

王秀颖 李康康 编著

ACT Reading

一线名师多年教学经验最新成果

名师把脉, 剑指 2016 年 ACT OG 改版 经典重温, ACT 阅读原文重现续读 能力提升, 把握原著作家写作风格

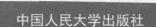
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SAT Reading



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ACT阅读真文章

王秀颖 李康康 编著

ACT Yuedu Zhen Wenzhang

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推荐序

ACT 的全称是 American College Test,即美国大学入学考试。ACT 考试总分为 36 分,共计 215 道题,总时间为 175 分钟,分为四个部分:

- (1) English,考查考生对书面英语的理解与分析能力,共 75.题。
- (2) Math, 考查考生的定量推理能力, 共60题。
- (3) Reading, 考查考生理解、分析、评价性推理和解决问题的能力, 共 40 题。
- (4) Science, 考查考生运用图表、表格和研究总结等方式理解科学概念的能力, 共 40 题。 作文为选考。

所谓的"真文章"有两个含义: 其一是跟真题相关的文章; 其二是确确实实适合考生阅读的文章。

全书按照 ACT 阅读考试要求的题材和出题特点划分章节,包括小说类、社会科学类、人文科学类、自然科学类、双篇对比文章等。在每个题材下面,根据文章特点和考试变化做了分类,不仅包括已经考过的真文章,而且包括未来可能要考的真文章。

除了必须要阅读的文章外,本书的第七章还给出了阅读推荐书目。

开卷有益。作为输入型学习,阅读和听力是英语学习的基础。多读、多听、多练是学好英语的 关键。

ACT 考试强调阅读的广泛性,也是对学习规律的强化。正因为 ACT 考试突出的测试属性和教育指向,ACT 成绩被视为大学选拔成绩的同时,也被作为奖学金发放的依据。

希望本书能够帮助广大考生到达理想的彼岸。

吕蕾的公众微信号: Ivlei1973

吕蕾的微博: http://weibo.com/lvlei1973

吕蕾的博客: http://blog.sina.com.cn/wonderfullei

喜马拉雅电台: 吕蕾1973







前言

随着旧SAT的换题改革,新SAT出现,ACT (American College Testing) 被越来越多的国内考生接受。相比SAT,ACT在国内发展得比较晚,教辅材料比较少,考生的备考资料比较缺乏,尤其是阅读,四部分中最难拿高分的一项。因此,笔者怀着激动的心情写下了这本《ACT阅读真文章》。作为一名奋战在ACT教学一线多年的教师,能够将自己的教学经验和教学心得凝聚成文字实在是一件幸事,能够在本书中和广大考生交流ACT阅读的学习心得也着实令笔者感到兴奋。

在多年的教学实践中,笔者一直专注于ACT阅读的教学工作,特别注重阅读理论与实践的结合,切实帮助考生在ACT阅读中掌握解题技巧并熟悉不同类型的阅读文章。本书从ACT阅读备考以及真题文章分析两个方面进行说明。

本书亮点

首先,对于那些纠结于是否要考ACT,ACT考什么,ACT和新SAT之间分数怎么换算,如何做阅读笔记等问题的考生和家长,本书将为您指引方向,快速了解,快速决定。本书对ACT"阅读""数学""英语""科学"做了基本的介绍,并说明了ACT考试的评分标准、考试时间。其次,本书收纳了近几年的真题文章。笔者介绍了文章的出处、作者,对文章的主旨做了详尽的分析,使得读者可以短时间内了解文章内容和背景。每篇文章后有重点词汇的解析,一方面有助于考生阅读文章,另一方面也有助于考生在语境中背单词,加深记忆。

本书不仅是一本全面、实用的工具书,笔者更希望考生可以从中领略真题的风采,扩大自己的阅读面和词汇量,同时制订适合自己的ACT阅读学习计划,提高应试技巧,拿下ACT阅读考试。

致谢

本书的编写得到了众多留学培训一线教师的支持和帮助,包括武范金迪老师、武文老师、刘博老师、肖欢欢老师、郭方舟老师、洪南竹老师、杨华清老师等,在此表示由衷的感谢。正是所有老师的倾力付出,《ACT阅读真文章》才能正式完稿,并拥有坚实的教学实践基础。

同时,本书得以顺利完成,要感谢天道教育高层领导石凌佳和李芷熙的大力支持与主编常志诚老师的通力合作,以及天道教育的张晔、黄丹、谢东旭、向淼等同事的辛勤工作,是他们的辛苦努力使本书能够及时与读者见面。

希望本书能为备考ACT阅读的考生扫清障碍,使得阅读不再是ACT考试路上的绊脚石。由于权威信息短缺,加之时间紧迫,本书难免有错误和不足之处,希望培训界同仁和考生不吝赐教。最后,感谢所有为本书的出版付出辛勤劳动的朋友们,谢谢!

