

新东方
XDF.CN

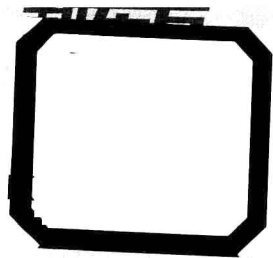
四级阅读 100主题

新东方考试研究中心 编著

- ✓ 主题阅读 科学分类 原汁原味 包罗万象
- ✓ 读前预热 导入主题 生词难句 尽收眼底
- ✓ 背景信息 纵深拓展 广泛阅读 厚积薄发



西安交通大学出版社
XI'AN JIAOTONG UNIVERSITY PRESS



四级阅读 100主题

新东方考试研究中心 编著



西安交通大学出版社
XI'AN JIAOTONG UNIVERSITY PRESS

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

四级阅读 100 主题 / 新东方考试研究中心编著. —
西安: 西安交通大学出版社, 2012 (2012.12 重印)

ISBN 978-7-5605-4223-2

I. ①四… II. ①新… III. ①大学英语水平考试—阅读教学—自学参考资料 IV. ①H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2012) 第 039368 号

- 书 名 四级阅读 100 主题
编 著 新东方考试研究中心
责任编辑 黄科丰
封面设计 贾臻臻
出版发行 西安交通大学出版社
地 址 西安市兴庆南路 10 号(邮编:710049)
电 话 (010)62605588 62605019(发行部)
(029)82668315(总编室)
读者信箱 bj62605588@163.com
印 刷 北京鑫海达印刷有限公司
字 数 310 千
开 本 880mm×1230mm 1/32
印 张 11.25
版 次 2012 年 12 月第 1 版第 2 次印刷
书 号 ISBN 978-7-5605-4223-2/H·1305
定 价 25.00 元

版权所有 侵权必究

如有缺页、倒页、脱页等印装质量问题,请拨打服务热线:010-62605166。

前 言

英语作为全球使用国家最多的语言，早已成为国际流行的通用语言之一。国人学习英语的热潮也从未降温。曾有专家预测，到2015年，中国将成为世界上说英语人数最多的国家。但是大多数人学英语是为了应付考试、拿学位、找工作，学习方法也无外乎背单词、啃语法。有些人盲目地捧着字典从a字头的单词开始死记硬背，却发现无论如何也背不到b字头。有些人硬着头皮去啃厚厚的乏味的语法书，或听着MP3里的英文材料而不知所云……到头来还要慨叹“我本将心向明月，奈何明月照沟渠”，不仅学习收效甚微，学习英语的兴趣也逐渐淡去，甚至视英语学习为负担，造成英语学习中过早地出现“石化”的现象。而究其原因，就是因为我们把活的语言学“死”了。

单纯、片面地记忆单词和语法，不仅会使本来很生动的语言学习变得低效和枯燥，还会造成语言和思维的脱节，结果导致虽然学会了语言，但在表达上仍存在很大缺陷。语言的学习就像习舞，虽说只有熟谙舞步才能跳出优美的舞姿，但如果自身缺乏对舞曲的感性理解，完全遵照步伐规则，不仅不能跳出自由奔放的舞蹈，相反，还可能出现邯郸学步的情况。语法和单词相当于钢筋和砖块，而将它们构筑成英语这一宏伟建筑，则需要我们对语言的理解和感悟。而阅读的过程就是对语言认知和感悟的过程。

通过阅读，读者可以遇到很多新词汇，词汇量也由此增加；通过阅读，读者可以看到很多好的表达，口语表达能力会由此丰富；通过阅读，读者可以学到很好的句型，写作水平可以得到很大提高；通过阅读，读者可以丰富自己的知识结构，增强语感，理解水平也会提升，掌握英语语言自然是水到渠成。所以，说“得阅读者得英语学习的天下”一点也不为过。

基于阅读的重要性，对阅读材料的选择也不容小觑。对于四级考生而言，考虑到考试的硬性要求，最好选择与考试材料难度相仿、题材类似的文章来阅读。本书从考生的需求出发，力求从以下几个方面帮助考生摆脱英语学习的困境：

