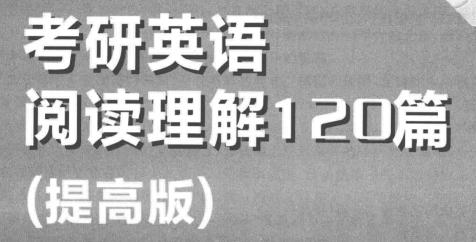
考研英语提升系列

# 考研英语 阅读理解120篇 (提高版)

◎ 主编 刘红艳 李玉技 薛 冰



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#### 图书在版编目(CIP)数据

考研英语阅读理解 120 篇:提高版/李玉技,刘红艳,薛冰主编.一西安:西安交通大学出版社,2017.4 (考研英语提升系列) ISBN 978-7-5605-9651-8

I.①考··· □.①李··· ②刘··· ③薜··· □.①英语-阅读教学-研究生-入学考试-自学参考资料 Ⅳ.①H319.37

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2017)第 103310 号

书 名 考研英语阅读理解 120 篇(提高版)

主 编 刘红艳 李玉技 薛 冰

责任编辑 焦 铭 郑 磊

出版发行 西安交通大学出版社

(西安市兴庆南路 10 号 邮政编码 710049)

M 址 http://www.xjtupress.com

电 话 (029)82668357 82667874(发行中心)

(029)82668315(总编办)

传 真 (029)82668280

印 刷 陕西日报社

开 本 787mm×1092mm 1/16 印张 16.25 字数 396千字

版次印次 2017年6月第1版 2017年6月第1次印刷

书 号 ISBN 978-7-5605-9651-8

定 价 35.00 元

读者购书、书店添货、如发现印装质量问题,请与本社发行中心联系、调换。

订购热线:(029)82665248 (029)82665249

投稿热线:(029)82664953 (029)82665371

读者信箱:xjtu\_rw@163.com

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## 前 言

阅读理解是英语语言学习中最重要的基本技能,同时也是我们获取语言知识最直接、最有效的方法之一。学习阅读,学会阅读,提高英语阅读能力,是最终掌握英语,提高整体英语水平的必由之路。在研究生人学英语考试的试题中,阅读占有相当大的比重,该部分的得分直接影响整个考试的成败,因此我们应该加强对此部分的重视。

对于英语考生而言,"题源"并非新鲜的概念。据统计表明,在研究生入学英语考试的试题中,阅读文章有相当的比例是出自 The Economist《经济学人》、Newsweek《新闻周刊》、Time《时代周刊》等原版英文报刊,而且这些文章都是近五年发表的,具有一定的时效性。对于即将参加研究生入学英语考试的考生而言,想获得上述所需要的资料并非易事,而且即便获得这些报刊,在阅读时也往往发现无从下手。若篇篇通读,这必然是一件浪费时间而又收效颇小的事情;若自己选读,哪些该读哪些不该读,这一困惑又摆在了大家的眼前。最终,各种问题的产生往往使得不少掌握英文原版报刊这一"稀缺"资源的考生如堕迷雾之中,不知所措。

为了解决考生上述无处可读和不知从何读起的问题,我们精心编写了"考研英语阅读理解 120篇"系列书。本丛书具有以下特点:

- 1. 接近性。本丛书中所收录的文章,均出自考试命题者所青睐的优秀原版报刊,与研究生人学英语考试的命题趋势相贴近,适合应试考生参考阅读。
- 2. 广泛性。本丛书收录了从五大题源报刊中精心选取的文章,素材涵盖历年考研真题的 所有题材,并按照文章难度进行平均分配,对广大考生研习阅读有很强的指导作用。
- 3. 全面性。本丛书板块丰富,具体如下:"试题解析"——给出正确答案的推导过程,对强干扰项做出适当分析,使考生对答案既"知其然"又"知其所以然";"核心词汇"——将文章中出现的核心词汇——列出,可以帮助考生解决词汇之忧;"长难句解析"——将文章中的核心句式列出,进行语法分析;"参考译文"——提供全文翻译,有效地帮助考生理解并阅读文章,提高翻译水平。

在整个复习中自始至终认真研究真题题源,从题源中找方法、找差距,是英语阅读复习中不可忽视的一个重要方法。我们相信,通过使用本书,广大考生一定能进一步巩固语言知识,很快掌握事半功倍的学习方法和应试技能,从而在研究生入学英语考试中取得满意的成绩。

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Traditional media may be declining in much of the rich world, but in poor countries it is booming. The growth in private media in developing countries has spurred much of the demand, as has new technology.

