2011

考研英语

历年真题阅读理解

精读笔记

主编：中国人民大学

郭崇兴

适合英语（一）考生　英语（二）考生可参考

- 重点单词 统计出现频率
- 难句剖析 化解阅读障碍
- 答案解析 指点解题秘诀
- 全文精译 帮助理解原文

全面剖析近15年真题阅读理解

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内容简介

本书严格按照最新考研英语大纲英语(一)(非英语专业)和1995年至2010年的考研英语真题编写而成。围绕考研英语历年真题阅读理解Part A部分进行剖析,帮助考生迅速全面提高考研英语阅读水平和应试能力。内容包括历年真题阅读理解Part A每篇文章的大纲词汇和超纲词汇(并且精确统计出每个单词在历年真题中出现的次数)、文中的长难句以及相应的语法结构分析、每道题目答题方法的详细解析及相关知识点、阅读原文的精准翻译。适合所有参加英语(一)的考研学生,参加英语(二)的考研学生可参考本书。作者郭崇兴是考研辅导顶级名师。

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新大纲英语（一）、英语（二）说明及对考研英语阅读理解的要求

一、新大纲英语（一）、英语（二）说明

英语（一）：原统考“英语”更名为“英语（一）”，除继续供统考使用外，部分专业学位类别也可选用“英语（一）”。

英语（二）：供 19 个专业学位类别中的部分专业类别使用。

为更好地适应国家经济建设和社会发展对高层次应用型人才的迫切需要，增强研究生教育服务经济社会发展的能力，教育部决定，要加快研究生教育结构调整、优化的步伐，扩大专业学位研究生招生规模，加强应用型人才的选拔和培养力度，促进人才培养与社会需求的有效衔接。

硕士研究生教育按照培养目标的不同，分为学术型研究生和专业学位研究生。学术型研究生的培养目标是高层次学术研究型专门人才，专业学位研究生的培养目标是掌握某一专业（或职业）领域坚实的基础理论和宽广的专业知识，具有较强的解决实际问题的能力，能够承担专业技术或管理工作，具有良好的职业素养的高层次应用型专门人才。

专业学位研究生招生考试模式确定为“分列招生计划、分类报名考试、分别确定录取标准”，初试考试科目按照与学术型研究生招生“科目对应、分值相等、内容区别”的原则设置，具体为思想政治理论、外国语、基础课、专业基础课四个单元（少数专业学位设置思想政治理论、外国语、基础课三个单元或外国语、综合能力两个单元）。

根据专业学位研究生选拔特点和培养要求，初试外国语设置“英语（二）”供 19 个专业学位类别中的部分专业类别使用，原统考“英语”更名为“英语（一）”，除继续供统考使用外，部分专业学位类别也可选用“英语（一）”。

二、新大纲英语（一）对考研英语阅读理解的要求

考生应能读懂选自各类书籍和报刊的不同类型的文字材料（生词量不超过所读材料总词汇量的 3%），还应能读懂与本人学习或工作有关的文献资料、技术说明和产品介绍等。对所读材料，考生应能：1）理解主旨要义；2）理解文中的具体信息；3）理解文中的概念性含义；4）进行有关的判断、推理和引申；5）根据上下文推测生词的词义；6）理解文章的总体结构以及上下文之间的关系；7）理解作者的意图、观点或态度；8）区分论点和论据。

三、新大纲英语（二）对考研英语阅读理解的要求

考生应能读懂不同题材和体裁的文字材料。题材包括经济、管理、社会、文化、科普等，体裁包括说明文、议论文和记叙文等。根据阅读材料，考生应能：（1）理解主旨要义；（2）理解文中的具体信息；（3）理解语篇的结构和上下文的逻辑关系；（4）根据上下文推断重要生词或词组的含义；（5）进行一定的判断和推理；（6）理解作者的意图、观点或态度。

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我对考研英语的一些看法

笔者分析，影响考研英语做题速度、成绩的症结，主要有以下原因：

首先是单词。第一是生词（目前你还没有掌握的单词）；第二是熟词僻义的单词（主要是中国人不常用，但在考研真题中经常出现的单词）；第三是长难单词（需要花时间看词根前后缀再分析出单词意思，比短单词浪费几倍时间）。

其次就是词组和不常见的习语。这也是出题的重点，需要根据上下文来分析其意思。

最后就是长难句。无论单词还是词组，都是为看懂句子、文章服务的。可是阅读中遇到的最大障碍就是长难句，只有破译了长难句，考研才能得高分。

克服了以上难关只能保证你看懂文章，但是，假如你还想得高分，就需要仔细研究历年真题的出题思路和解题方法（特别是阅读理解），不能仅仅把历年真题当作模拟试题来做，而应当把历年真题当作考研精读材料，仔细分析每一篇文章，首先分析其中的大纲词汇、超纲词汇（对应的大纲词汇是什么）、有无熟词僻义单词（不常用的词义，不常用的词性）、重点语法现象（长难句、经典句型、写作可以借鉴的句型）等等，然后再分析答案选项（对的为什么对，错的为什么错，对错都要有理由，阅读理解出题点在何处），只有经过如此细致的分析，才可以说，你算是开始真正“精读”历年真题了。

