

2013

考研英语

20年阅读理解真题 专项详解

主编：郭崇兴

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20年阅读理解真题

专 项 解 读
常州大学图书馆藏书章

主编：郭崇兴



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内 容 简 介

本书汇集了1993~2012年考研英语阅读理解Part A共20年真题,在归纳出题形式、总结答题技巧的基础上,详细讲解了历年真题以及精准定位答题法的运用。全书分为两部分:第一部分介绍阅读理解Part A六大题型,以实例分析各题型的命题形式、应对策略和干扰项,给出优化的答题步骤;第二部分讲解近20年的阅读理解Part A真题,深入分析正确答案和错误选项,列出重点单词和词组,剖析长难句,并翻译全文。本书具有很强的实用性和指导性,可帮助读者切实提高英语阅读理解能力,是广大考生不可多得的复习参考书。

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2013 考研英语 20 年阅读理解真题专项详解

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前言 FOREWORD

考研英语阅读理解 Part A 共 4 篇文章,20 道题,每小题 2 分,共 40 分。很明显,这部分的分值占据了相当大的比重。对于考生而言,这部分的得分对总体分数起了至关重要的作用。而作为考研的必考科目之一,英语成绩对考生获得录取资格十分关键。很自然,考研英语阅读理解就成了需要考生重点复习的一部分内容。

除此之外,考研英语阅读理解的重要性还在于,不管是英语知识运用、英汉翻译还是写作,都渗透着对阅读理解能力的考查。因为不管是哪种题型,都要求考生能够读懂、读透句子,这是正确答题的前提和关键。所以,阅读水平的提高,不仅对阅读题型至关重要,对于考研英语的整体复习来说,都有着不可小觑的作用。

但是根据对历年考研英语成绩的统计,考生阅读理解的得分情况并不理想。阅读理解的难度不断加大是考生分数偏低的一个原因。另一个很重要的原因就是缺乏练习和一定的指导,对于考查题型以及针对各题型的应对策略没有整体的把握。

最好的考研复习材料就是历年真题,它们能最真实地反映考试重点和考试难度。基于此,本书以 20 年阅读理解 Part A 真题为依据,进行了大量的总结、提炼工作,归纳出六种出题形式,并总结出了相应的应对策略,以帮助考生在最短的时间内提高阅读理解水平,掌握各种题型的答题技巧。

本书严格按照《全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语(一)考试大纲(非英语专业)》和 1993 ~ 2012 年的考研英语阅读理解 Part A 的真题编写而成,包括两大部分内容:第一部分是考研英语阅读理解 Part A 题型概述,从 20 年阅读理解 Part A 真题中归纳出六种出题形式,总结出相应的答题技巧,并对各种题型的干扰项进行了分析,以期在最大程度上帮助考生全面把握阅读理解 Part A;第二部分是历年真题详解,通过 20 年真题详细讲述了精准定位法的应用,不仅为考生分析了正确答案为什么正确,还分析了错误选项为什么错误,展开环环相扣、层层深入的讲解。仔细研读本书,相信必将有效地帮助考生提高考试分数。

本书在内容上主要有以下特色:

1. 简约 + 核心

在真题答案的讲解部分,利用“精准定位法”定位了与题干要求相关的信息(句子或段落),然后根据具体的命题形式应用相应的答题技巧,为考生详细分析了正确答案之所以正确的原因。此外,还逐一分析了错误选项,使考生对出题人设置干扰项的思路有清晰的认识。

此外,本书还列出了文章中出现的大纲单词、超纲单词和核心词组,这可以强化考生对单词的掌握,而且能对文章中出现的超纲单词有所了解。

近年来,阅读理解所选文章的句子结构越来越复杂,这增加了考生理解上的难度。针对这一情况,作者专门分析了文章中出现的典型的长难句,划分了长难句的句子结构,确定了句子主干,有助于考生把握句子结构,提高破解长难句的能力。为方便使用,本书使用以下符号划分句子结构:

①定语从句和后置定语:括号“()”

②状语:方括号“【 】”

③宾语从句:波浪线“~~~~~”

④同位语从句:下划线“_____”

⑤插入语:双斜线“//”

此外,作者翻译了全部真题。在考试准备阶段,考生不能为做题而做题,更重要的是提高自己的综合能力。做完题,看完答案解析后,考生应该再返回真题,对文中出现的重点单词、词组和语法进行重点记忆,并试着翻译全文,然后与作者给出的译文进行对比,找出自己的不足或参考译文的不足,这能最大限度地提升考生的语言综合运用能力。

2. 实用 + 指导

第一部分,作者总结了六种题型的出题形式和答题技巧。第二部分答案详解,作者不仅给出了正确答案,还详细讲述了得出正确答案的过程,同时将应对策略贯穿其中,目的是让考生不仅知其然还要知其所以然。

本书经长期写作和多次修改加工,最后呈现在广大考生面前,相信必能帮助广大考生提高阅读理解能力,破解长难句,夺取阅读理解高分。

祝愿广大考生能够金榜题名,考入更高学府,实现自己的深造梦想!

郭崇兴于北京

2012年7月

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第一章 考研英语阅读理解 Part A 题型概述

第一节 大纲要求与大纲剖析

考研英语大纲要求对考生备考起着至关重要的作用,考生只有在了解了出题者的目的、意图以及考查要点之后,才能更有针对性地备考。下述内容重点介绍了大纲要求,并对大纲进行了剖析,从而使考生对大纲要求有一个明确具体的认识。

一、大纲要求

《全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语(一)考试大纲(非英语专业)》规定阅读理解 Part A 部分主要考查考生理解主旨意义、具体信息、概念性含义,进行有关的判断、推理和引申,根据上下文推测生词的词义等能力。大纲要求考生根据所提供的4篇文章(总长度约为1600词)的内容,从每题所给出的4个选项中选出最佳答案。

二、大纲剖析

自1993年以来,阅读理解A部分有过变动:1993~2001年,5篇文章,每篇文章4道题;2002年以来,4篇文章,每篇文章5道题,文章的长度大约400~500词。虽然形式变动,这部分仍然是考试的重点和分值最多的部分,考查内容和考查重点并没有发生大的改变,因此历年来的阅读真题仍然具有很大的参考价值,是考生备考阅读理解A部分的最有价值的参考资料。

