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上海交通大学 - 曾甲

英语专业新题型

巅峰突破

4

级

阅 读

本书主编连续多年命中阅读与写作主题

一线名师多年培训经验总结
命题研究小组长期效果评估
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外文出版社
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前言

Preface

为了帮助广大考生在新大纲出台之后,能够轻松取得英语专业四级高分,我们组织专业人员编写了此书。

一、题目:

根据新版教学大纲编写,按专业英语四级考试的形式,将 100 篇阅读理解汇编成 25 个 Test(分为“技能实战篇”、“强化提高篇”、“考前冲刺篇”等 3 章),每个 Test 均为 20 道题(4 篇文章)。

二、文章难易程度编排:由易到难、循序渐进,以便考生有效突破阅读难关。

三、解释为该书最显著的特点:

1. 为便于考生理解原文、提高翻译水平以及实际运用英语的能力,我们为每篇短文提供了中文翻译(或内容概要)。

2. 选择项均给出答题依据,帮助考生养成良好的解题思维。

通过每天 1 个 Test(4 篇阅读)的做题练习,举一反三,25 天(100 篇)有效突破英语四级阅读难关,轻轻松松提高英语阅读水平。

本书所选的例题、译句和解释都已经过反复推敲、实践,但不当之处在所难免,敬请广大读者,同行专家不吝指正,以便改进。

编 者

2008 年 7 月

目录

Contents

第一章

技能实战篇

Test 1	2
试题答案与精讲	8
Test 2	13
试题答案与精讲	19
Test 3	24
试题答案与精讲	30
Test 4	35
试题答案与精讲	42
Test 5	46
试题答案与精讲	52
Test 6	56
试题答案与精讲	62
Test 7	67
试题答案与精讲	74
Test 8	79
试题答案与精讲	86
Test 9	91
试题答案与精讲	98
Test 10	102
试题答案与精讲	109

第二章

强化提高篇

Test 11	115
试题答案与精讲	121
Test 12	126
试题答案与精讲	133
Test 13	137
试题答案与精讲	144
Test 14	150
试题答案与精讲	157
Test 15	161
试题答案与精讲	168
Test 16	173
试题答案与精讲	180
Test 17	185
试题答案与精讲	192
Test 18	197
试题答案与精讲	204

Test 19	209
试题答案与精讲	217
Test 20	221
试题答案与精讲	228
Test 21	232
试题答案与精讲	240
Test 22	244
试题答案与精讲	251
Test 23	257
试题答案与精讲	265
Test 24	269
试题答案与精讲	276
Test 25	280
试题答案与精讲	287

Test 1

技能实战篇



Test 1

TEXT A

"There is a senseless notion that children grow up and leave home when they're 18, and the truth is far from that," says sociologist Larry Bumpass of the University of Wisconsin. Today, unexpected numbers of young adults are living with their parents. "There is a major shift in the middle class," declares sociologist Allan Schnaiberg of Northwestern University, whose son, 19, moved back in after an absence of eight months.

Analysts cite a variety of reasons for this return to the nest. The marriage age is rising, a condition that makes home and its pleasantness particularly attractive to young people. A high divorce rate and a declining remarriage rate are sending economically pressed and emotionally hurt survivors back to parental shelters. For some, the expense of an away-from-home college education has become so excessively great that many students now attend local schools. Even after graduation, young people find their wings clipped by skyrocketing housing costs.

Living at home, says Knighton, a school teacher, continues to give her security and moral support. Her mother agreed, "It's ridiculous for the kids to pay all that money for rent. It makes sense for kids to stay at home." But sharing the family home requires adjustments for all. There are the hassles over bathrooms, telephones and privacy. Some families, however, manage the delicate balancing act. But for others, it proves too difficult. Michelle Del Turco, 24, has been home three times—and left three times. "What I considered a social drink, my dad considered an alcohol problem," she explains. "He never liked anyone I dated, so I either had to hide away or meet them at friends' houses."

Just how long should adult children live with their parents before moving on? Most psychologists feel lengthy homecomings are a mistake. Children, struggling to establish separate identities, can end up with "a sense of inadequacy, defeat and failure." And aging parents, who should be enjoying some financial and personal freedom, find themselves stuck with responsibilities. Many agree that brief visits, however, can work beneficially.

