

CET考前冲刺系列

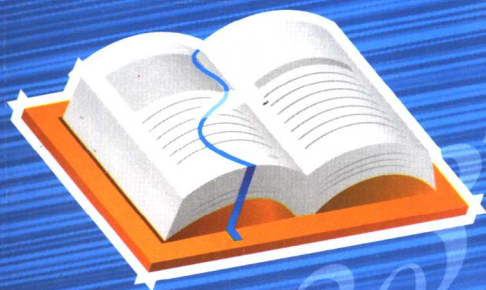
大学英语 六级阅读

考前冲刺 60

课

目标明确，实用高效
讲练结合，融会贯通
锦囊妙计，日日惊喜

大学英语四六级考题研究组 主编



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60课

大学英语四六级考题研究组 主编

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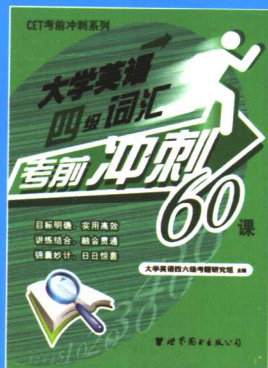
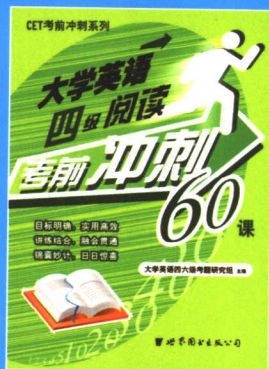
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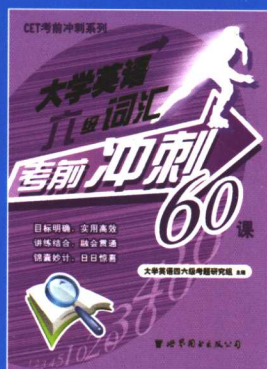
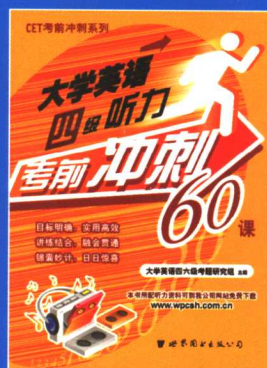
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前言

随着科学的进步,人类社会的不断发展,英语作为交际工具的功能越来越得到人们的认可。WTO 的加入和北京申奥的成功更使得人才的竞争如火如荼,职场厮杀的硝烟过早地笼罩在高校恬静的天空。枕戈待旦的莘莘学子在认证的路上,首先必须攻破的就是大学英语四、六级考试。

大学英语四、六级考试作为教育部高等教育司主办的全国统一考试,是配合现行的大学英语教学大纲于 1987 年推出的,由于大学扩招、社会人士加入等因素,考生逐年增加,目前每年都有 600 多万考生参加考试,是我国目前规模最大的英语水平测试。由于英语四、六级考试是目前全国最权威的英语考试,且社会上不少用人单位把是否通过英语四、六级考试作为衡量员工英语水平的硬指标,因此,考取英语四、六级证书不论是对大学在校生或是在职人员都显得尤为重要。顺利通过英语四、六级考试,为将来步入社会大展宏图订好入场券已成为大家关注的焦点。为此,所有的考生们都在奋斗着,也都在寻找一种出奇制胜的秘笈。

经过大学期间的英语学习和训练后,考生在词汇、语法、句型等基本功方面都有了相当的积累,但是仅仅这些对于能够顺利通过英语四、六级考试并取得好成绩是不够的。正确的做法是在考前两个月,针对考试的特点进行复习备考。本丛书的出版就是为了帮助考生在短短的考前两个月时间内,有效提高成绩,做到考试胸有成竹。

本丛书的特点有:

一、目标明确,实用高效 方便考生更加合理地安排复习时间,在有限的时间运用科学的复习方法,快速系统地掌握应试技巧,并通过严格科学的训练,全面突破考试中会遇到的各种障碍,从而取得满意的考试成绩。

二、讲练结合,融汇贯通 每本书都不仅安排了相应的全真练习,使读者对做题技巧有感性认识和直观的了解,同时还安排了模拟训练,做到全真与模拟相结合。

三、锦囊妙计,日日惊喜 每一单元的最后都有一则短小精悍的“备考锦囊”,从宏观以及微观的方面对考生提出了很有帮助的建议以及如何应对考试的方法技巧,考生可以从中挑取适合自己的方法,取得事半功倍的效果。