根据大纲对此部分的规定,结合近20年来的考查要点,可以将此部分的考查点总结为具体信息题、信息概括题、推理推断题、主旨要义题、生词推测题和概念含义题这六种类型。答题技巧部分将重点介绍这六种类型的应对策略。

第二节 六种题型的出题形式和答题技巧

阅读是以单词和句型的把握为基础的,但掌握一定的解题技巧,把有限的精力放在问题的解答上,可以达到事半功倍的效果。

一、一般策略

1. 排除法

四个选项中只有一个是正确答案,其余三个是为考生设置的干扰项,考生可以利用排除法逐一排除错误选项。

2. 关注表示转折意义的句子

句子中but、however等表示转折含义的词后的部分往往是作者重点强调的内容。遇到这种句子,考生要用笔标出,在确定答案时进行重点分析。

以2012年第30题为例,最后一段第二句和第三句 **But there should be consequences. Permission to run a nuclear plant is a public trust.** (但不良后果还是有的。经营核电站的许可权问题是一个公共信任的问题。), **but** 表示表达内容上的转折, **but** 之前的内容提到, **Entergy** 公司认为在佛蒙特州的声誉已经扫地,所以没什么可顾忌的了。 **but** 话锋一转,说明事实不是这样, **Entergy** 公司的所作所为还是会产生影响的。A项是对此的合理推断。

通过分析表转折意义的句子确定正确答案的例子还有很多,因此在文中标出表转折意义的句子并重点分析,是一项十分重要的应对策略。

二、针对各题型的应对策略

根据对历年真题的分析,阅读理解A部分所有考题都是围绕文中具体信息、信息概括、根据文中信息作出推断、推测文中某个单词的意义和句子的含义以及文章的主旨来设置的。下面将逐一讲述这六种题型的出题形式和答题技巧,旨在使考生在应试时快速定位文中信息,作出正确选择。

1. 具体信息题

(1) 命题形式

这种题型的命题形式一般是:

- ① According to paragraph 1 (2 or 3...)/the author,...
- ② Which of the following is true about...?
- ③ Somebody believes that something is...

总之,这种题型是对文中的某个信息点进行考查。

(2) 应对策略

- ① 根据题干中明确的关键词返回原文定位相关信息。
- ② 根据定位的信息确定选项中与此含义相同的那一项,可以将其概括为“同义转述”。

“同义转述”是解答这类题型的总的指导方针。“同义转述”具体指的是,选项表达的含义与文中对应点的信息表达的含义相同,正确选项利用不同的词汇表达了与文中对应信息相同的含义。

【例1】 There's no doubt that our peer groups exert enormous influence on our behavior. An emerging body of research shows that positive health habits—as well as negative ones—spread through networks of friends via social communication. This is a subtle form of peer pressure; we unconsciously imitate the behavior we see every day. (2012 年考研真题第 24 题)

24. Paragraph 5 shows that our imitation of behaviors _____

- [A] is harmful to our networks of friends.
- [B] will mislead behavioral studies.
- [C] occurs without our realizing it.
- [D] can produce negative health habits.

【答案解析】 题干中的 our imitation of behaviors 与第五段最后一句中的 imitate the behavior 表达的意思相同,属于同义转述,unconsciously 相当于 C 项中的 without our realizing it。

【例2】 The rough guide to marketing success used to be that you got what you paid for. No longer. While traditional “paid” media—such as television commercials and print advertisements—still play a major role, companies today can exploit many alternative forms of media. Consumers passionate about a product may create “earned” media by sending e-mail alerts about products and sales to customers registered with its Web site. The way consumers now approach the process of making purchase decisions means that marketing's impact stems from a broad range of factors beyond conventional paid media. (2011 年考研真题第 31 题)

31. Consumers may create “earned” media when they are _____

- [A] obsessed with online shopping at certain Web sites.
- [B] inspired by product-promoting e-mails sent to them.
- [C] eager to help their friends promote quality products.
- [D] enthusiastic about recommending their favorite products.

【答案解析】 [D] 项中的 enthusiastic about 对应首段第四句中的 passionate about, recommending their favorite products 与 sending e-mail alerts about products and sales to customers registered with its Web site 表达的含义是相同的。[D] 项是对本句话的同义转述。这样的同义转述在表达方式上变了,但核心含义没有发生改变。

【例3】 We are even farther removed from the unfocused newspaper reviews published in England between the turn of the 20th century and the eve of World War II, at a time when newsprint was dirt—cheap and stylish arts criticism was considered an ornament to the publications in which it appeared. In those far-off days, it was taken for granted that the critics of major papers would write in detail and at length about the events they covered. Theirs was a serious business, and even those reviewers who wore their learning lightly, like George Bernard Shaw and Ernest Newman, could be trusted to know what they were about. These men believed in journalism as a calling, and were proud to be published in the daily press. “So few authors have brains enough or literary gift enough to keep their own end up in journalism,” Newman wrote, “that I am tempted to define ‘journalism’ as ‘a term of contempt applied by writers who are not read to writers who are’.” (2010 年考研真题第 23 题)

23. Which of the following would Shaw and Newman most probably agree on?

- [A] It is writers' duty to fulfill journalistic goals.
- [B] It is contemptible for writers to be journalists.
- [C] Writers are likely to be tempted into journalism.
- [D] Not all writers are capable of journalistic writing.

