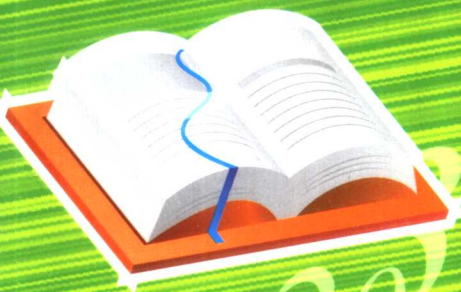


CET考前冲刺系列

大学英语 四级阅读 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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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。

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。且由于英语四、六级考试是目前全国最权威的英语考试,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。由于四、六级考试改革在即,如何从旧题型向新试题的适应过渡已是每个考生需要面对的问题,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、句型等基本功夫方面都有了相当的积累,但是仅仅掌握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促的考前两个月时间内,有效提高成绩,做到考前胸有成竹。

本丛书的特点有:

一、目标明确,实用高效 为考生合理地安排复习时间,使其在有限的时间内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;另外针对练习还配有讲解或解析,真正让读者做到知其然并知其所以然。

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等,考生可以从中挑选适合自己的方法,取得事半功倍的效果,并且对任何考试形式的改变都能从容应付。

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冲刺 60 课》七本分册,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四级阅读水平。本书接近十年四级考试各类阅读技巧的复现率,即重要性,来编写设计相应课数的练习,使读者有重点地进行针对性练习。把四级英语阅读题分为主旨类题、细节类题、推理类题、词汇类题、单句释义类题、作者态度类题、是非类题、指代类题等。每一部分包括题型介绍、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四级考试题中有代表性的、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。

目 录

第一部分 主旨类题

第一课	2
第二课	4
第三课	7
第四课	10
第五课	13
第六课	16
第七课	19
第八课	22
第九课	24
第十课	27

第二部分 细节类题

第十一课	31
第十二课	34
第十三课	37
第十四课	39
第十五课	42
第十六课	45
第十七课	48
第十八课	51
第十九课	54
第二十课	57

第三部分 推理类题

第二十一课	61
第二十二课	64
第二十三课	66

第二十四课	69
第二十五课	72
第二十六课	75
第二十七课	78
第二十八课	81
第二十九课	84
第三十课	87

第四部分 词汇类题

第三十一课	91
第三十二课	94
第三十三课	97
第三十四课	99
第三十五课	102
第三十六课	105
第三十七课	107
第三十八课	110
第三十九课	112
第四十课	114

第五部分 单句释义类题

第四十一课	117
第四十二课	120
第四十三课	123

第六部分 作者态度类题

第四十四课	126
第四十五课	129
第四十六课	131

第七部分 是非类题

第四十七课	134
第四十八课	137

第八部分 指 代 类 题

第四十九课	140
第五十课	143

第九部分 模 拟 训 练

第五十一课 模拟题一	146
第五十二课 模拟题二	151
第五十三课 模拟题三	156
第五十四课 模拟题四	161
第五十五课 模拟题五	166

第十部分 真 题 再 现

第五十六课 2002 年 12 月	171
第五十七课 2003 年 6 月	176
第五十八课 2003 年 12 月	181
第五十九课 2004 年 6 月	186
第六十课 2005 年 1 月	191

第一部分 主旨类题

主旨类试题的目的在于考查考生对文章的主题、中心思想的理解和区别主要信息和次要信息的能力。所谓主旨是作者在文章中要表达的主要内容,是贯穿全文的核心。其表现形式因体裁和论证方式的不同而有所不同。作者在文章中努力通过各种细节来阐明文章的中心。因此,把握主要思想对于全文理解具有重要意义。主旨题类常被列为题之首或之尾。阅读时,文章的开头、结尾及段落的段首句和段尾句特别重要,因为它们往往能反映出文章的主要内容。

根据问题内容的不同,这类问题可分为主题型、标题型和目的型。主题型一目了然就是找中心(Main Idea);标题型是为文章选择标题(Title);目的型就是推断作者的写作意图(Purpose)。

这类题常见的命题方式有:

1. What is the main idea (subject) of this passage?
2. What is this passage mainly about?
3. The main theme of this passage is _____.
4. The main point of the passage is _____.
5. Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
6. The title that best expresses the idea of the passage is _____.
7. On which of the following subject would the passage most likely be found in a textbook?
8. Which of the following best describes the passage as a whole?
9. The purpose of the writer in writing this passage is _____.
10. The author writes this passage to _____.

