

北航 考博系列丛书

考博英语

阅读理解 精读 80 篇

中国人民大学 韩满玲 主编

- 权威专家 倾力打造
- 60 篇精选期刊外文
- 20 篇实战阅读文章
- 2 套考博真题模拟



北京航空航天大学出版社
BEIHANG UNIVERSITY PRESS

北航 考博系列丛书

考博英语

阅读理解 精读 80 篇

中国人民大学 韩满玲 主编



北京航空航天大学出版社
BEIHANG UNIVERSITY PRESS

内 容 简 介

本书专为选择攻读博士学位的考生突破阅读难关使用。博士生入学考试中,阅读占了相当的比例,然而阅读题有很强的技巧性,只要抓住了窍门,并多加练习,短时间内就能有很大的提升空间。编者在研究了多所全国重点院校考博阅读试题的基础上,深挖题目出处及命题规律,编写此书。旨在从源头上为考生解答阅读的困惑,展示文章题源,帮助考生了解命题规律,拓展解题思路。

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

考博英语阅读理解精读 80 篇 / 韩满玲主编. -- 北京 :
北京航空航天大学出版社, 2015. 11
ISBN 978 - 7 - 5124 - 1926 - 1

I. ①考… II. ①韩… III. ①英语—阅读教学—研究生—入学考试—自学参考资料 IV. ①H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2015)第 258850 号

版权所有,侵权必究。

考博英语阅读理解精读 80 篇

韩满玲 主编

责任编辑 秦 莹 胡 娇

*

北京航空航天大学出版社出版发行

北京市海淀区学院路 37 号(邮编 100191) <http://www.buaapress.com.cn>

发行部电话:(010)82317024 传真:(010)82328026

读者信箱:bhpress@263.net 邮购电话:(010)82316936

北京嘉恒彩色印刷有限公司印装 各地书店经销

*

开本: 787 × 1 092 1/16 印张: 17.5 字数: 459 千字

2015 年 11 月第 1 版 2015 年 11 月第 1 次印刷

ISBN 978 - 7 - 5124 - 1926 - 1 定价: 48.80 元

前言

Preface

近年来,随着知识经济时代的来临,越来越多的人选择攻读博士学位继续深造。而考博英语是博士生入学考试中的一座大山,许多考生专业课成绩十分优秀,却因为英语成绩被梦寐以求的学府拒之门外。因此,对于众多考博学子而言,考博英语的重要性不言而喻,如何在最短时间内以最高效率备战英语入学考试,就成为迫切需要解决的问题。那么什么才是考博英语的关键呢?答案是阅读。

首先,虽然考博试题由各高校自主命题,但考博阅读在考博试题中几乎都占到40%的比例,阅读成绩的好坏对英语总成绩有着举足轻重的影响;其次,阅读题有很强的技巧性,只要抓住了窍门,并多加练习,短时间内就能有很大的提升空间。可以说,在考博英语中,得阅读者得天下。

那么,考博阅读成绩该怎样提高呢?我们不妨换个思路,站在出题者的角度看待考博英语阅读题,出题者通常会选取哪些文章作为阅读题源?这其中有怎样的规律?笔者通过对多所高校近10年来考博英语阅读题进行研究,发现以下几方面供考生借鉴:

从内容上看,考博阅读理解部分内容涉猎非常广泛,既有社会科学的内容也有自然科学的内容。

从题材上看,考博阅读中有关社会科学题材的文章较自然科学多,其要求的考试难度也更高。另外主要以议论文、科技类说明文和文艺评论为主,基本不考察应用文(书信、图表题)。

从题源上看,我们通过对一些高校近年来考博真题中的阅读理解部分进行分析,发现报刊杂志中的书评、时评以及科技类说明文成为这几年的热门题材,很多考博阅读真题直接取自英美国家的报刊杂志,总结如下:

1. 经济类文章主要来源: *The Economist* (经济学家), *Business Week* (商业周刊), *Wall Street Journal* (华尔街杂志)。

2. 科技类文章主要来源: *Nature* (自然), *Discovery* (探索), *Science* (科学), *National Geographic* (国家地理), *Scientific American* (科学美国人), *New Scientists* (新科学家)。

