

北京市中学英语丛书编委会 编

阅读理解

高考英语强化训练系列丛书之三

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外语教学与研究出版社

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阅 读 理 解

北京市中学英语丛书编委会 编

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前 言

为了配合高中英语总复习,帮助考生适应 1996 年高考英语试题(NMET)的改革,我们编写了这套《高考英语强化训练系列丛书》,其中包括《单项填空》,《完形填空》,《阅读理解》,《单词拼写、短文改错、书面表达》及《高考英语模拟试题》共五本。

这套丛书是遵照国家教育委员会考试中心有关高考英语的指示说明,尤其是 1996 年高考英语改革的新精神,在总结和吸收众多成功指导高考复习的经验基础上编写的。为加强本丛书的针对性和实用性,我们一方面紧紧抓住高考英语能力和知识要点,做到突出重点、解决难点;另一方面针对考生在高考中经常出现的典型错误给予具体的指导,帮助考生在查缺补漏的同时,达到拓宽解题思路、掌握解题技巧和方法,并通过强化训练,真正在英语的综合运用能力和应试能力上有较大的提高。

《阅读理解》共编入 15 套模拟试题,均按 1996 年高考 NMET 改革后的新题型设计,每套试题有四篇短文和一篇对话。其中对话部分为新题型,具体要求是:阅读一篇对话,根据其内容从对话后的 A、B、C、D、E、F、G 七个选项中选出五个填入对话空白处的最佳选项。此题通过阅读理解的形式考查了考生对功能交际的运用能力,对中学英语教学起到了有力的导向作用。

参加这套丛书编写工作的都是北京市的一些中学英语高级教师和特级教师以及高校的英语副教授。他们之中有的多年从事高中英语教学以及高考复习工作,有的多年从事高中英语教研工作以及高考命题的研究工作,还有的曾先后参加过有关英语教材的编写工作。本丛书是编者群体智慧的体现,是他们长期英语教学实践、对高考命题不断深入研究以及多年编写工作经验的结晶。

我们热切地希望这套丛书能引导、伴随那些在学习道路上孜孜不倦、锲而不舍的考生通过自己的努力,走向必胜的成功之路。

本书承蒙北京外国语大学夏祖焯教授审阅,在此表示衷心的感谢。

编者

1995 年 11 月

怎样做阅读理解题

一、阅读理解能力测试的主要要求

阅读理解题测试考生掌握和理解所读材料的能力,也就是测试考生直接运用英语的能力。国家教育委员会考试中心颁布的《普通高等学校招生全国统一考试英语科说明》对阅读理解能力测试规定了以下要求:

1. 掌握所读材料的主旨和大意,以及用以说明主旨和大意的事实和细节;
2. 既理解具体事实,也理解抽象概念;
3. 既理解字面意思,也理解深层含义,包括作者的态度、意图等;
4. 既理解某句、某段的意义,也理解全篇的逻辑关系,并据此进行推理和判断;
5. 既能根据材料所提供的信息去理解,也能结合中学生应有的常识去理解。

二、阅读理解题的考查内容

每篇阅读文章后面的多项选择题考查考生的理解能力,通常涉及以下六个方面:

1. 文章的话题。一篇文章都有自己的话题或论题,涉及文章的中心内容。话题往往可用几个词加以概括,通常反映在文章的标题上。试题有时会要求考生选择一个选项作为文章的标题。这类问题考查考生阅读文章、领会文章大意的能力。

2. 文章的中心思想(又称主旨、主题、中心观点、基本观点等等)。不少文章在全文或各段的开头便展示出文章的主题。但在不少文章中,中心思想常常溶汇贯穿于全文。因此,要弄清文章的中心思想,考生必须具备归纳和概括能力。

3. 文章的细节。很多文章提供许多细节来表达或解释中心思想。因此,弄清细节有助于理解全文,作为归纳、概括中心思想的基础。考生应根据不同的要求,通过扫读全文或细读文章的特定部分的方法以获得某些特定的信息或准确地找到答题所需的细节。

4. 文章的寓意(或称隐含意义)。不少文章的作者往往期待读者在读了文章后知道应如何按某种方式去思考问题。这层意思通常隐含在文章之中而没有明确表达出来。这类问题中常用 **suggest** (暗示), **imply** (含有……的意思)等词语。考生应在通盘理解全文的基础上领会作者的言外之意。