1. 主题全面，快乐阅读

本书秉承“快乐阅读”、“兴趣阅读”的理念，收录的文章难易程度完全符合四级大纲对于考生阅读能力的要求。只有读懂了文章，读者才能产生兴趣，才能继续读下去，最终达到提高阅读能力的目的。本书共收录了100篇主题文章，话题从人文知识到科普教育，从自然环境到医疗健康，从商业经济到人物经历，从家庭生活到社会百态，覆盖真题阅读材料所规定的所有题材。丰富的信息，实用的指导，让文章变得好看、好用，同时也能大大扩展读者的知识面。

2. 题型灵活,重在理解

有些考生做选择题,片面地追求一些所谓的猜题技巧,即,在没有理解文章的情况下也能选出正确答案。我们不提倡这种做法,这其实是舍本逐末的行为,不利于考生培养扎实的阅读功底。我们应该将注意力更多地放在提高阅读能力上,重在理解,而不是拘囿于考查的形式。本书邀请长期从事四六级英语教学的辅导专家参与指导编题,每篇文章均设有3道主观题和2道客观题,供读者看完文章后进行自我测试,及时发现问题,弥补不足。

3. 核心词汇,语境记忆

四级大纲中规定的词汇有4200余个,但其中大概有一半的词汇要么过于简单,要么过于生僻,都不值得一考。只有约2000多个核心多义高频词是多年来阅读文章紧紧咬住不放的关键所在。本书为读者精心提炼了文章中出现的高频词、难词、核心词,读者可以在特定的语篇语境下掌握这些词汇的用法,加深理解,增强记忆,夯实基本功。

4. 遵循二八法则,理解重点难句

常常听到读者抱怨说文章的大部分都理解了,可是做题却总出错。这是为什么呢?其实,一般而言,一篇文章80%的内容是浅显易懂的,这部分内容因为简单而不具有考查性,只有剩下的20%才是命题组瞄准的考查点。这其中往往包含一些长难句、习惯表达等,也就成了理解文章的障碍所在。本书对文章中的重点句、长难句给出了准确到位的翻译,为读者扫清了这一阅读障碍。

5. 增设Warming-up单元,提倡整体理解

对于阅读文章,很多读者常常习惯于一拿到文章就开始从头到尾逐字逐句地读:认识了词汇,理清了句子结构,但往往对文章的主要信息不是疏忽就是一知半解。这种“只见树木,不见森林”的现象颇为常见。其实,文章并不是词句的无序罗列,而是一个有机的整体,读者最好从整体入手,遵循先整体、后局部的原则对文章进行理解。本书中每篇文章的开头特意增设了Warming-up单元,概括了文章大意以及重要细节,鼓励读者从篇章整体的角度去理解全文。

英语学习需要热情,更需要一种永无止境的、十分迫切的学习欲望,一种克服疑难、享受学习过程的乐趣。但愿这本书能够陪伴你,助你养成良好的阅读习惯。相信当你能自如地学习运用本书时,你会享受到快乐的学习过程!

在本书的编写过程中,汇智博纳工作室的金利、蒋志华以及何静、张继龙、黄姗、周利芬、李岩岩等老师对本书的结构及编排提供了大量的帮助,在此特向他们表示诚挚的谢意。

编者

目 录

科普知识

1. Petroleum Products 石油产品 002
2. Astronauts Spacewalk 宇航员太空行走 006
3. Surgery by Remote Control 遥控外科手术 009
4. Tsunami “Trigger” Spotted on Google Earth
谷歌地球查到触发海啸原因 012
5. Food Irradiation Process 食物放射过程 016
6. The Power of Information 信息的力量 020
7. Sustainable Power Unsustainable? 可持续能量不可持续? 023
8. Virtual Reality Surgery 虚拟现实手术 026
9. Renaissance 复兴 030
10. Science and Technology 科学与技术 034
11. Journey to the Center of the Earth 地心之旅 037
12. Force Field Around Us 包围我们的力场 041
13. Shopping Down the Carbon 低碳购物 044
14. Clothes Tells 衣服能说话 048
15. Information Technology Around 身边的信息技术 052

