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雅思精品丛书

雅思公主 编著

阅读

真题回顾



机械工业出版社
CHINA MACHINE PRESS

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本书针对雅思强化阶段的考生，选择的是雅思考试高频场景，以模拟试题的形式体现。让考生可以做到一边测试水平，一边熟悉考试场景。

本书的作者为3G雅思网资深版主，熟悉雅思考试，对雅思阅读题目了解深入，深受学生好评。

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序言

雅思公主编写的《雅思公主阅读真题回顾》完成了，邀我作序。我很高兴能有这样一本原汁原味的雅思阅读书籍问世，考生朋友在提高雅思阅读能力和技巧的过程中，又多了一个良师益友。

考生应该如何准备雅思阅读呢？凉月认为，雅思阅读是雅思四项技能考试中最简单的一项。为什么这样说呢？因为所有阅读题目的正确答案都在卷面上，不像听力错过了就不会听到第二次，更不像写作和口语需要自己主动遣词造句。阅读的答案就在试卷上静静地等待着考生把他们找出来，找到了，分数自然就拿到了。怎么在文中找出这些问题的答案，是考生需要解决的问题。这里需要一个重要的阅读能力：定位。

雅思阅读的文章（尤其是A类阅读的文章）有很强的结构性。典型的结构包括时间结构、论点结构和程序结构。时间结构按照时间的顺序介绍一个事物的发展变化，例如一篇文章将恐龙的发展按照恐龙三叠纪、侏罗纪、白垩纪的顺序进行描述；论点结构按照不同的学说或理论将文章分为几大部分，分别阐述各自学说的特点和利弊，例如另一篇文章（还是有关恐龙的）将恐龙灭绝的原因分为火山爆发说、陨石碰撞说、自相残杀说、气候变动说、种群老化说等分别介绍；程序结构则有些类似A类写作的流程图作文，按照事物发展的流程和因果来叙述事物。搞清楚了文章的结构，大概知道文章的板块，自然就可以轻松定位了。但是往往讲的时候很轻松，考生朋友也觉得是这么个道理，阅读似乎很容易，可是一做题却是一头雾水，晕头转向，文章读下来了却什么都抓不住。这又是为什么呢？这里就牵扯到了阅读的另一个重要的能力：语感。

阅读的关键是什么？有人说是词汇量，有人说是技巧，有人说是语法，有人说是速度……其实决定阅读效率的关键因素是阅读的感觉，也就是语感。语感是一个抽象的概念，举一个简单的例子来说明语感的作用：我们在打开一个结构清晰的中文网页的时候，往往扫一眼就能够准确地找到我们需要的信息，或者找到需要点击的那个按钮；但是在浏览英文网页的时候，往往需要一个词一个词地读，其实大部分单词都认识，结构框架和中文网页也差不多，但就是不可能像浏览中文网页一样仅用一两秒就找到确切的信息。这个差别就是语感上的差别，语感也决定了定位的能力。

捕捉阅读的感觉，要从阅读大量原汁原味的英文文章做起。如果阅读很多英

语文章并非原汁原味儿，文章本身和雅思考试的阅读文章相距甚远，就谈不上提高了，甚至有可能带来负面的效果。大量地阅读原汁原味儿的英文文章，可以有效地提升自己的语感，一步一步达到从量变到质变的飞跃。

雅思公主在英语国家生活多年，利用欧洲国家大学的资源系统和图书馆系统收集了大量的与雅思阅读相关的原汁原味儿的阅读材料，编写成书，可以说是非常难得和宝贵的一本雅思阅读参考资料。

最后需要强调的是，阅读能力对于到英语国家留学的学生来说，是最为重要的一项能力，是学习中最常用到的一项技能。一些留学生听力水平不是很好，写作能力也一般，更不爱讲话，但是最后仍然能够完成学业，靠的就是阅读。第二语言的使用，往往是读懂了才能听懂，读懂了才会说，读懂了才会写。没有阅读，想要完成学业几乎是不可能的。提高阅读能力，要从阅读做起，简单而直接，但是需要毅力和恒心。