对于单词的学习，《考研英语词汇真题词频语境记忆》精读版和背诵版足以让考生掌握考研英语的所需词汇。对于词组的学习，可以参阅《考研英语必记词组》。而关于历年真题阅读理解的研究，本书足矣。如果想全方位深入研读历年真题，推荐参阅《2011 考研英语 15 年真题名师全解》一书，此书内容全面，对各类题型均进行了详尽的解析。

郭崇兴

2010 年 2 月

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众所周知，英语往往是决定考研成败的一门重要公共课。对于大部分考研学生来说，想考好英语必须经历很长时间的有效复习。英语不能靠临时抱佛脚来过关，而需要单词、语法、阅读、写作等综合能力同时提高。看起来仅仅是一张 100 分的卷子，要考好却需花费更多的努力。

那么，考研英语到底该如何复习呢？其实最好的方法就是根据历年真题老老实实去记单词、做阅读和写作文。而其中阅读又是考研英语的重中之重，得阅读者得天下，所以考生一定要重视。

很多人对英语阅读应该如何去读、如何去解题没有一个系统的方法，其实决定阅读成绩的是阅读实力和阅读方法，而不是阅读技巧。经济学中有个众所周知的“木桶理论”：决定盛水量的是箍成木桶的最短的木条。英语阅读中，阅读实际能力就是短木条，而阅读技巧是长木条。所以，在阅读复习的前中期一定要立足于提高实际能力，着重阅读方法，注重快速阅读中把握线索的能力等。阅读提高不在于读很多文章，而是要精读：即真正读懂每一篇文章，理解每道题正确选项为什么正确，错误选项为什么错误。

无论考研英语高分者或是考研辅导名师都不得不承认一个事实：历年真题才是最好的复习资料。考生可以什么书都没有，但必须要有一本历年真题。真题的利用价值很大，从这些题中可以分析出考研的出题方式、出题角度和难度等，其好处有二：其一，历年真题都是很多命题专家仔细斟酌讨论的结果，虽然考过的题不会再考，但对其进行分析思考有助于了解命题思路，把握考题走向，掌握解题方法；其二，分析历年真题，使考生明确考题的难度、特点等，有助于挑选接近真题的练习题、模拟题。所以，每个考生都要对其仔细琢磨（而不仅仅是做做而已）。以往考研成功者的经验均是：反复地利用真题熟悉考试思路，直到弄懂每一个词、每一句话、每一个选项为止。研究真题的效果很明显，只要你找到个中关键所在，那么对阅读就一通百通了。对于真题建议大家至少仔细研读三遍。

实践证明，精读历年考研英语的阅读真题是提高阅读成绩最行之有效的手段。所谓精读，就是对阅读真题进行全面剖析，不仅牢记词汇和分析难句，使自己的语言水平得到提高，而且破解各种题型的解题思路，使自己永远立于不败之地。

基于以上思想，本书严格按照最新考研英语大纲英语（一）（非英语专业）和 1995 年至 2010 年的考研英语真题编写而成，围绕考研英语历年真题阅读理解 Part A 部分进行剖析，帮助考生迅速全面提高考研英语阅读水平和应试能力。本书内容包括历年真题阅读 Part A 每篇文章的大纲词汇和超纲词汇（并且精确统计出每个单词在历年真题中出现的次数）、文中的长难句以及相应的语法结构分析、每道题目答题方法的详细解析及相关知识点、阅读原文的精准翻译。

在此，笔者有一点需要提醒广大考生：阅读本书必须先做题，再看解析、核对答案。如果倒过来就毫无意义！做题时必须限制时间，每篇文章大约 17 ~ 20 分钟，四篇文章控制在 70 ~ 80分钟，做完后必须花时间去分析文章、背诵单词、分析长难句、核对答案、研读解析，并且要仔细研究译文。绝对不能对对答案就完了，这样你即使做一千篇，英语的成绩提高也是很渺茫的！

考研是非常辛苦的，但是只要方法得当，一定能事半功倍。希望所有考生都能在硕士研究生入学统一考试中取得好成绩！

郭崇兴于北京
2010 年 2 月

众所周知,考研是人生的一次重新洗牌和重大机遇,而在考研的四门课程中,英语成了许多考生前进征途上的一只凶猛的拦路虎和十分困难的羁绊与障碍。

详细分析历年考研英语试卷,又可以发现主要矛盾在于阅读(占 60% 的分数),故可谓:得阅读者得天下。阅读的 60 分细分为 Part A、Part B 和 Part C,其中 Part A 为四篇阅读理解,占 40 分,是阅读理解考试中的主战场。那么,阅读 Part A 有没有什么技巧呢?