3. 社会生活类、教育类、健康类文章主要来源: *Newsweek* (新闻周刊), *Times* (时代周刊), *U. S News and World Report* (美国新闻与世界报道), *The Washington Post* (华盛顿邮报), *USA Today* (今日美国), *The Times* (泰晤士报), *The Guardian* (卫报)。



另外还有其他报刊来源如: *Independent* (独立日报), *International Herald Tribune* (国际先驱论坛), *Telegraph* (英国电信日报)。

正是基于上述分析,作者决定编写此书,以求从源头上为考生解答阅读的困惑,帮助大家熟悉这些报刊文章的特点。

大家还应该注意,很多真题文章源自英美的报刊杂志,但在出题过程中,往往会对选取的原文进行一定的改编,替换部分超纲词汇,删去一些不影响文章理解的详细阐述和与主题关联不大的细节,使文章更符合考博英语的难度和篇幅要求。即使是这样,对考生而言,广泛而深入地阅读这些受出题者青睐的题源文章,对熟悉考博英语阅读的题材和体裁、进而有针对性地提高阅读应试能力是大有裨益的。

另外,因为考博英语试题由各高校自主命题,因此对应于某一学校,其阅读理解的侧重点有很大不同,在此提醒各位考生要熟悉所报考学校的试题特点,以做到有的放矢。

本书正是在这样的需求下精心编写的。全书内容共分三部分:

第一部分是 64 篇题源阅读。所有文章均精心挑选自考博英语阅读真题中常见的英美报刊杂志,如 *The Economist* (《经济学人》)、*Times* (《时代周刊》)、*Scientific American* (《科学美国人》) 等,主题涵盖社会、经济、科技、教育、人文等真题常见领域,力求选文在篇幅、题材、难度和风格等各方面都尽可能贴近真题。同时,我们将所有文章根据难度分为“基础篇”、“提高篇”和“冲刺篇”,每个篇章有 5~6 个单元,每个单元包括主题各异的 4 篇文章,便于读者合理安排学习进度。

第二部分是 20 篇阅读模拟题。由资深主编老师编写,文章和试题的各方面对真题的模拟度高,并附有详细的答案解析,方便考生学练结合,在阅读第一部分的题源文章之外能进行一定量的自我检测,提高考博英语阅读的实战能力。

第三部分是 2 套考博英语模拟试题。能让考生熟悉考博英语试题的套路,衡量自己的整体水平,为进一步的英语复习提供参考。

与同类书相比,本书具有以下特色:

1. 选文原汁原味

阅读在于精,而绝不在于多。本书中的题源文章全部选自英美知名刊物,语言地道,原汁原味,有助于提高英语阅读能力,同时这些刊物也是考博英语阅读的常用题源,对应试能力的训练有很强的针对性。另外,本书所选文章涵盖经济、科技、社会生活、教育、健康等各个方面,以便读者对阅读题材有一个全面的认识,在遇到同类文章时做到成竹在胸。

2. 难度循序渐进

本书将所有的题源文章,根据难度不同,分为基础篇、提高篇、冲刺篇三个板块。每一板块中又细分为若干小单元。整体编排由易到难,层层深入,并且章节有序,便于考生把握学习节奏。

3. 编排讲练结合

本书中还提供了精心编写的考博英语模拟阅读及完整的模拟题。我们在题目的选择上,紧



扣考博试题的难度,并根据考博试题的常用题源,从许多外文期刊上精选文章。在题目设置和解答上,尽可能穷尽出题种类:主旨题、标题题、目的题、态度题、是非题、定义题、细节题和推断题,并附有详尽的解答和技巧点拨,让考生在前面的阅读过后能有机会检测自己的学习成果,同时掌握必要的解题技巧,在面对考博阅读题时能更加游刃有余。

4. 讲解点面俱全

本书中每篇题源文章后有“文章主旨”、“重点词汇”和“难句解析”3个版块,旨在从词、句、篇章3个层面对阅读文章进行全方位点拨,从而最大限度地帮助考生提高学习效率,实现英语阅读能力与应试技巧的双重跨越。

最后,套用一句名言:Chance favors the prepared mind。今天的付出终会在未来某一天化作宝贵的财富。我们真诚期望本书作为考博学生突破阅读难关之选,能够助广大考生一臂之力,成功进入自己理想的学府深造!此外,本书同样适用于希望品味地道英文、提升英语水平的读者朋友们,也希望您能从中体味到语言之美和阅读之乐趣!

