

张卫平教授主编考研英语系列

2

英语阅读理解 范例与应试指南

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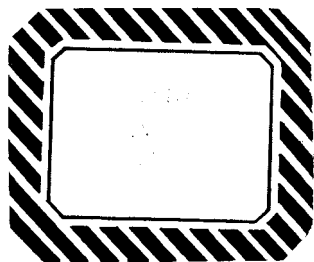


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(2000 版)

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前 言

《2000 版张卫平教授考研英语复习系列》是一套内容翔实、选材新颖、针对性强、实用可靠的考研专用分项辅导丛书。本系列丛书的宗旨,是通过提炼考题各项的重点和总结最佳的答题技巧,帮助考生掌握最有效的答题方法、进行考前强化训练。本丛书提供了复习重点精要和答题技巧要诀,以及大量的模拟习题,掌握了这些内容,广大考生就能在考试中得心应手、获得高分。

参加编写的老师都是具有丰富经验的考研辅导专家,在多年的考研辅导实践中,摸索出一整套帮助考生复习和考试答题的实用、有效的方法。作者们对考生复习中存在什么问题、辅导最迫切的需求是什么、如何引导考生抓住应试准备的关键,都有深刻的感性认识。好的考研辅导讲座,重点针对应试答题的实际,提纲挈领,既有概念性的陈述,也有相关例题的具体分析和解题应注意的各种问题的说明,同时详述各种不同类型考题的答题技巧。听过这种辅导讲座的考生,普遍反应强烈,觉得收效很大。但这类讲座由于时间所限,往往不够全面;加之考生水平参差不齐,接受能力不一,辅导过后又找不到类似的书面材料加深印象,效果总是不尽理想。本丛书力求为考生创造一种通过掌握复习重点和答题技巧进行应试训练的良好环境,利用书本的长处,提供全面翔实、重点突出的考前强化辅导。

本丛书以考研试题的 5 个部分为基础分项编写,主体由 4 本专项辅导书组成:《英语词汇、语法范例与应试指南》、《英语阅读理解范例与应试指南》、《英语写作指导:范例与应试指南》和《英语翻译和完形填空范例与应试指南》。

《英语词汇、语法范例与应试指南》根据历年考研试题和其他水平相当的类似题目,提炼出适合实际应试答题需要的重点。先分析和讲解基本概念,然后配以相关的例题或例句。举例力求全面,选择多角度、多层次、多形式的若干例子,使考生了解和掌握测试某种概念可能会出现的多钟不同情况。对每个例子,均进行具体分析和讲解,指出答题时应注意的问题,提供切合实际的答题技巧,帮助考生学会排除 4 项选择中的干扰,迅速确定正确答案。本书还包括按照考研试卷的格式和难度编写的 10 套语法结构与词汇模拟试题。

《英语阅读理解范例与应试指南》从应考的实际出发,采用讲解与练习相结合的方式,帮助考生有效地掌握应试阅读理解部分的解题方法和技巧。它有以下特点:强调

方法的动态训练;不强调语言知识,而强调掌握实际应试方法和知识运用;强调本书各部分的融会贯通;在强调方法的基础上,扩大考生的词汇量并培养翻译技能;宏观分析与具体分析相结合;重视对历年考题的分析和讲解;方法讲解与模拟训练相结合。本书还精选了 50 篇模拟试题并附有题解。

《英语写作指导:范例与应试指南》从英语写作的特点出发,既介绍了英语写作的基本常识,又详细分析了考研作文题的题型、评分标准和历年考题以及考研写作的技巧。它包含了大量英语作文题以及相关的范文和英语写作练习,为考生进行复习提供了不可多得的考前模拟训练材料。

《英语翻译和完形填空范例与应试指南》分成两部分对考研英译汉题和完形填空题进行专项辅导,详细分析和讲解历年考题,注重答题技巧与实例相结合,其中的英语难句典型句型汉译技巧分析尤为突出,颇具特色。书中分别编写了该两个专项的大量的考前模拟训练题,其中包含部分题解。

1999 年 3 月

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第一部分 掌握正确的阅读方法

一 1999 年试题阅读理解部分分析

仔细研究 1999 年考研试题阅读部分,不难从中看出新的命题趋势。文章从体裁、题材、难度等方面呈现出如下特征:

1. 五篇文章的题材均属于议论文;

2. 体裁涉及较新的领域和学科,如:第二篇涉及计算机网络,第三篇涉及计算机教育,第四篇涉及人们对克隆生物技术的态度;

3. 与第二个特点相适应,报刊文摘文章由于其对新领域的及时追踪报导和所报导的内容的通俗易懂,成为被优先选择的对象,如第一、二、三篇文章均属于报导和报刊评论文章。其实,1998 年考题第一、二、三、四篇文章,1997 年第一、四、五篇文章也是报刊评论。可见,这一选文倾向实际上已至少持续了三年的时间,考生应该特别注意这种倾向。

4. 文章晦涩难懂,这也是由报刊文章的特点所决定的。众所周知,除了其他特征外,媒体的报导和评论一方面比较大众化、口语化,另一方面,报导的内容又容易招致敏感的反应,这两个特点决定了报刊文章的写作一方面用词新颖、句子较长且复杂,另一方面表达的内容又要严谨,以防引起误解,授人以柄。这种文体的文章与我国学生所学的教科书中的选文大相径庭,所以读来感到晦涩难懂。

5. 就问题而言,难度并不大,只要考生能把握住文章的论点、论据、文章的基本点,就能做对问题,可见,如何使用正确的阅读方法把握文章还是考生所面临的主要问题。

根据 1999 年命题出现的新趋势,我们建议考生:

1. 学会正确的阅读方法,通过把握重要句(或句子的重要部分)、段,抓住文章的重要信息;

2. 多阅读包括新内容的文章,了解新领域和学科,尤其是世人瞩目的新的领域和学科、文化和社会热点问题等;就中文方面而言,平时多读《参考消息》等报刊杂志,把这些内容纳入自己的知识领域中;

3. 多读包含难句、复杂句的文章,培养自己破解难句、复杂句的能力,熟悉报刊评论的措辞;

4. 注意句与句、段与段之间的关系,学会利用上下文提供的线索确切地把握重点句和段,不孤立地阅读句子或段落;

5. 积极扩展词汇量,记忆常见词根、词缀,学会从词的原义推断其引申义,从上下文中推断生词和词的引申义。从 1999 年和 1998 年阅读理解部分来看,考研试题中包括大量的超纲词汇,所以,除了记忆并掌握大纲词汇外,考生还要对超纲词汇的出现做好必要的心理准备;

6. 学会阅读选择项,掌握必要的做题技巧,提高应试能力。

本书的宗旨是:根据 1999 年出现的新的命题趋势,通过对历年考题的实际分析、向考生揭示一些规律性的东西,并通过实际的讲解和训练,提高考生的应试能力。

二 文章的阅读

文章的阅读包括对文章主旨、主题等重要部分的把握,包括如何利用上下文中句与句之间的关系达到文章的确切理解。以下作分别讲解和训练。

第一节 什么是正确的阅读方法

由于考研文章多数为议论文、说明文和新闻报导与评论,本书讲解和训练的重点也主要是这些文体的文章。

众所周知,这些文体的文章有一个共同的特点,即:用一系列的论据论证或说明一个中心议题。文章结构大致如下:

1. 提出问题;
2. 论述问题;
3. 结论问题。

当然,这只是说这类文章最典型的写法,并不意味着它们都是千篇一律地遵循这种模式,如:有些文章也许不直接提出问题,而仅仅在文后阐明结论;有些文章如果结论已自明的话,便不再重述结论;有些结论比提出问题部分表达得更明确或更引申一步;有些则利用引述别人的看法或评价结束讨论(尤其是新闻体文章);等等。但是,无论是哪种结构,大部分或者是遵循以上提到的这种论述方式,或者仅是这种模式的变体。另外,议论文和说明文经常界限难分,彼此相互渗透。

无论是从大纲所要求考生掌握的阅读技能来看,还是从考题的命题角度来看,考生学会把握文章的主旨非常重要,只有把握住文章的主旨和各段的主题,考生才能把握某个局部在上下文中的关系、作者的观点与态度,从而据此进行判断、推理和引申。

因此,笔者建议考生必须采用正确的阅读方式:边读边有意识地把握文章的结构、作者的推理过程,并在此基础上考察具体细节,进行判断和引申。相反,只靠读懂文章的大意或孤立地对照、检查某个局部则无法确保做对文章所附问题。

首先,让我们以1999年考题第二篇文章为例,概括地说明以上阅读方式的含义和重要性,请考生特别注意黑体标出部分:

【例1】

In the first year or so of Web business, most of the action has revolved around efforts to tap the consumer market. **More recently**, as the Web proved to be more than a fashion, companies have started to buy and sell products and services with one another. Such business-to-business sales make sense because businesspeople typically know what product they're looking for.