本丛书分为《大学英语四级听力考前冲刺 60 课》《大学英语四级阅读考前冲刺 60 课》《大

学英语四级词汇考前冲刺 60 课》《大学英语六级听力考前冲刺 60 课》《大学英语六级阅读考前冲刺 60 课》《大学英语六级词汇考前冲刺 60 课》《大学英语四、六级写作考前 60 冲刺课》7 本分册,从不同方面提高学生的应试能力。

本分册以阅读技巧为起点,通过为学生提供 60 课的阅读强化训练而帮助他们在短时间内提高六级阅读水平。按照近年来六级英语考试中阅读题的出题规律,分七大部分进行有针对性的训练了推理题、细节题、作者观点态度题、是非题、主旨题、词义题和语义题。每一部分都包括题型介绍、真题分析、阅读实战演练和备考锦囊等几个板块。其中的真题分析部分精选了历年六级考试中有代表性的、出题思路比较规范和具有借鉴意义的题目,进行全面、透彻、到位的分析和解答。让考生通过我们对历年真题的分析,了解考试出题的思路,把握解题的“切入点”,做到事半功倍。在此基础上,我们精心设计了一组“考前阅读实战”,让考生在领悟真题分析的前提下,进行战略、战术的实际演练。

编者热忱希望芸芸考生从此套书获益,能在英语四、六级考试中轻松获得好成绩。由于编者水平和经验有限,书中存在的不足和疏漏之处,恳请广大读者批评指正。

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第一部分 推理类题

推理题考查学生由文章的字面信息推出未知信息或隐含信息的能力。这类题型难度较大,要求考生根据原文提供的一个或多个细节,甚至是整篇文章的主旨大意,进行适当的引申推理,确定正确答案。这不仅要求考生对具体的细节应当有准确无误的理解,还要对整篇文章的主旨结构有整体上的把握。

这类题常见的命题方式有:

1. It can be inferred from the text that _____.
2. We can conclude that _____.
3. When the writer talks about ..., what he really means is that _____.
4. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
5. The passage is intended to _____.
6. The writer indicates that _____.

解答这类题的要害是把握文章主题,通过段落主题句抓住段落与段落之间,段落内主题句与扩展句之间的逻辑联系,从字里行间去体会作者要表达的内涵。因此,在平时做阅读训练的过程中,要训练自己抓考点、抓细节的能力,同时也要注意对文章篇章结构的分析,训练自己根据上下文进行适当推理引申的能力。

第 1 课

※ 历年真题分析

2002 年 6 月 Passage One

When global warming finally came, it stuck with a *vengeance* (异乎寻常地). In some regions, temperatures rose several degrees in less than a century. Sea levels shot up nearly 400 feet flooding coastal settlements and forcing people to migrate inland. Deserts spread throughout the world as vegetation shifted drastically in North America, Europe and Asia. After driving many of the animals around them to near extinction, people were forced to abandon their old way of life for a radically new survival strategy that resulted in widespread starvation and disease. The adaptation was farming; the global-warming crisis that gave rise to it happened more than 10,000 years ago. As environmentalists convene in Rio de Janeiro this week to ponder the global climate of the future, earth scientists are in the midst of a revolution in understanding how climate has changed in the past — and how those changes have transformed human existence. Researchers have begun to piece together an illuminating picture of the powerful geological and astronomical forces that have combined to change the planet's environment from hot to cold, wet to dry and back again over a time period stretching back hundreds of millions of years.

Most important scientists are beginning to realize that the climatic changes have had a major impact on the evolution of the human species. New research now suggests that climate shifts have played a key role in nearly every significant turning point in human evolution from the dawn of *primates* (灵长目动物) some 65 million years ago to human ancestors rising up to walk on two legs from the huge expansion of the human brain to the rise of agriculture. Indeed, the human history has not been merely touched by global climate change, some scientists argue it has in some instances been driven by it. The new research has profound implications for the environmental summit

in Rio. Among other things the findings demonstrate that dramatic climate change is nothing new for planet Earth. The *benign* (宜人的) global environment that has existed over the past 10,000 years — during which agriculture, writing, cities and most other features of civilization appeared — is a mere bright spot in a much larger pattern of widely varying climate over the ages. In fact, the pattern of climate change in the past reveals that Earth's climate will almost certainly go through dramatic changes in the future — even without the influence of human activity.

Q: Evidence of past climatic changes indicates that _____.