考生普遍反映主旨题比较难,其实只要掌握了文章套路,主旨题是最容易的。典型英语文章一般呈“倒三角形”结构,最重要的内容放在最前面介绍,一般是主旨句,中间是次要内容如一些展开、论证,后面是最次要内容如结论。在做一篇阅读的9分钟里,头2分钟一定要浏览,浏览过程中仔细读一下第一段头三句话、每一段头一句话,读第一段头三句话是为了找到本文主旨,读每一段头一句话是为了找到每一段的主题。然后第二步读题目时就可以知道每道题在哪里可以找到,而且也比较容易找到主旨。

主旨题的解题步骤:

1. 找出主题句

四级考试中,文章或段落的主旨常以主题句的形式出现。主题句的特点是:语义完整、形式简洁和观点明确。主题句大多数情况下出现在比较重要的位置,如文章的开头或结尾,如果一篇文章包括多个段落,一般来说,每个自然段的首句也是主题句。文章主题句之外的其他内容一般都是对主题句加以解释、补充说明或列举事实等。在演绎类的文章中,语篇主题句一般位于篇章的开头部分;在归纳类文章中,多出现在段末或篇末;不过有时主题句也出现在文章中间。

2. 概括和归纳出主题思想

在阅读理解中有的文章是没有主题句的。这是由于文章体裁的原因,或是由于短文是节选的。这时就要靠应试者自己进行概括或归纳隐含的主题思想了。概括主题可以从归纳每段的要点开始(大部分文章都是由数段组成),最后将各段要点集中概括并归纳出全文的主题思想。

第 一 课

※ 历年真题分析

2001 年 6 月 Passage 2

Sport is not only physically challenging, but it can also be mentally challenging. Criticism from coaches, parents, and other teammates, as well as pressure to win can create an excessive amount of anxiety or stress for young *athletes* (运动员). Stress can be physical, emotional, or psychological and research has indicated that it can lead to burnout. Burnout has been described as dropping or quitting of an activity that was at one time enjoyable.

The early years of development are critical years for learning about oneself. The sport setting is one where valuable experiences can take place. Young athletes can, for example, learn how to cooperate with others, make friends, and gain other social skills that will be used throughout their lives. Coaches and parents should be aware, at all times, that their feedback to youngsters can greatly affect their children. Youngsters may take their parents' and coaches' criticisms to heart and find a *flaw* (缺陷) in themselves.

Coaches and parents should also be cautious that youth sport participation does not become work for children. The outcome of the game should not be more important than the process of learning the sport and other life lessons. In today's youth sport setting, young athletes may be worrying more about who will win instead of enjoying themselves and the sport. Following a game, many parents and coaches focus on the outcome and find fault with youngsters' performances. Positive reinforcement should be provided regardless of the outcome. Research indicates that positive reinforcement motivates and has a greater effect on learning than criticism. Again, criticism can create high levels of stress, which can lead to burnout.

Q: The author's purpose in writing the passage is _____.