- 1 There was apparently a trend in the U.S. _____.
 A) for young adults to leave their parents and live independently
 B) for middle class young adults to stay with their parents
 C) for married young adults to move back home after a lengthy absence
 D) for young adults to get jobs nearby in order to live with their parents
- 2 Which of the following does NOT account for young adults returning to the nest?
 A) Young adults find housing costs too high.
 B) Young adults are psychologically and intellectually immature.
 C) Young adults seek parental comfort and moral support.
 D) Quite a number of young adults attend local schools.
- 3 One of the disadvantages of young adults returning to stay with their parents is that _____.
 A) there will inevitably be inconveniences in everyday life
 B) the parents have to spend more money keeping a bigger family going
 C) the young adults tend to be overprotected by their parents
 D) public opinion is against young adults staying with their parents
- 4 The word "hassles" in the passage (Line 4, Para. 3) probably means _____.
 A) agreements B) worries C) disadvantages D) quarrels
- 5 According to the passage what is the best for both parents and children?
 A) They should adjust themselves to sharing the family expenses.
 B) Children should leave their parents when they are grown-up.
 C) Adult children should visit their parents from time to time.
 D) Parents should support their adult children when they are in trouble.

TEXT B

There seems never to have been a civilization without toys, but when and how they developed is unknown. They probably came about just to give children something to do.

In the ancient world, as is today, most boys played with some kinds of toys and most girls with another. In societies where social roles are rigidly determined, boys pattern their play after the activities of their fathers and girls after the tasks of their mothers. This is true because boys and girls are being prepared, even in play, to step into the roles and responsibilities of the adult world.

What is remarkable about the history of toys is not so much how they changed

over the centuries but how much they have remained the same. The changes have been mostly in terms of craftsmanship, mechanics, and technology. It is the universality of toys with regard to their development in all parts of the world and their persistence to the present that is amazing. In Egypt, the Americas, China, Japan and among the *Arctic* (北极的) peoples, generally the same kinds of toys appeared. Variations depended on local customs and ways of life because toys imitate their surroundings. Nearly every civilization had dolls, little weapons, toy soldiers, tiny animals and vehicles.

Because toys can be generally regarded as a kind of art form, they have not been subject to technological leaps that characterize inventions for adult use. The progress from the wheel to the oxcart to the automobile is a direct line of *ascent* (进步). The progress from a *rattle* (拨浪鼓) used by a baby in 3,000 BC to one used by an infant today, however, is not characterized by inventiveness. Each rattle is the product of the artistic tastes of the times and subject to the limitations of available materials.

6 The reason why the toys most boys play with are different from those that girls play with is that _____.

- A) their social roles are rigidly determined
- B) most boys would like to follow their fathers' professions
- C) boys like to play with their fathers while girls with their mothers
- D) they like challenging activities

7 One aspect of "the universality of toys" lies in the fact that _____.

- A) technological advances have greatly improved the durability of toys
- B) the improvement of craftsmanship in making toys depends on the efforts of universities
- C) the exploration of the universe has led to the creation of new kinds of toys
- D) the basic characteristics of toys are the same the world over

8 Which of the following is the author's view on the historical development of toys?

- A) The craftsmanship in toy-making has remained essentially unchanged.
- B) Toys have remained basically the same all through the centuries.
- C) The toy industry has witnessed great leaps in technology in recent years.
- D) Toys are playing an increasingly important role in shaping a child's character.

9 Regarded as a kind of art form, toys _____.

- A) follow a direct line of ascent
- B) also appeal greatly to adults
- C) are not characterized by technological progress

D) reflect the pace of social progress

10 The author uses the example of a rattle to show that _____.

- A) in toy-making there is a continuity in the use of materials
- B) even the simplest toys can reflect the progress of technology
- C) it often takes a long time to introduce new technology into toy-making
- D) even a simple toy can mirror the artistic tastes of the time

TEXT C

When a consumer finds that an item she or he bought is faulty or in some other way does not **live up to** the manufacturer's claim for it, the first step is to present the *warranty* (保单), or any other records which might help, at the store of purchase. In most cases, this action will produce results. However, if it does not, there are various means the consumer may use to gain satisfaction.