5. 文章的结论。一篇文章通常会提出问题或涉及某些问题,并在论述后引出一定的结论。不过,文章的结论往往不在文章里明确展现出来,常常需要考生在理解全文的基础上通过推断、推论得出结论。这类问题中常用 **infer** (推论), **conclude** (推断出)等词语。

6. 词义。阅读离不开理解词义,但是,仅仅知道每个词的一个相应的中文意思并不等于完全理解词义,必须根据上下文正确理解灵活变化的词义。阅读中还会碰到生词,但很多生词可以根据同义词、近义词、构词法或上下文去猜测。

概括地说,阅读理解题(多项选择题)可以粗略地分为两大类:一类是要求理解文章中叙述的具体事实和抽象概念;另一类是要求通过阅读文章,对文章的主旨和深一层的意义、作者的意图、态度以及整篇文章的逻辑关系有更深入的理解,并据此进行推理或推断。

三、阅读理解题的解题步骤和技巧

1. 解题的步骤

(1) 首先快速通读一遍全文,抓住全文的中心思想。

(2) 读完第一遍之后,接着看文章后的多项选择题,注意判断试题的类型(即前面谈到的两大类:第一类题可以从文章中直接找到答案;第二类题则需要考生根据各种信息和线索做出推断或推理才能找到答案)。

(3) 读完全部问题之后,再把全文认真地读一遍,先找出第一类题的答案。对于第二类题,考生在阅读时必须努力发现隐含在文中的有关信息词和信息句。

(4) 根据所发现的信息词、信息句,结合中学生应有的常识进行一系列逻辑推理,选出能回答所提问题或完成所给句子的最佳答案。

2. 解题的技巧

(1) 通读文章时不要做题,第二遍阅读时再做题。

(2) 遇到生词不要急。试题中如出现生词,一般会注上中文词义。如果遇到没有注出词义的情况,考生应这样处理:

A. 利用构词法知识来猜测词义;

B. 人名、地名等专有名词,用不着弄清中文是怎样写的;

C. 有些普通名词要根据上下文去猜测其意义。某些与主旨及答题无关的不常见的名词,如表示动物、树木、建筑、机器、食物等词,只要能肯定其大的类别意思,即可放过。一些不影响答题的形容词及副词也可不必过多花费时间;

D. 有的生词,试卷上故意不注词义,而把它编成词语释义题。考生要根据上下文选出表达该词在文中的意义的选项。

(3) 弄清问题所指,做出正确选择。

A. 有的问题是针对文章中的一句话设计的,因此,可以从文章中的一句话中找到正确答案;

B. 有的问题是针对一段话所陈述的事实设计的,因此,可以从文章中的一段话中找到正确答案;

C. 有的问题是针对整篇文章设计的,或者问全文的中心思想,或者要求给文章确定标题,或者要求正确指出事情发生发展的先后顺序,或者要求判断地理位置和相互关系。这类试题要求考生认真读懂全文意思,根据文中提供的信息或线索进行逻辑推理。

(4) 采用排除法,排除以下选项:

A. 与文中陈述的事实相反的选项;

B. 文中完全没有提到的内容的选项;

C. 与全文内容或句子意义不沾边的选项;

D. 不合情理或荒谬的选项;

E. 表示间接或次要因素的选项(如果选项中既有直接因素,也有间接或次要因素,应选前者,排除后者)。

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Test One



Read the following directions on a bottle of medicine:

“Take two tablets (药片) with water, followed by one tablet every eight hours, as required. For maximum (最大量) night-time and early morning relief (缓解疼痛), take two tablets at bed-time. Do not take more than six tablets in twenty-four hours.

For children six to twelve years old, give half the amount for a grown-up. For children under six years old, ask for your doctor's advice.

Reduce the amount if nervousness, restlessness, or sleeplessness occurs.”

1. The directions on this medicine bottle clearly warn the patient not to take more than _____.
A. twenty-four tablets a day B. eight tablets a day
C. six tablets a day D. three tablets a day
2. We can infer from the directions that _____.
A. the medicine could cause some people to feel nervous
B. children may take the same amount that grown-ups take
C. one may not take this medicine before going to bed
D. the medicine is a liquid
3. If one cannot sleep, it is suggested that he _____.
A. take two tablets before going to bed
B. take less than two tablets before going to bed
C. stop taking the medicine
D. ask advice of a doctor
4. Obviously the medicine _____.
A. may be dangerous to small children
B. cannot be taken by children under twelve years old
C. may be taken by children but not by grown-ups
D. may be taken by grown-ups but not by children



We are already familiar with computers — computers work for us at home, in offices, in factories. But it is also true that many children today are using computers at school before they can write. What does this mean for the future? Are these children lucky or not?