有志者事竟成，祝各位考生朋友取得理想的成绩。

凉月

二零零八年八月于北京

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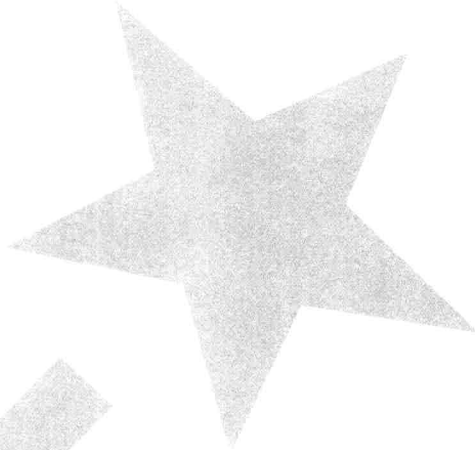
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综合练习一

Space Travel

A People have always dreamed of leaving planet Earth and exploring outer space. Sputnik, the first artificial satellite, was launched in 1957. A human being went into space in 1961. Nowadays, aided by huge technological advancements, astronauts spend up to a year on orbiting space stations and robotic explorers have visited nearly all the planets in our solar system.

B The first challenge of space exploration was developing rockets powerful enough to escape Earth's gravity, with guidance systems reliable enough to reach their destinations. The next was constructing lightweight, durable satellites and maintaining radio communication with them. Exceptionally high standards of reliability in manufacturing and testing are necessary and a number of product innovations in daily use are a result of attempts to solve specific logistical problems connected with life in space.

C In addition to overcoming the challenges of no atmosphere, extremes of temperature and cosmic radiation, it was necessary to develop tools and techniques for space navigation, scientific observations and experiments and coping with incidental crises as they arose. The Apollo program, which in 1969 sent astronauts to the Moon and back, was a huge achievement watched globally by millions on (pre satellite) TV, although some have subsequently claimed that the whole spectacle was an elaborate hoax.



D Emphasis then shifted to maximizing efficiency and comfort during long-term



stays on space stations and developing reusable spacecraft. The latter resulted in the space shuttle fleet but encountered a major setback when the US spaceship Challenger exploded shortly after takeoff in 1986.

E A great advantage of putting satellites into space is the ability to look at Earth (Landsat1 went into polar orbit in 1972). Large-scale photos enable observation of land masses, oceans and weather patterns, remote regions can be mapped in detail and electromagnetic cameras return a wealth of useful data, for example infrared images which allow researchers to discriminate between healthy crops and diseased ones.

F Objects such as stars emit electromagnetic radiation, different wavelengths of which provide scientists with various types of information about the universe. Infrared radiation reveals objects that are not hot enough to emit visible light, such as dust clouds. X rays can indicate extremely high temperatures caused by violent collisions or other events. Earth's atmosphere absorbs high-energy radiation in order for life to exist on the planet, but it also hides many celestial objects from ground-based telescopes. Satellite data has enabled the first cosmic map and discovered further evidence for the "Big Bang" theory of the origin of the universe. The Hubble telescope, sent into orbit in 1990, provides astronomers with spectacularly detailed images of space. Satellites are used for political reasons too: the classified "keyhole" system is reported to be able to read a car licence plate from 100 miles in orbit, while military uses include detection of missiles and nuclear weapons and the development of the Global Positioning System, extensively used for navigation.

G The future of space exploration depends on many factors: technological evolution, political rivalries and partnerships between nations, and public attitudes to continuing costly space exploration. Human spaceflight in Earth's orbit and uncrewed spaceflight within the solar system will continue. Crewed spaceflight to other planets or any flight to other solar systems remains distant, but advances in space technology could take space exploration into the areas of contemporary science fiction. Despite all this, the Apollo astronauts claimed that their personal greatest discovery from the Moon voyages was an increased spiritual awareness of planet Earth as a small but beautiful oasis of life in an essentially empty and impersonal universe.