【答案解析】 从第三段的第三句开始出现 Shaw 和 Newman, 考生应该重点分析这几句话。根据 So few authors have brains enough or literary gift enough to keep their own end up in journalism (只有很少的作者拥有足够的才智能够胜任新闻写作), 以及段中的 like George Bernard Shaw and Ernest Newman (比如 George Bernard Shaw 和 Ernest Newman), 可以确定 [D] Not all writers are capable of journalistic writing (并不是所有的作者都能胜任新闻写作) 是正确答案。由文中提到的 so few authors 可知 [D] 项中的 not all writers 表述正确。

【例 4】 But some observers are skeptical. “There’s a kind of false precision being hawked by people claiming they are doing ancestry testing,” says Trey Duster, a New York University sociologist. He notes that each individual has many ancestors—numbering in the hundreds just a few centuries back. Yet most ancestry testing only considers a single lineage, either the Y chromosome inherited through men in a father’s line or mitochondrial DNA, which is passed down only from mothers. This DNA can reveal genetic information about only one or two ancestors, even though, for example, just three generations back people also have six other great-grandparents or, four generations back, 14 other great – great – grandparents. (2009 年考研真题第 28 题)

28. Skeptical observers believe that ancestry testing fails to _____

- [A] trace distant ancestors.
- [B] rebuild reliable bloodlines.
- [C] fully use genetic information.
- [D] achieve the claimed accuracy.

【答案解析】 根据题干中提到的 “ancestry testing”, 可以确定该题的答案蕴含在第 5 段(本例列举的此段)。根据本段第二句中的 There’s a kind of false precision being hawked by people claiming they are doing ancestry testing (那些声称可以进行血统测试的人得出的测试结果存在着一定的不准确性), 可以确定选项 [D] achieve the claimed accuracy (实现声称的准确性) 符合题意。the claimed accuracy 与文中的 precision being hawked 表达的含义是相同的, 其中 claimed 与 hawked 的意义相同, accuracy 与 precision 的意义相同。

【例 5】 Could the bad old days of economic decline be about to return? Since OPEC agreed to supply – cuts in March, the price of crude oil has jumped to almost \$26 a barrel, up from less than \$10 last December. This near – tripling of oil prices calls up scary memories of the 1973 oil shock, when prices quadrupled, and 1979 – 80, when they also almost tripled. Both previous shocks resulted in double – digit inflation and global economic decline. So where are the headlines warning of gloom and doom this time? (2002 年考研真题第 51 题)

51. The main reason for the latest rise of oil price is _____

- [A] global inflation.
- [B] reduction in supply.
- [C] fast growth in economy.
- [D] Iraq’s suspension of exports.

【答案解析】 根据题干中的 the latest rise of oil price 可以确定本题答案蕴含在第一段中。本段第二句提到 Since OPEC agreed to supply – cuts in March, the price of crude oil has jumped to almost \$26 a barrel (自从石油输出国组织在 3 月份同意减少石油供应以来, 原油的价格几乎升至了 26 美元一桶), [B] reduction in supply (减少供应) 是对文中 supply – cuts 的同义转述。

(3) 干扰项的特点

①选项的内容与作者在原文中提到的信息不符。所有题型的干扰项中都包含这一特点, 以下内容不再累述。

以 2010 年第 21 题的选项 [A] 为例:

根据第一段第一句中的 the inexorable decline in the scope and seriousness of their arts coverage (对艺术方面的报道在广度和深度方面不可避免地下降了) 可以确定 [A] arts criticism has disappeared from big – city newspapers (艺术评论已经从大城市的报纸上消失了) 表述错误。

②偷换概念。选项提到了原文的内容, 但是却将原文对应部分中的信息换成了其他信息。

以 2006 年第 39 题的选项 [D] 为例:

文中的 “peculiar institution (特殊的制度)” 指的是宪法中的一个条款, 即为了争取国会代表权, 奴隶被当做五分之三的人。因此选项 [D] Slavery was regarded as a peculiar institution (奴隶制被认为是一项特殊的制度) 表述错误, 偷换概念。

③颠倒因果关系。选项中谈到的两部分之间的因果关系与原文所说的因果关系正好相反。

以 2002 年的 51 题为例:

51. The main reason for the latest rise of oil price is _____

- [A] global inflation.
- [B] reduction in supply.
- [C] fast growth in economy.
- [D] Iraq’s suspension of exports.

本题问的是最近一次石油涨价的主要原因。第一段倒数第二句提到 Both previous shocks resulted in double-digit inflation (先前这两次石油危机都导致了两位数的通货膨胀), 石油危机指的就是“石油的价格飞涨”, 因此[A] global inflation(全球性的通货膨胀)是石油危机导致的结果, 此项颠倒了因果关系。

④无关选项。文中没有提到与选项内容相关的信息。这种干扰项在各种命题形式中都会出现。

2. 信息概括题

(1) 命题形式

这种题型的命题形式一般有两种:

①In paragraphs 1 and 2, the text shows that...

②The text suggests that ...

这种题型与具体信息题的命题形式存在相似之处, 同样是对文中某个信息点的提问, 但不同的是, 此类题型的答案蕴含在文章的不同段落中, 不能仅凭其中一点信息作出判断。

(2) 应对策略

根据题干信息划出文中所有相关信息, 然后根据对这些信息的概括确定最佳答案。最佳答案应该是能概括所有相关细节信息的那一项。

“高度的概括性”是解答此类题型的总的指导方针。

【例1】 Either Entergy never really intended to live by those commitments, or it simply didn't foresee what would happen next. A string of accidents, including the partial collapse of a cooling tower in 2007 and the discovery of an underground pipe system leakage, raised serious questions about both Vermont Yankee's safety and Entergy's management—especially after the company made misleading statements about the pipe. Enraged by Entergy's behavior, the Vermont Senate voted 26 to 4 last year against allowing an extension. (第4段, 2012年考研真题第28题)

28. According to Paragraph 4, Entergy seems to have problems with its _____

[A] managerial practices.

[B] technical innovativeness.

[C] financial goals.

[D] business vision

【答案解析】 第四段第二句重点讲述了 Entergy 公司出现的一系列问题, 作者将出现的这些问题归结为公司的管理问题, 因此 A 项是对这些问题根源的总结。

【例2】 Now the nation's top patent court appears completely ready to scale back on business-method patents, which have been controversial ever since they were first authorized 10 years ago. In a move that has intellectual-property lawyers abuzz, the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit said it would use a particular case to conduct a broad review of business-method patents. In re Bilski, as the case is known, is "a very big deal," says Dennis D. Crouch of the University of Missouri School of Law. It "has the potential to eliminate an entire class of patents." (第2段)

The Bilski case involves a claimed patent on a method for hedging risk in the energy market. The Federal Circuit issued an unusual order stating that the case would be heard by all 12 of the court's judges, rather than a typical panel of three, and that one issue it wants to evaluate is whether it should "reconsider" its State Street Bank ruling. (第4段, 2010年考研真题第27题)

27. Which of the following is true of the Bilski case?

[A] Its ruling complies with the court decisions.