- A) human activities have accelerated changes of Earth's environment
- B) Earth's environment will remain mild despite human interference
- C) Earth's climate is bound to change significantly in the future
- D) Earth's climate is unlikely to undergo substantial changes in the future

[答案] C

[分析] 文中最后一句话指出,地球气候在过去的变化模式表明,在将来也会发生重大的变化即 Earth's climate will almost certainly go through dramatic changes in the future... 因此,答案 C 毫无疑问,地球气候将发生显著变化,为正确答案。

※ 考前阅读实战 (25 分钟内完成)

Passage 1

That experiences influence subsequent behaviour is evidence of an obvious but nevertheless remarkable activity called remembering. Learning could not occur without the function popularly named memory. Constant practice has such an effect on memory as to lead to skillful performance on the piano, to recitation of a poem, and even to reading and understanding these words. So-called intelligent behaviour demands memory, remembering being a primary requirement for reasoning. The ability to solve any problem or even to recognize that a problem exists depends on memory. Typically, the decision to cross a street is based on remembering many earlier experiences.

Practice (or review) tends to build and maintain memory for a task or for any learned material. Over a period of no practice what has been learned tends to be forgotten; and the adaptive consequences may not seem obvious. Yet, dramatic instances of sudden forgetting can seem to be adaptive. In this sense, the ability to forget can be interpreted to have survived through a process of natural selection in animals. Indeed, when one's memory of an emotionally painful experience leads to serious anxiety, forgetting may produce relief. Nevertheless, an evolutionary interpretation might make it difficult to understand how the commonly gradual process of forgetting survived natural selection.

In thinking about the evolution of memory together with all its possible aspects, it is helpful to consider what would happen if memories failed to fade. Forgetting clearly aids orientation in time, since old memories weaken and the new tend to stand out, providing clues for inferring duration. Without forgetting, adaptive ability would suffer, for example, learned behaviour that might have been correct a decade ago may no longer be. Cases are recorded of people who (by ordinary standards) forgot so little that their everyday activities were full of confusion. This forgetting seems to serve that survival of the individual and the species.

Another line of thought assumes a memory storage system of limited capacity that provides adaptive flexibility specifically through forgetting. In this view, continual adjustments are made between learning or memory storage (input) and forgetting (output). Indeed, there is evidence that the rate at which individuals forget is directly related to how much they have learned. Such data

offers gross support of contemporary models of memory that assume an input-output balance.

Q: From the evolutionary point of view, _____.

- A) forgetting for lack of practice tends to be obviously inadapative
- B) if a person gets very forgetful all of a sudden he must be very adaptive
- C) the gradual process of forgetting is an indication of an individual's adaptability
- D) sudden forgetting may bring about adaptive consequences

Passage 2

Tight-lipped elders used to say, "It's not what you want in this world, but what you get." Psychology teaches that you do get what you want if you know what you want and want the right things.

You can make a mental blueprint of a desire as you would make a blueprint of a house, and each of us is continually making these blueprints in the general routine of everyday living. If we intend to have friends to dinner, we plan the menu, make a shopping list, decide which food to cook first, and such planning is essential for any type of meal to be served.

Likewise, if you want to find a job, take a sheet of paper, and write a brief account of yourself. In making a blueprint for a job, begin with yourself, for when you know exactly what you have to offer, you can intelligently plan where to sell your services.

This account of yourself is actually a sketch of your working life and should include allocation, experience and references. Such an account is valuable. It can be referred to in filling out standard application blanks and is extremely helpful in personal interviews. While talking to you, your could-be employer is deciding whether your "wares" and abilities must be displayed in an orderly and reasonably connected manner.

When you have carefully prepared a blueprint of your abilities and desires, you have something tangible to sell. Then you are ready to hunt for a job. Get all the possible information about your could-be job. Make inquiries as to the details regarding the job and the firm. Keep your eyes and ears open, and use your own judgment. Spend a certain amount of time each day seeking the employment you wish for, and keep in mind: securing a job is your job now.

Q: What do the elders mean when they say, "It's not what you want in this world, but what you get."?

- A) You'll certainly get what you want.
- B) It's no use dreaming.
- C) You should be dissatisfied with what you have.
- D) It's essential to set a goal for yourself.