Many people who do not know about computers think of them as machines that children play with. They worry that children do not learn from experience but just from pressing a button and that this is not good for them. They think that children are growing up not knowing about the real world.

But people who understand more about computers see that computers can be very good for children. A computer can help them to learn about the real world more quickly, to learn what they want to learn and to think for themselves. And for the future, don't we need people who can think clearly, who know how to get information quickly and use it well? What do you think?

1. "To be familiar with" means to _____.
 - A. be in the same family as
 - B. know about
 - C. dislike
 - D. like
2. According to the passage, in which four places can you find computers?
 - A. At home, in offices, in factories and in schools.
 - B. At home, in schools, in banks and in offices.
 - C. At home, in hospitals, in schools and in offices.
 - D. At home, in shops, in offices and in schools.
3. Does everyone think computers are good for children?
 - A. Yes, they do.
 - B. No, not everyone thinks so.
 - C. They don't know.
 - D. They are not sure.
4. "To learn from experience" means to _____.
 - A. learn from doing something
 - B. learn from a teacher
 - C. press a button
 - D. learn from each other.

5. What three things can computers help children to do?
- A. To think clearly, to do homework and to write.
 - B. To play games, to do maths and to copy.
 - C. To think clearly, to get information and to use it well.
 - D. To count, to clean the house and to get information.
6. Does the writer think the computer is a good thing?
- A. Yes, he does.
 - B. No, he doesn't think so.
 - C. He doesn't know.
 - D. It is not mentioned.



Everyone knows what a needle is. Of course there are needles and needles. Needles for sewing machines, needles for injection (注射), you name it. But few people think of the wonder a needle works in the hands of those who practise acupuncture (针刺疗法).

During the past ten years or so, I have been suffering from terrible headache. It seems to be getting from bad to worse these days. Last night I got a sudden pain in my head. It was so terrible that I could hardly bear (忍受) it. Although I swallowed all kinds of pain-killers (止痛药), I didn't feel any better. It seemed that there was nothing I could do but phone for a doctor.

One of our neighbours happened to be with us. He was not a doctor, but he timidly (胆怯地) offered his help, saying "Do you mind if I tried acupuncture on you? These needles may possibly do you some good." I agreed. In a moment, he had taken out a few needles from his purse. Without a moment's delay, he fixed a few needles into the skin on my head here and there. Before long, I felt thoroughly relieved (缓解疼痛).

Just then, the doctor sped through my house and said, "Where is our patient?"

"Sorry, Doctor. You are too late. It's killed!" I answered in delight. It's miracle, isn't it?

1. The underlined word name in the first paragraph means to _____.
- A. give a name to the needles
 - B. name as many kinds of needle as you can think of

- C. call the needles by the name of needles
D. say the name of a needle
2. The underlined phrase from bad to worse in the second paragraph refers to the man's _____.
- A. character
B. life
C. headache
D. health
3. Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the passage?
- A. The neighbour fixed needles on his own head.
B. The neighbour is a kind-hearted person.
C. The man's pain was killed before the doctor arrived.
D. Soon after the acupuncture, the man was completely recovered.
4. The sentences "You are too late. It's killed." mean that _____.
- A. the pain was killed because the doctor came late
B. the man was killed because the doctor came too late
C. before the doctor came the man's headache was already cured
D. it was too late and the man had gone away
5. The passage tells us that _____.
- A. everyone knows that acupuncture is a miracle
B. the neighbour wanted to use acupuncture on every patient
C. the effect of acupuncture on the man was unbelievable
D. the patient did not believe in acupuncture



The elephant is the biggest four-legged animal in the world. It is also, perhaps, the gentlest; but not always!

Elephants are like us in some ways. They live for a long time — fifty or sixty years. They can remember things very well. They never forget great sadness or great happiness. When a female (雌的) elephant dies, her daughters and her grand-daughters are sad for many months. They stay with the dead body. Then they carry a bit of it away with them. They never forget a dead friend.

