新编大学英语阅读教程

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张啸 主编

前 言

　　提高英语阅读能力是通过大学英语四级考试及全面提高英语水平的重要前提。阅读能力的提高也有助于完形填空、翻译和写作。

　　依据全国大学英语四、六级考试改革方案精神，本教程按照四级考试最新题型来编写，涵盖了四级考试"阅读理解"部分的最新题型，意图引导读者有针对性地准备四级阅读考试，同时充分利用阅读来促进英语综合能力的提高。

　　在阅读文章选材方面，根据四级考试阅读部分选材特点，文章从社会生活、经济金融、文化教育、科普知识、健康医疗等方面进行选材。所选材料源自国内外英文媒体并均注明了材料来源。语言地道规范，注重内涵，内容贴近实际。不同题材的文章结构各有其特点，旨在通过阅读，让学生充分了解该题材文章特点以培养和塑造学生对下文内容和试题命题的预知能力，学会和掌握根据上下文理解和猜词的能力。

　　在内容的设计上，本教程共编写了 16 个单元，每个单元包括 1 篇快速阅读、1 篇选词填空和 2 篇仔细阅读 3 个部分，阅读部分与四级考试阅读出题原则及题型保持高度一致。

　　本教程由张啸主编，文宇、石转转、罗南英任副主编，参加编写的人员还有周岷、朱雪莲、尹蓉、李兴玲、代迎春、文婷、夏颖。

　　在编写过程中，我们参阅了部分同行编写的阅读教程，在此对他们表示诚挚的谢意。

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编者

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第一部分　大学英语四级考试阅读理解新题型介绍

大学英语四级考试在继 2005 年 6 月实现计分体制改革后，考试内容也发生了变化，涉及考试题型、考试程序及各题型所占分数比重的变动等。改革后的四级考试各部分测试内容、题型和所占比重如表 1 所示：

表 1　　　　大学英语四级考试测试内容、题型及各题型所占比重

试卷构成	测试内容		测试题型	分数比重	
第一部分：写作	写作		短文写作	15%	
第二部分：听力理解	听力对话	短对话	单项选择	8%	35%
		长对话	单项选择	7%	
	听力短文	短文理解	单项选择	10%	
		短文听写	复合式听写	10%	
第三部分：阅读理解	快速阅读理解		是非判断 或 单项选择 + 句子填空	10%	35%
	仔细阅读理解	篇章词汇理解	选词填空	5%	
		篇章阅读理解	单项选择	20%	
第四部分：综合测试	完形填空 或 改错		单项选择 或 错误辨认并改正	10%	15%
	句子翻译		汉译英	5%	

由上表可见，新题型四级考试阅读理解包括快速阅读（Skimming and Scanning）和仔细阅读（Reading in Depth），测试学生通过阅读获取书面信息的能力，所占分值比例为 35%，其中仔细阅读部分 25%，快速阅读部分 10%。考试时间为 40 分钟。四级考试中，阅读理解占了半壁江山，可谓"得阅读者得天下"。新题型从不同的角度和层面对大学英语考生进行全面的阅读能力考查，因此考生在平时的阅读学习与训练过程中，不仅要掌握大量的词汇，熟悉常考的语法结构，积累一定的文化知识背景，同时还要掌握一些科学合理的阅读方法和技巧。

第二部分 大学英语四级考试阅读理解新题型攻略

第一讲　快速阅读

一、快速阅读题型揭秘

四级考试快速阅读理解部分（Skimming and Scanning）占总分值的10%，要求考生在15分钟内阅读一篇约1000词的文章，运用略读（Skimming）和查读（Scanning）的技能从篇章中获取信息。略读考核学生通过快速阅读获取文章主旨大意或中心思想的能力，阅读速度约每分钟100词。查读考核学生利用各种提示，如数字、大写单词、段首或句首词等，快速查找特定信息的能力。快速阅读理解部分采用的题型有是非判断（Statement Judgement）、单项选择（Multiple Choice）和完成句子（Sentence Completion）。这三种题型通过组合，构成四级快速阅读考题，每次一般只出现两种题型，常见的组合有2种：