社会生活

16. Using a Public Telephone 使用公共电话 056
17. Marriage in Britain 英国的婚姻 059
18. A Conversation Between Strangers 陌生人之间的交流 062
19. Dream 梦 065
20. Forgiveness 宽恕 068
21. Social Change 社会变化 071
22. The Development of Personality 个性的发展 074
23. Happiness and Unhappiness 幸福与不幸 078
24. Air-conditioning 空调 081

54. The First SolarDay 第一个太阳日	184
55. Warmer Oceans Release CO ₂ Faster than Thought 变暖的海洋释放二氧化碳的速度超乎想象	187

教育学习

56. Teaching Poetry 诗歌教学	192
57. Writing to Learn 写作学习法	195
58. Good Mistakes 犯错也很好	198
59. Online College 网络大学	201
60. American Students Not Knowing Geography 美国学生不懂地理	203
61. Predicting the Chances for the Future 预测未来	206
62. The Problems Rural School Facing 农村学校面临的问题	209
63. Human Rights Laws and Teachers' Immunity 人权法与教师豁免权	212
64. Children Education and Parents 儿童教育与父母	216
65. Colleges Secure Better Life? 大学能确保更好的生活吗?	220
66. The Teaching of ESL 英语作为第二语言教学	224
67. The Teaching of Disabled Children 残疾儿童教育	228

文化知识

68. Who Got Here First? 谁是原住民?	232
69. The Origin of Birthday Song 《生日快乐歌》的起源	236
70. Talking About Reading 论读书	239
71. Londoners Are Great Readers 爱读书的伦敦人	242
72. The Mystery of Language 语言的神秘性	245
73. About Tennis 话网球	248
74. The Artist 艺术家	252
75. American Football 橄榄球	255
76. About Culture 文化种种	258
77. Archaeology and History 考古与历史	262
78. Learning Foreign Languages 学外语	265

商业经济

79. Software Piracy 盗版软件	270
--------------------------------	-----

科普知识

1. Petroleum Products 石油产品
2. Astronauts Spacewalk 宇航员太空行走
3. Surgery by Remote Control 遥控外科手术
4. Tsunami "Trigger" Spotted on Google Earth 谷歌地球查到触发海啸原因
5. Food Irradiation Process 食物放射过程
6. The Power of Information 信息的力量
7. Sustainable Power Unsustainable? 可持续能量不可持续?
8. Virtual Reality Surgery 虚拟现实手术
9. Renaissance 复兴
10. Science and Technology 科学与技术
11. Journey to the Center of the Earth 地心之旅
12. Force Field Around Us 包围我们的力场
13. Shopping Down the Carbon 低碳购物
14. Clothes Tells 衣服能说话
15. Information Technology Around 身边的信息技术

2. Petroleum products vary greatly in physical appearance: thin, thick, and transparent or opaque, but regardless, their chemical composition is made up of only two elements: carbon and hydrogen, which form compounds called hydrocarbons. 石油产品在物理性质上差别很大: 有稀的、浓稠的, 透明的或不透明的, 但不论怎样, 它们的化学成分都是由碳和氢两种元素组成的, 二者形成的化合物叫做碳氢化合物。
3. Additional complicated refining processes rearrange the chemical structure of the hydrocarbons to produce other products, some of which are used to upgrade and increase the octane rating of various types of gasoline. 额外的复杂提炼过程重新排列了碳氢化合物的化学结构, 从而生产出其他产品, 其中一些被用来升级和提高各种汽油的辛烷值等级。

Background Information

背景信息

石油产品可分为石油燃料、石油溶剂与化工原料、润滑剂、石蜡、石油沥青、石油焦6类。最初, 石油燃料中的煤油是销路最好的石油产品。提炼煤油是用蒸汽加热原油, 蒸馏分馏出各种组分, 或者“馏分”。在不同的温度下, 各种馏分分别蒸发、凝结。最轻的馏分先蒸馏出来, 成为汽油。中间的馏分是煤油。最重的馏分, 可用来提取润滑剂。

