

主编 张隆胜 张际标

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大学英语 4级考试 模拟题集

COLLEGE ENGLISH TEST
BAND 4

2016年新题型

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2016年新题型

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前言

2015年12月30日,全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会宣布自2016年6月起对四、六级考试的听力部分进行调整;在此之前,2013年8月14日,四、六级考试委员会已对四、六级考试的总体试卷结构和测试题型作了局部调整。两次考试改革概括起来共有四大变化:

1. 四级考试听力部分考试时间改为25分钟。

2. 取消听力部分的短对话和短文听写,取而代之的是三段短篇新闻,第一、第二篇长度为130-140个词,每篇有两个相关问题,第三篇稍长,有三个问题;保留两篇长对话和三篇短文理解,其中长对话增加了一个问题。

3. 快速阅读部分调整为段落信息匹配题,给出的文章含有10个左右的段落。篇章后附有10个句子,每句一题。每句所含的信息出自篇章的某一段落,有的段落可能对应两题,有的段落可能不对应任何一题,要求考生找出与每句所含信息相匹配的段落。

4. 取消完形填空,原单句汉译英调整为段落汉译英,即将一段140-160字左右的中文翻译成英文,翻译内容涉及中国历史、文化、经济、社会发展等。

此次考试改革不仅力度大,而且与国际化考试内容相接轨,更多鼓励学生扩大视野,关注身边发生的时事,这对广大考生无疑是极大的挑战。往年的四级考试真题及模拟题是考生的重要复习资料,但改革后的题型却没有资料可以练手,在这种情况下,依据改革方案及时编写并出版《大学英语四级考试模拟题集》就显得十分必要。

本题集由八套模拟试卷构成,并附有答案、听力文字材料和必要的讲解,提供听力录音MP3下载。题集的题型与改革后的四级题型一致。新题型的参照模板为大学英语四、六级考试委员会所给出的考试样题,所有练习题都是编者在充分领会此次改革意图的基础上,精心设计、字斟句酌、反复推敲而编成。题目着重考查学生的英语应用能力,并尝试让学生用英语更好地阐释我国的文化,旨在让学生充分认识到语言作为文化承载工具的重要性。对于未作调整的题型,编者在细致研究近几年真题的基础上,按照相应的发展趋势编写。本题集的素材均选自国外权威的报纸、杂志及书籍,力图将科学性、时代性、启迪性和实用性融为一体。

在编写过程中,本书编者付出了大量的时间和精力,力求使本题集在形式和难易程度上符合四级考试新题型要求,使之成为考生备考的好帮手。但由于时间紧,难免存在疏漏之处,敬请广大读者不吝赐教,以便我们在以后的修订中不断完善。

编者

2016年1月

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Simulated Test 1

Part I

Writing

(30 minutes)

Directions: For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to write an essay entitled **Student Credit Card** by commenting on the statement, "Credit card companies are like cigarette makers: They want to addict people when they are young." You should write at least 120 words but no more than 180 words. Write your essay on **Answer Sheet 1**.

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡 1 上作答。

Part II

Listening Comprehension

(25 minutes)

Section A

Directions: In this section, you will hear 3 news reports. At the end of each news report, you will hear two or three questions. Both the news report and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D). Then mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 1** with a single line through the centre.

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡 1 上作答。

Questions 1 and 2 will be based on the following news item.

1. A) Residents of Buffalo are missing the heavy snow as usual.
B) Buffalo breaks the previous record for the latest first snow.
C) Weather forecast shows the first snow may come in January.
D) This year's winter season starts in a slightly different way from last year's.
2. A) It's a nickname given to the snow in Buffalo.
B) It exaggerates the amount of snow in winter in Buffalo.
C) It describes the massive snow in Buffalo in November 2014.
D) It shows how much Buffalo residents dislike heavy snow.

Questions 3 and 4 will be based on the following news item.

3. A) Discovery of human teeth fossils in Hunan reveals new migration evidence.
B) Doubts arise about the location of the earliest human fossils.
C) A team of scientists succeeded in finding the remains of the earliest humans.
D) Early humans migrated from Africa to China in many waves.
4. A) Southern Asia. B) Hunan, China.
C) Africa. D) Unknown regions.

Questions 5 to 7 will be based on the following news item.

5. A) Near France. B) Between Africa and South America.
C) Not far from the UK. D) In Europe.
6. A) Everyday. B) Once a week.
C) Once a month. D) Not mentioned.
7. A) Because the charter airline quitted.
B) Because technical problems occurred.
C) Because no Boeing 757 is available now.
D) Because Brown has changed his plan.