Multiple Choices

Questions 1-3

Choose the appropriate letters **A-D** and write your answers in boxes 1-3 on your answer sheet.

1. In the history of space exploration, people have already _____
 - A built the first lunar constructions.
 - B left the solar system to probe other galaxies.
 - C landed on most of the planets on our solar system.
 - D lived and worked off Earth for several months or more.
2. To date, satellites are NOT used for _____
 - A detecting electromagnetic radiation.
 - B seeding clouds to enable rainfall in desert areas.
 - C tracking typhoons and other extreme weather conditions.
 - D determining the exact navigational location of shipping.
3. The Apollo astronauts' feelings on viewing the Earth from space were that _____
 - A it didn't look as spectacular as Mars.
 - B we inhabit a fragile and miraculous planet in a huge void.
 - C we need to cooperate more politically to ensure progress with space travel.
 - D science fiction had pictured it correctly.



Completing Sentences

Questions 4-8

Complete the sentences below using words taken from the reading passage.

Use **NO MORE THAN THREE WORDS** for each answer.

Write your answers in boxes 4-8 on your answer sheet.

4. The majority of planets in our solar system have already been investigated by _____

5. Once a spaceship has left the orbit of the Earth, it is navigated to its destination by computer controlled _____

6. The need for spacecraft to transport people and goods back and forth from Earth led to the development of the _____

7. A plethora of information about planets and stars can be discovered using the various wavelengths of _____

8. Satellites permit terrestrial navigators to benefit from the extremely precise _____



Matching Headings to Paragraphs

Questions 9-15

Choose the correct heading for Paragraphs A to G from the list of headings below.

Write the correct number i-vii in the boxes 9-15 on your answer sheet.

List of Headings

- i The future and the spiritual
- ii From Sputnik to now
- iii Earth watching
- iv Development and production challenges
- v Space shuttles
- vi More satellite uses
- vii Man on the moon

- 9. Paragraph A _____
- 10. Paragraph B _____
- 11. Paragraph C _____
- 12. Paragraph D _____
- 13. Paragraph E _____
- 14. Paragraph F _____
- 15. Paragraph G _____



Summary Gap Filling

Questions 16-25

Complete the summary below. Choose your answers from the box at the bottom of the page and write them in boxes 16-25 on your answer sheet.

NB There are more words than spaces so you will not use them all.

You may use any of the words more than once.

The Space Age began in the second half of the twentieth century, with the Moon landings and the subsequent development of 16 _____ capable of reaching other planets and 17 _____ advanced enough to maintain contact with them, as well as relaying a wide array of data regarding our solar system and the Earth as seen from it. Other useful 18 _____ of space satellite research include a precise 19 _____ system for shipping and satellite TV and radio broadcasting.

Further space 20 _____ in the 21st century is dependent on factors such as further 21 _____ in 22 _____, a stable global 23 _____ situation and public 24 _____. Aside from the scientific and technical aspects, space exploration can make humans more 25 _____ of their spiritual nature, as well as our ultimate insignificance in the vast beauty of the cosmos.

List of Words

advances	satellites	exploration	political
extrapolation	navigation	enterprise	spin-offs
climate	technology	discovered	opinion
launch	aware	spacecraft	comprehension



Choosing Factors

Questions 26-31

In the article "Space travel" , several factors were significant in overcoming challenges and others will influence the future of extra terrestrial exploration.

Select the correct factors from each set.

26-28. The first space explorers had to overcome the problems of ...

- A dealing with increased gravitational pull.
- B maintaining body temperature within the spacecraft.
- C exposure to harmful cosmic rays.
- D suffering a buildup of carbon monoxide similar to divers "bends".
- E dealing with unprecedented degrees of external heat and cold.
- F living in a vacuum.
- G being hit by meteorites.
- H inability to move around in their spacesuit.