由于时间仓促,水平有限,书中错误和纰漏之处在所难免,恳请广大读者批评指正。

编者

2015年11月于北京

目 录

Contents

第一部分 题源阅读

基础篇	3
Unit 1	3
For the Oil and Gas Industry, Tax Reductions Were Overdue?	
油气工业减税政策已过期?	3
Pesky Packing Peanuts Baked and Crushed to Make Battery Electrodes	
物尽其用——泡沫填充颗粒作电极	5
“Grandparenting” in Moderation Might Help Keep the Mind Sharp	
适度的隔代教育可能有助于延缓大脑认知能力衰退	7
How Doctors Determine the Moment of Death?	
死亡是如何判定的?	9
Unit 2	12
Rent Sweet Rent	
租赁经济, 轻松惬意	12
How Does IQ Relate to Personality?	
智力与个性有怎样的关联	14
Oscar Winners Live Longer Than Nominees, Study Says	
研究发现: 奥斯卡获奖者寿命比提名者长	16
You Are Half the Person You Used to Be	
美国居民家庭收入减半	18
Unit 3	21
Why So Little Chinese in English?	
为何英语中的汉语借词如此之少?	21
Parenting Like a Tiger Mom May Make Your Kids Obese	
虎妈的孩子易变胖	23
It's Time to Pay Attention to Sleep, the New Health Frontier	
健康保养新前沿: 关注睡眠	25

Being On Facebook Can Actually Make Us Happier	
脸书在线能让我们更快乐	28
Unit 4	31
Glad to Be Grey	
年纪大是好事情?	31
How Gillian Flynn Changed the Way You Look at Your Spouse	
吉莉安·弗琳如何改变了你对配偶的看法	33
Don't Text While Parenting — It Will Make You Cranky	
在教育孩子时,不要低头发短息——这会让你性情古怪	35
Korean Cool Is the Ultimate National Marketing Ploy	
韩流本质上是一种国家营销策略	37
Unit 5	40
Aliens On Line 2; Hold, Please...	
不要放弃搜寻外星人的计划	40
Seeing Is Believing	
眼见为实	42
We're Sorry, Applicants. We Accepted You in Error	
很抱歉通知您,我们录取您是因为系统出错	44
It's the Season to Break Up	
分手季	47
Unit 6	50
The Computer Will See You Now	
现在电脑能给你看病了	50
Howard U. Students, Faculty Add Color to Wikipedia's White	
霍华德大学填补维基百科中关于黑人历史的空缺	52
Warming Earth Heading For the Hottest Year on Record	
全球变暖,即将迎来史上最热年	55
Surprising Behaviors That Put Teens at Serious Risk of Depression	
某些行为让青少年成为抑郁症的高危人群	57
提高篇	60
Unit 1	60
Restraining Spending: Congress Should Let the President Try	
国会无力控制开支,也许该放手让总统一试	60
Fact or Fiction? Elephants Never Forget	
大象能过目不忘?	62
Two Words That Could Hurt Your Kids: Nice Job	
过度鼓励反而不利于孩子成长	64
The Hidden Dangers of "Skinny Fat"	
“瘦胖子”:身形苗条却肌肉松弛,隐藏了怎样的危险?	67