技巧一:看懂

阅读理解其实主要考的是"阅读"之后的"理解",所以,看得懂乃是第一项技巧。

任何一篇文章,若要能看懂它,至少需要两个条件:认识单词和看明白句子。单词就像盖房的砖瓦,考研词汇大约为 5500 个,这不是一个小数字,也并非三两天时间可以记住的,所以,考生必须先买一本考研英语词汇书进行系统、长期的学习和记忆。(推荐《考研英语词汇真题词频语境记忆》,该书打破了传统考研词汇书按字母顺序排序的做法,而是采用历年真题作为单词出现频率的统计依据,将所有大纲单词及超纲单词按照历年真题出现的频率从高到低排列,而且全部按照考过的不同词义配不同的真题例句,可以使学生用最少的时间获得最好的学习效率。)

拿到词汇书之后,首先用大约一周的时间把这些单词中你根本不认识的挑出来,如 rear, tedious, deteriorate, plausible, jargon, isotope, …(因为这些单词你可能完全不认识,看到之后两眼漆黑,所以称之为"黑"字)。"黑"字是阅读的头一个障碍,单词不认识,句子当然看不懂,所以,消灭"黑"字是当务之急。(争取用一个月左右的时间消灭它们!)

考研词汇中,除"黑"字外,还有大量意思非常明白的所谓"白"字,如:able, benefit, culture, space, topic, …。此类单词可一掠而过,除"黑"(完全不认识)和"白"(完全明白)字两类外,还有许多似会不会的"灰"字,如:treaty, tutor, sample, saddle, fuss, …。甚至还有大量你觉得会但其实并非如此的"灰"字,如:spring 除了"春天"之外,还当"泉水"、"弹簧"讲;account 除了"账户",还作"原因;理由;解释;说明;报告;占……"解;affect 除了"爱,深情"之外,还有"做作"之义。背诵单词时,一定要多看词汇书中所给的例句才能牢记其意义。

除单词外,有时句子太长也会对阅读造成致命的伤害,如:

If you add to this the effects of a sonar set mounted in the small nose of a torpedo rushing through the water at speeds up to 80 miles per hour with its consequent noise and vibration, plus hullborne vibrations from the power plant, it can be seen that only the most advanced electronic filtering gives any chance of success.

看完此句,很多考生如坠云里雾中,不知所云。其实,看懂长难句有点像撒网捕鱼,收网时应收紧网绳(叫纲),渔网自然会合拢。不要去乱抓网眼(那叫目)。看长难句亦应该做到"纲举目张",先找句子的骨架(主 + 谓 + 宾),再解决修饰成分(定、状等)。

此句 it 后为主句,但 it 不是其真正主语,叫形式主语,真正主语为后边的 that 从句,一般来说,英语的"主 + 谓 + 宾"也应像汉语那样按顺序排列,主语放谓语前,即:"只有最先进的电子过滤器才有成功的可能这一点可以被看得很明白。"(形式主语 it 不必译)但英译汉中,应尽量少用被动句型。所以,此句可译为:"可以很清楚地看出:只有最先进的电子过滤器才有可能获得成功"。(形式主语 it 不必译)

it 前边不是句子的主要部分,而是一个由 if 所引导的长长的状语从句。(如果说主 + 谓 + 宾是树干的话,定、状则像树叶,要繁杂和麻烦得多。)在整个 if…这样一个句子构成的状语中,if you (主语) add (谓语) the effect to this (双宾语) 为基本框架;那第二个宾语为何要倒过来呢?因为第

一个宾语 effects 后面跟了那么长那么多的定语(注意:英语常将定语写在名词后,这一点与中文大相径庭:中文的定语一律放在名词前)。

第一个定语为介词词组"of a sonar set",修饰 effects,译为:"一套声呐设施的效果";第二个定语为"mounted in the small nose",过去分词当定语:"被安装在一个小鼻子上的";第三个定语"of a torpedo":"一个鱼雷的";第四个定语"rushing…"译为:"以每小时 80 英里速度穿行于水里的";后边还有一个"with…"("plus…"为两逗号间的插入语)英文定语在名词后,中文却将定语放在名词 effects 前边。若定语不止一个,常采用倒着翻译的方法,我们称之为"倒解连环"。

故整句意思为:

"如果你把带着巨大噪音和震动的、以每小时 80 英里速度穿过水中的一个鱼雷的鼻尖部位上所安装的一套声呐设备的效果也加进去考虑的话,再加上还有由电机部分所造成的外壳的震动,那么,可以清楚地看到:只有最先进的电子过滤器才有可能获得成功。"

这就是考研英语的实情,怪不得每年的百万考研大军中,过 60 分者寥寥无几,每年也只有 18% 左右,英语考得好的同学,前途自然也比其他人更为光明。

大家切记,英语的句子中,"主 + 谓 + 宾"基本与中文一致,是按顺序摆放的,而定、状语经常倒着放,又长又多,比主、谓、宾要难很多。定、状语放好了,句子才能看明白,想看懂阅读理解中的长难句,语法基本功一定要扎实。

技巧二:选题

看懂文章之后,还有一个如何选题的问题,所以第二项技巧是选题问题。

众所周知,读完文章之后就要对文章后面的问题作出选择:是选 A 呢?还是选 B、C?还是选 D?许多考生说,文章有时看懂了,题就是选不对。其实选题也是大有技巧的,阅读的问题基本上分为五大类:

1. **主旨题(又称中心思想题)**:这类题基本上是问 main idea,或 best title 是什么;也可以问作者写此文章的 purpose 何在;或问此文的 conclusion 可总结为什么。碰到这类题最简单的方法是把文中每段的首句串起来考虑。若是仅问其中某一段的中心思想为何,则可将该段的首、尾句加起来考虑。

2. **词汇题(又称词语释义题)**:这类题常问考生一些不认识、从未见过的生词或词组的意思是什么。解题技巧为参考上下文,尤其是下文。因为下文常常是对该词的解释、说明、举例等。

3. **作者态度题**:常问作者对某事是什么态度:主观(subjective)还是客观(objective);肯定(positive)还是否定(negative);赞成(approval)还是反对(opposition)等。解题的关键是要看作者在文中用了什么样的口气。若用褒义词,显然是赞成。若用贬义词,显然是反对。若客观陈述,则是中性的立场,不偏不倚。注意:作者态度常常在转折词后表明出来。所以,but 一词至关重要(还有类似的 yet,however,although,nevertheless 等)。

4. **推理性问题**:其典型词有两个:infer 和 imply。如:What can you infer from the story? 或 What is the implied meaning of this sentence?