That is stoking journalism training in far-flung places, in many shapes and sizes. Joe Foote, an American professor, reckons there may be up to 3,000 courses. They range from full degree programmes to the short-term specialist training offered widely across Asia, Africa and Latin America. Groups offering such courses include the BBC World Service Trust, the Reuters and Thomson Foundations, the Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR) and Internews Network, a media-development charity based in America. The Aga Khan, a tycoon-philanthropist(慈善企业家) and religious leader who has media businesses in the developing world, is considering starting a programme in Africa.

The trend took off after the collapse of Soviet Union, when former Soviet-block countries sought new journalists to replace the hacks of the state-controlled propaganda machines. Having started in Poland in the 1990s, the BBC trust has operated in over 50 countries, training more than 1,500 journalists in at least 15 languages.

These days the donors are particularly interested in niches, such as investigative reporting and science writing. But that approach sometimes flops. The need for basic reporting skills is still central. Trainers stress the need for flexibility. Kieran Cooke, a former foreign correspondent turned trainer, says course participants often just want to talk. "They have miserable salaries, take on considerable risks, and still want to carry on."

Participants in the courses praise the results, while complaining about the lack of focus and coordination among some providers. Shapi Shacinda, the Reuters correspondent in Zambia and chairman of the press club in the capital, Lusaka, says that foreign-backed training in business and economic reporting has helped bring more sceptical coverage. Previously, news stories used to be taken straight from officials' statements, he says.

But governments are harder to teach. Encouraging students to probe sensitive topics may threaten their lives or livelihoods. An Iraqi journalist trained by and working with the IWPR was shot dead earlier this year. Just this week, Zambia's minister of information asserted that state-run media should not criticise the government. In Russia, an organisation founded by Internews has been closed by the authorities, who were apparently suspicious of its American backing.

Rich-country governments can be a problem too. Some try to influence the "messages" that trainers deliver, for example by insisting that their diplomats talk to classes on a regular basis. The big training groups insist that they control their own content. "We won't be paid

to do messages," says Anthony Borden of the IWPR. Blurring the boundaries can be dangerous both for journalists and the programmes that support them, he notes. But others may be less choosy.

- The phrase "took off" in paragraph 3 can be paraphrased as
  - A. diminished
  - B. strengthened
  - C. started
  - D. suspended
- 2. Which of the following is true about the participants who take part in the journalism training?
  - A. They have their own special opinion about issues.
  - B. Though reporting is tough, they persist in for its considerable salary.
  - C. Participants are satisfied with the whole training process.
  - D. Participants are discontented with the training for the failure of emphasis and integrity.
- 3. Which of the following is not essential for a correspondent?
  - A. Having some basic reporting skills.
  - B. Being elastic to different occasions.
  - C. Owning penetrating perspectives.
  - D. Excel in investigative reporting and science writing.
- 4. What can we learn from paragraph 6?
  - A. Government may be a knotty item to journalists.
  - B. Being a correspondent is quite dangerous.
  - C. Government can never be criticized.
  - D. The media is in the control of the government.
- 5. What can we infer from Anthony Borden?
  - A. The content of the report should not be decided by government.
  - B. There is no need to have clear boundaries between journalists and government.
  - C. They are paid according to different message.
  - D. All the kinds of message must be reported without any obscurity.