Nonetheless, many companies still hesitate to use the Web because of doubts about its reliability. "Business need to feel they can trust the pathway between them and the supplier," says senior analyst Blane Erwin of Forrester Research. Some companies are limiting the risk by conducting online transactions only with established business partners who are given access to the company's private intranet.

special sales

Another major shift in the model for Internet marketing commerce concerns the technology available for marketing. Until recently, Internet marketing activities have focused on strategies to “pull” customers into sites. In the past year, however, software companies have developed tools that allow companies to “push” information directly out to customers, transmitting marketing messages directly to targeted customers. Most notably, the Pointcast Network uses a screen saver to deliver a continually updated stream of news and advertisements to subscribers’ computer monitors. Subscribers can customize the information they want to receive and proceed directly to a company’s Web site. Companies such as Virtual Vineyards are already starting to use similar technologies to push messages to customers about special sales, product offerings, or other events. But push technology has earned the contempt of many Web users. Online culture thinks highly of the notion that the information flowing onto the screen comes there by specific request. Once commercial promotion begins to fill the screen uninvited, the distinction between the Web and television fades. That’s a prospect that horrifies Net purists.

But it is hardly inevitable that companies on the Web will need to resort to push strategies to make money. The examples of Virtual Vineyards, Amazon.com, and other pioneers show that a Web site selling the right kind of products with the right mix of interactivity, hospitality, and security will attract online customers. And the cost of computing power continues to free fall, which is a good sign for nay enterprise setting up shop in silicon. **People looking back 5 or 10 years from now may well wonder why so few companies took the online plunge.** (99 年考题)*

【综合分析】 第一段第一句和第二、三句分别从时间的角度概述了网络商业的发展,第二段通过一个转折,提出了本文旨在说明的问题:许多公司没有充分利用网络来开展自己的业务,因为他们还怀疑网络的可靠性。这一主旨在最后一句得到照应,最后一句指出,只要看看过去 5~10 的历史,人们就会感到有些费解:为什么积极利用网络来开展业务的公司如此少呢?

第三段则用一个明显的 another 提出近年来计算机网络在商业上的应用所表现出的另一种倾向(与 business-to-business sales 这一倾向相比),通读第三段,就会很容易了解到,这里所说的“营销策略”(technology available for marketing)的转变指从“push”到“pull”的转变。第四段承接上一段,指出不使用“push”战略也能吸引网上用户,并举了几个公司的做法作为例子。第四段第一句是该段的主题句。

综合起来,本文谈到了计算机网络在商业上的应用所表现出的两种趋势,并着重讨论了第二种。

以上提到的句子就是本文的重要信息,代表文章的说理过程。抓住了这一过程,考生才能有依据地进行推理和引申。

让我们再看一看本文后所附的四个问题:

55** We learn from the beginning of the passage that Web business _____.

- A. has been striving to expand its market
B. intended to follow a fanciful fashion
C. tried but in vain to control the market

* 指 1999 年考研试卷阅读试题,黑体为作者所加,下同。

考生如对文章的理解有困难,请参阅本书第三部分。

** 因考题范文在全书中会多次引用,因此问题题号保留原考题题号,以便能相互参照。下同。

D. has been booming for one year or so

【分析】 本题表面上提问的是第一段,实际上提问的是全文的主旨,因为第一段就是从时间的角度概述了网络商业的发展,并指出了第一方面的发展趋势,因此答案应该是 A: 一直在企图拓展其市场。

56. Speaking of the online technology available for marketing, the author implies that _____.

- ☒ A. the technology is popular with many Web users
B. businesses have faith in the reliability of online transactions
C. there is a radical change in strategy
D. it is accessible limitedly to established partners