第一种：7道是非判断题 +3 道完成句子题

第二种：7道单项选择题 +3 道完成句子题

但目前多为第二种组合，即7道单项选择题 +3 道完成句子题。

二、快速阅读解题步骤

快速阅读考查的是考生的信息快速查询和核对能力。题目顺序一般按照文章的先后顺序设定，所以解题时可按以下步骤，节省时间，提高效率。

（一）略读全文，浏览大标题，分析小标题（如果有的话），了解文章概况。

浏览大标题的目的是快速对文章内容有大致了解。分析小标题是为了把握文章的总体结构，了解文章内容的基本构成。如果阅读理解的篇幅较短，

考试中可以直接用题目中的关键词汇定位，但是面对长篇累牍的快速阅读，考生首先应当留意文章当中是否有小标题。如果有，一定要先读小标题，因为小标题的作用如同目录，可以帮助考生宏观地把握文章框架，迅速寻找到有效信息的范围。

有时文章没有小标题，这时须按下列顺序浏览全文：第一段的第一句、第二句和最后一句——以下每一段的第一句——最后一段的第一句和最后一句。这种方法，意味着已经开始阅读，所以花的时间要长一些，但应该控制在两分钟之内。

（二）仔细阅读题目，标出题目中的标志词或关键词。

标志词指的是专有名词（人名、地名、组织名、国名等）、特殊字体的单词（如斜体单词、带引号、破折号、连字符的单词等）和数字等有标志性的单词，根据这些单词，我们可以对试题涉及的内容在文章中的位置进行快速定位。

如果试题中没有标志词，那么就根据试题中的名词、名词词组、动词、动词词组、形容词和形容词词组确定试题提问的内容，然后再确定试题在文章中的位置。

（三）根据标志词或关键词回到原文定位相关信息，求证题干表述是否正确或找到正确答案。

在答题时，首先要根据标志词或关键词确定试题所在的部分，即在哪一个小标题下。如果文章没有小标题，也可以对试题在文章中的位置进行模糊定位，因为真题的出题顺序与原文的相关位置是一致的。也就是说，第四题答案的位置一般不会在第三题前面。因此我们答题时，不要一道题一道题地答，而要两道两道地做，前后呼应，能更好地定位。

三、快速阅读涉及的其他几个重要的阅读技巧

（一）不同文体的文章有各自的特点，阅读中要分别把握。记叙文通常按照时间顺序记叙人的成长或事件的发生过程，在阅读中应当注意把握时间顺序。议论文通常是作者针对某个话题列举别人的观点或提出自己的观点，

在阅读时明确作者的态度有助于正确解题。说明文则要把握说明的逻辑顺序，并且充分利用小标题推测大意、定位题干。

（二）注意表示逻辑关系的连接词，尤其是 but，however，yet 等表示转折强调的连接词后面的内容。有些试题的正确选项会在 but 后面出现。

（三）明确是非判断题中 N（错误）和 NG（没有提到）的区别。N 是指题干和原文内容相反或者矛盾，是与 Y（正确）相对立的情况。NG 包括两种情况：题干所含信息在原文中没有提到；题干所含信息在原文中提到，但是原文没有得出题干所讲的结论。第二种情况在解题过程中极易被误判为 N。下面通过一个例子说明 NG 的第二种情况。

原文：Jackson learned how to play mahjong and use chopsticks from his Chinese friends.

题干：Playing mahjong was Jackson's hobby.

这个例子中，原文提到了 "play mahjong" 这一信息，但是没有得出 Jackson 以打麻将为嗜好这一结论，也不能判断打麻将一定不是 Jackson 的嗜好。所以该题答案为 NG 而不是 N。

四、快速阅读解题示范

Is There a Perfectly Safe Place to Live In?

1. Challenging the premise that sparsely settled outer suburbs are safer than cities, a University of Virginia professor has concluded that persons living in rural areas like Fayette County have a higher risk of dying in a traffic accident or being murdered by a stranger than residents of a metropolitan area like Pittsburgh.

2. William H. Lucy, professor of urban and environmental planning, studied eight urban areas, including greater Pittsburgh, for three to four years to test theories that dictate where people bye and how they decide what is safe.

3. While raw statistics supported the commonly held theory that the risk of dying by homicide is higher in cities than in rural areas, when Lucy factored in fatal traffic accidents, the statistics showed that life was actually more dangerous

for rural residents.

4. There, "people drive farther and faster and on narrow and curvy roads," Lucy said last week. "Many people kill themselves in single vehicle traffic accidents."

5. Lucy said he was inspired to do the study by his dislike of sprawl. "We would like to see cities and suburbs revived," Lucy said in a phone interview from Charlottesville, Va. "I am interested in questions about what influences where people live. They leave places that they view as unsafe and move to places that they consider to be safe."