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you will hear 2 long conversations. At the end of each conversation, you will hear four questions. Both the conversation and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D). Then mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 1** with a single line through the centre.*

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡 1 上作答。

Conversation One

Questions 8 to 11 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

8. A) He heard it from one of the local doctors.
B) The woman told him the last time they met each other.
C) He guessed it because he happened to see the woman at a clinic.
D) He tried hard to get the information.
9. A) A series of unfortunate things happened to the woman.
B) The woman was confined to hospital for a long time.

- C) The man showed great sympathy but slight impatience.
- D) The woman managed to have sound sleep.

10. A) Because she doesn't want to trouble her daughter.
B) Because the climate there is not good for her breathing issues.
C) Because her daughter's place is not comfortable enough.
D) Because she is too sick to travel there.

11. A) Doctor. B) Nurse. C) Housewife. D) Not mentioned.

Conversation Two

Questions 12 to 15 are based on the conversation you have just heard.

12. A) Professor and student. B) Interviewer and interviewee.
C) Trainer and trainee. D) Director and assistant.
13. A) Excellent. B) Fair. C) Good. D) Poor.
14. A) Because it will assist her in achieving more in her career.
B) Because it will help her go abroad in the future.
C) Because she was forced by the fierce competition.
D) Because she wants to become professional in computer marketing.
15. A) It's possible that the training will last for more than half a year.
B) There will be only one formal exam during the training period.
C) She has to wait for an unspecified period of time to get the result.
D) Chances are high that she will pass the interview.

Section C

Directions: In this section, you will hear 3 passages. At the end of each passage, you will hear some questions. Both the passage and the questions will be spoken only once. After you hear a question, you must choose the best answer from the four choices marked A), B), C) and D). Then mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 1** with a single line through the centre.

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡 1 上作答。

Passage One

Questions 16 to 18 are based on the passage you have just heard.

16. A) \$ 2.22. B) \$ 2.09. C) \$ 2.14. D) \$ 1.

17. A) Because he wants to offer discounts to attract more customers.
B) Because he purchased a large amount of gas at reduced prices two years ago.
C) Because he intends to sell out the gas quickly.
D) Because he cannot stand the increasingly high prices.
18. A) An increasing number of people can't afford to buy cars.
B) Some gas stations have lowered their gas price to attract customers.
C) The traffic often gets blocked near the Seashell station in Arcadia.
D) The increasing prices for gasoline are killing car-owners.

Passage Two

Questions 19 to 21 are based on the passage you have just heard.

19. A) He seeks for legal help.
B) He makes complaint to the school principal.
C) He shows violent emotions.
D) He demands a specific amount of money.
20. A) She has never cut school.
B) She is a sports lover.
C) She is an excellent student.
D) She failed in cooking class.
21. A) Virginia will get an A in cooking eventually.
B) Ms. Smith will go to jail sooner or later.
C) The school principal will remain neutral.
D) They will probably meet in court for this case.

Passage Three

Questions 22 to 25 are based on the passage you have just heard.

22. A) They can't hear their voices.
B) They find the price too high.
C) They can't share their emotions.
D) They find it time-consuming.
23. A) Traditional phone or mobile calling offers the best quality connection.
B) It is complicated to make calling plans or usage minutes.
C) Calling through a computer programme offers great pricing.
D) Few problems occur when people call through a computer programme.
24. A) The prices for domestic and international calls are nearly the same.

- B) WeChat can be installed in cell phone or smartphone.
- C) Mobile minutes will be used whenever people call via WeChat.
- D) Wi-Fi or 3G/4G network makes the call through WeChat uninterrupted.

25. A) In entertainment news. B) In literary comments.
C) In business reports. D) In promotion campaigns.

Part III Reading Comprehension (40 minutes)

Section A

Directions: *In this section, there is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choices. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. Please mark the corresponding letter for each item on **Answer Sheet 2** with a single line through the centre. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.*

Questions 26 to 35 are based on the following passage.

People love their pandas — the black-and-white mammal is perhaps the most recognizable conservation 26 in the world. Possibly as few as 1,600 giant pandas still 27 in the mountainous forests of central China, and more than 300 live with human assistance in various 28 around the globe.

On Friday, Washington, D.C.'s National Zoo welcomed the most recent arrival to the population — a healthy infant born to Mei Xiang. But is the 29 effort and millions of dollars put into breeding the animals really worth it? Some experts say yes, 30 public affections can translate to real conservation action. But others 31 that the money could be better spent on other things, such as preserving 32 environment.