## 9。 试题解析

#### 1. 答案:C

解析:语义理解题。took off 本身就有飞机起飞的意思,但这里明显不是起飞的意思。第三段提到"随着前苏联成员国找寻新的记者来取代国营宣传机构的雇主,这种趋势才逐渐成形",所以 C 选项符合题意。A 是减弱的意思,B 是加强的意思,D 是阻碍的意思,均不符合

文章意思。

#### 2. 答案:D

解析:细节题。主要定位在第四和第五段。在第四段提到:参加培训的人常常只是简单地谈论他们的看法。"虽然新闻工作者的薪水不高,还承担着相当大的风险,但他们仍然坚持不懈。"说明 A 和 B 选项是错误的。在第五段的第一句,作者提到,参加培训的人虽然抱怨培训缺乏重点、不够协调,但他们却对培训结果很满意。从而得出 C 选项是错误的,D 为正确选项。

#### 3. 答案:D

解析:细节题。信息主要在第四段。其中提到,具备基本的报道技巧仍然很必要,培训师也常强调灵活的重要性。分别说明 A 和 B 选项是正确的。在文章开头提到,最近,参加培训的人对撰写调查报告和科技文献之类的工作尤为感兴趣。但是这通常不会使新闻工作者的新闻报道水平有很大提高。所以 D 选项是错误的。C 选项虽然在文章中没有明确提出,但根据常识亦可判断具有渗透力的观点很重要。

#### 4. 答案:A

解析:推理题。文章讲了记者业的发展,最后主要讲了记者报道与政府的关系。但是政府 却很难应付。如果培训机构鼓励学生调查一些敏感的话题可能会威胁到他们的生命或生 计。B、C 和 D 选项都是沿着 A 选项扩散出来的,只是 A 选项的一个分支和细节。所以政府相对于他们来说是一个很棘手的事。故正确选项为 A。

#### 5. 答案:A

解析:细节题。信息主要定位于第七段。其中主要提到,大的培训集团则坚持他们所报道的内容应由他们自己来决定。可以推断出 A 是正确的。根据他所说的:"我们所报道的信息并不会得到报酬。"对于记者和支持他们的这些培训班来说,不划清和政府之间的界限是很危险的。对于其他的问题则可以视情况而便宜行事。可以判断出 C 和 D 选项是错误的。B 选项与原文意思相反。故正确答案是 A。

## ❷ 核心词汇

**private** ['praivit] *adj*. 私人的,私有的,私营的,秘密的 *n*. 士兵

spurred [spəːd] adj. 装有马刺的

**collapse** [kə'læps] *n*. 倒塌,崩溃,失败,虚 脱 *vi*. 倒塌,崩溃,瓦解,失败,病倒

seek [si:k]vt. 寻找,探索,寻求

hack [hæk] vt. 砍 n. 出租

investigative [in'vestigeitiv] *adj*. 研究的, 好研究的

assert [ə'səːt] vt. 断言,声称
criticise ['kritisaiz] vt. 批评,吹毛求疵

apparently [ə'pærəntli] adv. 显然地 suspicious [səs'piʃəs] adj. (~ of) 可疑的, 怀疑的

boundary ['baundəri] n. 边界,分界线 choosy ['tʃuːzi] adj. 慎重选择的,好挑剔的 far-flung adj. 广布的,广泛的,蔓延的,辽阔的,漫长的,遥远的