6. Lucy gathered statistics from Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Milwaukee, Minneapolis — St. Paul, Philadelphia and the suburbs and counties surrounding them. In total, he compared 68 counties and cities. Lucy found that Fayette County was 14th most dangerous, based on traffic fatalities and homicides by strangers. Butler County placed 27th, Westmoreland County was 33rd, Beaver arid Pittsburgh tied for 46th and Allegheny County, excluding Pittsburgh, was 64th, one of the safest.

7. Contrary to commonly held assumptions, Lucy said, the statistics show that persons who live far out in suburbia or in low — density rural areas actually haw, a higher risk of dying a violent death — defined as a fatal car crash or homicide by someone other than a spouse, relative or friend — than persons who live in a city.

8. Professor Alfred Blumstein, a criminologist at Carnegie Mellon University, called the study "intriguing" but said it did not convince him that urban residents should feel safer than those in rural areas. "In general, homicide rates are higher in the city than the suburbs and the suburbs are higher than rural areas," he said.

9. From 1997 to 1999, Lucy found, the city of Pittsburgh's homicide rate was 1. 3 per 10, 000 persons, compared with 0. 3 per 10, 000 persons in Beaver and ·Fayette counties and 0. 2 in Washington, Westmoreland, Butler and the rest of Allegheny County. He then refined the numbers to isolate the homicides that were

committed by persons who didn't know the victims. For the same time period, Lucy evaluated the risk of dying in a fatal car crash – which he found was 2 per 10, 000 persons in Fayette County, 1.4 per 10, 000 in Butler, 1.2 in Washington and Westmoreland and 1 in Beaver. In Allegheny County outside Pittsburgh, the risk was 0.6 per 10, 000; Pittsburgh's rate was 0.7 per 10, 000 persons.

10. In each metropolitan area that he studied, Lucy found that the safest counties were those that bordered or rimmed the central city—Baltimore County, Cook County in Chicago, Delaware and Montgomery counties bordering Philadelphia and Allegheny County surrounding Pittsburgh.

11. His study supports the premise that people tend to overestimate the risks of crime while underestimating the risks of driving. Four years ago, the *Post Gazette* came to a similar conclusion in a study that found that residents of Fayette and Greene counties were more than twice as likely to die a violent death as residents of Allegheny County. That study was based on an analysis of nearly 25, 000 deaths in Pennsylvania during a 10 – year period. It found that the single factor that increased the chance of violent deaths was cars.

12. No place is perfectly safe, but some places are more dangerous than others. Whether we live on a floodplain or in "Tornado Alley," near a nuclear facility or in a neighborhood poorly lit at night, we all co – exist uneasily with natural and man – made hazards. As Mark Monmonier shows in his entertaining and immensely informative book *Cartographies of Danger*: *Mapping Hazards in America*, maps can tell us a lot about where we can anticipate certain hazards, but they can also be dangerously misleading.

13. California, for example, takes earthquakes seriously, with a comprehensive program of seismic mapping, whereas Washington has been comparatively lax about earthquakes in Puget Sound. But as the Northridge earthquake in January 1994 demonstrated all too clearly to Californians, even reliable seismic hazard maps can deceive anyone who misinterprets "known fault – lines" as the only

places vulnerable to earthquakes.

14. Important as it is to predict and prepare for catastrophic natural hazards, more subtle and persistent phenomena such as pollution and crime also pose serious dangers that we have to cope with on a daily basis. Hazard – zone maps highlight these more insidious hazards and raise awareness about them among planners, local officials, and the public.

15. With the help of many maps illustrating examples from all corners of the United States, Monmonier demonstrates how hazard mapping reflects not just scientific understanding of hazards but also perceptions of risk and how risk can be reduced. Whether you bye on a fault line or a coastline, near a toxic waste dump or an EMF – generating power line, you ignore this book's plain language advice on geographic hazards and how to avoid them at your own peril.

16. "No one should buy a home, rent an apartment, or even drink the local water without having read this fascinating cartographic alert on the dangers that lurk in our everyday lives... Who has not asked where it is safe to live? *Cartographies of Danger: Mapping Hazards in America* provides the answer."

– H. J. de Blij, NBC News

17. "Even if you're not interested in maps, you're almost certainly interested in hazards. And this book is one of the best places I've seen to learn about them in a highly entertaining and informative fashion."

– John Casti, New Scientist

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡 1 上作答。

1. William H. Lucy, a University of Virginia professor, is an expert in the research of _____.

A) financial development of cities

B) urban and environmental planning

C) security of metropolitan cities

D) crime rotes of rural and urban areas