切记,推理性问题原文中没有现成的答案。答案是你自己推想出来的,但不能凭空瞎想,必须以原文中某句话或某个词语为依据合理推测才能找到合适的答案。

注意:以上四种题型顶多占阅读理解考试总分的 1/4 左右,而其他约 30 分的题都属于以下提到的:细节性问题!

5. **细节性问题**:(声明:本书中没有指出题型的,大多为细节题)

此类题占阅读总分 40 分中的 30 分左右,因此十分重要。注意,这类问题与推理性问题截然相反,都可以从原文中找到答案,只不过为了迷惑考生,常常将原文进行改写,换一种说法。所以,照抄原文,一字不改的不一定就是答案,而与原文意思相同的,才是正确的。

除了将文章看懂,把题目选对之外,阅读理解还有两个非常重要的注意事项:速度与步骤。

技巧三:速度

大家都知道,仅仅把题选对是不够的,因为考试还有时间的限制。(你就算选对,每篇文章花 1 个小时那能行吗?!)记住,考试总共 180 分钟,四篇阅读最多占 70 ~ 80 分钟(即 17 ~ 20 分钟一

篇),其余时间还要分配给作文、翻译、英语知识运用等。

那么,对于速度过慢的考生,郭老师有什么建议呢?

第一,加大词汇量,这样读起来才会势如破竹,一气呵成。若生词太多,自然会磕磕绊绊,走不了太快。

第二,阅读中最忌讳的是一个字一个字地去读,那样又慢又差。正确的方法是用眼去抓句子的大致结构(叫意群阅读法)。还记得前面那个长难句吗?郭老师并没有孤零零地去看每一个词,而是先找到了 it 后面的主句;前头的 if 句虽然很长,只不过是个状语而已。而在主句中,我又抓住了它的主语 that only the most advanced electronic filtering gives any chance of success 和谓语 can be seen。这种提纲挈领式的读法,不仅可以使速度加快,更可以使准确率提高。

第三,考研是一场艰苦卓绝的拼搏。考研英语又比四、六级要难,所以保持头脑清醒和旺盛的斗志也至关重要。因此,考试前一天晚上的充足睡眠十分重要,可以在考场上保持敏锐、清醒的头脑,这对提高速度和专注精力大有裨益!

技巧四:步骤

阅读的步骤也十分重要。许多考生拿到文章之后从头读起,读完再去一个一个选答案。这种方法十分传统,称为整体阅读法。其优点是可以有一种全局感或整体感。缺点是文章太长,读后细节记不住,再去找答案又费劲又容易出错,许多细节都混淆在一起了,得分经常不高。郭老师建议同学们用一下查找阅读法:读完第一段就做第一题。然后看第二个问题问的是什么,带着这个问题去看第二段,然后是第三段、第四段,依此类推。(注意,有一种问题可能此方法不太适用,那就是:主旨性问题。)查找式阅读法虽然把文章看得支离破碎,但得分往往很高,因为你刚看一段就去做一道题,这样记得住细节,抓得很准,广大考生不妨一试!

在开始研究历年真题阅读理解之前,有一件特别重要的事必须提醒广大读者:要使自己的阅读水平真正提高,必须先做题,后看答案和解析。如果顺序颠倒过来,那么阅读水平丝毫得不到提高。做题时间为每篇文章 17 至 20 分钟,Part A 四篇文章时间控制在 70 ~ 80 分钟。下面,以 2010 年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题中的阅读理解题为开篇,请同学们以这几篇真题阅读文章为练习,在规定的时间内,检测自己的真实水平。参考答案及详细解析请参阅《2011 考研英语 15 年真题名师全解》一书(主编郭崇兴,北京航空航天大学出版社出版)。无论做的结果如何,都保持一种从零开始的心态,认真研读此书,一定会获益匪浅!

2010

Text 1

Of all the changes that have taken place in English-language newspapers during the past quarter-century, perhaps the most far-reaching has been the inexorable decline in the scope and seriousness of their arts coverage.

It is difficult to the point of impossibility for the average reader under the age of forty to imagine a time when high-quality arts criticism could be found in most big-city newspapers. Yet a considerable number of the most significant collections of criticism published in the 20th century consisted in large part of newspaper reviews. To read such books today is to marvel at the fact that their learned contents were once deemed suitable for publication in general-circulation dailies.

