and curriculum development. I am sorry to say that the professor has hardly recognized his responsibility, let alone fulfilled it with much distinction.

1. Who sets the standards of science teaching?
  - A) university professors.
  - B) the college science curriculum committee.
  - C) the textbook.
  - D) teacher training program.
2. The professor can improve science curriculum because he has knowledge of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) the structure of the school systems
  - B) the development of teacher training
  - C) the subject matter
  - D) structure and resources
3. The professor has a great influence on \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) funds for scientific research
  - B) the responsibility of the teachers
  - C) the teaching quality in the schools
  - D) the necessary resources for the textbooks
4. The responsibility for the quality of science teaching has been acknowledged by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) the author
  - B) the teacher
  - C) the professor
  - C) the curriculum
5. The professor has developed the quality of teaching \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) responsibly
  - B) with much distinction
  - C) with great insight
  - D) in an inadequate manner

### Passage 2



Discovered a mere one hundred fifty years ago and manufactured commercially just half that long, aluminum today ranks behind only iron and steel among metals serving mankind. The key to its popularity is its incredible versatility. The same metal that makes kitchen foil serves as armor for battlefield tanks. The material for lawn chairs and baseball bats also forms the vital parts of air and space vehicles — most of their skeletons, their skins, even the rivets that bind them together.

Behind aluminum's versatility lie properties so diverse that they almost seem to belong to several different metals. For example, in its pure form, aluminum is soft enough to whittle, yet its alloys can possess the strength of steel with only a third of its weight. Thus, when Alexander Calder designed one of his last mobiles — a soaring creation eighty feet long — his choice of aluminum over steel cut two tons from its weight. Aluminum also assures the masterpiece virtual immortality. The instant the metal is exposed to air, its surface acquires a transparent film that seals the interior against further corrosion.

1. According to the passage, the use of aluminum is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) greater than that of any other metal  
B) equal to that of iron  
C) less than that of steel  
D) to be ignored
2. It can be inferred from the passage that aluminum has been marketed for how many years?  
A) 40    B) 75    C) 80    D) 150
3. The most important feature of aluminum is that it \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) can be used for many different things  
B) is soft enough to whittle  
C) is strong  
D) can be marketed in pure form
4. It can be inferred that a steel object weighing three tons would weigh how many tons if it were made of aluminum?  
A) One    B) Three    C) Six    D) Nine
5. It can be inferred from the passage that things made of aluminum \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) are usually sealed with plastic film  
B) are not very popular as art objects  
C) will last a long time  
D) should not be exposed to air for a long period of time

### Passage 3

Students all over the world have to work for their education. A college education in the United States is expensive. The costs are so high that most families begin to save for their children's education when their children are babies. Even so, many young people cannot afford to pay the expenses of full time college work. They do not have enough money to pay for school costs. Tuition for attending the university, books, for classes, and living expenses are high. There are other expenses such as chemistry and biology laboratory fees and special student activity fees for such things as parking permits and football tickets. The cost of a college education increases every year. However, campuses are still crowded with students. Some American