※ 备考锦囊

推理题最基本的考查出发点是根据文中的细节进行适当推理和引申的能力。所以,训练自己学会从文中找出相关细节能力相当重要——寻找相关细节是进行推理的前提和关键。

阅读实战答案:D B

第 2 课

※ 历年真题分析

2003 年 6 月 Passage Three

Take the case of public education alone. The principal difficulty faced by the schools has been the tremendous increase in the number of pupils. This has been caused by the advance of the legal age for going into industry and the impossibility of finding a job even when the legal age has been reached. In view of the technological improvements in the last few years, business will require in the future proportionately fewer workers than ever before. The result will be still further raising of the legal age for going into employment, and still further difficulty in finding employment when the age has been attained. If we cannot put our children to work, we must put them in school.

We may also be quite confident that the present trend toward a shorter day and a shorter week will be maintained. We have developed and shall continue to have a new leisure class. Already the public agencies for adult education are swamped by the tide that has swept over them since depression began. They will be little better off when it is over. Their support must come from the taxpayer.

It is surely too much to hope that these increases in the cost of public education can be borne by the local communities. They cannot care for the present restricted and inadequate system. The local communities have failed in their efforts to cope with unemployment. They cannot expect to cope with public education on the scale on which we must attempt it. The answer to the problem of unemployment has been Federal relief. The answer to the problem of public education may have to be much the same, and properly so. If there is one thing in which the citizens of all parts of the country have an interest, it is in the decent education of the citizens of all parts of the country. Our income tax now goes in part to keep our neighbors alive. It may have to go in part as well to make our neighbors intelligent. We are now attempting to preserve the present generation through Federal relief of the *destitute* (贫民). Only a people determined to ruin the next generation will refuse such Federal funds as public education may require.

Q: The public agencies for adult education will be little better off because _____.

- A) the unemployed are too poor to continue their education
- B) a new leisure class has developed
- C) they are still suffering from the depression
- D) an increase in taxes could be a problem

【答案】 B

【分析】 由于经济衰退,失业人数剧增,所以成人教育学生人数明显增加。但最近一段时间,由于 leisure class 的发展,部分缓解了公立成人教育机构的压力。由此可见,B a new leisure class has developed 为正确答案。

※ 考前阅读实战(25 分钟内完成)

Passage 1

It was 3:45 in the morning when the vote was finally taken. After six months of arguing and final 16 hours of hot parliamentary debates, Australia's Northern Territory became the first legal authority in the world to allow doctors to take the lives of incurably ill patients who wish to die. The measure passed by the convincing vote of 15 to 10. Almost immediately word flashed on the Internet and was picked up, half a world away, by John Hofsess, executive director of the Right to Die

Society of Canada. He sent it on via the group's on line service, Death NET. Says Hofsess: "We posted bulletins all day long, because of course this isn't just something that happened in Australia. It's world history."

The full import may take a while to sink in. The NT Rights of the Terminally III law has left physicians and citizens alike trying to deal with its moral and practical implications. Some have breathed sighs of relief, others, including churches, right to life groups and the Australian Medical Association, bitterly attacked the bill and the haste of its passage. But the tide is unlikely to turn back. In Australia — where an aging population, life extending technology and changing community attitudes have all played their part — other states are going to consider making a similar law to deal with euthanasia. In the US and Canada, where the right to die movement is gathering strength, observers are waiting for the dominoes to start falling.

Under the new Northern Territory law, an adult patient can request death — probably by a deadly injection or pill — to put an end to suffering. The patient must be diagnosed as terminally ill by two doctors. After a "cooling off" period of seven days, the patient can sign a certificate of request. After 48 hours the wish for death can be met. For Lloyd Nickson, a 54-year-old Darwin resident suffering from lung cancer, the NT Rights of Terminally III law means he can get on with living without the haunting fear of his suffering: a terrifying death from his breathing condition. "I'm not afraid of dying from a spiritual point of view, but what I was afraid of was how I'd go, because I've watched people die in the hospital fighting for oxygen and clawing at their masks," he says.

Q: From the second paragraph we learn that _____.

- A) the objection to euthanasia is slow to come in other countries
- B) physicians and citizens share the same view on euthanasia
- C) changing technology is chiefly responsible for the hasty passage of the law
- D) it takes time to realize the significance of the law's passage

Passage 2

A report consistently brought back by visitors to the US is how friendly, courteous, and helpful most Americans were to them. To be fair, this observation is also frequently made of Canada and Canadians, and should best be considered North American. There are, of course, exceptions. Small minded officials, rude waiters, and ill-mannered taxi drivers are hardly unknown in the US. Yet it is an observation made so frequently that it deserves comment.

For a long period of time and in many parts of the country, a traveler was a welcome break in an otherwise dull existence. Dullness and loneliness were common problems of the families who generally lived distant from one another. Strangers and travelers were welcome sources of diversion, and brought news of the outside world.