state-controlled adj. 由政府控制的

flop [flop] n. 砰然落下,拍击声,失败 vi. 扑拍,跳动,脚步沉重地走,笨重地摔,猛落 vt. 笨拙地抛下

## 长难句解析

- 1. The Aga Khan, a tycoon-philanthropist and religious leader who has media businesses in the developing world, is considering starting a programme in Africa.
  - 结构分析:本句是一个复合句。主句是 The Aga Khan... religious leader is considering starting ... Africa; a tycoon-philanthropist and religious leader 是作 The Aga Khan 的同位语; who 引导一个定语从句,来修饰 a tycoon-philanthropist ... leader。
  - 参考译文:大慈善家、宗教领导人阿迦·可汗在很多发展中国家都创建了媒体企业,他现在正考虑在非洲开创一个项目。
- 2. Having started in Poland in the 1990s, the BBC trust has operated in over 50 countries, training more than 1,500 journalists in at least 15 languages.
  - 结构分析:本句是一个简单句。句子主干是 the BBC trust ...50 countries; Having started ... the 1990s,是现在分词短语的完成式作状语, training more than ...15 languages 是现在分词短语做后置定语,来修饰 the BBC trust。
  - 参考译文:英国广播基金组织于二十世纪九十年代最先在波兰运行,现已至少在 50 多个国家运用至少 15 种语言培训了 1,500 多名记者。
- 3. In Russia, an organisation founded by Internews has been closed by the authorities, who were apparently suspicious of its American backing.
  - 结构分析:本句是一个复合句。主句是 In Russia... has been closed by the authorities,同时也是一个被动句; founded by Internews 是过去分词短语做后置定语来修饰 an organisation; who 引导一个非限定性定语从句,来修饰 the authorities。
  - 参考译文:在俄罗斯,一个由国际记者培训机构组建的机构被当局关闭了。很显然,当局怀疑这个机构受美国操纵。

## □ 参考译文

在很多发达国家,传统媒体正日趋衰落;但在落后国家,它却仍然很盛行。因为私营媒体 机构拥有先进的技术,所以在发展中国家,私营媒体的发展极大地刺激了人们对媒体的需求。

这促使边远地区出现了很多类型各异、规模不一的新闻方面的培训机构。美国的一位教授乔·福特推断这种培训可能涉及 3,000 多种课程,既包括全日制学位课程,也包括短期的专科教育课程。亚洲、非洲和拉丁美洲也广泛开设了这些课程。一些大的集团,包括英国广播公司环球服务信托基金组织、路透社和汤姆森基金会、战争与和平报道研究所以及国际新闻网——一个依赖媒体发展的慈善机构(其总部设在美国)等也都提供了这些课程。大慈善家、宗教领导人阿迦·可汗在很多发展中国家都创建了媒体企业,他现在正考虑在非洲开创一个项目。

前苏联瓦解后,随着前苏联成员国找寻新的记者来取代国营宣传机构的雇主,这种趋势才

逐渐淡化。英国广播基金组织于二十世纪九十年代最先在波兰运行,现已至少在50多个国家运用至少15种语言培训了1,500多名记者。

最近,参加培训的人对撰写调查报告和科技文献之类的工作尤为感兴趣。但是这通常不会使新闻工作者的新闻报道水平有很大提高。因为具备基本的报道技巧仍然很必要,培训师也常强调灵活的重要性。前外交记者基兰·库克后来成为了一名培训师,他说参加培训的人常常只是简单地谈论他们的看法。"虽然新闻工作者的薪水不高,还承担着相当大的风险,但他们仍然坚持不懈。"

参加培训的人虽然抱怨培训缺乏重点、不够协调,但他们却对培训结果很满意。路透社驻 赞比亚记者沙皮·沙森达,也是位于首都卢萨卡的记者俱乐部的主席,他说,由外商资助的关 于商业和经济方面报道的培训使得更多持有怀疑态度的新闻报道出现。而之前的那些被采用 的新闻报道都是直接从官方人员的演讲中摘录的。

但是政府却很难应付。如果培训机构鼓励学生调查一些敏感的话题可能会威胁到他们的 生命或生计。一名在战争与和平报道研究所接受培训并就职于这所机构的伊拉克记者,在今 年年初就遭枪杀身亡。就在这个星期,赞比亚新闻部长声称国有媒体不应该批评政府。在俄 罗斯,一个由国际记者培训机构组建的机构被当局关闭了。很显然,当局怀疑这个机构受美国 操纵。

发达国家的政府也很难应付,例如有些政府坚持认为他们的外交官要定期给此类培训班授课,并试图影响培训师所传达的"信息"。大的培训集团则坚持他们所报道的内容应由他们自己来决定。战争与和平报道研究所的安东尼·博登说:"我们所报道的信息并不会得到报酬。"他注意到,对于记者和支持他们的这些培训班来说,不划清和政府之间的界限是很危险的。对于其他的问题则可以视情况而便宜行事。

#### Text 2

DELAYS or cancellations because of bad weather or mechanical problems are exasperating but common occurrences in air travel, but increasingly, passengers aren't making it to their destinations for yet another reason; not enough pilots. The gateagent may not tell you that's why you're grounded, but a dearth of qualified pilots is disrupting, reducing and even eliminating flights.