目录

第1章 阅读概览/1

第2章 小规基 /17

Elba (节选) /19

Winter Wheat (节选) /22

Golden Glass (节选) /25

A Room with a View (节选)/29

Deliverance (节选) /32

Great Expectations (节选) /35

Shirley (节选) /39

The Joy Luck Club (节选) /43

Moonstone (节选) /46

The Namesake (节选) /49

The Open Boat (节选) /52

The Time of Our Singing (节选) /55

Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance: An Inquiry into Values (节选) /59

第3章 社会科学类/63

Review on How Courts Govern America (节选) /65

American Sphinx (节选) /68

Biomimicy: Innovation Inspired by Nature (节选) /70

Virtual Reality Systems—What Can They Contribute to Archaeology? (节选) /72

Let Me Think About It: Plants and Consciousness (节选) /75

Can the Album Survive Digital Music? (节选) /79

Thurgood Marshall /82

Whale Watching (节选) /84

Green Music in the Rain Forest (节选) /86

The Arts in Harlem (节选) /88

补充阅读(一)/90

补充阅读(二)/92

补充阅读(三)/94

第4章 人支科学类/97

On Being an American Writer /99

When MIT Artist Shouts, His Painting Listens /102

Ojibwe /104

Ben Webster /106

Lights in the Windows (节选) /108

Erased Edges (节选) /111

India Resounding in New York (节选) /113

Antonio Gaudi /115

补充阅读(一)/118

补充阅读(二)/120

补充阅读(三)/122

补充阅读(四)/124

第5章 面然科学类/127

Snow Crystal (节选) /129

A Mystery Squid Found Lurking at Ocean Bottom (节选) /132

Were Dinosaurs Cold-blooded, Warm-blooded or Perhaps Something Else? (节选) /136

Science Daily (节选) /138

How to Search for Life on Mars (节选) /140

Biomimicry: Innovation Inspired by Nature (节选) /142

Global Warming /143

Round and Round /145

Consider the Eel /147

补充阅读(一) /150

补充阅读(二) /152

第6章 双篇对此交章/155

双篇对比文章(一) /157

双篇对比文章(二)/159

双篇对比文章(三)/162

双篇对比文章(四)/165

双篇对比文章(五)/167

双篇对比文章 (六) /169 双篇对比文章 (七) /170

第7章 阅读推荐书目 /173

小说类 /175 社会科学类 /176 人文科学类 /177 自然科学类 /178 报纸、杂志推荐 /178

第 1章

阅读概览

Reading

一、ACT 考试概述

1. 简介

ACT 的全称是 "American College Testing",中文名称为"美国大学入学考试"。ACT 考试包括五个部分:英语、数学、阅读、科学以及作文(选考)。

2. ACT 考试与 SAT 考试的区别

ACT 考试与 SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test) 考试均被称为"美国高考",它们既是美国大学的人学条件之一,又是大学发放奖学金的主要依据之一,是对学生综合能力的测试。所有美国大学都接受 ACT 或 SAT 的考试成绩。一般来讲,ACT 和 SAT 考试没有太大区别,是同等水平的测试。

不过,与 SAT 相比,ACT 考试更注重考查考生对平时课程知识的掌握,特别是对理科科目知识的掌握。尽管从时间上来看,ACT 较 SAT 的时间较紧张,但就整体难度而言,ACT 较简单。对于普遍理科较好的中国考生而言,选择 ACT 考试相对能取得更好的成绩。以下是 ACT 与新 SAT 分数对照表,见表 1-1。

SAT (阅读加数学)	ACT
1600	36
1560	35
1510	34
1460	33
1420	32
1380	31
1340	30
1300	29
1260	28
1220	27
1190	26
1150	25
1110	24
1070	23
1030	22

