

# 实用大学 英语阅读

彭金定 主编

中南工业大学出版社

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## 前 言

人类的学习过程主要是通过自身的感官把外界的信息传递到大脑，经过分析、综合，从而获得知识的过程。有关专家通过实验得出这样的结论：我们的学习，1.0%是通过味觉，1.5%是通过触觉，3.5%是通过嗅觉，11%是通过听觉，而通过视觉的则高达83%。阅读是通过视觉学习的主要形式，培养学生具有较强的阅读能力是大学英语教学的一项长期而艰巨的任务。阅读理解能力既包括阅读理解的准确性又包括阅读的流畅性。理解的准确性反映在理解的深度上，阅读的流畅性体现在阅读的速度上。有关应用语言学家和心理语言学家研究证实，不仅加深理解可以加快阅读速度，而且加快速度也能加深理解。由于阅读理解与阅读速度是阅读效率高低的两大基本因素，故阅读考试除确定相应的难度指数外，还要受到阅读量和时间的限制。

《实用大学英语阅读》的编写，旨在全面提高同学们的英语阅读理解能力。本书在重点介绍英语阅读技能的同时，还刻意分析了英语语篇的主要思维模式及逻辑结构，以帮助同学们熟悉并迅速把握作者的思路来捕捉最有意义的信息。本书作者在认真分析了历届大学英语四级阅读考试试题的基础上，对考生应如何提高阅读理解能力从方法上进行指导，对考生可能存在的疑难之处进行疏导，同时还结合大学英语教学与测试的新要求、新题型举例讲解，并力求在各套试题中尽量体现这些新的测试内容。为了培养同学们的综合归纳能力和书面表达能力，我们在每篇阅读文章后面的试题上增加了测试考生动手写个人见解或归纳总结能力的问答题及考核考生意会原文和用母语言传能力的翻译题。

《实用大学英语阅读》全书共分三部分：第一部分综述大学

英语阅读技能，第二部分介绍大学英语阅读策略与应试技巧，第三部分为阅读理解测试。为了方便教师教学和学生自学，在书后附有各部分的参考答案。

本书的第一、二部分由彭金定编著，第三部分由沈金华 (Practice Tests 1~5、16~19)、侯先绒 (Practice Tests 6~10, 20)、吴玲英 (Practice Tests 11~15) 组稿统稿，全部试题中的翻译由主编定稿。张承平、陈晓湘、邓军、龙珊、雷玉娥等为本书供稿。其中大部分稿件已经在中南工业大学的学生中试用。

《实用大学英语阅读》是大学本科生系列英语教辅材料五本中的一本，其它四本是：《实用大学英语写作》、《实用大学英语翻译》、《实用大学英语词汇结构》、《实用大学英语听力》，除《实用大学英语写作》由高等教育出版社出版外，其余四本全由中南工业大学出版社出版发行。本书作者感谢高等教育出版社和中南工业大学出版社为本套丛书的出版发行所做的一切努力。

由于各种原因，书中错误在所难免，敬请同行专家赐教。

编者

1997年1月

# 目 录

第一章 大学英语阅读技能综述 .....	(1)
第一节 大学英语阅读理解分项技能 .....	(1)
1.1 阅读理解技能(Reading Comprehension Skills) .....	(2)
1.2 快速阅读技能(Reading Attack Skills) .....	(8)
1.3 基本参阅技能(Basic Reference Skills) .....	(12)
第二节 大学英语阅读涉及的主要思维模式 .....	(12)
第二章 大学英语阅读策略与应试技巧 .....	(19)
第一节 大学英语阅读难点分析 .....	(19)
第二节 大学英语阅读理解测试重点分析 .....	(26)
第三节 大学英语阅读策略 .....	(30)
第四节 解题策略 .....	(34)
第三章 大学英语阅读理解测试部分 .....	(36)
3.1 Practice Test 1 .....	(36)
3.2 Practice Test 2 .....	(46)
3.3 Practice Test 3 .....	(56)
3.4 Practice Test 4 .....	(66)
3.5 Practice Test 5 .....	(75)
3.6 Practice Test 6 .....	(84)
3.7 Practice Test 7 .....	(93)
3.8 Practice Test 8 .....	(104)
3.9 Practice Test 9 .....	(114)
3.10 Practice Test 10 .....	(123)