A simple and common method used by many consumers is to complain directly to the store manager. In general, the "higher up" the consumer takes his or her complaint, the faster he or she can expect it to be settled. In such a case, it is usually settled in the consumer's favor, assuming he or she has a just claim.

Consumers should complain in person whenever possible, but if they cannot get to the place of purchase, it is acceptable to phone or write the complaint in a letter.

Complaining is usually most effective when it is done politely but firmly, and especially when the consumer can demonstrate what is wrong with the item in question. If this cannot be done, the consumer will succeed best by presenting specific information as to what is wrong, rather than by making general statements. For example, "The left speaker does not work at all and the sound coming out of the right one is unclear" is better than "This *stereo* (立体声音响) does not work".

The store manager may advise the consumer to write to the manufacturer. If so, the consumer should do this, stating the complaint as politely and as firmly as possible. But if a polite complaint does not achieve the desired result, the consumer can go a step further. She or he can threaten to take the seller to court or report the seller to a private or public organization responsible for protecting consumers' rights.

11 When a consumer finds that his purchase has a fault in it, the first thing he should do is to _____.

- A) complain personally to the manager
- B) threaten to take the matter to court

- C) write a firm letter of complaint to the store of purchase
D) show some written proof of the purchase to the store
- 12** If a consumer wants a quick settlement of his problem, it's better to complain to _____.
A) a shop assistant
B) a store manager
C) the manufacturer
D) a public organization
- 13** The most effective complaint can be made by _____.
A) showing the faulty item to the manufacturer
B) explaining exactly what is wrong with the item
C) saying firmly that the item is of poor quality
D) asking politely to change the item
- 14** The phrase "live up to" (Line 2, Para. 1) in the context means _____.
A) meet the standard of
B) realize the purpose of
C) fulfill the demands of
D) keep the promise of
- 15** The passage tells us _____.
A) how to settle a consumer's complaint about a faulty item
B) how to make an effective complaint about a faulty item
C) how to avoid buying a faulty item
D) how to deal with complaints from customers

TEXT D

Why does cream go bad faster than butter? Some researchers think they have the answer, and it comes down to the structure of the food, not its chemical composition—a finding that could help rid some processed foods of chemical preservatives.

Cream and butter contain pretty much the same substances, so why cream should sour much faster has been a mystery. Both are emulsions—tiny *globules* (小球体) of one liquid evenly distributed throughout another. The difference lies in what's in the globules and what's in the surrounding liquid, says Brocklehurst, who led the investigation.

In cream, fatty globules drift about in a sea of water. In butter, globules of a watery solution are locked away in a sea of fat. The bacteria which make the food go bad prefer to live in the watery regions of the mixture. "This means that in cream, the bacteria are free to grow throughout the mixture," he says.

When the situation is reversed, the bacteria are locked away in *compartments* (隔舱室) buried deep in the sea of fat. Trapped in this way, individual **colonies** cannot spread and rapidly run out of *nutrients* (养料). They also slowly poison

themselves with their waste products. "In butter, you get a self-limiting system which stops the bacteria growing," says Brocklehurst.

The researchers are already working with food companies keen to see if their products can be made resistant to bacterial attack through alterations to the food's structure. Brocklehurst believes it will be possible to make the emulsions used in salad cream, for instance, more like that in butter. The key will be to do this while keeping the salad cream liquid and not turning it into a solid lump.

- 16 The significance of Brocklehurst's research is that _____.
 A) it suggested a way to keep some foods fresh without preservatives
 B) it discovered tiny globules in both cream and butter
 C) it revealed the secret of how bacteria multiply in cream and butter
 D) it found that cream and butter share the same chemical composition
- 17 According to the researchers, cream sours faster than butter because bacteria _____.
 A) are more evenly distributed in cream
 B) multiply more easily in cream than in butter
 C) live on less fat in cream than in butter
 D) produce less waste in cream than in butter
- 18 According to Brocklehurst, we can keep cream fresh by _____.
 A) removing its fat
 B) killing the bacteria
 C) reducing its water content
 D) altering its structure
- 19 The word "colonies" (Line 2, Para. 4) refers to _____.
 A) tiny globules
 B) watery regions
 C) bacteria communities
 D) little compartments
- 20 Commercial application of the research finding will be possible if salad cream can be made resistant to bacterial attack _____.
 A) by varying its chemical composition
 B) by turning it into a solid lump
 C) while keeping its structure unchanged
 D) while retaining its liquid form