表 1-1 ACT 与新 SAT 分数对照表

3. 考试时间

ACT考试每年在亚太地区举行5次,具体时间分别是4月中、6月初、9月中、10月底和12月初。 每年在北美举行6次,具体时间分别是2月初、4月中、6月初、9月中、10月底和12月初。

4. 科目及分数标准

ACT 考试共215 道题目, 考试时间175分钟。各科目满分为36分, 总分为各科目分数的平均值。

ACT 阅读真文章

全部题目均为选择题, 答对得分, 答错不扣分。

英语: 75 个问题 /45 分钟。

数学: 60 个问题 /60 分钟。

阅读: 40 个问题 /35 分钟。

科学: 40 个问题 /35 分钟。

写作(选做): /30 分钟

二、ACT—Reading 概述

1. 文章类型与阅读顺序

ACT—Reading 共有 4 篇文章,每篇文章 10 道题,要求在 35 分钟内做完。4 篇文章的类型和出现顺序固定不变,分别为:小说(Prose Fiction)、社会科学(Social Science)、人文科学(Humanities)、自然科学(Natural Science)。

在不同的同学心中,文章难易程度是不同的,但因为在考试中,文章的阅读顺序没有强行规定,所以从较低难度的文章开始是一个很好的策略,以下是为大家推荐的阅读顺序:自然科学、社会科学、人文科学、小说。

当然,35 分钟阅读四篇文章并回答40 道题,确实不是一个简单的任务,在时间不够用的情况下懂得取舍才是关键。表1—2 列出的分数与文章阅读数量可供参考。

分数	文章数量	可错题目
32+	三篇以上	5
28~32	三篇	9~10
24~27	两篇半	11~14
20	两篇	17~19

表 1-2 SAT 阅读科目的分数与文章阅读数量

2. 文章话题类别

ACT 阅读各主题文章所涵盖的话题如下:

小说:小说节选。

社会科学: 人类学 (anthropology), 考古学 (archaeology), 传记 (biography), 商业 (business), 经济学 (economics), 教育 (education), 地理 (geography), 历史 (history), 政治科学 (political science), 心理学 (psychology), 社会学 (sociology)。

人文科学: 建筑 (architesture), 艺术 (art), 舞蹈 (dance), 伦理学 (ethics), 电影 (film), 语言 (language), 文学评论 (literary criticism), 音乐 (music), 哲学 (philosophy), 电视 (television), 戏剧 (theater), 回忆录 (memoir), 个人散文 (personal essays)。

自然科学:解剖学 (anatomy),天文学 (astronomy),生物学 (biology),植物学 (botany),化学 (chemistry),生态学 (ecology),地质学 (geology),医学 (medicine),气象学 (meteorology),微生物学 (microbiology),博物学 (natural history),生理学 (physiology),物理学 (physics),科技 (science technology),动物学 (zoology)。

三、ACT 阅读笔记法

1. 为什么要做笔记?

ACT 阅读的出题特点主要体现在两点:首先,题目是乱序的。这种排列方式,我们在任何一种阅读考试中都未见过。一般情况下,第一题是全篇主旨题,除此之外,所有题目并不是按照行文顺序排列的,所以,同学们不能像做托福阅读一样边读文章边解题。其次,一半以上的题目是没有行号定位的。也就是说,抛开解题不谈,考生甚至都不知道出题点在文章的哪一个段落或者哪一句话。而正是这两大特点,极大地影响了考生的做题速度。所以,这要求大家在阅读过程中需要一边读文章,一边做标记,便于答题时通过关键词回文中连连看。

2. 笔记标注什么?

做笔记是为了更快地回到文中找到相应的答案所在。所以,在做笔记之前,我们要先弄明白 ACT 阅读到底考查同学们的哪些能力。

(1) Determine Main Ideas (文章主旨和段落主旨)

理解文章和段落主旨:在任何一种阅读考试中,总结概括段落大意,找出文章主旨是学生必须 具备的能力。所以针对此项,建议同学们在阅读过程中,一定要思考段落大意。这类题目一般情况 下在提问的时候会给出范围,比如第三段的段落大意是什么,所以在阅读过程中可以把话题词圈出 来,或者在段落旁边简短地写一下这段的主旨。

(2) Locate and Interpret Significant Details (定位及理解重要细节)

