

全新修订

雷远旻 张 雯(Jessie Zhang) 主编

# 研究生英语 阅读 150 篇

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# 前 言

众所周知，学习英语有四项基本技能：听、说、读、写。这四项基本技能，笔者以为可以分为两组：听与读是一组，说和写是另外一组。其中，前者是知识信息输入的能力，后者则是知识信息输出的能力。

2004 年，全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语大纲有所改变，取消了之前的听力部分（复试时由各学校自行命题）。由此多出来的 20 分，有 10 分放到了写作部分，另有 10 分新增一种题型（其实是三选一：一篇文章原有的次序已经打乱，要求考生排序；一篇文章中给出了若干概括性的话语，要求考生找到对应的段落；一篇文章有 5 句话抽掉了，要求考生从 6~7 个备选项中找出被抽掉的句子）。这样一来，目前的英语考试就只有三部分了：1. Use of English, 即填空题；2. Reading Comprehension, 即阅读题，分 ABC 三部分，A 为传统的单项选择题，B 为前面刚介绍过的三选一，C 为翻译题，即阅读一篇文章，翻译其中 5 个划线的句子；3. Writing, 即写作题。

仔细考察这种改变，可以看出：新的大纲，其实只考查学生的读写能力，即书面的输入和输出能力。这种改变，既与全国各地听说（以声音为载体的输入输出）教学水平差异悬殊相关，又比较实际，因为无论是研究生学习阶段，还是以后的科研工作中，读写能力的价值都远远大于听说能力的价值。

正是基于这一点，我们编写了本书。全书共 16 单元，其中，1~10 单元设计的题型为单项选择题，11~13 单元设计的题型，分别为阅读 B 部分的三种题型，14~16 单元设计的题型，则为翻译题。相比于其他同类型的书籍，本书特色有四：

一、**选材权威**。由于考研的英语文章基本上都是来自英美两国的报刊杂志，因此，本书所选的文章，也是全部来自英语国家权威的报刊杂志。原汁原味的文章，既可帮助读者熟悉考试，又可帮助读者切实提高英语水平。

二、**仿真度高**。这主要体现在两个方面。首先，我们选取的文章，有部分用词偏难，超出了大纲范围，需要用简易词替代。另有部分文章过长，需要截短。这两项工作均由外籍专家提供语言支持，**保证了文章的高度相似**。具体说来，1~10 单元，每单元 8 篇文章，总长度在 3300 字左右（大纲规定：真题 4 篇，总长度 1600 字左右）；11~13 单元，每单元 8 篇文章，总长度在 5000 词左右（大纲规定：真题一篇，总长度 600 字左右）；14~16 单元，每单元 8 篇文章，总长度在 3200 词左右（大纲规定：真题一篇，总长度 400 字左右）。全书 16 单元，超纲词均不到 3%。其次，本书的两位编者，长期活跃于考研英语教学的第一线，无论是对于命题思路，还是选项设置，都有深刻了解，**从而保证了题目的高度相似**。

三、**质量过硬**。本书由雷远旻、张燮(Jessie Zhang)编写，前者为上海新东方学校原考研主讲老师，现为乐博英语培训中心学术负责人、教学主管，后者为上海新东方学校原集团优秀教师，长期留学加、美，现为乐博英语培训中心总负责人。此外，本书聘请了上海交通大学安泰管理学院的美方教授 John Van Fleet 担任语言负责人，确保了从原文到选项的零失误。

四、**网络支持**。凡是对本书、对考研英语有疑问的读者，均可登陆我们的网站([www.lingobingo.net](http://www.lingobingo.net))，在“读·写·译”板块发帖，即可获得两位编者或乐博英语培训其他名师的在线指导。同时，这里也是你认识其他考友，相互激励、帮助的绝佳去处。

在本书的编写过程中，上海交通大学出版社的管新潮给予了无微不至的关怀和帮助。我的学生黄绋紫在文章的搜集方面，做出了巨大贡献，并与乐博英语培训中心的 Sarah Wu, Linda Zhou,

Rosy Chen, Cathy Wang 等同学一起，参与了本书长达一月的两次内测，对于选项设置等问题，提出了许多宝贵意见。在此，一并表示感谢。

本次修订版本是根据最新考试大纲的要求进行了全新修订。

由于编者水平有限，加之时间比较仓促，书中错误疏漏之处在所难免，望广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2006 年 8 月