29-31. The future of space exploration is dependent on...

- A cooperation between countries interested in developments in spaces.
- B a global policy of nuclear non-proliferation.
- C the general consensus of taxpayers that space exploration is valuable.
- D continuing technological advances.
- E the global expansion of science fiction.
- F annihilation of terrestrial weapons of mass destruction.
- G appropriate recruitment of volunteer personnel.



综合练习二

The Three Gorges Dam Project

A China's Yangtze River has been the transportation lifeline of a productive region, stretching from Sichuan Province to the eastern coast, for many centuries. The Grand Canal, begun in the 5th and extended in the 7th and 14th centuries, provided links to southern and especially northern China, including Beijing. In the



19th century, Shanghai and inland settlements developed as ports of trade with connections to the West. Sun Yat-Sen first proposed a dam at Three Gorges in 1919 and Mao Tse-Tung ordered feasibility studies in the mid-1950s, after devastating floods. Work finally began in 1994, amid unprecedented dissent and controversy.

B There are thousands of dams in the Yangtze Basin meeting the high regional demand for irrigation and electricity, but only two of them (the Three Gorges and Gezhou) are on the river itself. The Three Gorges Dam is at Sanduping, near Yichang. Completion is expected in 2009, with an estimated 250,000 workers currently involved in the project. It will measure more than 200m (600 ft) high and 1.6km (1 mile) long, will create a reservoir 650km (400 mile) long and will generate over 18,000 megawatts of electricity; making it larger and more productive than any other hydroelectric facility. The dam is also designed to control flooding, which has claimed more than 1 million lives in the past 100 years, and to improve navigation upriver. Officials hope the combination of inexpensive electricity and cheap river transportation will encourage international investment.

C Nevertheless, the project has drawn intense criticism, both national and international. Firstly, widespread allegations of corruption among officials involved with the project have raised fears of shoddy construction. In 1999, Premier Zhu Rongji warned those involved that their responsibility was "heavier than a mountain" and continued, "Any carelessness or negligence will bring disaster to our future generations and cause irretrievable losses". In 2000, 53 engineers



and academics petitioned President Jiang Zemin to delay fulfilling of the reservoir and relocating the local population until scientists could determine whether the reservoir was viable given the various problems. But construction continued, as did scandals including bribery, embezzlement of funds, nepotism and job selling.

D Secondly, the project is thought to have cost more than any other single construction project in history, with estimates of over US\$75 billion. Supporters claimed that the plan is within its US\$25 billion budget and that the project would pay for itself through electricity generation. They further argued that demand would rise once a new national transmission grid is in place. But opponents believe that by the time demand has increased, competition from cheaper, superior alternatives will have won the ratepayers, unless they are forced to buy the Three Gorges power, or unless the government subsidizes the power. Critics also worry that other projects in need of investment will suffer as China concentrates all its financial resources on the project. Experts believe that the project faces a shortage of funds, especially since many foreign financiers and governments, with some notable exceptions, have considered the dam too risky to get involved.

E Thirdly, the new reservoir will inundate many towns and cities, displacing between 1 and 2 million people. The lands they have been offered in compensation for ancestral lands is less fertile than those lost and may require use of unfamiliar farming methods. Corruption and poor construction have delayed new housing or resulted in sub-standard buildings. Journalist and engineer Dai Qing, who was jailed for criticizing the Three Gorges project, calls it “the most environmentally and socially destructive project in the world.”

F Archaeologists and historians have estimated nearly 1,300 important sites will be submerged, destroying cultural remnants up to 4,000 years old. In addition, tourism associated with the Three Gorges as a physical and cultural attraction may come to an end.

G Finally, but perhaps most importantly, many leading scientists predict the Three Gorges Dam represents an environmental disaster on many levels. Little or no attempt has been made to remove toxic materials and other pollutants from inundated industrial sites, thus creating a huge potential health hazard. The relative lack of waste treatment plants in China also could mean run-off from