In addition to widespread delays and cancellations, at least 29 communities, from Modesto, Calif., to Macon, have lost air service since 2013, and hundreds more had their number of flights reduced. Meanwhile, airports that haven't lost service complain they can't get additional flights to keep up with local economic development.

So what's causing the shortage? To start, there are just a lot more passengers. According to the Department of Transportation, airlines carried a record 895.5 million passengers in the United States in 2015, up 5 percent from the previous year. To meet global growth over the next 18 years, Boeing forecasts that the industry will need more

than a half million new pilots.

Next, you can point to the roughly 18,000 pilots in the United States who will age out by 2022. This is a can Congress kicked down the road in 2007 when it raised the mandatory retirement age to 65 from 60 to delay the exit of all the military pilots who moved to airlines after the Vietnam War.

There is also a bottleneck in the supply of new pilots because of federal legislation passed after the 2009Colgan Air crash in Buffalo, which was attributed in part to errors by the flight. Among other changes, the law mandated that, as of 2013, all entry—level first officers (that is, co—pilots) on commercial carriers have at least 1,500 hours of flight time instead of the previous minimum of 250 hours.

"The real problem the industry is facing is young people aren't making the decision to become an airline pilot," said Capt. TimCanoll, a Delta pilot and president of the Air Line Pilots Association. "It takes a very motivated person to meet the physical, emotional and intellectual challenge of becoming a pilot, and that same motivated person does the math looking at what it takes and the return on investment, and it just doesn't add up," particularly when training costs alone can reach \$ 150,000.

The aviator and poet John Magee once described commanding an aircraft as "dancing the skies on laughter-silvered wings." Easing back the yoke and feeling gravity let go is indeed indescribably exquisite. But now, in aeronautical parlance, the drag of the profession threatens to overwhelm its lift, which could mean a hard landing for the industry.

- 1. What may NOT cause delay in air travel?
  - A. Bad weather.
  - B. Mechanical problems.
  - C. Lack of pilots.
  - D. Bankrupt of Airline Company.
- 2. Which of the following may NOT causing the shortage of pilots?
  - A.With the development of local economy, passengers are increasing rapidly.
  - B. The roughly 18,000 pilots in the United States are about to retire.
  - C. Most pilots are former military pilots who moved to airlines.
  - D. Strict federal legislation about the supply of new pilots.
- 3. Why America raised the mandatory retirement age to 65 from 60?
  - A.Because most pilots are former military pilots, and the government fear they may be bribed by other countries.
  - B. Because the five year delay of retirement may reduce the stress of the shortage of pilots.

- C. Because the airline companies spur the government to do so.
- D. Because the pilots think the mandatory retirement age are too early.
- 4. What is the real problem the air industry is facing?
  - A.The Congress rise themandatory retirement age.
  - B. Training costs are too high; the airline company couldn't recover the cost.
  - C. Young people are easy to quit when training costs alone can reach \$150,000.
  - D. Less young people want to be a pilot due to strict training and low returns.
- 5. What is the last paragraph for?
  - A.To show us that commanding an aircraft is a pleasant experience.
  - B. To attract young people to become a pilot.
  - C. To infer that the lack of pilots may cause serious problem to air industry.
  - D. To indicate how much pressure the pilotsare bear now.