3.11	Practice Test 11 .....	(133)
3.12	Practice Test 12 .....	(144)
3.13	Practice Test 13 .....	(153)
3.14	Practice Test 14 .....	(162)
3.15	Practice Test 15 .....	(171)
3.16	Practice Test 16 .....	(181)
3.17	Practice Test 17 .....	(191)
3.18	Practice Test 18 .....	(200)
3.19	Practice Test 19 .....	(211)
3.20	Practice Test 20 .....	(220)
附录 测试参考答案 .....		(230)

## 第一章 大学英语阅读技能综述

阅读是交际能力的一种形式。英语阅读是接触英语,吸收语言材料,获取感性认识和所需信息的重要途径。对大多数中国大学生来说,阅读是英语听、说、读、写、译技能中最重要的部分。大学英语教学大纲把培养学生具有较强的阅读能力作为主要的教学目的,充分体现了英语在人们从事科研、外贸、专业学习和对外交流工作中的重要性。学习者一定要切实抓住阅读这一重要环节,通过阅读来获取英语语言知识和接受基本技能训练,从而达到全面提高英语应用能力的目的。

阅读不仅在教学中,而且在英语综合测试中也占有很大的比例,就拿大学英语四级、六级考试来说,阅读理解题占整套试卷的40%,如果再加上翻译理解题10%(因为翻译的原文均来自4篇阅读理解文章),阅读所涉及的分数实际上已经达到50%。难怪人们常说阅读是英语教学和考试的重头戏,历来受到广大师生的高度重视。本章拟就大学英语阅读的技能进行综合介绍和分析。

### 第一节 大学英语阅读理解分项技能

什么是阅读?阅读是人们经过文字符号的中介,传递意义和进行交际的一种方式。“阅读是心理语言学家的一种猜谜游戏,包含思想和语言的相互作用过程。在此过程中,读者在一定程度上重构以文字编码的信息”(Goodman, 176)。古德迈说这番话的



含意很清楚：阅读的过程就是读者对作者的文字编码进行解码的过程。所以说，一个人的解码能力的强弱标志着他的阅读能力的高低。《大学英语教学大纲》对学生应该掌握的阅读技能进行了分解并列出了微技能表，这些微技能可以分为三大类：阅读理解技能、快速阅读技能和基本参阅技能。

## 1.1 阅读理解技能(Reading Comprehension Skills)

### 1.1.1 辨认重要事实(Recognizing important facts)

*e. g.* Television programs change as the tastes of viewers change. Westerns are popular for a while. Then they give way to detective stories. Situation comedies seem to be always available, but the number of people viewing them varies over time. Talk shows and variety shows have their ups and downs in popularity, too. But game shows seem to remain popular year after year. Game shows have tempting titles like Wheel of Fortune and The \$25,000 Pyramid. Weekday morning game shows include The Price Is Right, Tic Tac Dough, Scrabble, Headline Chasers, and Joker's Wild. Some programs, like Jeopardy, challenge the knowledge of the contestants. Others are based more on luck. All game shows have their special fans, viewers who turn in day after day. Other television programs come and go, but game shows seem to go on forever.

Multiple-choice questions:

1. The programs that are said to be always available are \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) westerns (B) situation comedies  
(C) detective stories (D) talk shows
2. A program that challenges a contestant's knowledge is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Jeopardy (B) Headline Chasers  
(C) Tic Tac Dough (D) Joker's Wild

3. A program that is NOT identified as a morning show is \_\_\_\_\_.

(A) Joker's Wild

(B) Jeopardy

(C) Headline Chasers

(D) Tic Tac Dough

解题:

1.(B) With this kind of item, you must look back at the exact words in the passage. You find the sentence that contains the words "always available". That sentence talks about situation comedies, and so (B) has to be the correct answer.

2.(A) Once again, the answer can be found in a single sentence. The key sentence begins, "Some programs, like Jeopardy..."

3.(B) Here all the programs except one are included in the sentence beginning "Weekday morning game shows..." The show not in this sentence is Jeopardy.

### 1.1.2 确定中心思想(Determining the main idea)

e.g. How do you think people catch cold? If you get your feet wet, will you come down with a cold? If you go outdoors on a chilly day without a sweater, will you catch a cold? Perhaps, but a greater danger lies elsewhere, according to scientists. A recent study says, "Don't shake hands with a person who has a cold. If you do, wash your hands soon and thoroughly. Don't rub your nose and eyes before washing." The study points out that viruses of the common cold remain dangerous for at least three hours on dry hands. Hand contact may be even more dangerous than coughing or sneezing.