We are even farther removed from the unfocused newspaper reviews published in England between the turn of the 20th century and the eve of World War II, at a time when newsprint was dirt-cheap and stylish arts criticism was considered an ornament to the publications in which it appeared. In those far-off days, it was taken for granted that the critics of major papers would write in detail and at length about the events they covered. Theirs was a serious business, and even those reviewers who wore their learning lightly, like George Bernard Shaw and Ernest Newman, could be trusted to know what they were about. These men believed in journalism as a calling, and were proud to be published in the daily press. "So few authors have brains enough or literary gift enough to keep their own end up in journalism," Newman wrote, "that I am tempted to define 'journalism' as 'a term of contempt applied by writers who are not read to writers who are'."

Unfortunately, these critics are virtually forgotten. Neville Cardus, who wrote for the *Manchester Guardian* from 1917 until shortly before his death in 1975, is now known solely as a writer of essays on the game of cricket. During his lifetime, though, he was also one of England's foremost classical-music critics, and a stylist so widely admired that his *Autobiography* (1974) became a best-seller. He was knighted in 1967, the first music critic to be so honored. Yet only one of his books is now in print, and his vast body of writings on music is unknown save to specialists.

Is there any chance that Cardus's criticism will enjoy a revival? The prospect seems remote. Journalistic tastes had changed long before his death, and postmodern readers have little use for the richly

upholstered Victorian prose in which he specialized. Moreover, the amateur tradition in music criticism has been in headlong retreat.

21. It is indicated in Paragraphs 1 and 2 that _____

[A] arts criticism has disappeared from big-city newspapers.
[B] English-language newspapers used to carry more arts reviews.
[C] high-quality newspapers retain a large body of readers.
[D] young readers doubt the suitability of criticism on dailies.

22. Newspaper reviews in England before World War II were characterized by _____

[A] free themes. [B] casual style.
[C] elaborate layout. [D] radical viewpoints.

23. Which of the following would Shaw and Newman most probably agree on?

[A] It is writers' duty to fulfill journalistic goals.
[B] It is contemptible for writers to be journalists.
[C] Writers are likely to be tempted into journalism.
[D] Not all writers are capable of journalistic writing.

24. What can be learned about Cardus according to the last two paragraphs?

[A] His music criticism may not appeal to readers today.
[B] His reputation as a music critic has long been in dispute.
[C] His style caters largely to modern specialists.
[D] His writing fail to follow the amateur tradition.

25. What would be the best title for the text?

[A] Newspapers of the Good Old Days [B] The Lost Horizon in Newspapers
[C] Mournful Decline of Journalism [D] Prominent Critics in Memory

Text 2

Over the past decade, thousands of patents have been granted for what are called business methods. Amazon. com received one for its "one-click" online payment system. Merrill Lynch got legal protection for an asset allocation strategy. One inventor patented a technique for lifting a box.

Now the nation's top patent court appears completely ready to scale back on business-method patents, which have been controversial ever since they were first authorized 10 years ago. In a move that has intellectual-property lawyers abuzz, the U. S Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit said it would use a particular case to conduct a broad review of business-method patents. *In re Bilski*, as the case is known, is "a very big deal," says Dennis D. Crouch of the University of Missouri School of Law. It "has the potential to eliminate an entire class of patents."

Curbs on business-method claims would be a dramatic about-face, because it was the Federal Circuit itself that introduced such patents with its 1998 decision in the so-called State Street Bank case, approving a patent on a way of pooling mutual-fund assets. That ruling produced an explosion in business-method patent filings, initially by emerging Internet companies trying to stake out exclusive rights to specific types of online transactions. Later, more established companies raced to add such patents to their files, if only as a defensive move against rivals that might beat them to the punch. In 2005, IBM noted in a court filing that it had been issued more than 300 business-method patents, despite the fact that it questioned the legal basis for granting them. Similarly, some Wall Street investment firms armed themselves with patents for financial products, even as they took positions in court cases opposing the practice.

The Bilski case involves a claimed patent on a method for hedging risk in the energy market. The Federal Circuit issued an unusual order stating that the case would be heard by all 12 of the court's judges, rather than a typical panel of three, and that one issue it wants to evaluate is whether it should "reconsider" its State Street Bank ruling.

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The Federal Circuit's action comes in the wake of a series of recent decisions by the Supreme Court that has narrowed the scope of protections for patent holders. Last April, for example, the justices signaled that too many patents were being upheld for "inventions" that are obvious. The judges on the Federal Circuit are "reacting to the anti-patent trend at the Supreme Court," says Harold C. Wegner, a patent attorney and professor at George Washington University Law School.

26. Business-method patents have recently aroused concern because of _____

[A] their limited value to businesses.
[B] their connection with asset allocation.
[C] the possible restriction on their granting.
[D] the controversy over their authorization.

27. Which of the following is true of the Bilski case?

[A] Its ruling complies with the court decisions.
[B] It involves a very big business transaction.
[C] It has been dismissed by the Federal Circuit.
[D] It may change the legal practices in the U. S.

28. The word "about-face" (Line 1, Para 3) most probably means _____

[A] loss of goodwill.
[B] increase of hostility.
[C] change of attitude.
[D] enhancement of dignity.

29. We learn from the last two paragraphs that business-method patents _____

[A] are immune to legal challenges.
[B] are often unnecessarily issued.
[C] lower the esteem for patent holders.
[D] increase the incidence of risks.