- A) to teach young athletes how to avoid burnout
- B) to persuade young children not to worry about criticism
- C) to stress the importance of positive reinforcement to children
- D) to discuss the skill of combining criticism with encouragement

本文第一段论述了 sports are mentally challenging (第一句话后半句)。指出教练和家长的批评和急于获胜的压力可能会带来负面的影响。

第二段指出在早期发展阶段教练和家长要意识到他们的反应会极大地影响孩子 (their feedback to youngsters can greatly affect their children)。

第三段的第一句话是这一段的主题句。本段告诫教练和家长不要使运动成为孩子的负担。注意此处的标志词“also”。

综上所述,本文的主题是劝告教练和家长不要对孩子的运动成绩过于批评,而应该像倒数第三、第二句话暗示的那样,多加以鼓励。所以不难选出正确答案为 C。

※ 考前阅读实战 (25 分钟内完成)

Passage 1

Cigarette smoking is believed by most research workers in this field to be an important factor in the development of cancer of the lungs and the throat and is believed to be related to cancer of the bladder (膀胱) and the oral cavity (口腔). Male cigarette smokers have a higher death rate from heart disease than non-smoking males.

Female smokers are thought to be less affected because they do not breathe in the smoke so deeply. The majority of physicians and researchers consider these relationships proved to their satisfaction and

say. "Give up smoking. If you don't smoke, don't start." Some competent physicians and research workers though their small number is *dwindling* (减小) even further are less sure of the effect of cigarette smoking on health. They consider the increase in *respiratory* (呼吸的) diseases and various forms of cancer may possibly be explained by other factors in the complex human environment — atmospheric pollution, increased nervous stress, chemical substances in processed food, or Chemical pesticides that are now being used by farmers in vast Quantities to destroy insects and small animals. Smokers who develop cancer or lung diseases, they say, may also, by coincidence, live in industrial areas, or eat more canned food. Gradually, however, research is isolating all other possible factors and proving them to be statistically irrelevant. While all tobacco smoking affects life expectancy and health, cigarette smoking appears to have a much greater effect than cigar or pipe smoking. However, *nicotine* (尼古丁) consumption is not diminished by the latter forms, and current research indicates relationship between all forms of smoking and cancer of the mouth and throat. Filters and low *tar* (焦油) tobacco are claimed to made smoking to some extent safer, but they can only marginally reduce, not eliminate, the hazards.

Q: The author's purpose of writing the passage is to _____.

- A) offer advice on how to give up smoking
- B) explain the influence of cigarette smoking on health
- C) list the factors that can cause cancer
- D) compare the opinions on the effect of smoking

Passage 2

Students who score high in achievement needs tend to make higher grades in college than those who score low. When degree aptitude for college work, as indicated by College Entrance Examination Board Tests, is constant, engineering students who score high in achievement needs tend to make higher grades in college than the aptitude test scores would indicate.

We can define this need as the habitual desire to do useful work well. It is a salient influence characteristic of those who need little supervision. Their desire for accomplishment is a stronger motivation than any stimulation the supervision can provide. Individuals who function in terms of this drive do not "bluff" in regard to a job that they fail to do well.

Some employees have a strong drive for success in their work; others are satisfied when they make a living. Those who want to feel that they are successes have high aspiration for themselves. Thoughts concerning the achievement drive are often prominent in the evaluations made by the typical employment interviewer who interviews college seniors for executive training. He wants to find out whether the senior has a strong drive to get ahead or merely to hold a job. Research indicates that some who do get ahead have an even stronger drive to avoid failure.

Q: What is the main subject of this passage?

- A) Student grades in college
- B) Individual motivation for work
- C) The achievement needs of engineering students
- D) Successful interview techniques

※ 备考锦囊

读文章前可大致浏览一下文章后题目的题干(注意不要去读选择项,否则既浪费时间还会造成错误印象)大致感知文章的脉络(最少是文章谈论的核心话题),读文章时要注意抓主题句,注意句间关系,注意起承转合,对生词不应畏惧而是运用多种方法合理猜测,对长难句要进行结构分析。

阅读实战答案: B B

第 二 课

※ 历年真题分析

2002 年 6 月 Passage 3

It is hard to track the blue whale, the ocean's largest creature, which has almost been killed off by commercial whaling and is now listed as an endangered species. Attaching radio devices to it is difficult, and visual sightings are too unreliable to give real insight into its behavior.