[B] It involves a very big business transaction.

[C] It has been dismissed by the Federal Circuit.

[D] It may change the legal practices in the US.

【答案解析】 第二段的后半部分和第四段中出现了 Bilski。根据第二段的最后一句 It “has the potential to eliminate an entire class of patents”(这类专利有可能因这个案子而被取消), 以及第四段中的 The Federal Circuit issued an unusual order stating that the case would be heard by all 12 of the court's judges, rather than a typical panel of three(联邦巡回法庭颁布了一项不寻常的法令, 规定该法院的所有 12 名法官全部听审, 而不是由通常的三名法官听审), 可以概括出“美国一贯的司法行为因这个案子而发生了改变”。选项[D] It may change the legal practices in the US(它可能改变了美国的法律惯例)可以概括上述两点信息。

【例3】 In their recent work, however, some researchers have come up with the finding that influentials have far less impact on social epidemics than is generally supposed. In fact, they don't seem to be required of all. (第3段)

The researchers' argument stems from a simple observation about social influence: With the exception of a few celebrities like Oprah Winfrey—whose outsize presence is primarily a function of media, not interpersonal, influence—

even the most influential members of a population simply don't interact with that many others. Yet it is precisely these non-celebrity influentials who, according to the two-step-flow theory, are supposed to drive social epidemics, by influencing their friends and colleagues directly. For a social epidemic to occur, however, each person so affected must then influence his or her own acquaintances, who must in turn influence theirs, and so on; and just how many others pay attention to each of these people has little to do with the initial influential. If people in the network just two degrees removed from the initial influential prove resistant, for example, the cascade of change won't propagate very far or affect many people. (第4段, 2010年考研真题第33题)

33. What the researchers have observed recently shows that _____

- [A] the power of influence goes with social interactions.
- [B] interpersonal links can be enhanced through the media.
- [C] influentials have more channels to reach the public.
- [D] most celebrities enjoy wide media attention.

【答案解析】 根据题干信息可以将本题的答案定位在第三段和第四段。

第三段的主要内容是“一些研究者发现,有影响力的人对社会潮流产生的影响比人们想像的要小,实际上,并不需要这些人”。

第四段进一步解释了第三段中提出的论点,即“社会潮流的推动并不需要这些具有影响力的人”,否定了《引爆点》一书的作者提出的两级流动传播理论,详细说明了社会潮流的发生发展,认为信息的传播是网络状(network)的,即“为了使某个社会潮流变为现实,受到影响的每个人必须对自己的熟人施加影响,这些熟人再去对自己的熟人产生影响,以此类推”。

选项[A] the power of influence goes with social interactions(影响力的强弱离不开社会互动)可以概括上述信息,“social interactions”概括了第四段中提到的网络状的影响施加过程。

【例4】 The early settlers of Massachusetts Bay included men of impressive education and influence in England. Besides the ninety or so learned ministers who came to Massachusetts churches in the decade after 1629, there were political leaders like John Winthrop, an educated gentleman, lawyer, and official of the Crown before he journeyed to Boston. These men wrote and published extensively, reaching both New World and Old World audiences, and giving New England an atmosphere of intellectual earnestness. (第3段)

We should not forget, however, that most New Englanders were less well educated. While few craftsmen or farmers, let alone dependents and servants, left literary compositions to be analyzed, it is obvious that their views were less fully intellectualized. Their thinking often had a traditional superstitious quality. A tailor named John Dane, who emigrated in the late 1630s, left an account of his reasons for leaving England that is filled with signs. Sexual confusion, economic frustrations, and religious hope—all came together in a decisive moment when he opened the Bible, told his father that the first line he saw would settle his fate, and read the magical words: “Come out from among them, touch no unclean thing, and I will be your God and you shall be my people.” One wonders what Dane thought of the careful sermons explaining the Bible that he heard in Puritan churches. (第4段)

Meanwhile, many settlers had slighter religious commitments than Dane's, as one clergyman learned in confronting folk along the coast who mocked that they had not come to the New World for religion. “Our main end was to catch fish.” (第5段, 2009年考研真题第40题)

40. The text suggests that early settlers in New England _____

- [A] were mostly engaged in political activities.
- [B] were motivated by an illusory prospect.
- [C] came from different intellectual backgrounds.
- [D] left few formal records for later reference.

【答案解析】 根据题干中提到的 early settlers in New England 可以确定本题的答案蕴含在第三、第四和第五段中。

第三段的主题句是本段的首句 The early settlers of Massachusetts Bay included men of impressive education and influence in England(马萨诸塞湾的早期定居者中包括受过良好教育并在英国具有一定影响力的人),然后以 John Winthrop(政治领袖)为例具体说明主题句。

第四段的主题句是本段的首句 We should not forget, however, that most New Englanders were less well educated(然而,我们不应该忘记,大多数新英格兰人没有接受过良好的教育),然后以 John Dane(裁缝)为例具体说明主题句。

第五段提到“我们的主要目的是来捕鱼的”。

由此可以概括出早期的定居者中有文化水平高的,也有低的,选项[C] came from different intellectual backgrounds(来自不同的知识背景)是对上述信息的概括。

(3) 干扰项的特点

除内容表述与原文信息不符的选项外,最有迷惑性的是表述正确、但不具有概括性的选项。

以2009年考研真题的第26题为例:

26. In paragraphs 1 and 2, the text shows PTK's _____

[A] easy availability.

[B] flexibility in pricing.

[C] successful promotion.

[D] popularity with households.

其中[C] successful promotion(成功的促销)和[D] popularity with households(受家庭欢迎)都是第二段中提到的内容,表述正确,但没有反映第一段和第二段这两段的主要内容,因此都不是最佳答案。

3. 推理推断题

(1) 命题形式

这种题型的命题形式一般是:

① We may infer from the second (or third or fifth or ...) paragraph that...

② By...the author implied (suggests, indicates) that...