30. Which of the following would be the subject of the text?

[A] A looming threat to business-method patents.
[B] Protection for business-method patent holders.
[C] A legal case regarding business-method patents.
[D] A prevailing trend against business-method patents.

Text 3

In his book *The Tipping Point*, Malcolm Gladwell argues that "social epidemics" are driven in large part by the actions of a tiny minority of special individuals, often called influentials, who are unusually informed, persuasive, or well connected. The idea is intuitively compelling, but it doesn't explain how ideas actually spread.

The supposed importance of influentials derives from a plausible-sounding but largely untested theory called the "tow-step flow of communication": Information flows from the media to the inftuentials and from them to everyone else. Marketers have embraced the two-step flow because it suggests that if they can just find and influence the influentials, those select people will do most of the work for them. The theory also seems to explain the sudden and unexpected popularity of certain looks, brands, or neighborhoods. In many such cases, a cursory search for causes finds that some small group of people was wearing, promoting, or developing whatever it is before anyone else paid attention. Anecdotal evidence of this kind fits nicely with the idea that only certain special people can drive trends.

In their recent work, however, some researchers have come up with the finding that influentials have far less impact on social epidemics than is generally supposed. In fact, they don't seem to be required at all.

The researchers' argument stems from a simple observation about social influence: With the exception of a few celebrities like Oprah Winfrey—whose outsize presence is primarily a function of media, not interpersonal, influence—even the most influential members of a population simply don't

interact with that many others. Yet it is precisely these non-celebrity influentials who, according to the two-step-flow theory, are supposed to drive social epidemics, by influencing their friends and colleagues directly. For a social epidemic to occur, however, each person so affected must then influence his or her own acquaintances, who must in turn influence theirs, and so on; and just how many others pay attention to each of *these* people has little to do with the initial influential. If people in the network just two degrees removed from the initial influential prove resistant, for example, the cascade of change won't propagate very far or affect many people.

Building on the basic truth about interpersonal influence, the researchers studied the dynamics of social influence by conducting thousands of computer simulations of populations, manipulating a number of variables relating to people's ability to influence others and their tendency to be influenced. They found that the principal requirement for what is called "global cascades" — the widespread propagation of influence through networks—is the presence not of a few influentials but, rather, of a critical mass of easily influenced people.

31. By citing the book *The Tipping Point*, the author intends to _____

[A] analyze the consequences of social epidemics.
[B] discuss influentials' function in spreading ideas.
[C] examplify people's intuitive response to social epidemics.
[D] describe the essential characteristics of influentials.

32. The author suggests that the "two-step-flow theory" _____

[A] serves as a solution to marketing problems.
[B] has helped explain certain prevalent trends.
[C] has won support from influentials.
[D] requires solid evidence for its validity.

33. What the researchers have observed recently shows that _____

[A] the power of influence goes with social interactions.
[B] interpersonal links can be enhanced through the media.
[C] influentials have more channels to reach the public.
[D] most celebrities enjoy wide media attention.

34. The underlined phrase "*these* people" in Paragraph 4 refers to the ones who _____

[A] stay outside the network of social influence.
[B] have little contact with the source of influence.
[C] are influenced and then influence others.
[D] are influenced by the initial influential.

35. What is the essential element in the dynamics of social influence?

[A] The eagerness to be accepted.
[B] The impulse to influence others.
[C] The readiness to be influenced.
[D] The inclination to rely on others.

Text 4

Bankers have been blaming themselves for their troubles in public. Behind the scenes, they have been taking aim at someone else: the accounting standard-setters. Their rules, moan the banks, have forced them to report enormous losses, and it's just not fair. These rules say they must value some assets at the price a third party would pay, not the price managers and regulators would like them to fetch.

Unfortunately, banks' lobbying now seems to be working. The details may be unknowable, but the independence of standard-setters, essential to the proper functioning of capital markets, is being compromised. And, unless banks carry toxic assets at prices that attract buyers, reviving the banking system will be difficult.

After a bruising encounter with Congress, America's Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) rushed through rule changes. These gave banks more freedom to use models to value illiquid

assets and more flexibility in recognizing losses on long-term assets in their income statements. Bob Herz, the FASB's chairman, cried out against those who "question our motives." Yet bank shares rose and the changes enhance what one lobbying group politely calls"the use of judgment by management."

European ministers instantly demanded that the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) do likewise. The IASB says it does not want to act without overall planning, but the pressure to fold when it completes its reconstruction of rules later this year is strong. Charlie McCreevy, a European commissioner, warned the IASB that it did"not live in a political vacuum" but"in the real world" and that Europe could yet develop different rules.

It was banks that were on the wrong planet, with accounts that vastly overvalued assets. Today they argue that market prices overstate losses, because they largely reflect the temporary illiquidity of markets, not the likely extent of bad debts. The truth will not be known for years. But banks' shares trade below their book value, suggesting that investors are skeptical. And dead markets partly reflect the paralysis of banks which will not sell assets for fear of booking losses, yet are reluctant to buy all those supposed bargains.