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# UNIT 1

## Directions:

Read the following eight texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing **A, B, C, or D.**

## Passage 1

### Notes:

eruption—a sudden, often violent outburst (火山) 爆发

starkly—completely 完全地, 仔细地

erect—build, construct 建造, 竖起

vulnerable—easy to be hurt or attacked 容易受到伤害、攻击的

tsunami—a very large ocean wave caused by an underwater earthquake  
or volcanic eruption 海啸

protocol—agreement, treaty 协议, 如 http (Hyper Text Transfer  
Protocol)超文本传输协议

withdrawal—the act or process of retreat 撤退, 退却

grieve—to experience or express grief 悲伤, 痛心

**Human** beings are never prepared for natural disasters. There is a kind of optimism built into our species that seems to prefer to live in the comfortable present rather than confront the possibility of destruction. It may happen, we seem to believe, but not now, and not

to us. There is nothing new in this attitude.

Mount Vesuvius has been erupting since historical records began. The eruption of A.D. 79 both destroyed Pompeii and preserved it for posterity. Pliny the Younger starkly recorded the details in prose that can still be read as a scientific account; to him, the plume resembled a pine tree: "It rose into the sky on a very long 'trunk' from which spread some 'branches'." Yet houses are still being erected today at vulnerable sites around Vesuvius, in the face of the geological inevitability of further eruptions. This happens because most humans find it hard to think beyond the life spans of their grandchildren. If anything, the comparative comfort of modern (at least Western) life makes disasters the more unthinkable. We don't want to know.

It may not always have been so. It has been reported that before last year's Southeast Asian tsunami elephants somehow knew how to read the signs and broke free to head for higher ground. Some of the Andaman Islanders had protocols handed down by oral tradition through the generations that knew how to recognize the approach of disaster. One of the saddest things about the tsunami was the incomprehension of the meaning of that withdrawal of the sea that preceded the big wave: a 10-year-old British girl saved many lives because she happened to have learned about such signs of disaster in the schoolroom. If we've lost instinctive knowledge, education must be the key.

Geology tells us that there have been "greenhouse worlds" in the distant past. These have been times when seas flooded over continents. Even modest sea-level rises would spell the end of densely populated areas of the world like Bangladesh. In such a case, invoking God to look after us for the best is just pie in the sky. These are not "acts of God" but acts of man. We can grieve for the human



consequences of plate tectonics, but we should be ashamed of the consequences of our own willing blindness.

### Questions 1—5

1. What is the central idea of the passage?  
[A] Human beings could do little about natural disasters.  
[B] Human beings still have much to learn about natural disasters.  
[C] Human beings face different disasters today.  
[D] Human beings choose to neglect possible natural disasters.
2. According to the author, houses are still being built today at vulnerable sites around Vesuvius because \_\_\_\_\_.  
[A] Vesuvius doesn't erupt anymore today  
[B] those houses are intended for temporary use  
[C] people don't want to think about future risks  
[D] people are used to living here
3. The author cites the example of Andaman Islanders to show that \_\_\_\_\_.  
[A] Andaman Islanders relied on instinctive knowledge to save themselves from natural disasters  
[B] Andaman Islanders were cleverer than scientists  
[C] Andaman Islanders used to have a peculiar tradition  
[D] Andaman Islanders knew elephants well
4. Why could a 10-year-old British girl save many lives in last year's Southeast Asian tsunami?  
[A] She learned something from elephants.  
[B] She learned something from Andaman Islanders.  
[C] She provided a schoolroom to protect other people from the disaster.

- [D] She knew that the fall of sea level might lead to a tsunami.
5. According to the author, the effects of such disasters as earthquakes and tsunamis are dreadful because\_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] they are caused by humans themselves
- [B] God intends to punish humans in this way
- [C] we don't want to expect the serious results of such disasters
- [D] they result from greenhouse effects

## Passage 2

### Notes:

apportion—to divide and assign according to a plan 分配

inflate—to raise or expand abnormally or improperly (不适当地)  
高涨

census—an official, usually periodic enumeration of a population 人口普查

per capita—used to describe the average amount of something in a particular place, calculated according to the number of people who live there 人均

**The** first Constitution took for granted that enslaved people could not vote, but counted each slave as three-fifths of a person for the purpose of apportioning representation in Congress. This inflated the voting power of slaveholders and gave them much more influence in legislative matters than their actual numbers allowed. No American would knowingly tolerate such an arrangement today. But an error in the census that inflates the populations of some state legislative

districts—thus exaggerating their voting power—has led to a contemporary version of that problem. It involves counting prison inmates in the district where they are confined rather than where they actually live. The Census Bureau could fix this problem in a heartbeat, so it needs to get a move on.