## **完** 试题解析

#### 1. 答案:D

解析:细节题。信息在第一段。根据第一段可知由于恶劣天气或是机械故障等原因被迫取消航班常常令乘客感到愤怒,但这却是航空业的常态。所以 A、B 选项正确。根据第一段可知越来越多的乘客无法到达指定的目的地也是出于另一个原因:飞行员的稀缺。所以 C 选项正确。D 选项在文中虽然提到但有资质的飞行员的稀缺仍在影响着航班飞行、削减着航班数量甚至让航空业破产。但并没有说航空公司破产是造成航班延误的原因之一,故应选 D。

#### 2. 答案: C

解析:细节题。信息在。从第三段可知,搭乘航班的乘客实在是太多了,故 A 选项正确,由于地方经济的发展,越来越多的人搭乘飞机出行,该段列举的交通部的统计也说明了这一点。第四段指出,全美大约 18000 位飞行员,他们到 2022 年也到了退休年龄。这也进一步造成了飞行员的缺乏,所以 B 选项正确。美国议会提出的一项计划,他们将法定退休年龄从 60 岁提高到了 65 岁,目的旨在延长那些从越南战场上退役后投入民用航空业的军事飞行员的退休年龄。这些前军事飞行员并不是造成飞行员缺乏的原因,事实上正是这些前军事飞行员给民用飞行员队伍进行了补充,故 C 选项错误。D 选项信息在第五段,该段指出,美国通过了联邦立法,这也阻碍了年轻飞行员的输出。法律规定的其他改变还包括,强制要求到 2013 年,所有进入机舱的商用航空飞行员(副飞行员)都至少拥有 1500 小时的飞行经验,而不是原来所规定的最少 250 小时的飞行经验。这些严格的立法也使得新的飞行员难以进入使用,故 D 选项正确。

#### 3. 答案:B

解析:推断题。信息在第四段。根据该段可知,这是美国议会提出的一项计划,他们将法定退休年龄从60岁提高到了65岁,目的旨在延长那些从越南战场上退役后投入民用航空业的军事飞行员的退休年龄。从中可以推断出,美国议会的该项议案,旨在延长现有飞行员的

工作年限,以应对现在飞行员缺乏的现状。故 B 选项正确,多延长五年现役飞行员的工作年限,是为了缓解飞行员数量紧张的问题。A 选项错误,文中虽然提到这些飞行员是从越南战场上退役后投入民用航空业的,但延长退休年龄不是为了防止他们被别的国家贿赂,文中没有提到相关信息。C 选项说,这项议案是航空公司鼓动美国议会提出的,文中没有相关信息,所以 C 选项错误。D 选项说飞行员认为现在的退休年龄太早了,这在文中也没有体现。

#### 4. 答案: D

解析:推断题。信息在第六段。该段指出,航空业面临的真正问题是年轻人并没有下定决心成为飞行员。原因是想要成为飞行员需要克服身体、情感以及智力的挑战,这需要有上进心的人。这些人会计算一下看看他们的付出和回报是不是相符,结果他们发现回报并没有增加。由此可以推断出,成为一个合格的飞行员需要面临巨大的挑战,而大多数的年轻人没有下定决心去面对这些严格的挑战,而且投入与回报不成比例,因而新的飞行员很少,后继无人才是航空业面临的真正问题。故 D 选项正确。A 选项议会延迟退休年龄不是需要解决的问题,而是在真正的问题解决之前的一项缓解措施。B 选项说训练费用过高,航空公司无法回收成本,这并不是主要的问题,只要新的飞行员接受训练后合格上岗了,投资自然可以回收,所以 B 选项错误。C 选项说仅培训费用就达到 150000 美元所以年轻人很容易放弃培训,这只是放弃培训的一部分原因,还有投入与收获不成比例的这个原因没有提到,故 C 选项错误。

#### 5. 答案:C

解析:主旨题。最后一段前半段提到飞行是"以银制翅膀在天空中跳舞。"那种挣脱束缚以及失重的感觉的确是一种不可思议的美好。但重点还是在后半段,强调飞行员这一职业所承受的压力完全压制了它的潜力,这可能意味着航空业正面临硬着陆。故 A、B 选项错误。C 选项可从最后一句"硬着陆"看出,由于飞行员的缺乏,航空业可能会受到很大挫折,这也是该段的中心思想,故 C 选项正确。D 选项文中只是提到了一句飞行员这一职业所承受的压力完全压制了它的潜力,不是最后一段的重点,故 D 选项错误。