To get the system working again, losses must be recognized and dealt with. America's new plan to buy up toxic assets will not work unless banks mark assets to levels which buyers find attractive. Successful markets require independent and even combative standard-setters. The FASB and IASB have been exactly that, cleaning up rules on stock options and pensions, for example, against hostility from special interests. But by giving in to critics now they are inviting pressure to make more concessions.

36. Bankers complained that they were forced to _____

[A] follow unfavorable asset evaluation rules.
[B] collect payments from third parties.
[C] cooperate with the price managers.
[D] reevaluate some of their assets.

37. According to the author, the rule changes of the FASB may result in _____

[A] the diminishing role of management. [B] the revival of the banking system.
[C] the banks' long-term asset losses. [D] the weakening of its independence.

38. According to Paragraph 4, McCreevy objects to the IASB's attempt to _____

[A] keep away from political influences. [B] evade the pressure from their peers.
[C] act on their own in rule-setting. [D] take gradual measures in reform.

39. The author thinks the banks were "on the wrong planet" in that they _____

[A] misinterpreted market price indicators.
[B] exaggerated the real value of their assets.
[C] neglected the likely existence of bad debts.
[D] denied booking losses in their sale of assets.

40. The author's attitude towards standard-setters is one of _____

[A] satisfaction. [B] skepticism.
[C] objectiveness. [D] sympathy.

2009

Text 1

Habits are a funny thing. We reach for them mindlessly, setting our brains on auto-pilot and relaxing into the unconscious comfort of familiar routine. "Not choice. But habit rules the unreflecting herd." William Wordsworth said in the 19th century. In the ever-changing 21st century, even the word "habit" carries a negative connotation.

So it seems antithetical to talk about habits in the same context as creativity and innovation. But brain researchers have discovered that when we consciously develop new habits, we create parallel paths, and even entirely new brain cells, that can jump our trains of thought onto new, innovative tracks.

Rather than dismissing ourselves as unchangeable creatures of habit, we can instead direct our own change by consciously developing new habits. In fact, the more new things we try—the more we step outside our comfort zone—the more inherently creative we become, both in the workplace and in our personal lives.

But don't bother trying to kill off old habits; once those ruts of procedure are worn into the brain, they're there to stay. Instead, the new habits we deliberately press into ourselves create parallel pathways that can bypass those old roads.

"The first thing needed for innovation is a fascination with wonder," says Dawna Markova, author of *The Open Mind* and an executive change consultant for professional Thinking Partners. "But we are taught instead to 'decide', just as our president calls himself 'the Decider'." She adds, however, that "to decide is to kill off all possibilities but one. A good innovational thinker is always exploring the many other possibilities."

All of us work through problems in ways of which we're unaware, she says. Researchers in the late 1960s discovered that humans are born with the capacity to approach challenges in four primary ways: analytically, procedurally, relationally (or collaboratively) and innovatively. At puberty, however, the brain shuts down half of that capacity, preserving only those modes of thought that have seemed most valuable during the first decade or so of life.

The current emphasis on standardized testing highlights analysis and procedure, meaning that few of us inherently use our innovative and collaborative modes of thought. "This breaks the major rule in the American belief system—that anyone can do anything," explains M. J. Ryan, author of the 2006 book "*This Year I Will...*" and Ms. Markova's business partner. "That's a lie that we have perpetuated, and it fosters commonness. Knowing what you're good at and doing even more of it creates excellence." This is where developing new habits comes in.

21. In Wordsworth's view, "habits" is characterized by being _____

[A] casual. [B] familiar. [C] mechanical. [D] changeable.

22. Brain researchers have discovered that the formation of new habits can be _____

[A] predicted. [B] regulated. [C] traced. [D] guided.

23. The word "ruts" (Line 1, Paragraph 4) is closest in meaning to _____

[A] tracks. [B] series. [C] characteristics. [D] connections.

24. Dawna Markova would most probably agree that _____

[A] ideas are born of a relaxing mind. [B] innovativeness could be taught.

[C] decisiveness derives from fantastic ideas. [D] curiosity activates creative minds.

25. Ryan's comments suggest that the practice of standardized testing _____

[A] prevents new habits from being formed.

[B] no longer emphasizes commonness.

[C] maintains the inherent American thinking mode.

[D] complies with the American belief system.