【分析】 本题实际上提问的是第三段,而不是哪个具体的句子,从上文的分析我们知道,第三段第一句实际上是本段的主题句,了解了这一点以后,考生就会根据第三段所谈的内容来首先确定 technology 的具体含义,了解本句中的 major shift 具体指什么,弄清了这两个词的意思后,很容易就会判断出正确答案是 C(意为:在“营销”策略上有根本改变)。

57. In the view of Net purists, _____.

- ☒ A. there should be no marketing messages in online culture
B. money making should be given priority to on the Web
C. the Web should be able to function as the television set
D. there should be no online commercial information without requests

【分析】 本题表面上提问的是第三段最后一句,但实际上仅从这一句根本解决不了问题,它的上一句非常重要,因为 that 指代的具体内容是上一句的主句,但是,要想准确的理解上一句中的 commercial promotion, uninvited 等词的意思,还要理解 push 和 pull 两种销售策略的不同,这就要求考生将本段的最后一句放在第二段这个上下文中考察。只有这样才能完全确保选对本题的正确选择项 D(意为:在没有自愿要求的情况下不应主动提供商业信息)。

58. We learn from the last paragraph that _____.

- ☒ A. pushing information on the Web is essential to Internet commerce
B. interactivity, hospitality and security are important to online customers
C. leading companies began to take the online plunge decades ago
D. setting up shops in silicon is independent of the cost of computing power

【分析】 正如以上所分析的,最后一段的主题句是本段的第一句,本句是一个双重否定句(not inevitable),双重否定等于肯定,本句的意思是说不使用“push”战略也能吸引网上用户,帮助公司开拓网上的业务,但是,不使用“push”战略又使用什么方式呢?只要稍加考察就能选对选择项 B(意为: 互动、礼貌、安全对网上客户来说很重要)。

这就是我们推荐考生使用的阅读方法,从以上的分析可以看出,它是非常有效的,不仅能有效地帮助考生把握文章的重要内容,而且能帮助考生有效地作出选择。

为了更清楚地说明问题,再来看几个例子。

【例2】

A report consistently brought back by visitors to the US is how friendly, courteous, and helpful most Americans were to them. To be fair, this observation is also frequently made of Canada and Canadians, and should best be considered North American. There are, of course, exceptions. Small-minded officials, rude waiters, and ill-mannered taxi drivers are hardly unknown in the US. Yet it is an observation made so frequently that it deserves comment.

For a long period of time and in many parts of the country, a traveler was a welcome break in an otherwise dull existence. Dullness and loneliness were common problems of the families who generally lived distant from one another. Strangers and travelers were welcome sources of diversion, and brought news of the outside world.

The harsh realities of the frontier also shaped this tradition of hospitality. Someone traveling alone, if hungry, injured, or ill, often had nowhere to turn except to the nearest cabin or settlement. It was not a matter of choice for the traveler or merely a charitable impulse on the part of the settlers. It reflected the harshness of daily life: if you didn't take in the stranger and take care of him, there was no one else who would. And someday, remember, you might be in the same situation.

Today there are many charitable organizations which specialize in helping the weary traveler. Yet, the old tradition of hospitality to strangers is still very strong in the US, especially in the smaller cities and towns away from the busy tourist trails. "I was just traveling through, got talking with this American, and pretty soon he invited me home for dinner—amazing." Such observations reported by visitors to the US are not uncommon, but are not always understood properly. The casual friendliness of many Americans should be interrupted neither as superficial nor as artificial, but as the result of a historically developed cultural tradition.

As is true of any developed society, in American a complex set of cultural signals, assumptions, and conventions underlies all social interrelationships. And, of course, speaking a language does not necessarily mean that someone understands social and cultural patterns. Visitors who fail to "translate" cultural meanings properly often draw wrong conclusions. For example, when an American uses the word "friends", the cultural implications of the word may be quite different from those it has in the visitor's language and culture. It takes more than a brief encounter on a bus to distinguish between courteous convention and individual interest. Yet, being friendly is a virtue that many Americans value highly and expect from both neighbors and strangers. (97年考题)