The source of the problem is a provision in the census that counts prison inmates as “residents” of the institutions where they are held, often for relatively short periods of time. Denied the right to vote in all but 2 of the 50 states, the inmates are nonetheless treated as voters when the State Legislatures draw up legislative districts. This practice mattered little 30 years ago, when the prison population was tiny. But with about 1.4 million people in prison today, it can be used to shift political power from one part of the state to another.

A startling analysis by Peter Wagner of the Prison Policy Initiative found seven upstate New York Senate districts meeting the population requirements only because inmates were included in the count. The Republican Party in New York relies on its large upstate delegation for its majority in the State Senate—and for its political power statewide. New York is not alone. The Prison Policy Initiative’s researchers found 21 counties nationally where at least 21 percent of so-called residents lived behind bars.

By counting these nonvoting inmates as residents, the prison counties offend the principle of one person one vote, while taking political power from the home districts to which the inmates will return as soon as they are released. Since inmates are jobless, their presence also allows prison districts to lower their per capita incomes, unfairly increasing their share of federal funds earmarked for the poor. Congress, which has just caught on to this, recently gave the Census Bureau 90 days to file a report on the feasibility of counting inmates

at their homes of record rather than in prison. At the same time, a committee overseen by the National Academy of Sciences has been studying the residency issue and is expected to make its final report this spring. But why does the bureau need another study to decide whether it wants to uphold the one-person-one-vote principle? The bureau should get to work immediately on procedures that would allow it to count inmates where they actually live—and get those procedures locked in place by the 2010 census.

### Questions 6—10

6. The author talks about the first Constitution at the beginning of the passage \_\_\_\_\_.
- [A] to show how American slaves were mistreated in history
  - [B] to show the progress that American people have made
  - [C] to introduce a similar situation in today's America
  - [D] to show how brutal the first Constitution was
7. In how many states are prisoners allowed to vote?
- [A] 2.
  - [B] 48.
  - [C] 50.
  - [D] 52.
8. How would it affect the Republican Party in upstate New York Senate districts if the error is corrected?
- [A] Positively.
  - [B] Negatively.
  - [C] Not influenced.
  - [D] Not clear.
9. What is the major idea of the passage?
- [A] American prisoners have been denied the right to vote.

[B] The number of American prisoners has been growing too fast.

[C] Prisoners have been mistreated.

[D] Counting prisoners where they are held is wrong.

10. The author proposes that \_\_\_\_\_.

[A] prisoners should be counted where they actually live in censuses

[B] prisoners should be counted where they are held in censuses

[C] prisoners should be given the right to vote

[D] prisoners should be held where they actually live

### Passage 3

#### Notes:

cut a swath through—to destroy the main part of 使某物主要部分毁坏

catastrophe—a great, often sudden calamity 大灾难

annihilate—to destroy completely (彻底) 毁灭

ensue—to follow as a consequence or result 相继发生

pledge—a solemn binding promise to do, give, or refrain from doing something 允诺, 保证

envoy—a representative of a government who is sent on a special diplomatic mission (外交) 使节

intervention—the action of intervening, “stepping in”, or interfering in any affair, so as to affect its course or issue 干涉

languish—to be or become weak or feeble (变) 衰弱

**The** tsunami that cut a swath of destruction through the Indian

Ocean region last year was an extraordinary catastrophe. It struck 12 countries and displaced more than two million people, according to the United Nations, destroying their livelihoods, tearing apart families, annihilating entire towns. The ensuing natural disasters that have followed in the 12 months since then—from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita to the earthquake in Kashmir—have been measured against the horror of the number left dead by the Indian Ocean tsunami: at least 183,172.

The tsunami also generated a record \$13.6 billion in pledges for immediate and regional aid, and long-term help for specific countries. About three-quarters of that aid has actually been secured. Clearly, the world can make good on its promises when it wants to.