定位及理解重要细节: 这项要求直接对应无行号定位题, 所以这是需**要重点做标记的**部分。针对重要细节, 我们可以从以下几个方面去做笔记

特别字母类:人名、地名、机构名、斜体字、首字母缩写,比如 NASA,当人名与其所在的机构名同时出现时,人名需要重点标记。

数字类: 阿拉伯数字及其单位, 比如 15kg、30%; 时间、日期; 用英文写的数字, 比如 three months ago, around the turn of the century。

特殊标点类:双引号、连字符、破折号之间的插入语。

极端词汇: first, most, primary, peak 等。

限定词汇: particularly, especially, barely, hardly 等。

except 题: except 题大致分为两种,一种是在某一段或某句话中就能找出答案;另一种则需要阅读全文。针对第一种情况,当我们在一句话或者一个段落中,遇到三个及三个以上的名词或短语并列的时候,也要标记一下。

- (3)Understand Sequences of Events, Make Comparisons, Comprehend Cause-Effect Relationships(事件发展、比较关系和因果关系)
 - ① Understand Sequences of Events (排序)

理解事件发生的先后顺序: 出题方式大体分为两种, 一是问以下哪个选项是第一件发生的事情;

二是问在某一过程中,步骤是怎样的。所以这需要同学们在阅读过程中不仅标注出时间、日期,还 要把序数词出现的部分标记出来。

② Make Comparisons (比较关系)

比较关系大致也可分为两种,一种是不同比较,另一种是相同比较。不同比较非常直观,当 出现 more than 或者形容词、副词比较级的时候自然就能反应出这是在两两相比,除此之外,出现 unlike 等词的时候也要进行标注。另一种就是同学们极易忽略的相同比较了,比如 as...as 结构。有 时候这个结构会在一句话中拉得很长,同学们要耐心看懂画下来。

③ Comprehend Cause-Effect Relationships (因果关系)

理解因果关系: 出题时通常会给出结果问原因, 所以在阅读过程中, 出现表示因果的词汇, 比如 because, for, since 等时要重点阅读一下这个因果关系。

- (4) Determine the Meaning of Context-Dependent Words, Phrases and Statements (词义和同义转换) 理解文中某个单词、某个短语或某句话在上下文中的意思。
- (5) Draw Generalizations (观点总结)

可以总结概括出文章中某个人物的观点或某几个段落的大意。

(6) Analyze the Author's or Narrator's Voice and Method (分析作者或叙述者的语气态度及写作方法)

综上所述,细节题、事件排序、比较关系和因果关系这几类题目对于笔记的要求非常高。

接下来我们就挑选官方指南中的几篇文章为大家进一步讲解笔记的作用。

小说 官方指南第四套题

PROSE FICTION: This passage is adapted from the novel *The Fisher King* by Paule Marshall (©2000 by Paule Marshall)

It was nearing the end of the **second set** the jazz show winding down when Hattie heard Abe Kaiser at the microphone call Everett Payne's name. Heard his name and, to her surprise, saw him slowly stand up in the bullpen up front. She hadn't seen him join the other local musicians, including **Shades Bowen** with his tenor sax, in what was called the bullpen, which was simply a dozen or so chairs grouped near the bandstand. The young locals gathered there each Sunday evening, hoping for a chance to perform. Because toward the end of the final set, the custom was to invite one or two of them to sit in with the band. They sometimes even got to choose the tune they wanted to play.

This Sunday, Everett Payne, not long out of the army, was the one being invited to sit in.

Breath held, Hattie watched him separate himself from the hopefuls and approach the stand, taking his time, moving with what almost seemed a deliberate pause between each step. The crowd waiting.

That was his way, Hattie knew. His body moving absentmindedly through space, his head, his thoughts on something other than his surroundings, and his eyes like a curtain he occasionally drew aside a fraction of an inch to peer out at the world. A world far less interesting than the music inside his head.

She watched now as he slowly mounted the bandstand and conferred with the bassist and drummer, those two were all he would need. Then, without announcing the name of the tune he intended playing,

without in any way acknowledging the audience, he sat down at the piano and brought his hands—large hands, the fingers long and splayed and slightly arched—down on the opening bars of "Sonny Boy Blue".

"Sonny Boy Blue!" That hokey-doke tune!

Around her, the purists looked askance at each other from behind, their regulation shaded and slouched deeper in their chairs in open disgust.