Elephants are like us, but they are also different. They live in families of females. There will be a few young males (雄性动物) — a few 'baby boys'. But the females will soon send them away. An elephant family keeps

only its daughters, mothers and grandmothers, and its great-grandmothers.

The females stay together for fifty, sixty ... a hundred years. The older animals look after the young ones. The mothers teach their daughters and set good examples to them.

And what happens to male elephants? Well, the young males stay with their mothers for a time. Then they must leave the family. The females just send them away. A bull elephant (雄象) does not often have a friend. He lives apart away from the family, and often away from other bulls.

Sometimes the females call a bull. He can visit them then, and stay for a time. But soon his 'wives' and sisters send him away again. The females have a very happy family life. What do the bulls think about it? We don't know.

1. In what way are elephants like the human beings?
 - A. They live together for a long time.
 - B. They live in families of females.
 - C. They never forget great sadness or great happiness.
 - D. They have daughters, mothers and grandmothers, but no fathers.
2. What do the other elephants do when a female has died?
 - A. The others never move away from it.
 - B. The others eat the dead body.
 - C. The others take a bit of the dead body away sadly.
 - D. The others bury the dead.
3. What would the elephant family do when a male elephant is born?
 - A. They send him away.
 - B. They keep him for some time.
 - C. They teach him to live alone.
 - D. They stay with him for 100 years.
4. What happens to a male elephant when he grows up?
 - A. He often lives together with his wife.
 - B. He leaves the family.
 - C. He tries to form a new family.
 - D. He lives with other male friends.
5. Which of the following statements is true according to the passage?
 - A. Sometimes the female elephants visit a bull.
 - B. Sometimes the younger females stay with the family for a time.

- C. When a female elephant is old, the males leave the family.
D. A bull sometimes stays with females for a time.



Foreigner: Excuse me, _____ 1 _____

Li Ping: Yes, a little.

Foreigner: _____ 2 _____

Li Ping: I'm sorry, could you say that again, please?

Foreigner: I'm looking for a post office.

Li Ping: There's one just round the corner. _____ 3 _____

Foreigner: Thank you very much. That's very kind of you.

Li Ping: _____ 4 _____

Foreigner: Your English is very good.

Li Ping: Thanks. I'm learning English at evening classes. _____ 5 _____

Foreigner: No, I'm here to give some lectures at the university.

Li Ping: Well, I hope you'll enjoy yourself here.

- A. I can show you where it is.
B. Are you here on holiday?
C. It doesn't matter.
D. Do you speak English?
E. I'm looking for a post office.
F. That's all right.
G. Could you tell me the way to the post office?

Test Two



Time is divided into years, months, weeks, days, hours, minutes, and seconds. Of these seven divisions only two are set by nature, the year and the day. Every one of the remaining five is an invention of man and could be changed by man at will. For example, nothing would prevent us from having a week of five days instead of seven, and then the weeks would fit into ordinary years without a day over as now. We could have 20 instead of 24 hours a day, 100 minutes an hour, and 100 seconds a minute. However, the length of the year is fixed by the earth's revolution (公转) and the length of the day by the earth's rotation (自转).

1. Of these seven divisions _____.
 - A. five are invented by man
 - B. five are set by nature
 - C. all are set by man
 - D. only two are invented by man
2. A minute _____.
 - A. is fixed to have sixty seconds forever
 - B. could have one hundred seconds at man's will
 - C. is now sixty seconds and cannot be changed into one hundred seconds.
 - D. can be called other names
3. The year _____.
 - A. is fixed by the revolution of the sun
 - B. is set by the earth's revolution
 - C. is an invention of man and it could be changed by him at will
 - D. cannot be divided into other time units
4. If a week had five days instead of seven, we could _____.
 - A. have a leap year (闰年) every other year
 - B. divide an ordinary year into weeks with no days left
 - C. always have a leap year
 - D. have no leap year at all

5. The length of the day _____.

- A. is always the same whatever we may call it
- B. is not the same in all seasons
- C. has something to do with the moon's motion
- D. would be changed if we divided it into 20 hours instead of 24



One day, President Lincoln went to a party. At the gathering, a man called Douglas was repeatedly talking about Lincoln's low position in life and saying that he first met Lincoln when he was a shop assistant at a village shop. Finally he said, "And Mr. Lincoln was a very good waiter too."

