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大学英语

六级阅读

高分训练

主编◎王 镁

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CET 6

中国出版集团
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前言

阅读理解历来是英语考试的考查重点。自 2013 年，全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会对试卷结构和题型比例进行调整后，阅读理解部分分值有所上升，占到总卷面分值的 35%。可见，考生阅读理解能力的高低对于六级考试的成败有着举足轻重的意义。

为了帮助考生提高阅读水平，突破阅读高分瓶颈，在短时间内掌握阅读技巧，我们特意聘请拥有多年一线教学经验的高校英语教师紧扣六级考试大纲编写了这本《大学英语六级阅读高分训练》。在书中，我们精心挑选了 70 篇文章，分析命题思路，归纳解题技巧，把握得分关键，以期考生能够通过练习提高快速阅读和抓取信息的能力，最终实质性提升阅读水平，突破阅读高分瓶颈，赢在阅读，取胜六级。本书的特点具体如下：

功能一：精心选材，科学分类

参照历年六级阅读真题文章，本书选取的 70 篇文章均来自英美等国家的主流报刊、杂志，选材难度、题材内容紧密贴近真题，以帮助学生尽快熟悉六级考试阅读难度。此外，本书按照文章题材分为社会经济、历史发展、哲学艺术、人物故事、自然环保、科普知识、生物医疗七大类，按照这七类题材在六级考试中的占比选材。考生还可以根据自己的薄弱项，对不擅长的题材领域进行练习。

功能二：精准定位，详细讲解

针对阅读中的重点、难点，本书在答案解析中对于题目的考点进行了精准定位，帮助考生逐步掌握信息定位技巧；对于题型进行了准确分类，将题目划分为细节题、理解题、主旨题等多个题型。考生在参阅答案解析时，解题思路一目了然。另外，针对文章中的理解难点，本书在答案解析中提供了详细的翻译、讲解和分析，以帮助考生扫清理解障碍，掌握词汇、语法及表达难点。

功能三：高分突破，志在必得

本书单元布局合理，题目设置科学，旨在训练考生通过练习有效掌握答题技巧，尽快熟悉解题思路，高效提高信息抓取能力，最终实实在在地提高答题的准确率与正确率，突破阅读高分瓶颈，做到读得懂，做得对，自信迎战六级阅读。

最后，希望本书能够帮助考生备战六级阅读，预祝广大考生在六级考试中取得成功！

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PART 1 社会经济

P assage 1

Many United States companies have, unfortunately, made the search for legal protection from import competition into a major line of work. Since 1980 the United States International Trade Commission (ITC) has received about 280 complaints alleging damage from imports that benefit from subsidies by foreign governments. Another 340 charge that foreign companies “dumped” their products in the United States at “less than fair value”. Even when no unfair practices are alleged, the simple claim that an industry has been injured by imports is sufficient grounds to seek relief.

Contrary to the general impression, this quest for import relief has hurt more companies than it has helped. As corporations begin to function globally, they develop an intricate web of marketing, production, and research relationships. The complexity of these relationships makes it unlikely that a system of import relief laws will meet the strategic needs of all the units under the same parent company.

Internationalization increases the danger that foreign companies will use import relief laws against the very companies the laws were designed to protect. Suppose a United States-owned company establishes an overseas plant to manufacture a product while its competitor makes the same product in the United States. If the competitor can prove injury from the imports—and that the United States company received a subsidy from a foreign government to build its plant abroad—the United States company’s products will be uncompetitive in the United States,

since they would be subject to duties.

Perhaps the most brazen case occurred when the ITC investigated allegations that Canadian companies were injuring the United States salt industry by dumping rock salt, used to deice roads. The bizarre aspect of the complaint was that a foreign conglomerate with United States operations was crying for help against a United States company with foreign operations. The “United States” company claiming injury was a subsidiary of a Dutch conglomerate, while the “Canadian” companies included a subsidiary of a Chicago firm that was the second-largest domestic producer of rock salt.

1. The passage is chiefly concerned with _____

- A. arguing against the increased internationalization of United States corporations.
- B. warning that the application of laws affecting trade frequently has unintended consequences.
- C. demonstrating that foreign-based firms receive more subsidies from their governments than United States firms receive from the United States government.
- D. advocating the use of trade restrictions for “dumped” products but not for other imports.
- E. recommending a uniform method for handling claims of unfair trade practices.

2. It can be inferred from the passage that the minimal basis for a complaint to the International Trade Commission is which of the following?

- A. A foreign competitor has received a subsidy from a foreign government.
- B. A foreign competitor has substantially increased the volume of products shipped to the United States.

- C. A foreign competitor is selling products in the United States at less than fair market value.
 - D. The company requesting import relief has been injured by the sale of imports in the United States.
 - E. The company requesting import relief has been barred from exporting products to the country of its foreign competitor.
3. The passage suggests that which of the following is most likely to be true of United States trade laws?
- A. They will eliminate the practice of “dumping” products in the United States.
 - B. They will enable manufacturers in the United States to compete more profitably outside the United States.
 - C. They will affect United States trade with Canada more negatively than trade with other nations.
 - D. Those that help one unit within a parent company will not necessarily help other units in the company.
 - E. Those that are applied to international companies will accomplish their intended result.
4. It can be inferred from the passage that the author believes which of the following about the complaint mentioned in the last paragraph?
- A. The ITC acted unfairly toward the complainant in its investigation.
 - B. The complaint violated the intent of import relief laws.
 - C. The response of the ITC to the complaint provided suitable relief from unfair trade practices to the complainant.
 - D. The ITC did not have access to appropriate information concerning the case.
 - E. Each of the companies involved in the complaint acted in its own

best interest.