At first, hokey thought it was, he played the song straight through as written, the rather long introduction, verse, and chorus. And he did so with great care, although at a slower tempo than was called for and with a formality that lent the Tin Pan Alley tune a depth and thoughtfulness no one else would have accorded it.

Quickly taking their cue from him, the bassist reached for his bow, the drummer for his brushes, the two of them also treating the original as if it were a serious piece of music.

Everett Payne took his time playing his respects to the tune as written, and once that was done, he hunched closer to the piano, angled his head sharply to the left, completely closed the curtain of his gaze, and with his hands commanding the length and breadth the keyboard he unleashed a dazzling pyrotechnic of chords(you could almost see their colors), polyrhythms, seemingly unrelated harmonies, and ideas—fresh, brash, outrageous ideas. It was an outpouring of ideas and feelings informed by his own brand of lyricism and lit from time to time by flashes of the recognizable melody. He continued to acknowledge the little simpleminded tune, while at the same time furiously recasting and reinventing it in an image all his own.

A collective in-suck of breath throughout the club.

Where, Hattie wondered, did he come by the dazzling array of ideas and wealth of feeling? It had to do, she speculated, listening intently, with the way he held his head, angled to the left like that, tilted toward both heaven and earth. His right side, his right ear directed skyward, heating up there, in the *Upper Room* among the stars Mahalia sang about, a new kind of music: splintered, atonal, profane, and possessing a wonderful dissonance that spike to him, to his soul-case. For him, this was the true music of the spheres, of the maelstrom up there. When at the piano, he kept his right ear tuned to it at all times, letting it guide him, inspire him. His other ear? It remained earthbound, trained on the bedrock that for him was Bach and the blues.

Again and again he took them on a joyous, terrifying roller coaster of a ride it seemed to Hattie, and when he finally deposited them on terra firma after close to twenty minutes, everyone in Putnam Royal could only sit there as if they were in church and weren't supposed to clap. Overcome. Until finally Alvin Edwards lived on Decatur Street played trumpet in the school band leaped to his feet and renamed him.

Alvin brought everyone up with him. Including the purists who normally refused to applaud even genius. They too stood up in languid praise of him.

- 1. It can reasonably be inferred from the passage that Shades Bowen:
- A. did not accompany Everett Payne as he played "Sonny Boy Blue".
- B. had been in the army with Everett Payne.
- C. was the oldest musician in the bullpen.

D. did not usually allow the local musicians to play with band.

本题让我们对 Shades Bowen 这个人做一个推断,做笔记时,这个人名出现在第一段,通过上下文的描述,我们可判断答案为 A。

- 3. The passage most strongly suggests that the second set of the jazz shows at the club is:
- A. the final set.
- B. much longer than the first set.
- C. followed by a third set on Sunday nights.
- D. performed solely by the musicians in the bullpen.
- 本题题干关键词为序数词 second, 做笔记时, 第一段就已出现, 答案可直接选 A。
- 5. According to the narrator, what did Hattie see Everett Payne do prior to playing "Sonny Boy Blue"?
 - A. Move quickly from his seat to the bandstand.
 - B. Study the audience around him.
 - C. Confer with the bassist and the drummer.
 - D. Announce the name of the tune he was going to play.

本题的关键词是 Sonny Boy Blue,通过笔记法很好定位,在第五段,但我们要注意的是题干中还有一个 prior to,所以还要注意时间顺序,从定位点向前找,信息十分明显,所以答案为 C。

- 6. The passage initially portrays the purists most nearly as:
- F. knowledgeable and open minded.
- G. snobbish and intolerant.
- H. rational and well educated.
- J. inexperienced and uninhibited.

本题的关键词是 purists, 定位到第七段, 根据态度词判断, 答案为 G。

- 10. The narrator states that to Hattie, Everett Payne's performance was:
- F. overly slow and formal.
- G. deliberate yet absentminded.
- H. like a song played in a church.
- J. a roller coaster of a ride.

本题的关键词为 Hattie, 通过定位在倒数第二段, 原文信息明显, 答案为 J。

社会科学 官方指南第五套题

SOCIAL SCIENCE: This passage is adapted from the article "Virtually Rebuilt, A Ruin Yields Secrets" by Sam Lubell (©2002 by The New York Times Company).

Everyone knows that the Roman Colosseum is an architectural marvel. Build so that thousands of people could be ushered in and out in minutes, it is a testament to the genius of Roman engineering