(2) 应对策略

① 首先根据题干要求定位文中出现相关信息的句子或段落。

② 在原文信息的基础上作出合理推断。正确选项肯定与原文信息密切相关,不会偏离文章或题干中提到的所在段的内容。切忌脱离原文,主观臆断。

【例1】 In a society that so persistently celebrates procreation, is it any wonder that admitting you regret having children is equivalent to admitting you support kitten-killing? It doesn't seem quite fair, then, to compare the regrets of parents to the regrets of the children. Unhappy parents rarely are provoked to wonder if they shouldn't have had kids, but unhappy childless folks are bothered with the message that children are the single most important thing in the world; obviously their misery must be a direct result of the gaping baby-size holes in their lives. (2011年考研真题第38题)

38. It is suggested in Paragraph 3 that childless folks _____

[A] are constantly exposed to criticism.

[B] are largely ignored by the media.

[C] fail to fulfill their social responsibilities.

[D] are less likely to be satisfied with their life.

【答案解析】 第三段最后一句 Unhappy parents rarely are provoked to wonder if they shouldn't have had kids, but unhappy childless folks are bothered with the message that children are the single most important thing in the world(没有人会逼迫不开心的父母去反思自己是不是不该养孩子,但那些因没有孩子而郁郁寡欢的人则被这样的信息所烦扰,即孩子是世界上唯一最重要的)对比了两种情况,这说明作者认为,大家应该关注那些因有孩子而不开心的人,而不是盯着那些没孩子的人,不应该评论他们。[A] are constantly exposed to criticism 是根据原文作出的合理推断。

【例2】 The defining term of intelligence in humans still seems to be the IQ score, even though IQ tests are not given as often as they used to be. The test comes primarily in two forms: the Stanford Binet Intelligence Scale and the Wechsler Intelligence Scales (both come in adult and children's version). Generally costing several hundred dollars, they are usually given only by psychologists, although variations of them populate bookstores and the World Wide Web. Superhigh scores like vos Savant's are no longer possible, because scoring is now based on a statistical population distribution among age peers, rather than simply dividing the mental age by the chronological age and multiplying by 100. Other standardized tests, such as the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) and the Graduate Record Exam (GRE), capture the main aspects of IQ tests. (第3段,2007年考研真题第27题)

27. What can be inferred about intelligence testing from Paragraph 3?

[A] People no longer use IQ scores as an indicator of intelligence.

[B] More versions of IQ tests are now available on the Internet.

[C] The test contents and formats for adults and children may be different.

[D] Scientists have defined the important elements of human intelligence.

【答案解析】 第三段第二句提到 The test comes primarily in two forms: the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scale and the Wechsler Intelligence Scales (both come in adult and children's version)(主要有两种测试形式:斯坦福-比奈智力量表和韦克斯勒智力量表,这两种测试形式都有成人和儿童版本)。这两种测试形式有成人版和儿童

版,就说明测试内容和形式是不一样的,如果是一样的,那么也就没有必要设置两个版本了。可以确定选项[C] The test contents and formats for adults and children may be different(成人和儿童的测试内容和形式不同)。

【例3】 The current state of affairs may have been encouraged—though not justified—by the lack of legal penalty (in America, but not Europe) for data leakage. Until California recently passed a law, American firms did not have to tell anyone, even the victim, when data went astray. That may change fast: lots of proposed data – security legislation is now doing the rounds in Washington, D. C. . Meanwhile, the theft of information about some 40 million credit – card accounts in America, disclosed on June 17th, overshadowed a hugely important decision a day earlier by America’s Federal Trade Commission (FTC) that puts corporate America on notice that regulations will act if firms fail to provide adequate data security. (2007 年考研真题第 40 题)

40. It can be inferred from Paragraph 5 that _____

- [A] data leakage is more severe in Europe.
- [B] FTC’s decision is essential to data security.
- [C] California takes the lead in the security legislation.
- [D] legal penalty is a major solution to data leakage.

【答案解析】 本段首句是确定答案的关键,即 The current state of affairs may have been encouraged—though not justified—by the lack of legal penalty (in America, but not Europe) for data leakage(虽然不合理,但是由于缺乏对数据泄露的法律惩罚——在美国而不是在欧洲——这种状况还有可能会进一步发展)。根据这句话可以推断出因为缺乏对数据泄露的法律惩罚才导致状况进一步恶化,因此选项[D] legal penalty is a major solution to data leakage(法律惩罚是解决数据泄露的主要方法)是根据原文信息作出的合理推断。

(3) 干扰项的特点

① 推理过度,脱离原文。

考生要注意不能根据自己的主观想法或生活经验去推理,因为命题者考查的是考生理解作者意图的能力。正确答案不会脱离原文,考生必须根据原文内容作出判断。

【例1】 The tourist streams are not entirely separate. The sightseers who come by bus—and often take in Warwick Castle and Blenheim Palace on the side—don’t usually see the plays, and some of them are even surprised to find a theatre in Stratford. However, the playgoers do manage a little sight-seeing along with their playgoing. It is the playgoers, the RSC contends, who bring in much of the town’s revenue because they spend the night (some of them four or five nights) pouring cash into the hotels and restaurants. The sightseers can take in everything and get out of town by nightfall. (第3段, 2006 年考研真题)

27. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that _____

- [A] the sightseers cannot visit the Castle and the Palace separately.
- [B] the playgoers spend more money than the sightseers.
- [C] the sightseers do more shopping than the playgoers.
- [D] the playgoers go to no other places in town than the theater.