Indeed, the pledges actually exceed the initial requests for help. According to the United Nations Office of the Special Envoy for Tsunami Recovery, the estimate of the amount needed for long-term tsunami recovery in each of the affected countries was \$10.12 billion, and the amount pledged was \$10.51 billion. Indonesia, which was hit the hardest, needs an estimated \$5.5 billion; it got \$6.5 billion in pledges. Sri Lanka asked for \$2.15 billion; it got promises of almost \$3 billion.

Given the devastation involved and the extreme poverty of many victims, the money pledged is by no means over the top. But the agencies entrusted with spending the donations have a special responsibility to spend wisely.

There's some good news: swift intervention by aid groups prevented major outbreaks of disease. A tsunami early warning system in the Indian Ocean region, which would prepare every country's weather service to receive warnings, should be ready for installation in mid-2006. In Sri Lanka and Indonesia, nearly all of the

children affected by the tsunami are back in school.

The progress report on relief and reconstruction remains mixed. Only 20 percent of the people left homeless are in permanent homes, with many thousands still languishing in refugee tents. In Sri Lanka, squabbles over aid money, combined with a legacy of distrust between the Tamil separatists and the backers of the government, have sent the country to the edge of a renewed civil war. Still, the good by far outweighs the bad, and it is important that both the donor governments and the countries hit by the tsunami stay the course in reconstruction.

This is a rare opportunity to do things right, to actually put muscle behind all the usual talk of rebuilding stronger and better, and to heed the tsunami's greatest lesson: early warning saves lives. There are few people involved who wouldn't trade that surplus aid money to get back a few of those more than 183,000 lost lives.

### Questions 11—15

11. The number 183,172 is \_\_\_\_\_.  
[A] the least number of people killed in the tsunami  
[B] the least number of people killed in Hurricanes Katrina and Rita  
[C] the least number of people killed in the earthquake in Kashmir  
[D] the least number of people killed in the four natural disasters
12. According to the author, the pledges of aid \_\_\_\_\_.  
[A] haven't met the requirements of the tsunami-hit nations  
[B] have been partly wasted  
[C] have been too much  
[D] have surpassed initial requests but are not enough

13. Which of the following is NOT true?

- [A] Those agencies responsible for spending the donations are expected to spend them wisely.
- [B] Aid groups have prevented major outbreaks of disease.
- [C] A tsunami early warning system in the Indian Ocean region will alarm local residents when tsunamis are about to strike.
- [D] In some countries, children affected by the tsunami are going to school again.

14. Which of the following is true?

- [A] Only 20 percent of the people were left homeless in the tsunami.
- [B] Only 20 percent of the people have permanent homes now.
- [C] Some countries in the region are going to war for the aid money.
- [D] None of the above.

15. In the last sentence of the passage, the author is suggesting that \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] trade surplus can save lives
- [B] aid money has gone to a tiny number of people although the number of people killed is huge
- [C] people would rather have their relatives alive than have the aid money
- [D] the Indian Ocean countries would not have been hit so severely if they were richer



## Passage 4

### Notes:

meticulous—extremely careful and precise 小心翼翼的, 力求精确的

serologist—those who study the properties and reactions of blood serums 血清学家

resurrect—to bring back to life; raise from the dead (使)复生

overlap—to have an area or a range in common with 与……交迭

A horrible postscript to official justice is taking place in Virginia, where the discovery of a forgotten generation's blood samples in old forensic files has led to modern DNA tests that have already cleared five inmates convicted of rape, with hundreds of other felony cases to be examined.

As cheering as the recognition of their innocence has been for the five, who together lost about 90 years behind bars, a sad truth is emerging about the frequency of wrongful convictions in the criminal justice system. The two latest proofs of innocence emerged from a random sampling of just 29 old rape cases from the 1970s and 80s. Back then, Mary Jane Burton, a meticulous state serologist who died six years ago, bothered to retain evidence scraps that are now proving weighty in the modern era of forensic DNA tests.

The pity is that Ms. Burton's extra step of quiet professionalism is unusual—the procedures still current in much of the nation's justice system would have led to the destruction of such evidence by now.

Faced with the startling find of resurrected evidence, Gov. Mark Warner has done the only thing he could do in good conscience: he