Words

词汇

atom *n.* 原子

barrel *n.* 桶; 一桶(的量)

compound *n.* 化合物

condense *vt.* 使凝结; 浓缩

crude *a.* 天然的, 未加工的

drill *vt.* 钻孔, 打眼

element *n.* (化学)元素; 成分

gallon *n.* (液量单位)加仑

hydrocarbon *n.* 碳氢化合物

hydrogen *n.* 氢

interior *n.* 内部, 里面

molecule *n.* 分子

refine *vt.* 精炼, 精制; 使完善

structure *n.* 结构, 构造

transparent *a.* 透明的

union *n.* 联合, 结合

trace element 微量元素

minute *a.* 微小的, 极小的

vapor *n.* 水汽, 水蒸气

vary *vi.* 变化; 呈现不同

Key

参考答案

1. crude oil
2. D
3. Because these two atoms in the hydrocarbon molecule can have various positions and jointing.
4. By heating and condensing the vapor.
5. C



002

Astronauts Spacewalk

宇航员太空行走

Warming Up

能够在太空行走是一件极其新奇的事情。随着空间站的建立,越来越多的宇航员享受到了这种美妙的感觉。最近,乔与沙里波夫两位宇航员就体验了这一难忘的时刻。他们提前完成了太空作业,将人造小卫星发射到太空轨道内,然后在返回空间站的路上,从太空看到了我们赖以生存的地球。这些宇航员在太空的停留时间都不超过一个月。他们极富冒险精神,每个人都对这项危险的工作抱有极大的热情,这就是俄罗斯的太空事业能够蓬勃发展的原因。

Exercise 练一练

1. Why did Sharipov throw a tiny satellite instead of sending it from Earth?
2. What is the antennas' main function?
 - A) To help to throw the tiny satellite into space.
 - B) To help to test programs for future small spacecraft.
 - C) To help the future craft packed with supplies dock at the station.
 - D) To help the astronauts to finish their tasks ahead of time.
3. Why does Chiao say that Earth is all dark outside from the outer space?
 - A) Because there is no light in the space.
 - B) Because it is nighttime on the earth.
 - C) Because the glasses that Chiao wears are too dark.
 - D) Because Chiao's eyesight is not that good.
4. When Columbia came apart, _____
_____ in this space shuttle survived.
5. People describe the Russians as "a nation of explorers" (Line 1, Para. 3) because Russians _____.

Astronauts Spacewalk

宇航员太空行走

A pair of astronauts took a walk in space on Monday. International *Space Station* crew members Leroy Chiao and Salizhan Sharipov spent about four hours outside the *orbiting laboratory* installing antennas (天线). Sharipov also threw a tiny satellite into space. “Off it goes,” said Sharipov, watching the 11-pound satellite float away. The Russian space program will use the satellite to test programs for future small *spacecraft*. *Launching* satellites by hand is a lot cheaper than *blasting* them into space from Earth. The spacewalkers’ main task was to plug in the four new antennas. The antennas will help an upcoming *craft* packed with supplies dock at the station. Chiao and Sharipov finished their mission an hour early, and took a moment before returning to their base. “Now that we have time to actually look around, it’s too bad it’s all dark outside,” said Chiao. The half of Earth facing the astronauts had been blanketed in darkness, where it was nighttime. The spacewalk went smoothly, except for about 17 minutes near the end when the space station nearly turned a cartwheel. The space lab sometimes *drifts* during spacewalks, and NASA officials aren’t sure why. But it wasn’t a problem for the experienced crew. The spacewalk was Sharipov’s second and Chiao’s sixth.

The crew will spend less than a month *aboard* the station before coming home at the end of April. NASA plans to send a new crew to the orbiting space lab in mid-May aboard the space shuttle Discovery. NASA hasn’t launched a manned flight since the space shuttle Columbia came apart during reentry on February 1, 2003. The *disaster* cost the lives of the entire crew.