So biologists were delighted early this year when, with the help of the Navy, they were able to track a particular blue whale for 43 days, monitoring its sounds. This was possible because of the Navy's formerly top-secret system of underwater listening devices spanning the oceans.

Tracking whales is but one example of an exciting new world just opening to civilian scientists after the cold war as the Navy starts to share and partly uncover its global network of underwater listening system built over the decades to track the ships of potential enemies.

Earth scientists announced at a news conference recently that they had used the system for closely monitoring a deep-sea volcanic eruption (爆发) for the first time and that they plan similar studies.

Other scientists have proposed to use the network for tracking ocean currents and measuring changes in ocean and global temperatures.

The speed of sound in water is roughly one mile a second — slower than through land but faster than through air. What is most important, different layers of ocean water can act as channels for sounds, focusing them in the same way a stethoscope (听诊器) does when it carries faint noises from a patient's chest to a doctor's ear. This focusing is the main reason that even relatively weak sounds in the ocean, especially low-frequency ones, can often travel thousands of miles.

Q: The passage is chiefly about _____.

- A) an effort to protect an endangered marine species
- B) the civilian use of a military detection system
- C) the exposure of a U. S. Navy top-secret weapon
- D) a new way to look into the behavior of blue whales

本文是一篇科普类说明文。第一、二段以追踪蓝鲸引出话题,即军事技术(水下监听)在非军事领域的应用。第三段进一步加以明确,说明 tracking whales 仅仅是这一技术应用的一个例子。第四段说的是水下监听技术在 monitoring deep-sea volcanic eruption 方面的应用。第四段说的是水下监听技术在 tracking ocean currents and measuring changes in ocean and global temperatures 方面的应用。最后一段是作了原理性的说明。

综上所述,本文的话题是水下监听技术,主题则是这一技术的非军事领域的广泛应用。因此此题的正确答案应为 B。

此外,这一题也可用排除法解题或加以验证。C 的错误之处在于与文章内容完全不符,文中只提到了水下监听技术曾是绝密的 (formerly top-secret), 况且这项技术也并不是 weapon。A、D 两项涉及到蓝鲸,而追踪蓝鲸只是这一技术应用的一个例子,属细枝末节。如果 A 或 D 是文章的主题的话,那么后面的三段与主题有多大关系呢?

※ 考前阅读实战 (25 分钟内完成)

Passage 1

The accuracy of scientific observations and calculations is always at the mercy of the scientist's

timekeeping methods. For this reason, scientists are interested in devices that give promise of more precise timekeeping.

In their search for precision, scientists have turned to atomic clocks that depend on various vibrating atoms or molecules to supply their "ticking". This is possible because each kind of atom or molecule has its own characteristic rate of vibration. The *nitrogen*(氮) atom in *ammonia*(氨), for example, vibrates or "ticks" 24 billion times a second.

One such atomic clock is so accurate that it will probably lose no more than a second in 3,000 years. It will be of great importance in fields such as astronomical observation and long-range navigation. The heart of this *atomichron*(原子计时器) is a *cesium*(铯) atom that vibrates 9.2 billion times a second when heated to the temperature of boiling water.

An atomic clock that operates with an ammonia molecule may be used to check the accuracy of predictions based on Einstein's relativity theories, according to which a clock in motion and a clock at rest should keep time differently laced in an orbiting satellite moving at a speed of 18,000 miles an hour, the clock could broadcast its time reading to a ground station, where they would be compared with the readings on a similar model. Whatever differences developed would be checked against the differences predicted.

Q: An appropriate title for this passage would be _____.