【解析】 第三段第二句提到 The sightseers who come by bus—and often take in Warwick Castle and Blenheim Palace on the side(乘客车来的观光者通常会顺便看看沃威克城堡和布莱尼姆宫),因此[A] the sightseers cannot visit the Castle and the Palace separately(观光者不能单独参观沃威克城堡和布莱尼姆宫)表述错误。

第三段提到看戏的人要在小镇住几天,因此在吃住方面花钱较多。首段提到市民们依靠游客为生,但据此无法推断出[C] the sightseers do more shopping than the playgoers(与看戏的人相比,观光者买的东西多),本项推理过度。

第三段第三句提到 However, the playgoers do manage a little sight – seeing along with their playgoing(爱看戏的游客们会在看戏的同时设法顺便去景点看看),因此[D] the playgoers go to no other places in town than the theater(看戏的人只去剧院,不会去别的地方)表述错误。

② 根据表面内容设置选项。考研题所选的文章有时会利用打比喻、反过来讲的方式,从反面强调论述重点,在设置干扰项时,会根据表面意义设置选项。

【例2】 Here is an example, which I heard at a nurses’ convention, of a story which works well because the audience all shared the same view of doctors. A man arrives in heaven and is being shown around by St. Peter. He sees wonderful accommodations, beautiful gardens, sunny weather, and so on. Everyone is very peaceful, polite and friendly until, waiting in a line for lunch, the new arrival is suddenly pushed aside by a man in a white coat, who rushes to the head of the line, grabs his food and stomps over to a table by himself. “Who is that?” the new arrival asked St. Peter. “Oh, that’s God,” came the reply, “but sometimes he thinks he’s a doctor.” (第2段, 2002 年考研真题)

42. The joke about doctors implies that, in the eyes of nurses, they are _____

- [A] impolite to new arrivals. [B] very conscious of their godlike role.
[C] entitled to some privileges. [D] very busy even during lunch hours.

【答案解析】考生首先要明确的一点是,这些护士表面上讽刺的是上帝,其实是借上帝之名讽刺医生,对上帝的描述其实就是对医生的描述。这个故事中集中描写上帝的是第二段的后半部分,其中最后一句“*Oh, that's God,*” came the reply, “*but sometimes he thinks he's a doctor.*”(有人回答说:“他是上帝,不过他有时认为自己是一名医生。”)是解题的关键,这些护士实际想表达的真实意思是:他是一名医生,不过有时认为自己是上帝。由此可以确定[B] very conscious of their godlike role(认为他们自己是上帝)符合题意。

有些考生选择了[A] impolite to new arrivals(对新来的人不礼貌),这些考生犯了以偏概全的错误。这项表达的内容是这个笑话中谈到的,但这只是一个细节内容,其概括性远不如[B]。

[C] entitled to some privileges(享有某些特权)和[D] very busy even during lunch hours(在吃饭期间都很忙)是根据故事中谈到的“这位新来的人突然被一位穿白大褂的人推到一边,只见这个人冲到队伍最前面抓起他的食物噙着走到一张桌子旁坐下”的表面意义作出的推断,这不是作者要论述的实质问题。

4. 主旨要义题

(1) 命题形式

考查作者态度、全文的主要内容以及文章最佳标题的题型都是对文章主旨内容的考查。

这种题型的命题形式一般是:

- ① Which of the following best summarizes the text?
- ② The text intends to tell us that...
- ③ What is the author's attitude towards ...?
- ④ An appropriate title for the text is most likely to be...
- ⑤ Which is the passage mainly about?

(2) 应对策略

① 考查作者态度时的应对策略。

确定作者对文章重点论述的事件所持的态度时,考生要重点把握作者使用的一些形容词,重点分析表转折意义的词(but, however等)引导的句子。考生有必要用笔标出这些表示作者态度的形容词和表示转折意义的句子。

作者态度大致分为三种:支持或赞同,中立或客观,怀疑或反对。当问作者对文中提到的事件所持的态度时,答案多是肯定或否定,支持或反对。如 critical, approval, opposed, supporting。当问作者对某事件所持的态度时,表示“客观”的词多为正确选项,如 objective, impartial, unbiased等。“冷漠的(indifferent)”大多是应首先排除的选项,因为如果漠不关心,作者就不会写此方面的文章。

【例1】 John Donahue at Harvard's Kennedy School points out that the norms of culture in Western civil services suit those who want to stay put but is bad for high achievers. The only American public - sector workers who earn well above \$250,000 a year are university sports coaches and the president of the United States. Bankers' fat pay packets have attracted much criticism, but a public - sector system that does not reward high achievers may be a much bigger problem for America. (2012年考研真题第40题)

40. John Donahue's attitude towards the public-sector system is one of _____

- [A] disapproval. [B] appreciation. [C] tolerance. [D] indifference.

【答案解析】由本段中的两个but引导的转折句可以看出,John Donahue对公共部门的制度是持反对态度的。but引导的转折句是作者要重点表达的内容,作者或文中人物的观点就包含在此类句子中。

【例2】 One possible response is for classical performers to program attractive new music that is not yet available on record. Gilbert's own interest in new music has been widely noted: Alex Ross, a classical-music critic, has described him as a man who is capable of turning the Philharmonic into "a markedly different, more vibrant organization." But what will be the nature of that difference? Merely expanding the orchestra's repertoire will not be enough. If Gilbert and the Philharmonic are to succeed, they must first change the relationship between America's oldest orchestra and the new audience it hops to attract. (2011年考研真题第25题)

25. Regarding Gilbert's role in revitalizing the Philharmonic, the author feels _____

- [A] doubtful. [B] enthusiastic. [C] confident. [D] puzzled.

【答案解析】本题考查作者对吉尔伯特的态度。最后一段倒数第二句和第三句提到 But what will be the nature of that difference? Merely expanding the orchestra's repertoire will not be enough(但是究竟会有哪些不同呢?仅仅增加乐队的节目是不够的)。出现but引导的转折句时,考生一定要重点分析。最后一段提到了古典音乐家阿列克斯·罗斯对吉尔伯特的看法,她高度评价了吉尔伯特。但作者反问了一句,即他能使乐团成功的本性

是什么,还提到仅仅靠增加乐队节目是不够的。由此可以确定作者对吉尔伯特的能力是持怀疑态度的。

【例3】

30. What is the author's attitude towards IQ tests? (2007 年考研真题第30题)

[A] Supportive. [B] Skeptical. [C] Impartial. [D] Biased.