Unit 2	70
Poverty, Crime and Education: The Paradox of the Ghetto	
贫困、犯罪与教育——贫民窟的悖论	70
Water: All Dried Up	
水资源全面干涸	72
How Your Diet Can Hurt Your Marriage	
节食如何毁了你的婚姻	75
Showing A Little Pacemaker	
微型心脏起搏器的诞生	77
Unit 3	80
The Economics Curriculum Is Evolving, But Too Slowly for Some	
经济学课程不断发展,但对某些人来说节奏略慢	80
The Internet Is a Safer Place for Your Teen Than You Think	
互联网对你的孩子而言,比你想象中要安全	82
Make or Break for China	
中国迎来了孤注一掷的关键时刻	84
Designers Building Roadways That Generate Solar Power	
太阳能之路	87
Unit 4	90
Unconscious Thought Not So Smart After All	
无意识思考也许并不那么高明	90
Magnetic Bacteria Could Help Destroy Tumors and Fight Cancer	
磁性细菌或有助于治疗癌症	92
Nostalgia for the Soviet Era Sweeps the Internet	
对前苏联时代的怀旧情绪席卷网络	94
Surveillance: Secrets, Lies and America's Spies	
监视:秘密、谎言和美国的间谍们	97
Unit 5	100
The Brand Played Out	
大品牌大势已去	100
Reading Harry Potter Gives Clues to Brain Activity	
阅读《哈利波特》为研究人脑活动提供线索	102
School Reform: How to Tame a Trojan Horse	
校制改革——如何驯服一只害群之马	104
Civilian Drones on Unclear Course	
民用航拍机将何去何从?	107
冲刺篇	110
Unit 1	110
RoboCup	
机器人世界杯	110

Education and Class: America's New Aristocracy	
教育与阶级:美国的新权贵阶层	112
Why Schools Should Undermine Moral Teachings	
为什么学校教育会冲击道德教育	115
Missed Chance on Immigration	
错失良机的移民政策	117
Unit 2	121
Modern Families	
摩登家庭	121
Crows Understand Analogies	
乌鸦也会推理	123
When It Comes to A Long Life, There Is No Equality	
寿命无平等可言	126
America Hates Its Gifted Kids	
美国浪费了天才儿童	128
Unit 3	132
The Artful Dodgers	
狡猾的逃税公司	132
Love, Tax and Wedlock	
爱情,税收和婚姻	134
Will Tim Cook Succeed Running Steve Jobs's Company?	
库克能否成功经营苹果公司?	137
What's Wrong, Doc?	
动画产业怎么了?	139
Unit 4	143
Environment Trumps Genetics in Shaping Immune System	
环境因素对免疫系统的影响大于基因因素	143
How Facebook Could Sabotage Your Blind Date	
脸书如何毁了你的社交	145
Scientists Map What Your Brain Looks Like on English	
科学家绘制你的大脑在听英文时的样子	147
Mutual Suspicion Mars Tech Trade with China	
中美技术交易:疑虑重重	149
Unit 5	153
The Billion-dollar Race to Reinvent the Computer Chip	
千金竞赛:革新电脑芯片	153
Nearly Seven Years After the Onset of the Great Recession, the National Mood Remains Troubled	
经济危机近七年之后,国民情绪仍然焦虑	155