试题答案与精讲

答案

1~5	6~10	11~15	16~20
ABADC	ADBCD	DBBAB	ABDCD

精讲

TEXT A

参考译文

本文从社会学的角度讨论了(在美国)孩子们长大到 18 岁是该离开父母独立生活,还是该继续待在父母身边的这一问题。

(1) 文章开头引用社会学家 Larry Bumpass 的话,“孩子长大到 18 岁就应离开家,简直是个荒唐的概念(a senseless notion),而且实际情况也不是这样”。当今,与父母住在一起的年轻人的数量,远远超乎人们的想象,而且许多离开了父母的年轻人又返回到了父母身边。

(2) 分析家用多种理由解释这种返“巢”现象:结婚年龄增大,因而家庭温馨对年轻人有吸引力;(2C) 离婚率增高和再婚率下降,造成年轻人经济负担过重,使他们感情受到伤害,于是这些“幸存者(survivors)”回到父母的“避难所(parental shelters)”。(2D) 还有一些年轻人由于远离家门上大学(an away-from-home college education)花销巨大而就近求学,甚至毕业后,年轻人发现,(2A) 由于猛涨(skyrocketing)的房租,自己的翅膀仍然硬不起来。

文章接着引用一对母女的话证实上述观点:(2C) 女儿说,住在父母身边仍可得到一种安全感和精神上的支持。母亲对此表示同意,并说让孩子们去付高额房租租房住简直是荒唐。(3) 但是,父母子女住在一起,也不是一件容易的事,它要求全体家庭成员在各方面都要做些“调整(requires adjustments for all)”,为使用盥洗室、电话而(4) 争吵,由于个人独特的生活习惯受到干扰而不快等情况经常发生。有些家庭很好地处理了这些问题,但对另外一些家庭来说却是困难重重。文章提到一位名叫 Michelle Del Turco 的女青年,她三次回家,三次离去。原因呢?她解释说:“我喝点酒,心想这完全是一种社会应酬,但父亲认为是酗酒行为。我和任何人约会,父亲都不喜欢,于是只好偷偷幽会,或者在朋友家里聚会。”

长大了的孩子究竟与父母同住多长时间再离开为好呢?文章说,许多心理学家认为,长期和

父母住在一起(lengthy homecomings)是个错误。理由是:一方面,争取独立性的孩子们由于长期和父母住在一起,最终仍会产生一种“脆弱、经不起打击和失败”的失落感;另一方面,本该在经济和个人生活上能享有自由的年迈双亲由于长期同子女住在一起,发现自己仍然摆脱不掉供养子女的责任。因此,(5) 许多人认为,经常而短暂地与父母团聚对双方都有好处。

◎ 试题分析

- 1 A) 细节题。美国年轻人过去的流行做法? 该题是涉及全篇主旨的一个前提:(Lines 1~4, Para. 1) **There is a senseless notion that children grow up and leave home when they're 18.** and the truth is far from that, says sociologist Larry Bumpass of the University of Wisconsin. Today, unexpected numbers of young adults are living with their parents. 孩子长到18岁离开父母独立生活的概念(notion)是毫无道理的(senseless),但情况并非如此。当今,比想象中多得多的年轻人与父母住在一起。
- 2 B) 细节题。不是年轻人返回与父母同住的原因? A) 依据(Line 6~7, Para. 2); C) 依据(Lines 1~2, Para. 3)或(Lines 2~3, Para. 2); D) 依据(Lines 4~6, Para. 2)。因此B项不成其理由。
- 3 A) 细节题。年轻人返回与父母住在一起的不利因素之一是什么?(Lines 3~6, Para. 3) **But sharing the family home requires adjustments for all. There are the hassles over bathrooms, telephones and privacy.** Some families, however, manage the delicate balancing act. But for others, it proves too difficult. 为使用盥洗室、电话而争吵,由于个人的生活习惯受到干扰而引发的不快经常发生。有些家庭很好地处理了这些问题,但对另外一些家庭来说,想要解决这些问题却是困难重重。
- 4 D) 词义题。(Line 4, Para. 3) hassles 所在句的上文提到:“但住在一起,要求全体成员做些调整”。下文提到:“有些家庭巧妙地使各方满意,但对另一些家庭实在是太困难了。”因此, hassles 一词的意思不可能是 A(一致), B(担心), C(不利条件), 而只能是 D(争吵)。注:也可参见第3题或接下来的 example (Lines 6~8, Para. 3; Michelle)。
- 5 C) 细节题。文章结论:(Lines 5~6, Para. 4) **Many agree that brief visits, however, can work beneficially.** 许多人认为:经常而短暂地与父母团聚对双方都有好处。

