

根据教育部 2000 年现行考试大纲编写

大学英语 学习导航

历年实考试卷评析

策划：大学英语教学及考试研究组

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六级

CET



知识产权出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

大学英语学习导航/肖又亦主编. —北京:知识

产权出版社, 2000. 2

ISBN 7-80011-471-6

I. 大… II. 肖… III. 英语—高等学校—水平考试—
教学参考资料 IV. H310.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2000)第 01956 号

书 名: 大学英语学习导航

——(六级)历年实考试卷评析

责任编辑: 苏彩文 刘 超

封面设计: 靳 征

出 版 者: 知识产权出版社

印 刷: 铁道部十六局印刷厂

发 行: 新华书店北京发行所

规 格: 1/32 850×1168 8.0625 印张 278 千字

印 次: 2000 年 3 月第 1 版第 1 次印刷

定 价: 268.00 元(本册定价 12.00 元)

(如有图书质量问题, 请打电话: 010-62515809)

前 言

新的教学大纲颁布至今已整整半年。为了帮助广大师生真正领会新大纲的精神,使得同学们既能顺利通过四、六级考试,又能切切实实、真正地提高英语语言能力,我们在新大纲正式出台后立即组织了一批理论功底扎实、教学经验丰富的教师、专家编写这套《大学英语学习导航》。这些编者多年来都一直在从事大学英语的教学或理论研究工作,对大学公共英语及四、六级考试很有研究,而且手头有大量现成的、多年积累的资料。所以,我们在策划出版此书的初期,原以为三、四个月就可以完成全书的编写工作。没想到,编写一套真正能对大家有所裨益的书是一件如此艰辛的工作,一干就是八个月。尽管有诸如上述的有利条件,而且事实上从1998年12月下旬在杭州举行高等学校大学外语教学指导委员会英语组扩大会议《大学英语教学大纲》(征求意见稿)时,我们就已经在酝酿这套书的编纂计划,也就是说,这套书的编写工作实际上从98年12月就正式开始进行了。但是,直到昨天晚上9点多出版社的编辑才打电话告诉我们“全部书稿已核红完毕,可以撰写前言、交付印刷了。”编辑的声音沙哑、疲惫,但掩饰不住他的兴奋之情。我们抑制不住内心的激动,马上打电话将这一消息通知为此而辛勤工作了一年多的诸位编者及所有参与或关心本书出版工作的专家、普通工作人员。在这一年多的时间里,尤其是自去年7月份以来,大家在正常的教学、科研之余,几乎将所有的时间都用来从事本书的编著。有些同志平时实在太忙,但为了不影响整体的出版计划,常常熬夜到三、四点钟。全书的主要审定者张世军先生的除夕之夜是在书房中度过的。负责本书出版联络工作的夏半秋同志在农历十二月二十九日下午将作者送来的最后一部分终审稿交付审定者,才匆忙飞回远在千里之外的父母身边。

出版一套合格的教学辅导材料其实是一项十分辛苦的工作。就拿编写一套模拟题来说,英语四、六级考试试题形式上非常简单,无非是一道题目搞几个选择项,出个题目要求考生以此作文。有些人以为一天就可以轻而易举地命制几十道题。事实上,一套科学的试题,其命制是一项专业性极强的工作,难度大、周期长,其中的题目要经过命题、审题、试测、计算机项目分析、复审、构卷等一系列复杂的程序,以确保其在难易度、区分度等方面都达到规定的要求。而且,命题人员必须经过专门训练、熟悉命题规则。本套书的《精编模拟

试题集详解》就是严格依照以上程序精心命制,每套题都在多个四、六级考前辅导班中试用过,并经过反复修改。

在对《大学英语教学大纲》(征求意见稿)进行讨论时,我们就提出:大学英语教学应该既重视打好语言基础,又重视语言应用能力培养;应该借鉴国内外语言学研究的最新成果,反映社会需要和学生的实际需求及大学英语教学的特点,较好地体现科学性、先进性、实用性、灵活性的原则;大学英语教学应帮助学生掌握良好的语言学习方法,提高文化素养,它是实施素质教育的一个组成部分;测试是检查教学大纲执行情况,评估教学质量的一种有效手段,是获取教学反馈信息的主要来源和改进教学工作的重要依据;语言测试应重点考核学生的语言基础和语言应用能力。我们的上述思想,在新大纲的正式稿中均得到了体现、重视。我们在编写本书时,也是按照上述理念,严格依据最新教学大纲及考试大纲,应用了国内外语言教学与测试的最新成果,既介绍了英语学习的规律、方法,又全面、精辟地总结、分析了四、六级考试的所有测试内容。相信经过我们这一年多的努力,能够达到编写本书的初衷,帮助广大读者既能顺利通过四、六级考试,又能切实提高英语水平。