People burst into laughter, but they quieted down when Mr. Lincoln said quietly.

"Gentlemen, what Mr. Douglas has said is true. I did keep a grocery (食品杂货店), and I did sell cotton, candles and cigars (雪茄烟), and sometimes whisky (威士忌酒). But I remember that in those days Mr. Douglas was one of my best customers. I often stood on one side of the counter and sold whisky to Mr. Douglas on the other side, but the difference between us now is: I have left my side of the counter, but Mr. Douglas still sticks to his as firmly as ever."

1. Where was Douglas talking about Lincoln's low position in life?
 - A. At a meeting.
 - B. In a college.
 - C. At home.
 - D. In a restaurant.
2. Why was Douglas repeatedly talking about Lincoln's low position in life?
 - A. Because he was friendly to Lincoln.
 - B. Because Lincoln was an example to show that an American of low position in life can become President of the U.S.
 - C. Because he wanted others to look down upon Lincoln.
 - D. Because he wanted to tell other people about Lincoln's honesty as a shop assistant.
3. How did Lincoln win the oral competition (口头的比赛)?
 - A. He won it by telling of his low position in life in his early days.
 - B. He won it by telling of his high position in life in his early days.
 - C. He won it by saying Douglas was telling lies.

- D. He won it by comparing his present position with Douglas'.
4. What do you suppose the sentence "Mr. Douglas still sticks to his as firmly as ever" means?
- A. Douglas was still talking about Lincoln's low position in life.
- B. Douglas was still standing on the other side of the counter.
- C. Douglas remained a drunkard (酒鬼) and had not changed a bit.
- D. Douglas kept on going to gatherings and talking a lot.



All the housewives who went to the new supermarket had one great wish: to be the lucky customer who did not have to pay for her shopping. For this was what the notice just inside the entrance promised. It said: "Remember, once a week, one of our customers gets free goods. This may be your lucky day!"

For several weeks, Mrs Edwards hoped, like many of her friends, to be the lucky customer. Unlike her friends, she never gave up hope. The cupboards (橱柜) in her kitchen were full of things which she did not need. Her husband tried to persuade her to stop buying things she did not need, but it was no use. She dreamed of the day when the manager of the supermarket would come to her and say: "Madam, this is your lucky day. Everything in your basket is free."

One Friday morning, after she had finished her shopping and had taken it to her car, she found that she had forgotten to buy some tea. She dashed back to the supermarket, got the tea and went toward the cashdesk (收款台). As she did so, she saw the manager come up to her. "Madam," he said, holding out his hand, "I want to congratulate you! You are our lucky customer and everything you have in your basket is free."

1. The customers in the new supermarket _____.
A. wanted to get free goods.
B. did not have to pay for shopping
C. wished to know what the notice promised
D. could get free goods once a week
2. The housewives learned about the offer of free goods _____.
A. over the radio
B. from TV

- C. at the supermarket
D. in the street
3. Mrs Edwards' husband _____ things which she was not in need of.
A. succeeded in persuading her to buy
B. enjoyed her buying
C. couldn't stop her from buying
D. would like her to buy
4. Mrs Edwards went back to the supermarket _____ when she found she had forgotten to buy some tea.
A. disappointedly
B. eagerly
C. quickly
D. willingly
5. After hearing the manager's words, Mrs Edwards must have been _____.
A. delighted B. disappointed C. frightened D. moved
6. The main purpose of this passage is to warn us not to _____.
A. do shopping at a new supermarket
B. go back to the supermarket after you have just left it
C. go shopping on Friday, as some people think it's an unlucky day
D. dream of getting lots of things free at any shop



To us it seems so natural to put up an umbrella to keep the water off when it rains. But actually the umbrella was not invented as protection against rain. Its first use was as a shade against the sun!

Nobody knows who first invented it, but the umbrella was used in very ancient times. Probably the first to use it were the Chinese, way back in the eleventh century B.C.

We know that the umbrella was used in ancient Egypt and Babylon as a sunshade (阳伞). And there was a strange thing connected with its use: it became a symbol (象征) of honour and authority (权力). In the Far East in ancient times, the umbrella was allowed to be used only by royalty (王族) or by those in high office.

In Europe, the Greeks were the first to use the umbrella as a sunshade. And the umbrella was in common use in ancient Greece. But it is believed that the first persons in Europe to use the umbrella as protection against