【答案解析】在叙述时,作者使用了 a bit confusing, not obvious 和 negatively 具有否定意义的形容词。此外,最后一段中提到 but fail to measure creativity and practical knowledge(但是无法估量受试者的创造性和掌握的实际知识)和 but under high stress conditions, IQ was negatively correlated with leadership(但是在压力较大的情况下完成测试时,智商与领导才能呈负相关关系),这说明“测试结果有时是不准确的”。综合这两点可以确定作者是持怀疑态度,四个选项中只有选项[B] Skeptical(怀疑)符合题意。

②考查全文的主要内容和最佳标题时的应对策略。

考查文章主旨要义和最佳标题的题一般是最后一道题。考研题所选取的阅读理解文章都是围绕一个主题展开的,因此解答这类题时,考生要重点把握每段的主题句,综合各段落的内容,选出最佳答案。

例如:

30. Which of the following is the best title for the text? (2011 年考研真题第30题)

[A] CEOs: Where to Go? [B] CEOs: All the Way Up?
[C] Top Managers Jump without a Net [D] The Only Way Out for Top Performers

【答案解析】文章的标题一定能概括文章的主要内容。首段提到麦克吉辞去了总裁职务,并提到他并没有找好下家,辞职的目的是追求自己的目标;第二段提到几个大公司的副主管为了当 CEO 都辞了职;以下几段围绕这一问题展开了进一步讨论。由此可以确定本文是围绕“高层主管为了进一步发展,即做 CEO,在没有后路的情况下提出了辞职”。[C] Top Managers Jump without a Net(在没找到新工作的情况下上层主管就提出了辞职)可以概括本文主题。

(3) 干扰项的特点

①考查作者态度时,indifferent(冷漠的),subjective(主观的)和 puzzling(令人感到迷惑的)一般不会是正确答案。

②选项表述内容与原文某个信息点相符,但不是原文的论述重点,即原文的主旨。

例:

41. The passage is mainly about _____. (1993 年考研真题)

[A] an approach to patents [B] the application for patents
[C] the use of patents [D] the access to patents

【答案解析】本文重点论述了垄断期后大众有权使用专利的问题,[D] the access to patents(有权使用专利)符合题意。

全文没有提到与[A] an approach to patents(学习专利的途径)相关的内容。

[B] the application for patents(申请专利)只是第一段中提到的一点细节,不是全文的论述重点。

[C] the use of patents(专利的利用)具有一定的干扰性,但与[D]相比,[C]表述的范围过于宽泛。本文强调的是垄断期后,大众就有权使用专利了,因此[D]中的 access(使用权)一词更符合文意。

5. 生词推测题

(1) 命题形式

这种题型的命题形式一般是:

The word “...” (Line..., Paragraph ...) most probably means...

生词推测题的考查范围有两种:一种是对超纲词汇的考查,一种是对熟词僻义的考查。

(2) 应对策略

①在出现该词的段落中寻找与该词相对应的词汇,通过这些熟知的词汇推测考查的生词含义。

【例1】 But don't bother trying to kill off old habits; once those ruts of procedure are worn into the hippocampus, they're there to stay. Instead, the new habits we deliberately press into ourselves create parallel pathways that can bypass those old roads. (2009 年考研真题)

23. The word “ruts” (Line1, Paragraph 4) is closest in meaning to _____

[A] tracks. [B] series. [C] characteristics. [D] connections.

【答案解析】本段最后一句是解答本题的关键: Instead, the new habits we deliberately press into ourselves create parallel pathways that can bypass those old roads(相反,我们刻意形成的新习惯会产生平行路径,绕过原来那些的路径)。其中 those old roads 中的 those 指的是“已经形成的旧习惯”,与 those ruts of procedure 中的 those 指代的是同一件事,由此可以确定 road(路径,道路)与 rut 是相对应的,四个选项中只有选项[A] tracks(路径,

轨迹)符合题意。

【例2】 With as many as 120 varieties in existence, discovering how cancer works is not easy. The researchers made great progress in the early 1970s, when they discovered that oncogenes, which are cancer-causing genes, are inactive in normal cells. Anything from cosmic rays to radiation to diet may activate a dormant oncogene, but how remains unknown. If several oncogenes are driven into action, the cell, unable to turn them off, becomes cancerous. (1994 年考研真题)

66. The word "dormant" in the third paragraph most probably means _____.

- [A] dead [B] ever-present [C] inactive [D] potential

【答案解析】 本单词所在句的上句中提到 oncogenes are inactive in normal cells. inactive 是修饰 oncogenes 的, a dormant oncogene 中的 dormant 和 inactive 表达的含义是相同的。因此 [C] inactive (不活跃的) 是正确答案。

②重点分析生词所在句的上下句。

【例1】 A deal is a deal—except, apparently, when Entergy is involved. The company, a major energy supplier in New England, provoked justified outrage in Vermont last week when it announced it was renegeing on a longstanding commitment to abide by the state's strict nuclear regulations. (2012 年考研真题)

26. The phrase "renegeing on" (Line 3, para. 1) is closest in meaning to _____

- [A] condemning. [B] reaffirming. [C] dishonoring. [D] securing.

【答案解析】 首句是本段的主题句,奠定了本段的内容基调,即做生意信誉是最重要的,但 Entergy (安特吉公司) 进行的交易毫无信誉可言。由此可以确定, renegeing on 的含义与“没有信誉”之类的含义有关,只有 [C] dishonoring 符合该要求。

【例2】 The decision to quit a senior position to look for a better one is unconventional. For years executives and headhunters have adhered to the rule that the most attractive CEO candidates are the ones who must be poached. Says Korn/Ferry senior partner Dennis Carey: "I can't think of a single search I've done where a board has not instructed me to look at sitting CEOs first." (2011 年考研真题)

28. The word "poached" (Line 3, Paragraph 4) most probably means _____

- [A] approved of. [B] attended to. [C] hunted for. [D] guarded against.