## ❷ 核心词汇 ┐

exasperate [ig'zæsp(ə)reit; eg-] vt. 恶化; 使恼怒;激怒

eliminate [i'limineit] vt. 消除;排除
mandatory ['mændət(ə)ri] n. 受托者(等于
mandatary) adj. 强制的;托管的;命令的
bottleneck ['bɒt(ə)lnek] n. 瓶颈;障碍物
aviator ['eivieitə] n. 飞行员

yoke [jəuk] n. 轭;束缚;牛轭 vt. 结合;给

……上轭 vi. 结合;匹配

**exquisite** ['ekskwizit] *adj*. 精致的;细腻的; 优美的,高雅的;异常的;剧烈的

aeronautical [reərəˈnɔːtikl] adj. 航空的;航空学的

**parlance** ['pa:1(ə) ns] *n*. 说法;用语;语调; 发言

## 长难句解析

- 1. The gate agent may not tell you that's why you're grounded, but a dearth of qualified pilots is disrupting, reducing and even eliminating flights.
  - 结构分析:该句难点主要在于 grounded 的用法, grounded 作动词原意是停, 触地, 作形容词意为 接地的、有基础的。在该句中意思是留在原地。
  - 参考翻译:登机口的检票员不会告诉你这就是你仍待在原地的原因,但有资质的飞行员的稀缺仍在影响着航班飞行、削减着航班数量甚至让航空业破产。
- 2. It takes a very motivated person to meet the physical, emotional and intellectual challenge of becoming a pilot, and that same motivated person does the math looking at what it takes and the return on investment, and it just doesn't add up.
  - 结构分析: It takes sb. to do sth. 该句型意为需要什么样的人来完成某事。do the math 意为盘算一下,该句中盘算的内容 what it takes 以及 the return on investment 是并列的内容。

参考翻译:想要成为飞行员需要克服身体、情感以及智力的挑战,这需要有上进心的人。这些人会计算一下看看他们的付出和回报是不是相符,结果他们发现回报并没有增加。

## □ 参考译文

由于恶劣天气或是机械故障等原因被迫取消航班常常令乘客感到愤怒,但这却是航空业的常态。越来越多的乘客无法到达指定的目的地也是出于另一个原因:飞行员的稀缺。登机口的检票员不会告诉你这就是你仍待在原地的原因,但有资质的飞行员的稀缺仍在影响着航班飞行、削减着航班数量甚至让航空业破产。

除了大范围的航班延误和取消外,从加利福尼亚州的梅德斯托市到梅肯市,至少有 29 家公司自 2013 年起航空业受到了损失,数以百计的公司削减了航班数量。与此同时,没有遭受损失的机场也抱怨他们不能够增加航班以满足当地经济发展的需求。

那么,究竟是什么原因造成了飞行员的短缺呢?首先,搭乘航班的乘客实在是太多了。根据交通部的统计,航空公司在美国 2015 年搭载的乘客数量是创纪录的 8.955 亿人次,比去年增长了 5%。波音公司预测为了满足未来 18 年全球增长的需求,航空业将需要超过 50 万的飞行员。

接下来,你可能会聚焦于全美大约 18000 位飞行员,他们到 2022 年也到了退休年龄。这是美国议会提出的一项计划,他们将法定退休年龄从 60 岁提高到了 65 岁,目的旨在延长所有从越南战场上退役后投入民用航空业的军事飞行员的退休年龄。

2009 年美国布法罗发生了科尔根坠机事件,这起事件在某种程度上是由于机组人员的不规范操作造成的。从那以后,美国便通过了联邦立法,这也阻碍了年轻飞行员的输出。法律规定的其他改变还包括,强制要求到 2013 年,所有进入机舱的商用航空飞行员(副飞行员)都至少拥有 1500 小时的飞行经验,而不是原来所规定的最少 250 小时的飞行经验。