“Everyone is 33 excited about baby pandas because they are so attractive,” said Stuart Pimm, a conservation expert. “So by having pandas in zoos it really is about getting people to care — it really 34 people, and that’s important.” For instance, the Chinese government has protected a substantial fraction of the pandas’ range in Sichuan Province, where people can visit the protected areas and see pandas with their own eyes. “That’s an amazing conservation achievement — more of the pandas’ range is protected than for many other large 35 which are in danger of extinction, and it comes from the fact the pandas have this popular public presence,” Pimm said.

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡 2 上作答。

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| A) disagree | I) species |
| B) wander | J) signal |
| C) considerable | K) facilities |
| D) protecting | L) engages |
| E) symbol | M) claiming |
| F) destroyed | N) essentially |
| G) threatened | O) enormously |
| H) argue | |

Section B

Directions: *In this section, you are going to read a passage with ten statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter. Answer each question by marking the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 2**.*

What Is Your Dog Thinking?

- [A] Your cute companion rests by your side, but is she dreaming of you? Does she feel guilty about stealing your steak off the kitchen counter and eating it for dinner? What is she trying to say with that annoying bark? Does she smile to you today? After decades of research, *neuroscientists* (神经系统学家) have begun to answer such questions, giving us access to the once-secret inner lives of our cute companions and even translating their barks and wags so mere humans can understand them. At the forefront of this effort is Stanley Coren, a behaviourist from the University of British Columbia, who draws on decades of research to explore the psychological motivations behind dogs' everyday behaviours.
- [B] Dogs have the same brain structures that produce emotions in humans. They have the same *hormones* (荷尔蒙) and undergo the same chemical changes that humans do during emotional states. Dogs even have what in humans is involved with love and affection. However, it is important not to go overboard: The mind of a dog is roughly equivalent to that of a human who is 2 to 2½ years old. A child that age clearly has emotions, but not all possible emotions, since many emerge later in the path to adulthood.
- [C] Dogs go through their developmental stages much more quickly than humans do, attaining their full emotional range by the time they are 4 to 6 months old. A dog has the basic emotions: joy, fear, anger, disgust, excitement, contentment, distress, and even love. A dog does not have, and will not develop, more complex emotions, like guilt, pride, contempt, and shame, however. You might argue that your dog has shown evidence of feeling guilty. In the usual case, you come home and your dog starts avoiding you and showing discomfort and you then find his smelly brown deposit on your kitchen floor. It is natural to conclude that the dog's actions show a sense of guilt about its ill behaviour.

However, this is simply the more basic emotion of fear. The dog has learned that when you appear and his droppings are visible on the floor, bad things happen to him. He will also never feel shame, so feel free to dress him in that ridiculous party costume.

- [D] Many people believe that dogs have dreams. Most dog owners have noticed that at various times during sleep, some dogs may quiver, suddenly move a leg, even utter angry sounds or snap at a sleep-created evil image, giving the impression that they are dreaming about something. At the structural level, the brains of dogs are similar to those of humans. In addition, during sleep the brain-wave patterns of dogs are similar to people's, and they exhibit the same stages of electrical activity that are observed in humans — all of which is consistent with the idea that dogs are dreaming.
- [E] Actually, it would be surprising if dogs didn't dream, since recent evidence suggests that animals simpler and less intelligent than dogs seem to do so. Neuroscientists Matthew Wilson and Kenway Louie of Massachusetts Institute of Technology have evidence that the brains of sleeping rats function in a way that definitely suggests dreaming. Much of the dreaming you do at night is associated with the activities you engaged in that day. The same seems to be the case in rats.
- [F] From studies of electrical recordings of the rats made while the rats were awake and learning a maze, Wilson and Louie found that some electrical patterns were quite specific and could be identified, depending on what the rat was doing. Later, when the rats were asleep and their brain waves indicated that they had entered the stage in which humans normally dream, these same electrical patterns appeared. The patterns were so clear and specific that the researchers were able to tell where in the maze the rat would be if it were awake, and whether it would be moving or standing still. Since a dog's brain is more complex than a rat's and shows the same electrical sequences, it is reasonable to assume that dogs dream as well.
- [G] There is also evidence that they dream about common dog activities. The human brain stem contains a special structure that keeps us from acting out our dreams. When scientists removed or inactivated this same part of the brain in dogs, they observed that the dogs began to move around, even though electrical recordings of the dogs' brains indicated that they were still fast asleep. The animals started to move only when the brain entered that stage of sleep associated with dreaming. During the course of a dream episode, the dogs actually began to execute the actions they were performing in their dreams. There is also an odd fact that small dogs have more dreams than big dogs do.
- [H] In the minds of most people, the equivalent of a dog's smiling is when he is wagging his tail. But there is actually one facial expression that comes close to what we mean by smiling in humans. In this expression, slightly opened jaws reveal the dog's tongue hanging over his front teeth. Frequently the eyes take on a teardrop shape at the same time, as if being pulled upward slightly at the outer corners. It is a casual expression that is usually seen when the dog is relaxed, playing, or interacting socially, especially with people.
- [I] Dogs are also capable of laughing, and they typically do so when they are playing. The