The harsh realities of the frontier also shaped this tradition of hospitality. Someone traveling alone, if hungry, injured, or ill, often had nowhere to turn except to the nearest cabin or settlement. It was not a matter of choice for the traveler or merely a charitable impulse on the part of the settlers. It reflected the harshness of daily life: if you didn't take in the stranger and take care of him, there was no one else who would. And someday, remember, you might be in the same situation.

Today there are many charitable organizations which specialize in helping the weary traveler. Yet, the old tradition of hospitality to strangers is still very strong in the US, especially in the smaller cities and towns away from the busy tourist trails. "I was just traveling through, got talking with this American, and pretty soon he invited me home for dinner — amazing." Such observations re-

ported by visitors to the US are not uncommon, but are not always understood properly. The casual friendliness of many Americans should be interpreted neither as superficial nor as artificial, but as the result of a historically developed cultural tradition.

As is true of any developed society, in America a complex set of cultural signals, assumptions, and conventions underlies all social interrelationships. And, of course, speaking a language does not necessarily mean that someone understands social and cultural patterns. Visitors who fail to “translate” cultural meanings properly often draw wrong conclusions. For example, when an American uses the word “friend”, the cultural implications of the word may be quite different from those it has in the visitor’s language and culture. It takes more than a brief encounter on a bus to distinguish between courteous convention and individual interest. Yet, being friendly is a virtue that many Americans value highly and expect from both neighbors and strangers.

Q: In the eyes of visitors from the outside world, _____.

- A) rude taxi drivers are rarely seen in the US
- B) small minded officials deserve a serious comment
- C) Canadians are not so friendly as their neighbors
- D) most Americans are ready to offer help

※ 备考锦囊

在相关细节的基础上进行推理的同时,要注意自己的推理结论是否符合最普通的逻辑关系。同时,最重要的是要结合上下文检验自己的推理结论。

阅读实战答案:D D

第 3 课

※ 历年真题分析

2000 年 6 月 Passage One

In the 1920s demand for American farm products fell, as European countries began to recover from World War I and instituted *austerity* (紧缩) programs to reduce their imports. The result was a sharp drop in farm prices. This period was more disastrous for farmers than earlier times had been, because farmers were no longer self-sufficient. They were paying for machinery, seed, and fertilizer, and they were also buying consumer goods. The prices of the items farmers bought remained constant, while prices they received for their products fell. These developments were made worse by the Great Depression, which began in 1929 and extended throughout the 1930s.

In 1929, under President Herbert Hoover, the Federal Farm Board was organized. It established the principle of direct interference with supply and demand, and it represented the first national commitment to provide greater economic stability for farmers.

President Hoover's successor attached even more importance to this problem. One of the first measures proposed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt when he took office in 1933 was the Agricultural Adjustment Act, which was subsequently passed by Congress. This law gave the Secretary of Agriculture the power to reduce production through voluntary agreements with farmers who were paid to take their land out of use. A deliberate scarcity of farm products was planned in an effort to raise prices. This law was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court on the grounds that general taxes were being collected to pay one special group of people. However, new laws were passed immediately that achieved the same result of resting soil and providing flood-control measures, but which were based on the principle of soil conservation. The Roosevelt Administration believed that rebuilding the nation's soil was in the national interest and was not simply a plan to help farmers at the expense of other citizens. Later the government guaranteed loans to farmers so that they could buy farm machinery, *hybrid* (杂交) grain, and fertilizers.

Q: The Agricultural Adjustment Act encouraged American farmers to _____.

- A) reduce their scale of production B) make full use of their land
C) adjust the prices of their farm products D) be self-sufficient in agricultural production

[答案] A

[分析] 文中提到,由于需求减少,导致农产品价格下跌。为避免农民走向破产,政府出台一系列法规,其目的在于减少粮食产量,由此来抬升粮食价格。因此 A *reduce their scale of production* 缩减农业规模,符合题意。其余选项均不正确。

※ 考前阅读实战 (25 分钟内完成)

Passage 1

Specialization can be seen as a response to the problem of an increasing accumulation of scientific knowledge. By splitting up the subject matter into smaller units, one man could continue to handle the information and use it as the basis for further research. But specialization was only one of a series of related developments in science affecting the process of communication. Another was the growing professionalisation of scientific activity.

No clear-cut distinction can be drawn between professionals and amateurs in science: exceptions can be found to any rule. Nevertheless, the word "amateur" does carry a connotation that the