TEXT B

参考译文

文章开头说,似乎没有一个文明社会是没有玩具的。开发玩具的目的或许就是让孩子们有事可做。

(6) 古往今来,男孩和女孩的玩具各不相同,因为在男女的任务分工已固定化了的社会里,男孩往往模仿父亲,而女孩则模仿母亲。 他们甚至在玩耍游戏时就已经为今后步入成年世界承担各自的角色做准备了。

(8) 值得注意的一点是,数百年来,玩具制造上不变多于变更。 玩具即使有所变化,也无非是工艺技巧和制作技术上的变化。(7,8) 令人惊讶的是,玩具在世界各地发展的普遍性以及它们从古到今的一脉相承;在埃及、在美洲各国、在中国、在日本以及在北极,玩具都大致相同。 几乎所有的文明社会中都有玩具娃娃、小兵器、小士兵、小动物、小交通工具。当然,由于受当地风俗和生活方式的影响,各地的玩具也有变化,因为玩具往往是要模拟周围环境的。

(9) 一般来说,玩具可以被看做一种艺术形式,所以不会发生像成人所使用的发明创造所体现出的那种技术飞跃。例如,从轮子到牛车,再到汽车的发明是直线的进步。(9) 而公元前3,000年时儿童玩耍用的拨浪鼓与当今的拨浪鼓并没有体现什么发明创造。(10) 每种拨浪鼓都是一个时代艺术情趣的产物,也受到那个时代能有的材料的限制。

◎ 试题分析

- 6 A) 细节题。(Lines 2~4, Para. 2) **In societies where social roles are rigidly determined, boys pattern their play after the activities of their fathers and girls after the tasks of their mothers.** 在男女的任务分工严格固定化的社会里,男孩往往模仿父亲的任务做游戏,而女孩则模仿母亲。
- 7 D) 细节理解题。玩具有什么共性?(Lines 3~7, Para. 3) **It is the universality of toys with regard to their development in all parts of the world and their persistence to the present that is amazing.** In Egypt, the Americas, China, Japan and among the Arctic peoples, **generally the same kinds of toys appeared.** 令人惊讶的是,玩具在世界各地的普遍性以及它们从古到今的一脉相承;在埃及、美洲各国、中国、日本以及在北极,玩具都大致相同。
- 8 B) 综合题。作者对玩具发展史的观点是什么?(Lines 1~3, Para. 3) **What is remarkable about the history of toys is not so much how they changed over the centuries but how much they have remained the same.** The changes have been mostly in terms of craftsmanship, mechanics, and technology. 数百年来,玩具制造上不变多于变更。即使有所变化,也无非是工艺技巧和制作技术上的变化。或见第2题解释,或者见(Lines 4~5, Para. 4) **The progress from a rattle used by a baby in 3,000 BC to one used by an infant today, however, is not characterized by inventiveness.** 公元前3,000年时,儿童玩耍用的拨浪鼓与当今的拨浪鼓并没有体现什么发明创造。
- 9 C) 细节题。(Lines 1~2, Para. 4) **Because toys can be generally regarded as a kind of art form, they have not been subject to technological leaps that characterize inventions for adult use.** 玩具作为一种艺术形式,不会发生像成人所使用的发明创造所体现出的那种技术飞跃。
- 10 D) 推断题。(Lines 5~7, Para. 4) **Each rattle is the product of the artistic tastes of the times and subject to the limitations of available materials.** 像拨浪鼓这样的玩具也是“时代艺术风格的产物”。