Multiple-choice questions:

Which of the following can best express the main idea?

(A) You will surely catch a cold if you have wet feet.

(B) Scientists are studying many kinds of diseases.

- (C) Hand contact can easily spread colds.
- (D) Scientists have studied the common cold.

解题：

(C) is the only correct choice, for many colds are spread by hand contact.

### 1.1.3 得出符合逻辑的结论(Drawing logical conclusions)

*e.g.* Long before explorers and colonists landed on shores, tribes of Indians named areas of land for the people who lived there. They also named the mountains, rivers or natural landmarks. Indians are known for their love of nature and the poetic way they described it. Today over half of our states carry names with Indian meanings. Many names were first given to rivers, then later used to name the state.

Multiple-choice questions:

Which of the following is the best conclusion of the paragraph?

- (A) Early explorers named the land.
- (B) America's history is rather confused.
- (C) Indians resented foreigners.
- (D) Indians have a way with words.

解题：

(D) is the only logical answer, for Indians could name many of the places with Indian meanings. Other choices are all wrong.

### 1.1.4 作出合理的判断(Making sound judgments)

*e.g.* Newspapers do not always report the facts fairly. For example, a newspaper in a southern state may devote very little space to an item on racial injustice. On the other hand, a newspaper from the Northeast might give wide coverage to race problems in

other parts of the nation and fail to report on local troubles. In this way readers can be misled. They may be fooled into believing that prejudice is a regional problem and fail to realize that racism knows no boundaries.

Multiple-choice questions:

1. The careful reader should be able to make the judgment that \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) most news stories cannot be believed
- (B) many newspapers attempt to deceive their readers
- (C) government control of the news industry is needed
- (D) some newspapers present only one side of the story

2. The reporting policies of newspaper \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) reflect the needs of the community
- (B) should support the views of local readers
- (C) should be under the control of taxpayers
- (D) can be made to serve private interests

解题:

1. (D) From the given example, we can safely judge that newspapers are usually one-sided.

2. (D) Again from the given example, we know that newspapers report even the same story differently just because of different purposes.

### 1.1.5 进行正确的推论(Making accurate inferences)

*e.g.* The general filled both glasses, and said, "God makes some men poets. Some he makes kings, some beggars. Me, "he said, "a hunter. My hand was made for the trigger, my father said. He owned a quarter of a million acres in the Crimea, and he was an ardent sportsman. When I was only five years old he gave me a little

gun, specially made in Moscow for me, to shoot sparrows with. When I shot some of his prize turkeys with it, he did not punish me. Instead, he complimented me on my marksmanship(枪法). I killed my first bear in the Caucasus when I was ten. My whole life had been one prolonged hunt. I went into the army because I was expected of a nobleman's son. And for a time I commanded a division of Cossack cavalry, but my real interest was always the hunt. I have hunted every kind of game in every land. It would be impossible for me to tell you how many animals I have killed."

Multiple-choice questions:

1. The reader may infer that the general is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) distrustful of others      (B) obsessed with war  
(C) bored with killing      (D) impressed with himself
2. Evidence in the paragraph suggests that the general is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) Spanish      (B) French  
(C) Russian      (D) German
3. "It would be impossible for me to tell you how many animals I have killed." suggests that the general \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) regrets having killed so many animals  
(B) prides himself on his hunting ability  
(C) prefers to forget his violent past  
(D) appreciates learning and the fine arts

解题:

1. (D) Since the general mentioned that he killed birds at five, a bear at ten, and later commanded a division of Cossack cavalry, he must have remembered very well what he had done in his past.

2. (C) Judging from such words as "Moscow", "Cossack", we may infer that the general was a Russian.

3. (B) The general thought that he was born to be a hunter,

and killing was a part of his life. This implies that he was proud of his killing ability.

#### 1.1.6 进行综合概括(Making generalizations)

*e.g.* If you are interested in buying a pair of contact lenses, be prepared to pay \$200 or more. Generally there are three main reasons why people want contact lenses. You may need them because the cornea of your eye is misshaped and ordinary glasses are not satisfactory. If so, you'll be in the group that comprise 1 to 2 percent of contact lens wearers. But you may want them for a sport, avocation, or vocation. Perhaps you are a baseball player, a boxer, a swimmer, an aviator, an actor, or perhaps you're engaged in an industry where flying particles may endanger your eyes. If you get your contact lenses for one of these reasons, you are in the same group with about 20 percent of the users. But if for some reason you feel that glasses are handicapping your appearance and you'd rather have invisible glasses, you'll have lots of company. About 79 percent of lens users hope to improve their looks.