Hopes are high for the upcoming launch. “We’re a nation of explorers,” said Eileen Collins, the captain of the new crew. “We are the kind of people who want to go out and learn new things, and I would say take risks, but take calculated risks that are studied and understood.”

Background Information

背景信息

在很多人心目中，国际空间站是一个非常神秘的地方，专供美俄等国家的宇航员在其中进行科研和试验。国际空间站的设想是由美国总统里根在1983年首先提出的，即在国际合作的基础上建造迄今最大的载人空间站。经过近十年的探索和多次重新设计，直到苏联解体，俄罗斯加



Surgery by Remote Control

遥控外科手术

Warming Up

在美国俄亥俄州人们进行了一场不可思议的手术。手术室里只有患者一个人，而且进行手术操作的也不是医生本人，代替医生执行操作的是一个机器人，医生的工作则是坐在电脑控制台前指挥机器人进行手术。尽管这一情景听起来很不可思议，但使用机器人来进行心脏手术却是大有好处的，因为机器人的“手指”比人类要细很多，它可以直接穿透肌肤深入心脏病灶部位，而不必再像从前那样先在心脏周围做切口手术以方便人类的手指进行操作。

Exercise 练一练

1. Why was the heart operation in Ohio almost weird?
2. How can the surgeon control the robot's arms and fingers to do the operation?
3. The appearance of this robot challenged the skill of _____ that had existed for 30 years.
4. What is the most prominent reason that surgery uses this robot to operate the heart operation?
 - A) The robot is smarter than human beings.
 - B) The robot makes the skills of incisions better.
 - C) Its fingers are small and can eliminate the limit of bypass surgery.
 - D) The robot can relieve the pain of the patient much better.
5. As the surgeons expected, what will the heart operation be like in the near future?
 - A) Most of the operations will be done by robots.
 - B) The robots will become very useful assistants.
 - C) When the robots operate, surgeons have to be near them.
 - D) No one needs to be in the operating room, neither the surgeon nor the robot.

Surgery by Remote Control

遥控外科手术

The heart operation taking place in the pale-green *tiled* operating room at the Ohio State University Medical Center was almost *weird*. The patient, a 62-year-old man, was anesthetized (使麻痹), wrapped with blue cloth and lying faces up on a narrow table. But no one was touching him.

Instead, the operation was being performed by a *robot*, whose three metal arms *protruded* through pencil-sized holes in the man's chest. At the ends of the robot's arms were tiny metal fingers, with *rotating wrists* that held a tiny *instrument*, a light and a camera. The robot's arms and fingers were controlled by Dr. Randall K. Wolf, sitting at a computer console (控制台) in a corner of the operating room about 20 feet away.

This sort of operation, heart surgeons say, is the start of what may be the biggest change in their profession since heart bypass surgery began nearly 30 years ago. "The reason we make incisions (切口) is that we have big hands," said Dr. Wolf, the director of *minimally invasive* surgery at Ohio State. The robot's cute fingers, no longer than a nail on a pinkie (小手指), at the end of the long sticks could *eliminate* that limit.

Eventually, surgeons believe, most heart surgery will be done by robots whose arms are *inserted* through pencil-sized holes *punched* in patients' chests. Instead of directly peering into a patient's body, surgeons will view enlarged images of the operation on computer screens. In theory, the doctor would not have to be in the same room, or even the same country, as the patient.