Text 1

activate[3] *v.* 使活动,启动

analysis[10] *n.* 分析,分解

analytical[2] *a.* 分析的,分解的

approach[16] *v.* 靠近,接近,邻近;*n.* 方法,途径;探讨

author[79] *n.* 作者;创始人

belief[9] *n.* 信仰,信条;相信,信念

business[41] *n.* 商业,生意;事务,业务,职责;企业;贸易量;行业,业务

bypass[2] *v.* 避开,绕……而行;*n.* 旁路,迂回的旁道

capacity[12] *n.* 容量,容积;能量,能力;接受力;生产力

casual[4] *a.* 偶然的,碰巧的;临时的,非正式的;随便的,放松的

cell[12] *n.* 细胞;小房间;蜂房;电池

challenge[12] *n.* 挑战(书);艰巨任务,难题;*v.* 向……挑战

characteristic[9] *a.* 特有的,独特的;*n.* 特征,特性

characterize[8] *v.* 表示……的特性;描述……的特性

comment[7] *n.* 注释,评论,意见;*v.* (on)注释,评论

comply[2] *v.* (with)照做,遵照,应允

connection[3] *n.* 联系,连接

context[4] *n.* 上下文,文章前后关系;背景,环境

create[26] *v.* 创造,创作;引起,造成,建立

creative[10] *a.* 有创造力的,创造性的

creature[3] *n.* 人,动物,生物

curiosity[3] *n.* 好奇心;古董,古玩

current[8] *n.* 电流,水流,气流;潮流,趋势;*a.* 当前的,现在的;通用的,流行的,最近的

decade[21] *n.* 十年

decisive[3] *a.* 决定性的

derive[4] *v.* 取得,导出,引申

dismiss[3] *v.* 免职,解雇,开除,解散;不理会,不考虑

emphasis[10] *n.* 强调,重点

emphasize[9] *v.* 强调

explore[5] *v.* 勘探,探测;探究,探索

familiar[6] *a.* (with,to)熟悉的,通晓的;亲近的;通常的,普通的

fantastic[1] *a.* 奇异的,幻想的,异想天开的,极好的

formation[3] *n.* 形成,构成

foster[1] *vt.* 养育,抚育,培养,鼓励,抱(希望);*n.* 养育者,鼓励者

herd[1] *n.* 群,兽群,牛群;*v.* 放牧,群集

highlight[4] *v.* 使显著,使突出;强调;*n.* 最精彩的部分,最重要的事件

inherent[2] *a.* 固有的,内在的,天生的

innovation[11] *n.* 革新,改革

maintain[10] *v.* 维修,保养;维持,保持;坚持,主张,支持

major[15] *a.* (较)大的,(较)重要的;*n.* 专业,主修科目;专业学生;少校;*v.* (in)主修,专攻

mechanical[6] *a.* 机械的,由机械制成的;机械似的,呆板的

mode[4] *n.* 方式,式样
negative[5] *a.* 否定的,消极的,反面的;负的,阴性的;*n.* 负数;(摄影)底片
paragraph[26] *n.* 段,节;小新闻,短评
parallel[5] *a.* (to, with)平行的,并联的;(to)相同的,类似的;*n.* 平行线,平行面;类似,相似物;对比,纬线
partner[4] *n.* 合作者,合伙人;伙伴,舞伴
possibility[6] *n.* 可能,可能性;可能的事,希望
predict[15] *v.* 预言,预测,预告
preserve[6] *v.* 保护,维持;保存,保藏;腌渍;*n.* 专门领域
primary[9] *a.* 最初的,初级的;首要的,主要的,基本的
procedure[7] *n.* 程序,手续,步骤
regulate[4] *v.* 管制,控制;调节,校准
relax[2] *v.* (使)松弛,放松
routine[5] *n.* 例行公事,常规;*a.* 常规的,例行的
series[6] *n.* 一系列,连续;丛书
system[35] *n.* 系统,体系;制度,体制
trace[6] *n.* 痕迹,踪迹;极少量,微量;*v.* 描绘;跟踪,追踪;追溯,探索
view[33] *n.* 景象,风景;观点,见解;观察,观看;眼界;*v.* 看待,观察,考虑
word[27] *n.* 词,单词;[常 *pl.*]话;消息,传说;诺言,保证;*v.* 用言语表达
zone[1] *n.* 地区,区域;*v.* 分区,划分地带

antithetical[1] *adj.* 正相反的,对立的
changeable[1] *a.* 可改变的
collaborative[2] *adj.* 合作的,协作的
commonness[1] *n.* 普通,平凡,共性
connotation[2] *n.* 含蓄,内涵
consciously[5] *ad.* 有意识地,自觉地
creativity[6] *n.* 创造力,创造
deliberately[3] *ad.* 故意地
developing[7] *a.* 发展中的,开发的
entirely[9] *ad.* 完全地,全然地,一概地
excellence[2] *n.* 优秀,卓越
fascination[2] *n.* 魔力,入迷,魅力,迷恋,强烈爱好
inherently[3] *ad.* 天性地,固有地
innovational[1] *a.* 革新的,富有革新精神的
innovative[3] *a.* 创新的,革新(主义)的
pathway[2] *n.* 路径
perpetuate[1] *vt.* 使永存,使不朽
puberty[1] *n.* 青春期
relational[1] *a.* 亲属的;相关的
researcher[20] *n.* 研究员
rut[1] *n.* 车辙;惯例;*v.* 形成车辙
standardize[5] *vt.* 使符合标准,使标准化
thinker[2] *n.* 思想者,思想家,心智
unaware[4] *a.* 不知道的,没觉察到的
unchangeable[1] *a.* 不变的,不能改变的
unconscious[5] *a.* 不省人事,未发觉的,无意识的;*n.* 无意识
unreflecting[1] *a.* 不认真的
workplace[2] *n.* 工作场所,车间

难句 1 But brain researchers have discovered that when we consciously develop new habits, we create parallel paths, and even entirely new brain cells, that can jump our trains of thought onto new, innovative tracks.

【语法分析】1. 本句主干结构为:But brain researchers have discovered + that 引导宾语从句。
2. that 引导的宾语从句中又有一个复合句,主句是 we create parallel paths and... new brain cells,主句前面是 when 引导的时间状语从句,主句后面是 that 引导的定语从句,

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