"航空业面临的真正问题是年轻人并没有下定决心成为飞行员,"德尔塔公司飞行员以及

航空飞行员协会会长蒂姆.加诺尔机长表示。"想要成为飞行员需要克服身体、情感以及智力的挑战,这需要有上进心的人。这些人会计算一下看看他们的付出和回报是不是相符,结果他们发现回报并没有增加,"尤其是仅培训费用就达到 150000 美元之时。

飞行员同时也是诗人的约翰.麻吉将指挥飞行描述为"以银制翅膀在天空中跳舞。"那种挣脱束缚以及失重的感觉的确是一种不可思议的美好。但现在,在航空术语中,飞行员这一职业所承受的压力完全压制了它的潜力,这可能意味着航空业正面临硬着陆。

Text 3

A decade ago, Americans began a bold social experiment—welfare to work. From that point, poor families could no longer welfare indefinitely as an entitlement. Instead, parents had to find a job. The reform, controversial enough in America, was criticized in many parts of Europe. Its opponents said that welfare claimants, most of them single mothers, would be unable to find work. They and their families, it was argued, were being condemned to extreme poverty.

Ten years on, such warnings have been proved spectacularly wrong. America's welfare rolls have fallen by over half. A strong economy, generating plenty of jobs, has undoubtedly helped; but the main reason for the steep decline in caseloads is the reform itself. Furthermore, there has been no upsurge in the poverty rate; in fact, it has fallen over the period. Most of the jobs taken by former claimants are poorly paid, but in general they are doing somewhat better than when they were on welfare.

The reform has succeeded by combining sanctions and incentives. The sanctions comprise strict limits on the length of time that benefits are paid. Families are normally not allowed to receive welfare for more than five years and all mothers are expected to work whatever the age of their children, although states can exempt those with a child under one. The incentives include financial support for low-income earners through a more generous Earned Income Tax Credit, which has burgeoned over the past ten years, and much higher public spending on child care.

Several other countries, like Britain, the Netherlands and Denmark, have adopted features of the American reform. The success of their policies in cutting unemployment has helped to convince more resistant countries like France and Germany that they, too, must move away from entitlement to conditionality.

Much more could still be done. In Britain, for example, single parents can remain on welfare until their youngest child is 16. This needs to change. As important, the principles of welfare-to-work can be applied to other working-age people who in many countries have come to depend on welfare through disability payments. Once people are on incapacity benefit, they tend to remain on it. Yet most are able to work. Again, a mixture of

conditionality and in-work support is needed to make reform effective. These principles now lie behind a long-overdue effort in Britain to reduce the number of claimants.

Welfare recipients, whether lone parents or the long-term unemployed or many disability claimants, tend to be poorly educated with few skills. Help with basic learning and training for people re-entering employment is another way in which welfare reform can be improved. And what's even more important is to ensure that children do better in school in the first place.

- 1. Which of the following is true about the "welfare to work" reform in America?
  - A. It aimed to cut government spending on welfare.
  - B. It required all people to work.
  - C. It covered the extremely poor.
  - D. It failed because of the opposition at home and abroad.
- 2. One of the changes brought by the American welfare reform is
  - A. a better-developed economy
  - B. more job opportunities
  - C. a declining poverty level
  - D. improved living standards of people
- 3. Sanctions of welfare reform probably include .
  - A. making benefits less generous
  - B. limiting the age of benefits claimants
  - C. offering support for those unable to work
  - D. boosting financial support for working parents
- 4. According to the author, what could be done in the similar reform of other countries?
  - A. Permitting single parents a longer time on welfare.
  - B. Narrowing down the target population.
  - C. Strengthening work incentives for disabled people.
  - D. Improving the employment potential of welfare recipients.
- 5. Which of the following is the hest title for this text?
  - A. A Bold Attempt Is Half Success.
  - B. The End Justifies the Means.
  - C. Tough Love Works.
  - D. Success Is Infectious.

## 9。 试题解析

1. 答案:C

解析:本题考查事实细节。第一段介绍了美国"从福利到工作"改革的内容及社会的反应。