【综合分析】 本文是一篇议论文。第一段第一、二句是本文的主旨，相应地，文章最后一句是全文的结论，二者是相互照应的。第二、三段探讨了产生这一现象的历史文化原因，这两段的第一句分别是这两段的主题；第四段指出这一文化传统在美国当今社会仍然存在，本段第二句是这段的主题句；第五段指出美国人与人的社会关系有其深刻的文化基础。

第二、三、四、五段作为论据，用以论证本文的主旨，回答了为什么美国人(或北美洲人)对陌生人能表现得非常礼貌、好客、乐于助人。

请看文后所附问题：

17 In the eyes of visitors from the outside world, _____.

A. rude taxi drivers are rarely seen in the US

- B. small-minded officials deserve a serious comment
- C. Canadians are not so friendly as their neighbors
- D. most Americans are ready to offer help

【分析】 本题似乎提问的是第一句,但根据上文的分析不难看出,它提问的是全文的主旨,因此,选择项 D 是正确答案。

56. It could be inferred from the last paragraph that _____.

- ☒ A. culture exercises an influence over social interrelationship
- B. courteous convention and individual interest are interrelated
- C. various virtues manifest themselves exclusively among friends
- D. social interrelationships equal the complex set of cultural conventions

【分析】 本题提问的是最后一段,也就是论据的最后一方面。最后一段的主题句是本段的第一句,本段的其他几句是对这一句的论述(最后一句除外)。了解了这一点以后,如果考生理解第一句有困难,还可以通过阅读其他句子来准确地理解第一句。选择项 A(意为:文化影响社会关系)是正确答案。

57. Families in frontier settlements used to entertain strangers _____.

- ☒ A. to improve their hard life
- B. in view of their long-distance travel
- C. to add some flavor to their own daily life
- D. out of a charitable impulse

【分析】 本题提问的是第二段,也就是第一方面的论据。本段第一句是这段的主题句,和第三句几乎是同样的意思。选择项 C(意为:调剂他们自己的日常生活)是正确答案。

58. The tradition of hospitality to strangers _____.

- ☒ A. tends to be superficial and artificial
- B. is generally well kept in the United States
- C. is always understood properly
- D. has something to do with the busy tourist trails

【分析】 本题提问的是第四段主要阐述的内容,本段的第二句是这段的主题句,其后的三句是对这一主题的论述,因此,选择项 B 是正确答案。

【例 3】

Exceptional children are different in some significant way from others of the same age. **For these children to develop to their full adult potential, their education must be adapted to those differences.**

Although we focus on the needs of exceptional children, **we find ourselves describing their environment as well.** While the leading actor on the stage captures our attention, we are aware of the importance of the supporting players and the scenery of the play itself. Both the family and the society in which exceptional children live are often the key to their growth and development. And it is in the public schools that we find the full expression of society's understanding—the knowledge, hopes, and fears

that are passed on to the next generation.

Education in any society is a mirror of that society. In that mirror we can see the strengths, the weaknesses, the hopes, the prejudices, and the central value of the culture itself. The great interest in exceptional children shown in public education over the past three decades indicates the strong feeling in our society that all citizens, whatever their special conditions, deserve the opportunity to fully develop their capabilities.

“All men are created equal.” We’ve heard it many times, **but it still has important meaning for education in a democratic society.** Although the phrase was used by this country’s founders to denote equality before the law, it has also been interpreted to mean equality of opportunity. That concept implies educational opportunity for all children—the right of each child to receive help in learning to the limits of his or her capacity, whether that capacity be small or great. Recent court decisions have confirmed the right of all children—disabled or not—to an appropriate education, and have ordered that public schools take the necessary steps to provide that education. **In response, schools are modifying their programs, adapting instruction to children who are exceptional, to those who cannot profit substantially from regular programs.** (94 年考题)

【综合分析】 本文第一段第二句提出文章所要阐明的观点, 最后一段最后一句是全文的结论, 照应了该句, 指出: 现行教育方案应该调整, 使之更适应特殊儿童的发展。

第二段谈的是环境在特殊儿童的成长过程中所起的重要作用; 第三段谈的是某个社会中的教育(观)反映了它的价值观; 最后一段强调了民主社会中任何人平等受教育的重要性, 这三段提供了论据, 用以支持本文的观点。

请看文后所附问题:

59. In paragraph 2, the author cites the example of the leading actor on the stage to show that _____.

- A. the growth of exceptional children has much to do with their family and the society
- B. exceptional children are more influenced by their families and society
- C. exceptional children are the key interest of the family and society
- D. the needs of the society weigh heavier than the needs of the exceptional children

【分析】 选择项 A 为正确答案。本选择项 A 意为: ^{exceptional}特殊儿童的成长与他们的家庭及社会(即: 其环境)有很大的关系 (have much to do with 意为: 与……紧密相关, 与……关系很大)。众所周知, 无论在文章中还是在谈话中, 举例是为了更生动更具体地说明某个方面的问题。文章第二段第二句举了主演与其他配角演员及场景的相互关系的例子, 旨在说明其前一句和后一句共同阐明的道理。尤其是后一句对这一道理的表述更加明确(“社会”当然包括学校这一环境在内)。而本段第一句是该段的主题句, 第三句更清楚地说明了这一主题。

B 表达的意思(较之正常儿童, 特殊儿童受到的家庭影响更大)文章没提到。

C 意为: 家庭及社会的主要兴趣在特殊儿童身上。这一点不仅与本文的观点相矛盾, 而且从事实上来看也是荒唐的。

D 意为: 社会的需要比特殊儿童的需要重要得多。该选择性的意思有些莫名其妙。

60. The reason that the exceptional children receive so much concern in education is that _____.

- A. they are expected to be leaders of the society
- B. they might become a burden of the society
- C. they should fully develop their potentials
- D. disabled children deserves special consideration

【分析】 C 为正确答案。该选项意为：他们应充分发挥自己的潜能。对这一选项的支持主要陈述在文章第三段第三句。其实，在第一段的提出问题句（该段第二句）和最后一段的总结中（尤其是该段第三句），都强调了这一主题，即：教育方案应适应于特殊儿童的成长，使之充分发挥自己的能力。

A 表达的意思与文章所要说明的问题——教育面前人人平等——相差甚远，而且，本文所说的 exceptional children 是指残疾儿童。

B 意为：他们可能成为社会的负担。这一选择性表达的内容与本文的主旨极不相符。

D 意为：残疾儿童需要特殊的待遇。这表面上似乎有道理，但文章强调的是所有儿童有平等受教育的机会，并不主张应另眼看待谁。

61. This passage mainly deals with _____.

- A. the differences of children in their learning capabilities
- B. the definition of exceptional children in modern society
- C. the special educational programs for exceptional children
- D. the necessity of adapting education to exceptional children

【分析】 选择项 D 为正确答案。调整目前的教学计划及方法，使之更有利于特殊儿童的成长或发展，这正是本文主旨。这一观点明确表述在第一段的问题的提出句（该段第二句）与文章最后一段的总结句（主要是该段第四句及第六句）。

A 不对。本文未列举儿童的学习能力存在哪些差别。

B 不对。本文未告诉我们什么样的儿童被称作特殊儿童。

C 不对。作者虽然谈的是使教学计划和方法更适合于特殊儿童的成长的重要性（或必要性），但并未谈论任何具体的教学计划或项目，因此，C 项也是不正确的。

62. From the passage we learn that the educational concern for exceptional children _____.

- A. is now enjoying legal support
- B. disagrees with the tradition of the country
- C. was clearly stated by the country's founders
- D. will exert great influence over court decisions

【分析】 选择项 A 是正确答案。该选择项意为：已获得法律的支持（或：已享受法律的保护）。这是第四段主要阐述的问题，是文章第三方面的论据，支持这一选择的原文主要是文章最后一段第五句。句中 confirm 意为：认可，批准，使……生效。

B 意为：与该国（从文中看指美国）的传统不一致（或：相背离；disagree with 意为：与……不一致，而不是作“不同意”讲），这当然是不对的，更何况文章业已指出：该国自创始起就明确地宣布了人人平等这一民主思想。

C 也是不对的，从文章来看，国家的创始者只明确了人人平等这一思想并将这一思想解释为法律面前人人平等，它又被引申为机会的平等，但这并不意味着他们已明确地表达了对特殊儿童的教育关怀。