尽管本书的编纂工作历时一年有余,但仍感时间仓促;尽管编者均为优秀的教师、专家,但智者千虑仍难免一失。书中错误与不足之处,敬请读者批评指正,以便我们再版时改进。

大学英语教学及考试研究组

2000年3月



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1996 年 6 月大学英语六级考试试题

Part I Listening Comprehension (20 minutes)

Section A

1. A) To change the tennis shoes in the sportswear department.
B) To help his friend find the right department.
C) To find his lost shoes on the tennis court.
D) To buy himself a pair of tennis shoes.
2. A) They produce part of their own food.
B) They sell their own produce.
C) They feed their family on cheap food.
D) They buy food from farmers.
3. A) Mr. White's reason for leaving. C) A vacant position.
B) Mr. White's new appointment. D) How to apply for a job.
4. A) Be hostile to Nancy. C) Talk to Nancy herself.
B) Ask Nancy to come out. D) Write Nancy a letter.
5. A) To serve as her tour guide. C) To serve as her driver.
B) To serve as her boyguard. D) To serve as her porter.
6. A) He is often asked to go and see exhibits.
B) He would like to go and see the exhibits.
C) He went to see the exhibit last year.
D) He definitely does not want to go.
7. A) The environmental problem. C) The educational problem.
B) The health problem. D) The international problem.
8. A) Bob will see Susan tomorrow evening.
B) Bob might be at home late tomorrow evening.
C) Bob and Susan have decided to go on a holiday.
D) Bob asked the woman to come another time.
9. A) They think cinemas are too far away from their homes.
B) They are disappointed with the films produced these days.

C) They both dislike films about adventure stories.

D) They both like the idea of going to the cinema at night.

10.

Passage One

Questions 11 to 14 are based on the passage you have just heard.

11. A) Because he was a cook at a country-music club.
B) Because he performed for guests while he worked as a cook.
C) Because he often sang while cooking.
D) Because he liked singing better than cooking.
12. A) His brother. C) His father.
B) His manager. D) A business woman.
13. A) At a club. C) At a construction site.
B) On a farm. D) In a record company.
14. A) His ability to live independently.
B) His sense of responsibility in whatever he did.
C) His courage in the face of rejections.
D) His hard work in his early days.

Passage Two

Questions 15 to 17 are based on the passage you have just heard.

15. A) How to handle spiders
C) People's fear of spiders
B) Spiders in the United States
D) A special kind of spider
16. A) Most spiders will not bite even when handled.
B) Most spiders are poisonous and dangerous.
C) Most spiders are likely to attack people.
D) Most spiders have sharp eyes.
17. A) Because she cannot find a husband for herself.
B) Because the female spider is larger than the male one.
C) Because the female spider often eats her husband.
D) Because she is a black female spider.

Passage Three

Questions 18 to 20 are based on the passage you have just heard.

18. A) Instructions C) Money

- B) Medicine D) The draft of his speech
19. A) Because she had to type Mr. Bascomb's speech.
B) Because she had a headache.
C) Because she had to meet some businessmen.
D) Because she had to get her car fixed.
20. A) The problems of the city.
B) Himself and his problems.
C) Things he had planned to say to his audience.
D) The plan for his future work as a mayor.

Part II**Reading Comprehension****(35 minutes)****Passage One****Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following passage:**

Three English dictionaries published recently all lay claim to possessing a "new" feature. The *BBC English Dictionary* contains background information on 1,000 people and places prominent in the news since 1988; the *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary: Encyclopedic* (百科全书的) Edition is the OALD plus encyclopedic entries; the *Longman Dictionary of English Language and Culture* is the LDOCE plus cultural information.

The key fact is that all three dictionaries can be seen to have a distinctly "cultural" as well as language learning content. That being said, the way in which they approach the cultural element is not identical, making direct comparisons between the three difficult.

While there is some common ground between the encyclopedic/cultural entries for the Oxford and Longman dictionaries, there is a clear difference. Oxford lays claim to being encyclopedic on content whereas Longman distinctly concentrates on the language and culture of the English-speaking world. The Oxford dictionary can therefore stand more vigorous scrutiny (审视) for cultural bias than the Longman publication because the latter does not hesitate about viewing the rest of the world from the cultural perspectives of the English-speaking world. The cultural objectives of the BBC dic-

tionary are in turn more distinct still. Based on an analysis of over 70 million words recorded from the BBC World Service and National Public Radio of Washington over a period of four years, their 1,000 brief encyclopedic entries are based on people and places that have featured (占显著地位) in the news recently. The intended user they have in mind is a regular listener to the World Service who will have a reasonable standard of English and a developed skill in listening comprehension.

