大学英语精典题解





四級阅读

500题



详解

主编 郑天义 苏 颖 東订 黄又林

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前言

大学英语四级考试中,阅读理解一直是测试 的重点。最新公布的《全国大学英语四、六级考试 改革方案》指出,自2006年1月开始,将有180所 试点高校试行改革后的四级考试,预计2007年1 月全面实施改革后的四级考试。而改革后的四级 考试对阅读部分的调整是:阅读理解部分比例调 整为35%,其中仔细阅读部分(careful reading)占 25%,快速阅读部分(fast reading)占 10%。仔细阅 读部分除测试篇章阅读理解外,还包括对篇章语 境中的词汇理解的测试:快速阅读部分测试各种 阅读技能。虽然阅读理解部分的分值比例下调了 5%,但仍与听力部分(占35%)并列成为四级考试 最重要的测试部分。目前尽管对听、说的要求相 当强烈,但阅读能力仍是大部分大学生今后工作 所需的主要技能,而且阅读也是提高听、说、写、译 能力的基础。通过增加快速阅读理解测试,将更 深入全面地考查考生的阅读能力。

本书根据最新《大学英语教学大纲》及《大学 英语四级考试大纲》编写,目的在于帮助广大考生 通过阅读强化训练达到百练一胜——迅速提高阅读能力,在四级统考中获得优良的成绩。

全书共计25个单元,每单元4篇短文,每篇配有5道阅读理解题,篇幅及难度按递增顺序排

列,在选材难度及结构形式上力求与四级考试保持一致,以便于考生检测自己的阅读水平。

本书在选材上涵盖了四级考试中阅读理解的常考题材,即日常生活知识、科普常识、风土人情、人物传记、社会文化教育,具体又可分为自然地理、妇女、能源与环保、教育、经济、文体、医学、人文、交通建筑、其他等十大类别,体裁涉及叙述文、说明文、议论文、应用文。本书内容新颖,注重选取最新的报章资料,比如"如何界定恐怖主义","美国目前离婚率超过60%","美国今年的火星探测计划";并兼具一定的知识性及实用性,比如,"求职者在面试中应怎样应对考官","富有与健康的关系"等等,可读性强。

在题型设计上,按四级考试题型进行设置,包括信息细节题、中心主旨题、词义辨析题、推断结论题,使考生通过练习达到《大纲》要求的阅读能力,即:能顺利阅读语言难度中等的一般性题材的文章,掌握中心大意以及说明中心大意的事实和细节,并能进行一定的分析、推理和判断,领会作者的观点和态度,阅读速度达到每分钟70词。在阅读篇幅较长、难度略低、生词不超过总词数3%的材料时,能掌握中心大意,抓住主要事实和有关细节,阅读速度达到每分钟100词。考生可以把这些规定作为对自己能力检测的一个参考,进一步明确自己在阅读理解能力训练中存在的问题和努力的方向,完成必要的阅读量。

本丛书由郑天义教授主编,北京大学苏颖、张凤琴、陈菁,北京外国语大学张洪亮,清华大学彭秋兰,北京理工大学李冬梅、王淑美,中国人民大学周新生等编著。全书英文部分由美籍专家Duncan Rayner审读,在此表示感谢。

由于编者水平有限,书中的疏误在所难免,敬请读者不吝批评、指正。



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Passage 1

Most job seekers have a general idea of what to expect during a job interview. You'll be ready to discuss your work history and respond to a series of standard questions, such as "Where do you see yourself in five years?" Depending on the position, you may also be asked about your proficiency (熟练程度) with various software applications or be asked to take a skills test. The hiring manager wants to know if you have the requisite(必不可少的) experience so you'll hit the ground running once hired.

The process is more complex when you reach the executive level. Management will be entrusting you with significant responsibilities, and you'll be playing a role in setting policy for the firm. As a result, you'll be judged on qualities not easily summarized on a resume. You will likely go through several rounds of interviews, not just one or two. The people you meet with will be conducting an in-depth evaluation to determine whether you have the vision, experience, creativity, and management skills to be a successful leader. You'll not only need to provide thoughtful answers to questions but also present a clear picture of why you're right for the position.