laughter begins with the doggy equivalent of smiling but also includes a sound that is much like heavy breathing. Several years ago, animal behaviourist Patricia Simonet at Sierra Nevada College recorded those sounds while dogs played. In one experiment, Simonet noticed that puppies ran around for joy when they heard recordings of these sounds; in another, she was able to show that these same sounds helped to calm dogs in an animal shelter.

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡 2 上作答。

36. Unlike humans, dogs develop and become mature in emotions at a much higher rate.
37. Scientific evidence has proven at structural level that dogs dream during sleep.
38. The mind of a dog is similar to that of an infant.
39. Electrical patterns recorded in the studies provide further evidence that dogs dream.
40. The implications behind the barks, thoughts, and dreams of dogs are beginning to be unveiled by scientists.
41. When you hear a dog breathing heavily, it's very likely that he is laughing.
42. What you see is the dog's fear of punishment; he will never feel guilty.
43. When the dog feels at ease, his mouth opens and you can see his tongue.
44. If a dog is dreaming during sleep, he will probably act out what he is performing in his dream.
45. A rat that ran a maze during the day might be expected to dream about it at night.

Section C

Directions: *There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 2** with a single line through the centre.*

Passage One

Questions 46 to 50 are based on the following passage.

Poverty and the all-consuming worry that comes with it require so much mental energy that the poor have little brain power left to devote to other areas of life, according to the findings of

an international study published on Thursday.

Harvard economist Sendhil Mullainathan finds that the mental strain could be costing poor people up to 13 IQ (Intelligence Quotient) points, which means they are more likely to make mistakes and bad decisions that increase and keep their financial worries. “The results suggest that when you are poor, money is not the only thing in short supply. *Cognitive* (认知的) capacity is also stretched thin,” he said.

In a series of experiments, researchers from Harvard, Princeton and other universities in North America and from Britain’s University of Warwick found that urgent financial worries had an immediate impact on poor people’s ability to perform well in cognitive and logic tests. Far from signaling that poor people are stupid, the results suggest those living on a tight budget have their effective brain power, or what the researchers called “mental bandwidth”, highly limited by the stress of making ends meet. On average, someone weighed down by money worries showed a drop in cognitive function in one part of the study that was comparable to a 13-point drop in IQ, and similar to the performance deficit expected from someone who has missed a whole night’s sleep.

“Previous views of poverty have blamed it on personal failings, on an environment that is not helpful to success,” said Jiaying Zhao, an assistant professor of psychology. “We are arguing that the lack of financial resources itself can lead to less active cognitive function,” she said.

Professor Eldar Shafir said it was not stress in general, but financial worries in particular, that led to a reduced ability to make sound decisions. “The poor are often highly effective at focusing on and dealing with urgent problems,” he said. “But they don’t have leftover bandwidth to devote to other tasks. So, if you live in poverty, you’re more likely to make errors and errors cost you more dearly — it’s hard to find a way out.”

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡 2 上作答。

46. What is Sendhil Mullainathan’s view of being poor?
- A) Mental stress resulting from poverty may lead to many side effects.
 - B) Loss of IQ points is the direct result of being poor.
 - C) Poverty may enhance people’s cognitive capacity.
 - D) Financial worries will decrease if people don’t make mistakes.
47. How can we define “mental bandwidth” (Line 5, Para. 3) according to the researchers?
- A) The ability to calculate IQ points.
 - B) The ability to exercise one’s brain power effectively.
 - C) The ability to make ends meet.
 - D) The ability to reduce mental stress.
48. The experimental results show _____.
- A) poor people prove to be less intelligent
 - B) mental bandwidth is affected by how much money one earns
 - C) cognitive function can be evaluated by IQ points

- D) poor people and sleepy people have similar performance
49. What does Jiaying Zhao say about the cause of poverty?
- A) Personal failings should account for poverty.
 - B) Negative environment itself can reduce people to poverty.
 - C) Poverty remains when people lose cognitive function.
 - D) Cognitive function is directly related to financial conditions.
50. What does Eldar Shafir's remark imply?
- A) Poor people are not likely to make sound decisions.
 - B) Poor people are good at dealing with urgencies.
 - C) It's like a circle in which poor people tend to always be trapped in poverty.
 - D) Leftover bandwidth is essential for poor people to make more money.