In reality, though, the BBC dictionary will be purchased by a far wider range of language learners, as will the other two dictionaries. We will be faced with a situation where many of the users of these dictionaries will at the very least have distinct socio-cultural perspectives and may have world views which are totally opposed and even hostile to those of the West. Advanced learners from this kind of background will not only evaluate a dictionary on how user-friendly it is but will also have definite views about the scope and appropriateness of the various socio-cultural entries.

21. What feature sets apart the three dictionaries discussed in the passage from traditional ones?
- A) The combination of two dictionaries into one.
 - B) The new approach to defining words.
 - C) The inclusion of cultural content.
 - D) The increase in the number of entries.
22. The Longman dictionary is more likely to be criticized for cultural prejudice because _____.
- A) its scope of cultural entries goes beyond the culture of the English-speaking world
 - B) it pays little attention to the cultural content of the non-English-speaking countries
 - C) it views the world purely from the standpoint of the English-speaking people
 - D) it fails to distinguish language from culture in its encyclopedic entries
23. The BBC dictionary differs from Oxford and Longman in that _____.
- A) it has a wider selection of encyclopedic entries

- B) it is mainly designed to meet the needs of radio listeners
 - C) it lays more emphasis on language than on culture
 - D) it is intended to help listeners develop their listening comprehension skills
24. It is implied in the last paragraph that, in approaching socio-cultural content in a dictionary, special thought should be given to ____.
- A) the language levels of its users
 - B) the number of its prospective purchasers
 - C) the different tastes of its users
 - D) the various cultural backgrounds of its users
25. What is the passage mainly about?
- A) Different ways of treating socio-cultural elements in the three new English dictionaries.
 - B) A comparison of people's opinions on the cultural content in the three new English dictionaries.
 - C) The advantages of the BBC dictionary over Oxford and Longman.
 - D) The user-friendliness of the three new English dictionaries.

Passage Two

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage:

Real policemen hardly recognize any resemblance between their lives and what they see on TV.

The first difference is that a policeman's real life revolves round criminal law. He has to know exactly what actions are crimes and what evidence can be used to prove them in court. He has to know nearly as much law as a professional lawyer, and what is more, he has to apply it on his feet, in the dark and rain, running down a street after someone he wants to talk to.

Little of his time is spent in chatting. He will spend most of his working life typing millions of words on thousands of forms about hundreds of sad, unimportant people who are guilty of stupid, petty crimes.

Most television crime drama is about finding the criminal; as soon as he's arrested, the story is over. In real life, finding criminals is seldom much of a problem. Except in very serious cases like murders and terrorist attacks

little effort is spent on searching.

Having made an arrest, a detective really starts to work. He has to prove his case in court and to do that he often has to gather a lot of different evidence.

A third big difference between the drama detective and the real one is the unpleasant pressures: first, as members of a police force they always have to behave absolutely in accordance with the law. Secondly, as expensive public servants they have to get results. They can hardly ever do both. Most of the time some of them have to break the rules in small ways.

If the detective has to deceive the world, the world often deceives him. Hardly anyone he meets tells him the truth. And this separation the detective feels between himself and the rest of the world is deepened by the simple-mindedness—as he sees it—of citizens, social workers, doctors, law-makers, and judges, who, instead of eliminating crime punish the criminals less severely in the hope that this will make them reform. The result, detectives feel, is that nine-tenths of their work is re-catching people who should have stayed behind bars. This makes them rather cynical(愤世嫉俗的).

26. A policeman has to be trained in criminal law because _____.
A) he must work hard to help reform criminals
B) he must behave as professional lawyers do
C) he must be able to tell when and where a crime is committed
D) he must justify the arrests he makes of criminals
27. What is the most suitable word that describes the work of a policeman according to the passage?
A) Dangerous. C) Distressing.
B) Demanding. D) Dramatic.
28. According to the passage, policemen spend most of their time and efforts _____.
A) patrolling the street, rain or shine
B) tracking and arresting criminals
C) collecting and providing evidence
D) consulting the rules of law

29. What's the policeman's biggest headache?
- A) He has to get the most desirable results without breaking the law in any way.
 - B) He has to justify his arrests while unable to provide sufficient evidence in most cases.
 - C) He can hardly find enough time to learn criminal law while burdened with numerous criminal cases.
 - D) He has to provide the best possible public service at the least possible expense.
30. Why do policemen feel separated from the rest of the world?
- A) Because they do not receive due support from society.
 - B) Because they find people insincere to them.
 - C) Because they feel superior to the simple-minded people around them.
 - D) Because they are suspicious of the people around them.

Passage Three

Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following passage:

To live in the United States today is to gain an appreciation for Dahrendorf's assertion that social change exists everywhere. Technology, the application of knowledge for practical ends, is a major source of social change.