**Gender Inequality in Science**

科学研究领域的性别不平等问题的.....	158
----------------------	-----

Scientists Find Life in the Cold and Dark Under Antarctic Ice

发现:南极冰川下的生命	160
-------------------	-----

第二部分 考博英语模拟阅读

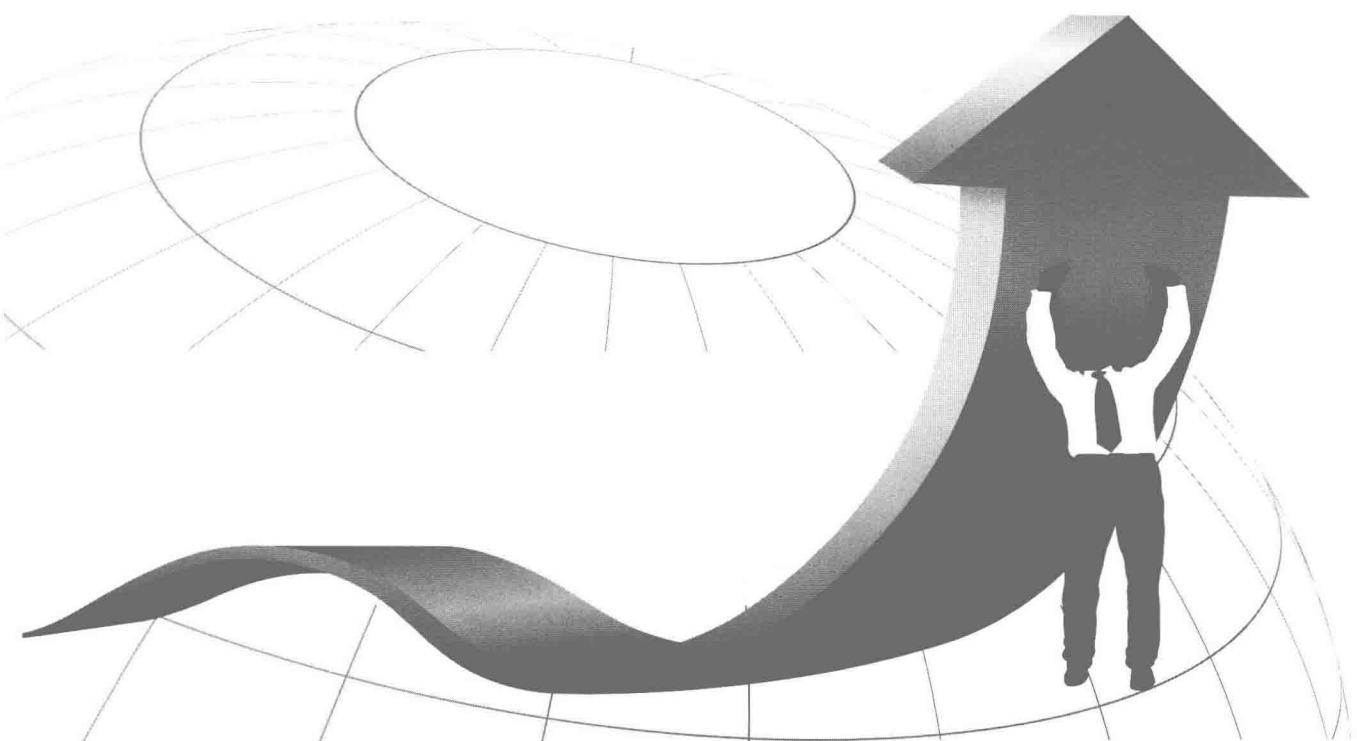
Unit 1	165
Unit 2	177
Unit 3	189
Unit 4	200
Unit 5	212

第三部分 考博英语阅读模拟试题

博士研究生入学考试英语模拟试题(一)	225
博士研究生入学考试英语模拟试题(二)	234
博士研究生入学考试英语模拟试题(一) 参考答案与解析	244
博士研究生入学考试英语模拟试题(二) 参考答案与解析	255
后 记	266

第一部分

题源阅读



基础篇

Unit 1

For the Oil and Gas Industry, Tax Reductions Were Overdue?

油气工业减税政策已过期?

Mar. 27th, 2015

The Economist

Among the tax cuts announced in his budget on March 18th, the **chancellor** of the **exchequer**, George Osborne, laid out big reductions for oil and gas companies operating in the North Sea. The previous tax rates for companies operating in the older fields sometimes amounted to a **punitive** 80%. Now the petroleum revenue tax will be reduced from 50% to 35%, and a supplementary corporation tax will come down from 30% to 20%. The government will

also invest in new **seismic** surveys in the more remote areas of the North Sea. Altogether, Mr Osborne hopes that these measures will boost production there by 15% by the end of the decade.

Oil and gas companies lobbied furiously for these changes, and they will certainly be welcomed, **not least** around the industry's capital of Aberdeen, where some 160,000 people rely on the sector. Mr Osborne should not expect much gratitude, though. Some firms **have yet to** forgive him for raising taxes in the first place.

In 2011 the chancellor surprised everyone by increasing the supplementary tax by 12 points to 32% (afterwards lowered to 30%). This might have netted the **hard-up** chancellor a **windfall** of about 2 billion (3 billion) but, so argue many in the industry, the tax rise also **deterred** companies from sinking any more money into an ageing basin where it had already become very expensive to operate. With margins **wafer thin**, North Sea oil and gas production, which had been falling steadily since its peak in 1999, **plummeted** between 2011 and 2013, before recovering slightly last year. Just as importantly, new exploration has crawled almost to a halt. This year it is expected that as few as eight new exploratory wells might be drilled. One consequence is that the once mighty North Sea oil and gas sector has become increasingly marginal to the overall British economy. In 2011 - 12 North Sea tax revenues totalled 10.9 billion, but in 2013 - 14 they had shrunk to just 4.7 billion.