【答案解析】 确定生词含义,首先要从上下文入手,但记住一点,上下文指的只是生词所在句的前面几句或紧邻的后面几句,不会超出生词所在段。就本题而言,考生要重点分析生词所在句的后一句, Says Korn/Ferry senior partner Dennis Carey: "I can't think of a single search I've done where a board has not instructed me to look at sitting CEOs first." (谷物/渡船资深合伙人丹尼斯·凯利说:“我想像不出有哪次招聘,董事会没有要求我从在在职的 CEO 中选的。”) 表述方式是“正话反说”,根据这句话可以得出,“凯利所进行的每次招聘都是按照董事会的要求在在在职 CEO 中挑选候选人的”。由此可以得出正确答案。

【例3】 People in earlier eras were surrounded by reminders of misery. They worked until exhausted, lived with few protections and died young. In the West, before mass communication and literacy, the most powerful mass medium was the church, which reminded worshippers that their souls were in peril and that they would someday be meat for worms. Given all this, they did not exactly need their art to be a bummer too. (2006 年考研真题)

37. The word "bummer" (Line 7, Paragraph 5) most probably means something _____

- [A] religious. [B] unpleasant. [C] entertaining. [D] commercial.

【答案解析】 掌握该词所在的上下文内容,即该词所处的语境,是答题的关键。bummer 出现在段尾,那么要重点看上文的内容。

第五段的首句是本段的主题句: People in earlier eras were surrounded by reminders of misery (在早期,人们生活在痛苦之中)。其余内容重点讲述了人们面对的各种苦难:不停地工作,直至筋疲力尽;生活得不到保障,早早死去;教堂的牧师时时刻刻都在提醒他们,他们迟早会成为蛆的食物。鉴于此,最后一段提出 Given all this, they did not exactly need their art to be a bummer too. 这句话的大概含义是:考虑到这些,他们真的没有必要将他们的艺术也变成_____。bummer 的含义应该与前面提到的 misery 的含义相近,因此 [B] unpleasant (使人不愉快的) 符合题意。

【例4】 Railroads justify rate discrimination against captive shippers on the grounds that in the long run it reduces everyone's cost. If railroads charged all customers the same average rate, they argue, shippers who have the option of switching to trucks or other forms of transportation would do so, leaving remaining customers to shoulder the cost of keeping up the line. It's a theory to which many economists subscribe, but in practice it often leaves railroads in the position of determining which companies will flourish and which will fail. "Do we really want railroads to be the arbiters of who wins and who loses in the marketplace?" asks Martin Bercovici, a Washington lawyer who frequently re-

presents shippers. (2003 年考研真题)

54. The word “arbiters” (Line 5, Paragraph 4) most probably refers to those _____

- [A] who work as coordinators. [B] who function as judges.
[C] who supervise transactions. [D] who determine the price.

【答案解析】 首先确定该词所在的句子,然后重点分析靠此句子的上一句或几句。本词所在句的上一句是 it often leaves railroads in the position of **determining which companies will flourish and which will fail**(实际上这使得铁路公司可以**决定哪些公司可以繁荣发展,哪些公司将倒闭**)。根据这句话可以确定,铁路公司主宰着公司命运。后一句中出现的 to be the arbiters of **who wins and who loses in the marketplace**(让铁路公司成为**市场上的胜负**),这句话和上句话表达的含义是相同的。综合判断可以得出,arbiter 与主宰他人成败这层含义有关。四个选项中只有[B] who function as judges(发挥裁判员作用的人)。

③根据词缀和词根确定生词含义。

【例5】 In spite of “endless talk of difference”, American society is an amazing machine for **homogenizing** people. There is “the democratizing uniformity of dress and discourse, and the casualness and absence of deference” characteristic of popular culture. People are absorbed into a “culture of consumption” launched by the 19th-century department stores that offered “vast arrays of goods in an elegant atmosphere. Instead of intimate shops catering to a knowledgeable elite”, these were stores “anyone could enter, regardless of class or background. This turned shopping into a public and democratic act.” The mass media, advertising and sports are other forces for homogenization. (2006 年考研真题)

21. The word “homogenizing” (Line 2, Paragraph 1) most probably means _____

- [A] identifying. [B] associating. [C] assimilating. [D] monopolizing.

【答案解析】 第三种方法是根据前缀来判断词义。Homo 的意思是“相同”,含有这个前缀的词有 homosexual(同性恋),homogeneous(同一种族或同一种类的)和 homotype(同型)等。四个选项中与 Homo 表达的含义有相近之处的只有 assimilating——同化了就有了相同之处。

通过其他方法同样可以确定本题答案。首先通过本单词所在的句子判断词义。该词所在的句子是 In spite of “endless talk of difference”, American society is an amazing machine for **homogenizing** people. in spite of 引导让步句型,句子前后关系是转折,由此可以确定后半句表达的含义与 endless talk of difference(永无休止地谈论着差异)相反。进而可以确定 homogenizing 与 difference 的含义相反。difference 的意思是“不同、差异”,这个词是绝大多数考生都熟知的。四个选项中能与 difference 构成反义词的只有[C] assimilating(使同化,使相同)。

另一种方法是根据文章的主旨大意来确定。本文的论述重点是移民逐渐被同化,而且下文多次出现 assimilate 一词。

(3) 干扰项的特点

因为超纲词本身已经是难点问题,所以生词推测题一般不会设置强干扰项。解答此类题要抓住一点,即正确选项中的单词必须与生词所在句的上下文密切相关。

6. 概念含义题

(1) 命题形式

这种题型的命题形式一般是:

The sentence “...” (Line ..., Para. ...) shows that...

概念含义题考查考生对特定句子含义的理解。

(2) 应对策略

解答此类题目时,考生应该重点分析所考查的句子所在段落的含义,根据段落的主要内容判断句子的含义。这种题型的应对策略与解答生词推测题的策略是相同的,即把握上下文表达的主要内容。具体是分析上文还是下文,依被考查的句子或词的位置而定。

【例1】 Adeline Alvarez married at 18 and gave birth to a son, but was determined to finish college. “I struggled a lot to get the college degree. I was living in so much frustration that that was my escape, to go to school, and get ahead and do better.” Later, her marriage ended and she became a single mother. “It’s the hardest thing to take care of a teenager, have a job, pay the rent, pay the car payment, and pay the debt. I lived from paycheck to paycheck.” (2008 年考研真题)

24. The sentence “I lived from paycheck to paycheck.” (Line 6, Para. 5) shows that _____

- [A] Alvarez cared about nothing but making money.
[B] Alvarez’s salary barely covered her household expenses.
[C] Alvarez got paychecks from different jobs.