Yet we would do well to remind ourselves that technology is a human creation; it does not exist naturally. A spear or a robot is as much a cultural as a physical object. Until humans use a spear to hunt game or a robot to produce machine parts, neither is much more than a solid mass of matter. For a bird looking for an object on which to rest, a spear or robot serves the purpose equally well. The explosion of the Challenger space shuttle (挑战者号航天飞机) and the Russian nuclear accident at Chernobyl drive home the human quality of technology; they provide cases in which well-planned systems suddenly went haywire (变得混乱) and there was no ready hand to set them right. Since technology is a human creation, we are responsible for what is done with it. Pessimists worry that we will use our technology eventually to blow our world and ourselves to pieces. But they have been saying

this for decades, and so far we have managed to survive and even flourish. Whether we will continue to do so in the years ahead remains uncertain. Clearly, the impact of technology on our lives deserves a closer examination.

Few technological developments have had a greater impact on our lives than the computer revolution. Scientists and engineers have designed specialized machines that can do the tasks that once only people could do. There are those who assert that the switch to an information-based economy is in the same camp as other great historical milestones, particularly the Industrial Revolution. Yet when we ask why the Industrial Revolution was a revolution, we find that it was not the machines. The primary reason why it was a revolutionary is that it led to great social change. It gave rise to mass production and, through mass production, to a society in which wealth was not confined to the few.

In somewhat similar fashion, computers promise to revolutionize the structure of American life, particularly as they free the human mind and open new possibilities in knowledge and communication. The Industrial Revolution supplemented and replaced the muscles of humans and animals by mechanical methods. The computer extends this development to supplement and replace some aspects of the mind of human beings by electronic methods. It is the capacity of the computer for solving problems and making decisions that represents its greatest potential and that poses the greatest difficulties in predicting the impact on society.

31. A spear or a robot has the quality of technology only when it _____.
A) is used both as a cultural and a physical object
B) serves different purposes equally well
C) is utilized by man
D) can be of use to both man and animal
32. The examples of the Challenger and Chernobyl cited by the author serve to show that _____.
A) if not given close examination, technology could be used to destroy our world
B) technology is a human creation, so we are responsible for it

- C) technology usually goes wrong, if not controlled by man
D) being a human creation, technology is liable to error
33. According to the author, the introduction of the computer is a revolution mainly because _____.
A) the computer has revolutionized the workings of the human mind
B) the computer can do the tasks that could only be done by people before
C) it has helped to switch to an information technology
D) it has a great potential impact on society
34. By using the phrase “the human quality of technology” (Para. 2, Lines 7—8), the author refers to the fact that technology _____.
A) has a great impact on human life
B) has some characteristics of human nature
C) can replace some aspects of the human mind
D) does not exist in the natural world
35. The passage is based on the author's _____.
A) keen insight into the nature of technology
B) prejudiced criticism of the role of the Industrial Revolution
C) cautious analysis of the replacement of the human mind by computers
D) exaggerated description of the negative consequences of technology

Passage Four

Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following passage:

Now custom has not been commonly regarded as a subject of any great importance. The inner workings of our own brains we feel to be uniquely worthy of investigation, but custom, we have a way of thinking, is behavior at its most commonplace. As a matter of fact, it is the other way around. Traditional custom, taken the world over, is a mass of detailed behavior more astonishing than what any one person can ever evolve in individual actions. Yet that is a rather trivial aspect of the matter. The fact of first-rate importance is the predominant role that custom plays in experience and in belief and the very great varieties it may manifest.

No man ever looks at the world with pristine (未受外界影响的) eyes.

He sees it edited by a definite set of customs and institutions and ways of thinking. Even in his philosophical probings he cannot go behind these stereotypes(固定的模式); his very concepts of the true and the false will still have reference to his particular traditional customs. John Dewey has said in all seriousness that the part played by custom in shaping the behavior of the individual as over against any way in which he can affect traditional custom, is as the proportion of the total vocabulary of his mother tongue over against those words of his own baby talk that are taken up into the language of his family. When one seriously studies social orders that have had the opportunity to develop independently, the figure(这种比喻) becomes no more than an exact and matter-of-fact observation. The life history of the individual is first and foremost an adjustment to the patterns and standards traditionally handed down in his community. From the moment of his birth the customs into which he is born shape his experience and behavior. By the time he can talk, he is the little creature of his culture, and by the time he is grown and able to take part in its activities, its habits are his habits, its beliefs his beliefs, its impossibilities his impossibilities.

36. The author thinks the reason why custom has been ignored in the academic world is that _____.
A) custom reveals only the superficial nature of human behavior
B) the study of social orders can replace the study of custom
C) people are still not aware of the important role that custom plays in forming our world outlook
D) custom has little to do with our ways of thinking
37. Which of the following is true according to John Dewey?
A) An individual can exercise very little influence on the cultural tradition into which he is born.
B) Custom is the direct result of the philosophical probings of a group of people.
C) An individual is strongly influenced by the cultural tradition even before he is born.
D) Custom represents the collective wisdom which benefits the individu-