Furthermore, although there might have been a case for a windfall tax in 2011 when the oil price was high, averaging 111 for a barrel of Brent crude over the year, since last June the price has **tumbled**. It is now down to about 55 a barrel. This has put even more pressure on margins and profits, so much so that, over the past six months, companies have been cutting wages and **laying off** hundreds of workers in a rushed attempt to cut costs. Overall, according to Oil and Gas UK, an industry lobby group, the sector lost 5.3 billion last year, the worst performance since the 1970s, when the colossal investment in new platforms and other **infrastructure** preceded the flow of oil and gas.

With the price of oil expected to stay at its current level for some time, both employers and employees know that only by drastically reducing operating costs in the North Sea over the long term can the basin remain profitable enough to attract investment, let alone compete with less costly deep-water basins in the Gulf of Mexico and off the west coast of Africa. With oil over 100 a barrel, the industry got used to **living high on the hog**, but those days are gone. In this respect, the tax cuts are helpful, but hardly crucial. Cutting costs will prove far more important.

文章主旨

本文主要分析了英国对其北海油气工业的减税措施的原因及意义。在英国公布的预算案中,英国财政大臣乔治·奥斯本提议为北海的油气公司提供大幅税务减免。根据新规定,石油收益税率和企业所得附加税都将被大幅削减,政府也将在北海远海域的新地震测量方面投入资金,政府希望通过这些措施促进该地区的产量。这一减税措施的出台主要是由于之前政府对进行油田开采的公司征收极高的税,导致北海的油气产业利润微薄,在英国经济中的地位越来越边缘化。不过,要提高利润并吸引投资,保持北海石油产业竞争力,减税能起到帮助,但更重要的还是降低生产成本。

重点词汇

chancellor ['tʃɑns(ə)lə] *n.* (英)大臣;(英)大法官
exchequer ['ɪks'tʃekə] *n.* 财源;国库;财政部
punitive ['pjʊ:nɪtv] *a.* 惩罚性的;刑罚的
seismic ['saɪzmɪk] *a.* 地震的;因地震而引起的
hard-up [hɑ:d'ʌp] *a.* 缺钱,手头紧
windfall ['wɪn(d)fɔ:l] *n.* 意外之财;意外的收获
deter [dɪ'tɜ:] *v.* 制止,阻止;使打消念头
plummet ['plʌmɪt] *v.* (价格、水平等)骤然

下跌
tumble ['tʌmb(ə)l] *v.* 跌落,滚下;(物价等)暴跌,剧降
drastically ['dræstɪkəli] *ad.* 彻底地;激烈地
lay off 解雇;停止工作
wot least 尤其;相当重要的
have yet to 尚未,还没有
wafer thin *adj./adv.* 也可写作 wafer-thin,极薄的(地)
infrastructure 基础设施;公共建设;下部构造
live high on the hog 活得滋润,生活充裕

难句赏析

1. Oil and gas companies lobbied furiously for these changes, and they will certainly be welcomed, not least around the industry's capital of Aberdeen, where some 160,000 people rely on the sector.

油气公司为达成这些改变而大力游说,减税措施当然会受到欢迎,尤其是在该产业的中心亚伯丁地区,这里约 160,000 名居民依赖着这一产业。

2. This might have netted the hard-up chancellor a windfall of about 2 billion (3 billion) but, so argue many in the industry, the tax rise also deterred companies from sinking any more money into an ageing basin where it had already become very expensive to operate.

经济拮据的财政大臣也许能借此获得一笔约 20 亿英镑(30 亿美元)的额外财政收入,但是该产业的许多公司也辩称税率上涨阻止了公司将更多的钱扔进这经营昂贵、日趋衰落的领域打水漂。

3. This has put even more pressure on margins and profits, so much so that, over the past six months, companies have been cutting wages and laying off hundreds of workers in a rushed attempt to cut costs.