Translation

长难句

This sort of operation, heart surgeons say, is the start of what may be the biggest change in their profession since heart bypass surgery began nearly 30 years ago. 心脏外科医生说,自从心脏搭桥手术在大约30年前开始以来,这种手术可能是他们行业做出最大改变的开始。

Words

词汇

eliminate *vt.* 排除, 消除

insert *vt.* 插入, 嵌入

instrument *n.* 器具, 器械; 工具

invasive *a.* 入侵的; 有创伤的

minimally *ad.* 最低限度地, 最低程度地

profession *n.* 职业

protrude *vt.* 突出; 伸出

punch *vt.* 打孔

robot *n.* 机器人

rotate *v.* (使)旋转; (使)轮流

surgery *n.* 外科手术

tiled *a.* 用花砖装饰的

weird *a.* 怪诞的, 超自然的

wrist *n.* 手腕, 腕关节

Key

参考答案

1. Because no one touched the patient except a robot.
2. By controlling a tiny instrument, a light and a camera at the end of the robot's finger.
3. heart bypass surgery
4. C
5. A



Tsunami “Trigger” Spotted on Google Earth 谷歌地球查到触发海啸原因

Warming Up

最近，人们利用“谷歌地球”来探测那些危险的即将坍塌的岩层以及引发海啸的可能。科学家特乌就是利用“谷歌地球”发现了加勒比海地区存在着发生海啸的潜在危险。“谷歌地球”这一软件较其他软件使用起来更为简单，操作也更方便。特乌的研究团队充分利用“谷歌地球”的优势对多米尼加群岛进行了实地考察，他们发现这一地区海岸地表之下的岩层已经被海水腐蚀，一旦这些岩层坍塌至海洋中就可能引发海啸。因此，科学家们呼吁应在这一地区加强防范。

Exercise 练一练

1. What kind of rock formation can be detected by Google Earth?
2. With the technology of _____, we can take a direct glimpse of a slab or rock that may soon cause a tsunami.
3. Why does Teeuw predict that there is going to be a landslide alongside the coastline?
4. Which of the following situations causes a larger tsunami?
 - A) The million-tonne rock tumble into the sea.
 - B) People on the beach are not prepared enough.
 - C) Other blocks on the problem slab are destabilized.
 - D) The slab that can not be detected by Google Earth.
5. Which of the following descriptions is correct?
 - A) 3D flyover tool is the high-resolution survey techniques that can give close examinations.
 - B) Google Earth is a very useful tool and it can examine the slab that is going to collapse.
 - C) Google Earth can be used in every country, no matter it is large or small, rich or poor.
 - D) We can use Google Earth widely because it is very cheap.

Tsunami "Trigger" Spotted on Google Earth

谷歌地球查到触发海啸原因

Spotting risky rock formations that are about to *collapse* and *trigger tsunamis* could be done with the help of Google Earth, new research suggests. The software could prove a useful tool where other types of survey prove too difficult or expensive.

One such spot has just been found in the Caribbean by Richard Teeuw from the Geohazard Research Centre at the University of Portsmouth, UK.

"We were doing *fieldwork* on the volcanic island of Dominica in the Lesser Antilles and initially just used Google Earth to identify good study areas," he says. "But with its 3D *flyover* tool, we quickly got excellent direct glimpses of a *slab* or rock that may soon cause a tsunami."

The flyover tool allowed Teeuw and his colleagues to examine the million-tonne rock in 3D, and from several angles. They found plenty of evidence that this block of coastline is a landslide waiting to happen. "The flank is undercut by *erosion* from the sea and we saw scars from recent *landslides* and tension *cracks* above the block," he says. "Earthquakes are common in the area and we are pretty sure it's going to go soon."

The researchers have calculated that when the rock *tumbles* into the sea, it could trigger a tsunami of up to three meters high. Though that is smaller than the waves of the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami, the coast of the island Guadeloupe is only 40 kilometers away and has vulnerable flat beaches.

"If even a small tsunami hit during the tourist season, and people were unprepared, the impact could be quite bad," says Teeuw. What's more, if other blocks above the problem slab were *destabilized* by a larger earthquake or movement of the slab itself, a much larger tsunami could result.

Teeuw says that the Google Earth images give enough reason to examine the area more closely with high-resolution survey techniques, such as laser *altimetry*, which would more accurately *appraise* the risks of a potential collapse.

Surveys of this kind are too expensive to use for routine scans over large areas, especially in poor countries. "If we can do a *systematic* study using Google Earth to identify the areas most at risk, the detailed analysis can be focused only on the spots that really need it," he says.