Passage Two

Questions 51 to 55 are based on the following passage.

Over the past half century, parenthood has undergone a change so simple yet so profound that we are only beginning to grasp its implications. It is clear that we have our children much later than we used to. This has come to seem perfectly unremarkable; indeed, we take note of it only when celebrities push it to extremes — when Tony Randall has his first child at 77; Larry King, his fifth child by his seventh wife at 66; Elizabeth Edwards, her last child at 50.

These, though, are the headlines. The real story is less exciting. That women become mothers later than they used to will surprise no one. All you have to do is study the faces of the women pushing baby strollers, especially on the streets of coastal cities or suburban areas. American first-time mothers have aged about four years since 1970 — as of 2010, they were 25.4 as opposed to 21.5. That average, of course, blurs a lot of regional, ethnic, and educational variation. The average new mother from Massachusetts, for instance, was 28; the Mississippian was 22.9. The Asian American first-time mother was 29.1; the African American 23.1. A college-educated woman had a better than one-in-three chance of having her first child at 30 or older; the odds that a woman with less education would wait that long were no better than one in ten.

It badly misstates the phenomenon to associate it only with women: Fathers have been getting older at the same rate as mothers. First-time fathers have been about three years older than first-time mothers for several decades, and they still are. The average American man is between 27 and 28 when he becomes a father. Meanwhile, as the U. S. birth rate falls due to the recession, only men and women over 40 have kept having more babies than they did in the past.

The prevailing trend of older parenthood tells us a great deal more about how we'll be living in the coming years: what our families and our workforce will look like, how healthy we'll be, and also — not to be too optimistic about it — the future well-being of the human race.

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡 2 上作答。

51. What change has parenthood undergone over the past half century?
- A) Parents decide to have more children.
 - B) Celebrities prefer to have children when they are old.
 - C) People tend to postpone the time to have children.
 - D) Parents are forced to have children later in life.
52. Which of the following is NOT true about first-time mothers?
- A) In 1970, American first-time mothers aged about 21.5.
 - B) The average age of first-time mothers covers a series of variation.
 - C) Asian American first-time mothers are 6 years older than African American ones.
 - D) Women with higher education are more likely to have children late than the less educated.
53. Men are also involved in the trend as is shown in that _____.
- A) the same number of fathers are getting older compared to women
 - B) American men become fathers in their late twenties on average
 - C) recession forces men to wait until they can afford to have children
 - D) men can afford to have children only when they are over 40
54. The prevailing trend of older parenthood will influence many aspects in our life EXCEPT _____.
- A) family conditions
 - B) labor formation
 - C) physical well-being
 - D) life attitude
55. What is the most suitable title for this article?
- A) Influence from Old Parenthood
 - B) Concern over Old Parenthood
 - C) Old Parenthood — An Unwise Choice
 - D) Old Parenthood — An Inevitable Trend

Part IV

Translation

(30 minutes)

Directions: For this part, you are allowed 30 minutes to translate a passage from Chinese into English. You should write your answer on **Answer Sheet 2**.

一家咨询公司的报告显示,2015年,中国有望取代美国,成为世界上最大的电子商务市场。中国国内网络的普及,网络消费者人数的迅速增长,以及相对较低的物流(logistics)成本,促进了中国电子商务的发展。对很多人来说,浏览最爱的购物网站已经成为每天必做的事情。电子商务也扩展到了中国的很多产业领域,如农业、贸易、交通、财经、旅游等。

注意:此部分试题请在答题卡2上作答。

Simulated Test 1 答题卡1

学校:

姓名:

填涂要求

正确填涂方式

错误填涂方式

☒ ☐ ☐ ☐

请将试题册背面条形码粘贴
条揭下后粘贴到以下框内

条形碼黏貼位置

一旦粘貼請勿撕下

准 考 证 号

[illegible]

Part I

Writing

(请于正式开考后半小时内完成该部分,之后将进行听力考试)

(30 minutes)

必须使用黑色字迹签字笔书写，在答题区域内作答，超出以下红色矩形边框限定区域的答案无效。

从此处开始作答