这使获取利润越来越难,形势严峻到在过去六个月间,公司一直在慌忙地削减工资和裁员,以图减少开支。

Pesky Packing Peanuts Baked and Crushed to Make Battery Electrodes

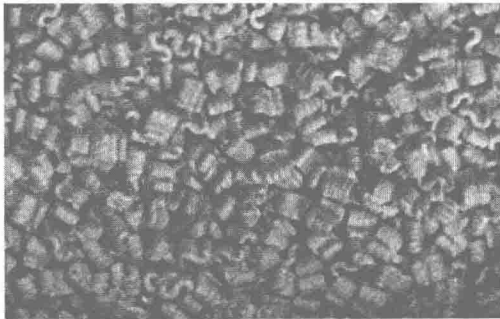
物尽其用——泡沫填充颗粒作电极

Mar. 30th, 2015

Scientific American

Packing peanuts make shipping fragile objects easy. But the puffy particles become a wasteful **nuisance** once the shipment is complete. Now researchers report a method to turn them into something useful.

The chemical engineers carbonize the foam packaging and use the resulting carbon microsheets to construct **lithium battery anodes** that rival the performance of conventional **graphite** ones.



Vinodkumar Etacheri, a postdoc in the lab of Vilas G. Pol of Purdue University, presented the work Sunday in the Division of Environmental Chemistry at the American Chemical Society national meeting in Denver.

The idea to work with packing peanuts came to Pol last year when he was setting up a new lab.

"We were getting boxes filled with packing peanuts all the time with the devices and chemicals we were buying," Pol told C&EN. In the U. S., only a small percentage of the polystyrene packaging gets recycled, Pol said, so he wanted to find a new use for them.

The anodes of a lithium-ion battery are usually made from graphite. As the battery charges and discharges, the graphite absorbs and releases lithium ions.

To turn the packing peanuts into battery anode materials, Pol's team carbonized the particles. The researchers first heated the peanuts from 500 to 900 °C for a couple of hours under an atmosphere of argon. They also added a metal-salt-based catalyst when carbonizing the polystyrene particles. Then they ground up the carbonized peanuts into a powder that consists of microsheets of carbon.

The researchers made anodes from the powder and tested their performance in coin cell batteries, similar to ones that power wristwatches. They put the batteries through a series of charging and discharging cycles.

Compared with batteries that have a conventional anode, the Purdue team's batteries could charge faster because the microsheets are thinner than graphite, Pol told C&EN. Also, the storage capacity of the peanut anodes was about 13% greater than the theoretical capacity for graphite anodes. This is because the microsheets formed a more disordered, porous network compared with graphite, allowing for greater absorption of lithium ions.

The process of turning the peanuts into anode materials has huge potential for success, said Sherine O. Obare of Western Michigan University, and chair of the session in Denver. She pointed out that the carbonization method probably would work with any material containing polystyrene.

Pol told C&EN that his team is looking for funding to scale up the peanut carbonization process. The researchers are also looking into other uses for the carbon powder, such as printer toner.

文章主旨

本文向我们展示了泡沫填充颗粒这种生活中常见材料的另一个用途——做电极。泡沫填充颗粒通常被塞在包装箱内,用来在运输过程中保护易碎物品,运输结束后,它们往往会被当成废物扔掉。如今,普渡大学化学实验室的研究者们发现可以用泡沫填充颗粒来做电极。化学工程师们对泡沫填充颗粒进行碳化处理后,使用反应所产生的碳薄片来制作锂电池的阳极,实验表明,在充电速度与储蓄容量方面,其表现都优于传统石墨电极。这一研究成果具有很大的发展潜力,碳化反应可以被扩展到许多同类材料上,同时科学家也在进一步探索碳粉末的其他功用。

重点词汇

nuisance ['nju:s(ə)ns] *n.* 讨厌的人;麻烦事;讨厌的东西

anode ['ænoʊd] *n.* [电子]阳极,[电]正极

graphite ['græfart] *n.* 石墨

ion [aiəns] *n.* [化学]离子

catalyst ['kæt(ə)list] *n.* 催化剂;刺激因素

porous ['pɔ:res] *a.* 多孔渗水的;能渗透的;有气孔的

lithium battery 锂电池

scale up 按比例放大;按比例增加

ground up 磨碎;打磨光滑