文章自成，不然无雕琢。

D 意为：对法庭的裁决起很大影响，这似乎是文章未提到的，相反，法律上的规定将会对未来改进特殊儿童的教育产生深远影响。

由此可见，要提高阅读理解的能力（无论是阅读细节的能力还是推理、引申的能力，还是了解作者的态度）并提高做题的命中率，运用以上所推荐的阅读方法是很必要的。抓住了文章的重要信息，并将这些重要信息结合为一体来理解，才算真正地理解了文章，对具体的句子的理解才有章可循，不至于出现偏差。然而，在此笔者也想强调：我们不是要求考生读完文章以后再思考并找出它的推理过程，而是要求考生**边读边有意识地去把握它**。

以下，我们就来具体谈一谈如何利用各种线索把握文章的重要信息。

第二节 把握文章的重要信息

（一）主旨句

这里所说的主旨句指陈述文章的中心议题的句子，包括命题和结论。就其出现的位置来讲，主旨句往往出现在文章的第一段（提出问题）或（和）最后一段（结论），但也不尽然。

【例 4】

Discoveries in science and technology are thought by “untaught minds” to come in blinding flashes or as the result of dramatic accidents. Sir Alexander Fleming did not, as legend would have it, look at the mold (霉) on a piece of cheese and get the idea for penicillin there and then. He experimented with antibacterial substances for nine years before he made his discovery. **Inventions and innovations almost always come out of laborious trial and error.** Innovation is like soccer; even the best players miss the goal and have their shots blocked much more frequently than they score.

The point is that the players who score most are the ones who take the most shots at the goal—and so it goes with innovation in any field of activity. **The prime difference between innovators and others is one of approach.** Everybody gets ideas, but innovators work consciously on theirs, and they follow them through until they prove practicable or otherwise. What ordinary people see as fanciful abstractions, professional innovators see as solid possibilities.

“Creative thinking may mean simply the realization that there’s no particular virtue in doing things the way they have always been done,” wrote Rudolph Flesch, a language authority. This accounts for our reaction to seemingly simple innovations like plastic bags and suitcases on wheels that make life more convenient: “How come nobody thought of that before?”

The creative approach begins with the proposition that nothing is as it appears. Innovators will not accept that there is only one way to do anything. Faced with getting from A to B, the average person will automatically set out on the best-known and apparently simplest route. The innovator will search for alternate courses, which may prove easier in the long run and are bound to be more interesting and challenging even if they lead to dead ends.

Highly creative individuals really do march to a different drummer.

（94 年考题）

【综合分析】 本文第一段用实例驳斥了一种错误的观点，在第二段第二句，作者从正面清楚地表达

了自己的观点,最后一段用一个比喻生动的总结了全文旨在说明的观点:有创造力的人与常人的主要区别在于他们对待事物的方法(或态度)上。在这篇文章中,这两句话准确地传达了作者的观点——文章的主旨,彼此遥相呼应。

67. What does the author probably mean by “untaught mind” in the first paragraph?

- ☒ A. A person ignorant of the hard work involved in experimentation.
- ☐ B. A citizen of a society that restricts personal creativity.
- ☐ C. A person who has had no education.
- ☐ D. An individual who often comes up with new ideas by accident.

【分析】 选择项 A 为正确答案。A 意为:不了解实验中的艰辛工作的人。原文中 untaught mind 在此是借代用法。根据文章第一段第一句和随后所举的弗莱明的例子以及第四句作者的正面陈述,作者的看法是:任何一项发明和革新来自于反复的尝试与失败(trial and error)。不了解其中艰辛的人却认为发明创造来自于头脑的一闪念或纯属巧合,untaught mind 此处即指这些人。

B 意为:社会上限制个人创造力的人。这与本文表达的内容无关。

C 意为:未受过教育的人。untaught 虽然有这方面的含义,但此处在上下文中却不指这种人,另外,不了解发明创造中的艰辛的人未必没有受过教育。这再次提醒考生,在做阅读理解中的推测词义的题时,必须要根据上下文所涉及的内容来进行,而不能仅依靠其“字典义”。

D 意为:经常由于巧合而偶然提出新思路的人。如上所述,untaught mind 是指不了解创造发明中的艰辛而对此有错误看法的人(见文章第一句),而不是指具有新的思想(或思路)的人。

68. According to the author, what distinguishes innovators from non-innovators?

- ☒ A. The variety of ideas they have.
- ☐ B. The intelligence they possess.
- ☐ C. The way they deal with problems.
- ☐ D. The way they present their findings.