Make sure you have a thorough understanding of the organization's business priorities, its strengths and weaknesses, and its chief competitors. Consider how you would address some of the

四级阅读500题详解 (1)

issues facing the company. Your research efforts are critical to a successful interview. Those with whom you meet will be assessing how well you understand the business and what ideas you bring to the table. You'll need to show that you're knowledgeable about not only accounting and finance but also the broader issues impacting the company.

compa	ny.
1. Fro	om the first paragraph, we can learn that
(A)	most job seekers can realize their expectations for the job when having an interview
B)	you will have to respond to a series of standard questions or be asked to take a skills test during a job interview
C)	the hiring manager wants to know if you are requisite to his company
D)	work experience is important to job seekers
2. If y	ou apply for a position of the executive level, you
A)	must set policy for the firm during the course of interview
B)	don't need a resume because it can not summarize all qualities you have
C)	must present a clear picture of the organization's development in the future
(D)	need to show clearly why you are the most appropriate person for the position
3. Bef	fore having an interview, you
	must have work history
	must be proficient with various software of your own field
	need to address the interviewers about some of the issues
od d	facing the company
(D)	should have a comprehensive understanding of the organization

4. The following statements are false EXCEPT .



- A) You must go through several rounds of interviews, not just one or two, when you apply for a position of the executive level
- B) You must provide thoughtful answers to questions when interviewing
- (C) You need to know not only the basic things about the company but the broader issues impacting the company
- D) You need to have a thorough understanding of competitors applying for the jobs in the organization

5. The passage is mainly about _____.

- A) the requirement of a job interview
- B) how to succeed in a job interview
- C) the content of a job interview and how to prepare it
 - D) the interview of the executive level

Passage 2

Every year in developing countries, a million people die from urban air pollution and twice that number from exposure to stove smoke inside their homes. Another 3m unfortunates die prematurely (过早地) every year from water-related diseases. All told, premature deaths and illnesses arising from environmental factors account for about a fifth of all diseases in poor countries, bigger than any other preventable factor, including malnutrition.

The link between environment and poverty is central to that great race for sustainability. It is a pity, then, that several powerful fallacies(谬论) keep getting in the way of sensible debate. One popular myth is that trade and economic growth make poor countries' environmental problems worse. Growth, it is said, brings with it urbanization, higher energy consumption and industrialization – all factors that contribute to pollution and pose health risks.



Another common view is that poor countries should pollute now and clean up later. Certainly poor countries should not be made to adopt American or European environmental standards. But there is evidence to suggest that poor countries can and should try to tackle some environmental problems now, rather than wait till they have become richer.

One powerful – and until recently ignored – weapon in the fight for a better environment is local people. Much academic research has shown that the poor are often victims of resource depletion(损耗): it tends to be rich locals or outsiders who are responsible for the worst exploitation(开发). Local people usually have a better knowledge of local ecological conditions than experts in faraway capitals, as well as a direct interest in improving the quality of life in their village.

1. From the first paragraph we can learn that _____.

- A) in developing countries 6 million people die from environmental factors each year
- B) in developing countries 3 million people lose their lives each year because of water shortage
- C) in developing countries environmental factors are the biggest cause for abnormal death
- D) in developing countries more people die from malnutrition
- 2. According to the author, which of the following contributes most to environmental problems in poor countries?
 - A) poverty and made and a single at 11 will dark stage and error
- B) urban air pollution
 - (C) water-related diseases
- D) rich locals and outsiders
- As for the view that trade and economic growth make poor countries' environmental problems worse, the author regards it as





- A) reasonable

 B) absurd

 C) skeptical

 D) exaggerated
- 4. The main idea of Para. 3 is
 - A) Poor countries should pollute now and clean up later.
 - B) Poor countries should take environmental problems seriously as early as possible.
 - C) Poor countries should follow American or European environmental standards.
 - D) Some poor countries hold a false guideline in tackling environmental problems.
- According to the author, people who can play an important role in tackling environmental problems are _______.
 - A) rich locals
 - B) outsiders where streams be good about a new and a more subgroup
 - C) local residents
- D) environmental experts

Passage 3

Ever since 1790s, society has worried periodically about whether it will be able to produce enough food to feed people in the future. Yet until recently, most of the debate surrounding the issue of food scarcity focused on the potential for increasing the food supply. The key questions were whether there would be enough land and water to produce the amount of food needed and whether technology could keep increasing the yields of food grains. Now, however, scientists are growing concerned that the intensive use of land, energy and fertilizer that modern agriculture seems to require endanges the health of the environment. This anxiety has been integrated into the



general debate about food scarcity, but the question of the demand for food has not. In fact, relatively little attention has been paid to the issue of demand despite the fact that like energy and water, food can be preserved and the demand for it adjusted to meet human needs and lessen the burden that modern agriculture places on the environment.