Multiple-choice questions:

1. This paragraph shows that contact lenses can \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (A) protect the eyes from heavy, flying objects
  - (B) cure diseases of the eyes
  - (C) improve athletic ability
  - (D) compensate for the shape of the cornea
2. The majority of contact lens wearers seem to feel that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (A) contact lenses are more attractive than glasses
  - (B) glasses are more expensive than contact lenses
  - (C) contact lenses should be used for close work
  - (D) glasses are old-fashioned for today's tastes

3. The author organizes supporting details according to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) time order                      (B) cause and effect  
(C) spatial development          (D) order of importance

4. What can you generalize from the sentences “But if for some reason you feel that glasses are handicapping your appearance and you’d rather have invisible glasses, you’ll have lots of company”, and “About 79 percent of lens users hope to improve their looks”?

Write your generalization here: \_\_\_\_\_

解题:

1.(D) It has been mentioned as the first reason why people need contact lenses: “You may need them because your cornea is misshaped and ordinary glasses are not satisfactory.”

2.(A) Seventy-nine percent is clearly a majority of users, and it is this group that wear contact to “improve their looks.”

3.(D) The author saves for the last the most important reason users give for wearing contact lenses, so it is clear that he organizes supporting details according to order of importance.

4. From the passage, esp. the sentences mentioned in question 4, we can generalize that “People are sometimes vain.”

## 1.2 快速阅读技能(Reading Attack Skills)

1.2.1 快速查找某一特定信息(Scanning for specific information on a single point)

(1)involving a single search

- e.g. a. looking up a word in the dictionary;  
b. seeking a page number in the index;  
c. checking to see certain data in graph, table or chart;  
d. looking up in a reference book the date of birth of a famous writer or the date of publication of an important work.

(2) involving a complex search

*e. g.* looking through several interrelated entries in the encyclopedia to find the name of an inventor or the exact date of man's first landing on the moon.

### 1.2.2 略读(Skimming)

Skimming is used:

- (1) to obtain a general impression of an article;
- (2) to get the main idea or the gist of a book or an article;
- (3) to obtain the writer's point of view.

### 1.2.3 猜测生词词意(Guessing unknown vocabulary)

#### 1. 利用上下文(using contextual clues)

##### Example 1

Sometimes bad luck energizes people, not weakens them.

“energize”这个词与“weaken”构成了一对反义词,从 weaken 的意思就可以猜出 energize 的意思是“给人力量”。

##### Example 2

In the truck, she had a hammer, a screwdriver, an electric drill, three kinds of saws, and a spokeshave.

“spokeshave”这个词你也许不认识,但你可以通过“hammer, screwdriver, saw, electric drill”等词均表示“工具”这一线索来猜测“spokeshave”也是一种工具。

##### Example 3

A strict vegetarian is a person who never in his life eats anything derived from animals.

通过定语从句可以猜测出“vegetarian”一词的意思是“素食者”。



## 2. 利用语义关系 (using semantic relationships)

### Example 1

She awaited the outcome patiently, for she wanted to see what would happen.

因为她想知道将发生什么事,所以她等待的是发生的“结果”。

### Example 2

People today are used to rapidly changing fashions in apparel. One reason for the swift changes in clothing styles today is the great variety of choice available.

apparel(衣服)一词,你也许感到陌生,可是只要分析一下 swift changes in clothing styles 与 rapidly changing fashions in apparel 所表达的语义相同,就可以推断出 apparel 与 clothing 同义。

## 3. 利用词的复述方式 (by noticing the way an unknown word is repeated)

### Example 1

X-ray therapy, that is, treatment by use of X-rays, often halts the growth of the tumor.

“treatment by use of X-rays”是对“X-ray therapy”作出的一种解释,即“X 射线治疗”。

### Example 2

Today it can be said that wheels run America. The four rubber tires of the automobiles move America through work and play. Wheels spin, and people drive off to their jobs. Tires turn, and people shop for their week's food at the big supermarket down the highway. Hubcaps whirl, and the whole family spend a day at the lake. Each year more wheels crowd the highways as 10 million new cars roll out of the factories.

有时,词或词组的复述并不非常明显,如例 2 中的 run, move, spin, turn, whirl, roll 等词虽然基本上表示同一概念,但没有象例