5. According to the passage, companies have the general impression that International Trade Commission import relief practices have _____
- A. caused unpredictable fluctuations in volumes of imports and exports.
 - B. achieved their desired effect only under unusual circumstances.
 - C. actually helped companies that have requested import relief.
 - D. been opposed by the business community.
 - E. had less impact on international companies than the business community expected.

assage 2

Prior to 1975, union efforts to organize public sector clerical workers, most of whom are women, were somewhat limited. The factors favoring unionization drives seem to have been either the presence of large numbers of workers, as in New York City, to make it worth the effort, or the concentration of small numbers in one or two locations, such as a hospital, to make it relatively easy. Receptivity to unionization on the workers' part was also a consideration, but when there were large numbers involved or the clerical workers were the only unorganized group in a jurisdiction, the multi-occupational unions would often try to organize them regardless of the workers' initial receptivity. The strategic reasoning was based, first, on the concern that politicians and administrators might play off unionized against nonunionized workers, and, second, on the conviction that a fully unionized public work force meant power, both at the bargaining table and in the legislature. In

localities where clerical workers were few in number, were scattered in several workplaces, and expressed no interest in being organized, unions more often than not ignored them in the pre-1975 period.

But since the mid-1970's, a different strategy has emerged. In 1977, 34 percent of government clerical workers were represented by a labor organization, compared with 46 percent of government professionals, 44 percent of government blue-collar workers, and 41 percent of government service workers. Since then, however, the biggest increases in public sector unionization have been among clerical workers. Between 1977 and 1980, the number of unionized government workers in blue-collar and service occupations increased only about 1.5 percent, while in the white-collar occupations the increase was 20 percent and among clerical workers in particular, the increase was 22 percent.

What accounts for this upsurge in unionization among clerical workers? First, more women have entered the work force in the past few years, and more of them plan to remain working until retirement age. Consequently, they are probably more concerned than their predecessors were about job security and economic benefits. Also, the women's movement has succeeded in legitimizing the economic and political activism of women on their own behalf, thereby producing a more positive attitude toward unions. The absence of any comparable increase in unionization among private sector clerical workers, however, identifies the primary catalyst—the structural change in the multi-occupational public sector unions themselves. Over the past twenty years, the occupational distribution in these unions has been steadily shifting from predominantly blue-collar to predominantly white-collar. Because there are far more women in white-collar jobs, an increase in the proportion of female members has accompanied the occupational shift and has altered union policy-making in favor of organizing women and addressing women's issues.

1. According to the passage, the public sector workers who were most likely to belong to unions in 1977 were _____.
 - A. professionals.
 - B. managers.
 - C. clerical workers.
 - D. service workers.
 - E. blue-collar workers.
2. The author cites union efforts to achieve a fully unionized work force in paragraph 1 in order to account for why _____.
 - A. politicians might try to oppose public sector union organizing.
 - B. public sector unions have recently focused on organizing women.
 - C. early organizing efforts often focused on areas where there were large numbers of workers.
 - D. union efforts with regard to public sector clerical workers increased dramatically after 1977.
 - E. unions sometimes tried to organize workers regardless of the workers' initial interest in unionization.
3. The author's claim that, since the mid-1970's, a new strategy has emerged in the unionization of public sector clerical workers in paragraph 1 would be strengthened if the author _____.
 - A. described more fully the attitudes of clerical workers toward labor unions.
 - B. compared the organizing strategies employed by private sector unions with those of public sector unions.
 - C. explained why politicians and administrators sometimes oppose unionization of clerical workers.
 - D. indicated that the number of unionized public sector clerical workers was increasing even before the mid-1970's.
 - E. showed that the factors that favored unionization drives among

these workers prior to 1975 have decreased in importance.

4. According to the passage, in the period prior to 1975, each of the following considerations helped determine whether a union would attempt to organize a certain group of clerical workers EXCEPT _____
- A. the number of clerical workers in that group.
 - B. the number of women among the clerical workers in that group.
 - C. whether the clerical workers in that area were concentrated in one workplace or scattered over several workplaces.
 - D. the degree to which the clerical workers in that group were interested in unionization.
 - E. whether all the other workers in the same jurisdiction as that group of clerical workers were unionized.
5. The main concern of the passage is to _____
- A. advocate particular strategies for future efforts to organize certain workers into labor unions.
 - B. explain differences in the unionized proportions of various groups of public sector workers.
 - C. evaluate the effectiveness of certain kinds of labor unions that represent public sector workers.
 - D. analyze and explain an increase in unionization among a certain category of workers.
 - E. describe and distinguish strategies appropriate to organizing different categories of workers.

P assage 3

The oil embargoes of 1973–1975 caused vast chagrin among the