Unlike with many other forms of consumption, there are limits to the physical quantity of food that people can consume. In a number of high-income countries, that limit seems to have been reached already. If global population does double by 2050, as many have predicted, providing everyone with a rich and varied diet would only require a tripling (三倍) of food production. Alternatively, with sufficient improvements in efficiency and adoption of a healthier diet in high-income countries, it would be possible to provide such a diet for the entire global population with just a doubling of food production. But even a doubling of current production could strain Earth's ecosystems (生态系统), as critics of modern agriculture's intensive use of resources will prove. Clearly, then, increases in food demand will have to be slowed if we hope to achieve a sustainable agricultural system. Central to the issue of demand, however, is the question of how much food the world really needs.

1. What people used to worry about most is _____.

- A) the rapid increase of populations
- B) to adjust our demand for food so that we can make the total demand go down
- (C) whether we have enough land and technology to feed the rapidly climbing populations
- D) the environmental deterioration thanks to excessive grains production
- 2. What people worry about most now is _____.





- A) the rapid increase of populations
- B) to adjust our demand for food so that we can make the total demand to go down
- C) whether we have enough land and technology to feed the rapidly climbing populations
- D) the environmental deterioration thanks to excessive grains production

3.	According to	the author,	one potential	way to	reduce	the total	food
	demand is	Lotrarelo e					

- (A) to adjust our diet to be more reasonable
- B) to produce more grains
- C) to employ more advanced technologies for more grains
- D) to develop a land, energy and fertilizer intensive agriculture

4. From the passage it can be inferred that critics are not satisfied with current agriculture in that _____.

- A) it is low efficiency
- B) it has not produced enough grains to meet the growing demand
- (C) it depletes too much land, energy and fertilizer
 - D) it gives rise to many environmental problems

According to the author, to achieve a sustainable agricultural system, the first thing we should do is ______.

- A) to develop more advanced agricultural technologies
 - B) to have a comprehensive survey on the exact total food demand
- C) to associate agriculture with environment
 - D) to adjust people's diet



Passage 4

People who are married or in committed relationships are healthier, wealthier, and happier. So why do more than 60 percent of marriages end in divorce? Why has the national divorce rate climbed more than 200 percent in the last thirty years? And why are fewer people getting married today than ever before?

The answers to these questions are plentiful, but the main reason is simple. It's easy to "fall" in love, but very few people know how to stay in love. Even though staying in love is our "smartest" choice all the way around! Recent studies on marriage prove it's one of the major ingredients in life-long success for men and women. Marriage has also been found to boost happiness, reduce the degree of depression, and provide protection from sexually transmitted diseases.

So let's wake up, make up, and turn this trend around! One of the most amazing pieces of evidence that shows people are not in touch with what's really going on in their partnerships is the fact that the majority of people who put in for divorce say they didn't think there was a relationship-threatening problem just six months prior to breaking up. Another shocker is that most couples wait six years or more to seek professional help when their relationship is in danger. By the time they do wake up and smell the coffee, it's often too late.

Truly there is no reason to resign yourself to a bad relationship? Whether you're dating or married. Rather than changing partners and ending up this same predicament (困境) again, you can learn to have a fabulous (难以置信的) relationship with the partner you already have! I strongly encourage you to make the relationship you



have work, because there is a higher rate of divorce in second marriages.

1. According to the author, which of the following is NOT true?

- A) A happy marriage can be beneficial for both partners' mentality.
- B) More and more people face marriage crisis.
- C) Large portions of people are not quite sure of the meaning of true love.
 - D) More and more people tend to be single.

2. The fundamental reason for marriage crisis is

- A) that people are too easy to fall in love without a comprehensive understanding
- B) that people do not know how to get along well with partners after marriage
- C) some kinds of economic pressure and stress
- D) to maintain a life-long love is too difficult for common people

3. What does the author mean by saying "... smell the coffee, it's often too late" in Para. 3?

- A) Partners who like drinking coffee are more likely to experience divorce.
- (B) People are always not aware of enough about marriage crisis.
 - C) Partners should have a happy ending of marriage when facing crisis.
- D) People should value their marriage.

4. When people face marriage crisis, the author may suggest

A) ending their marriage immediately

B) finding the reasons for the crisis

⁽C) trying to stay in marriage

D) having a cup of coffee and having a good communication



- 5. It can be inferred from the passage that the author may be a (an)
 - A) journalist

B) professor

advisor

D) official

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	4 77 8		СВВСС	

A. ending their marriage immediately