TEXT C

参考译文

这是一篇介绍消费者在购买到了劣质产品时如何保护自己权益的文章。

(11) 如果消费者购买到了劣质产品,(14) 或与厂家说明不符的产品,消费者应该拿着保单(warranty)或其他有利证据,找到商家。在一般情况下,他们的问题会得到解决。(15) 如果得不到满意的解决,还有其他各种方法。(12) 去找商店经理是其中一种最简便、常规的方法。找到的经理级别越高,或者职务越高,问题解决得也就越快。

最好是当面投诉,如果无法当面投诉,也可打电话或写投诉信。投诉既要有礼貌,又要态度坚决。最好是当面指出商品的毛病,如果是写信或打电话投诉,(13) 具体说明(写明)商品的毛病所在要比泛泛地说商品有毛病更加有效。

有时商家会让你直接与厂家交涉,消费者也可以这样做。如果得不到满意的答复,消费者可采取进一步行动(go a step further),警告他们你要到法院或到消费者权益保护组织去起诉他们。

◎ 试题分析

- 11** D) 本题问及的是第一段的主要内容,即消费者购得劣质产品,首先(第一步)该怎么办?(Lines 2~4, Para.1)... **the first step is to present the warranty**, or any other records which might help, at the store of purchase. In most cases, this action will produce results. 如果消费者购买了劣质产品,或与厂家的说明不符合的产品,消费者首先应拿着保单(warranty)或其他有助于说明是在哪家商场购买的证明,找到商家,在一般情况下,问题都会得到解决。
- 12** B) 本题考核的是第二段的主要内容。(Lines 1~3, Para.2) A simple and common method used by many consumers is to **complain directly to the store manager**. In general, the “higher up” the consumer takes his or her complaint, the faster he or she can expect it to be settled. 要想较快地解决问题,最好直接找经理投诉,经理官衔“越大”,问题解决得越快。
- 13** B) 本题考核的是第四段的主要内容,即用什么样的方法投诉最有效?(Lines 3~4, Para.4) the consumer will succeed best **by presenting specific information as to what is wrong**. 具体指出商品的毛病所在最有效。
- 14** A) 词义题。厂家声称某种产品性能、质量如何,但是这个产品真的符合厂家的说法,达到厂家的标准了吗?文章中的(an item...)or in some way does not live up to the manufacture's claim for it 就是说(商品……)或在别的什么方面没有达到(不符合)厂家所声称的(质量、性能等)标准。
- 15** B) 文章主旨。(Lines 4~5, Para.1) However, if it does not, **there are various means the consumer may use to gain satisfaction**. 然而,如果消费者拿着保单等去找商场或商家仍不生效的话,消费者还有各种各样的方法可以得到满意的解决。

TEXT D

参考译文

这是一篇科普性的短文,讲述的是奶油为什么很快地变质,而黄油则不然。文章指出,(16) 这一发现为在食品加工过程中不再使用化学防腐剂提供了可能性。

奶油和黄油所含的物质大体相同,为什么奶油变酸比黄油快得多呢?这一直是个谜。奶油和黄油都是乳剂,即一种液状小球体均匀分布在另一种液体之中。所不同的是液状小球体内部及其外围液体的结构。

奶油中的脂肪小球体在水中自由漂移,而黄油中的水溶液小球体则禁锢在脂肪的汪洋之中。(17) 能使食物变质的细菌喜欢在混合水域里生活。这就是说,(19) 这类细菌可以在奶油中自由地繁衍。如果情况相反,这类细菌则被深深禁锢在脂肪汪洋中的隔离仓内,无法扩展,其营养很快就消耗殆尽,慢慢被自身排泄物毒化致死。黄油就属于这种情况,它本身就有这样一种自我限制系统,阻止这类细菌繁衍。

(18) 研究人员正打算与某些公司合作,这些公司热衷于考虑如何利用改变食品本身结构的方法来生产能抵御细菌侵扰的产品。领导这项研究的 Brocklehurst 相信,将乳状液,例如(20) 用于色拉的奶油做成与黄油一样是可能的,关键是保持色拉酱的液态状,而不是将其变为固态的块儿状。

◎ 试题分析

- 16** A) 本题问及由 Brocklehurst 领导的研究项目的意义(即文章的主旨)是什么?(Lines 3~4, Para.1)... a finding that could **help rid some processed foods of chemical preservatives**. 这一发现