【分析】 选择项 C 是正确答案。C 意为:他们对待问题的方式(或他们处理问题的方法)。这是文章的主旨,第二段第二句表达了这一主旨:善于发明创造的人与其他人的最大的不同在于方法上的不同(此句中 one 指 difference)。文章以下的部分主要产生于这一命题,直至最后一段用一个比喻再次说明了这两种人之间的不同之处。

A 意为:他们拥有的各种各样的思想,这与文章的整体思路不一致。首先,拥有思想的数量与能否有实际的发明创造无关,其二,本文着重指出的是:对待同一事物,有创造力的人与普通人所处的出发点不同。

B 意为:善于发明创造的人与其他人智力条件不同。根据以上的分析,这一点更是不得要领。

D 意为:善于发明创造的人表述自己的发现的方式独具一格。这也是不切主题的。

69. The author quotes Rudolph Flesch in Paragraph 3 because _____.

- ☐ A. Rudolph Flesch is the best expert in the study of human creativity
- ☐ B. the quotation strengthens the assertion that creative individuals look for new ways of doing things
- ☐ C. the reader is familiar with Rudolph Flesch's point of view

D. the quotation adds a new idea to the information previously presented

【分析】 选择项 B 为正确答案。作者引用 Flesch 所说的话显然是为了支持本文的主旨：有创造力的人经常探索做事的新途径，正如第三段中 Flesch 自己所说：创造性思维往往起源于创造者的一种认识：传统的做事方式没有什么特别的优点。

A 项不正确，因为，仅仅指出 Flesch 是研究人类创造力方面的专家无助于说明作者观点的正确。

C 项也不正确，因为仅由于读者了解 Flesch 的观点而引用他的话也显然不是这一引语的目的。

D 项也不对。Flesch 的话与作者前述的主题思想是相吻合的，并没有添加新的思想或意思。

70. The phrase “march to a different drummer” (the last line of the passage) suggests that highly creative individuals are _____.

- B
- A. diligent in pursuing their goals
 - B. reluctant to follow common ways of doing things
 - C. devoted to the progress of science
 - D. concerned about the advance of society

【分析】 选择项 B 是正确答案。B 意为：不愿意遵循常人做事的方式。即：不愿意随波逐流。文章的最后一段是结论，用比喻的方式总结了作者的观点：有创造力的人与常人做事的方法不同。文章原句中 drummer 意为：鼓手，to 意为：和着，伴着；march to a different drummer 原意为：伴着不同的鼓手敲出的鼓点节奏行进，意思是：（与常人）走的道理（指遵循的思路）不同。

A 意为：不懈地追求自己的目标。指其毅力可嘉，传达的意思的侧重点不对。

C 意为：致力于科学的进步。与文章的中心思想不符。

D 意为：关心社会的发展。也与文章主要阐述的主要内容不一致。

【例 5】

Few creations of big technology capture the imagination like giant dams. Perhaps it is humankind's long suffering at the mercy of flood and drought that makes the idea of forcing the waters to do our bidding so fascinating. **But to be fascinated is also, sometimes, to be blind.** Several giant dam projects threaten to do more harm than good.

The lesson from dams is that big is not always beautiful. It doesn't help that building a big, powerful dam has become a symbol of achievement for nations and people striving to assert themselves. Egypt's leadership in the Arab world was cemented by the Aswan High Dam. Turkey's bid for First World status includes the giant Ataturk Dam.

But big dams tend not to work as intended. The Aswan Dam, for example, stopped the Nile flooding but deprived Egypt of the fertile silt that floods left—all in return for a giant reservoir of disease which is now so full of silt that it barely generates electricity.

And yet, the myth of controlling the waters persists. This week, in the heart of civilized Europe, Slovaks and Hungarians stopped just short of sending in the troops in their contention over a dam on the Danube. The huge complex will probably have all the usual problems of big dams. But Slovakia is bidding for independence from the Czechs, and now needs a dam to prove itself.

Meanwhile, in India, the World Bank has given the go-ahead to the even more wrong-headed Nar-