- A) A Peacetime Use of the Atom
- B) Atoms and Molecules
- C) The Satellite Timekeepers
- D) The Role of the Clock

Passage 2

The music business is very difficult to succeed in; 9 out of 10 bands that have released their first record fail to produce a second. Surviving in the music industry requires luck and patience, but most of all it requires an intricate knowledge of how a record company functions. The signing of a recording contract is a slow process. The record company will spend a long time investigating the band and current trends in popular music; during this period, it is important that a band *reciprocate*(复杂的) with an investigation of its own, learning as much as possible about the company and making personal connections within the different departments that will handle their recordings. A record company's search for new talent usually begins by sending a representative of the Artists and Repertoire (A and R) department to visit bars and night clubs scouting for (= look for) young, talented bands. When the representative identifies a promising band, he or she will work to negotiate a contract and make the recording arrangements. Once a band has finished recording the *album*(唱片), the Publicity and Promotions department takes over and decides whether or not to mass produce and market the band's album. This is where many bands go wrong. They fail to make personal contacts in this second department, thus losing their voice in the final process of producing and marketing their album. This loss of voice often contributes to the band's failure as a recording group.

Q: Which of the following statements best expresses the main idea of the passage?

- A) Nine out of ten bands fail to produce a second record.
- B) The main factors in a band's success are luck and patience.
- C) It is important for a band to have an intricate knowledge of how a recording company works.
- D) Making personal connections will give the band a voice in the final decisions about the promotion of their album.

※ 备考锦囊

在阅读速度方面,要以较快的速度从大量材料中捕捉有关信息,学生必须养成良好的阅读习惯,不是逐词阅读,而是按意群(meaningful group)扫视、连贯阅读;不是拘泥于个别词句的理解,而力求融会贯通、掌握通篇的中心思想;不是通过翻译来理解,而是使英语的文字在大脑里直接产生意义。只有这样,阅读速度才能加快,理解的准确率才会提高。

阅读实战答案:A C

第三课

※ 历年真题分析

2000 年 1 月 Passage 2

Believe it or not, optical illusion can cut highway crashes.

Japan is a case in point. It has reduced automobile crashes on some roads by nearly 75 percent using a simple optical illusion. Bent strips, called chevrons, painted on the roads make drivers think that they are driving faster than they really are, and thus drivers slow down.

Now the American Automobile Association Foundations For Traffic Safety in Washington D. C. is planning to repeat Japan's success. Starting next year, the foundation will paint chevrons and other patterns of stripes on selected roads around the country to test how well the patterns reduce highway crashes.

Excessive speed plays a major role in as much as one fifty of all fatal traffic accidents, according to the foundation. To help reduce those accidents, the foundation will conduct its tests in areas where speed-related hazards are the greatest—curves, exit slopes, traffic circles, and bridges.

Some studies suggest that straight, horizontal bars painted across roads can initially cut the average speed of drivers in half. However, traffic often returns to full speed within months as drivers become used to seeing the painted bars.

Chevrons, scientists say, not only give drivers the impression that they are driving faster than they really are but also make a lane appear to be narrower. The result is a longer lasting reduction of highway speed and the number of traffic accidents.

Q: The passage mainly discusses _____.

- A) a new way of highway speed control
- B) a new pattern of painting highways
- C) a new approach to training drivers
- D) a new type of optical illusion

本题涉及文章的主题。文章讨论的是利用视觉错觉降低高速公路上的车祸。文章开门见山就指明了这一主题。文章接着说日本在公路上涂上人字形条纹,通过视觉错觉使得司机减速,美国也正准备效仿,然后作者解释各种图案的效果,指出人字形条纹在控制高速公路上车行速度,减少交通事故方面最有效。选项 A 符合文章的意思。文章讨论的是如何减低车速,减少车祸,如何油漆高速公路本身不是文章的主题,所以选项 B 不对。选项 C“训练司机的一种新方法”与文章的意思不符。而文章提到的通过油漆公路产生视觉错觉也不是什么视觉错觉的新类型,不过是一种实际应用,选项 D 也不对。

※ 考前阅读实战 (25 分钟内完成)

Passage 1

Tea drinking was common in China for nearly one thousand years before anyone in Europe had ever heard about tea. People in Britain were much slower in finding out what tea was like, mainly because tea was very expensive. It could not be bought in shops and even those people who could afford to have it sent from Holland did so only because it was a fashionable curiosity. Some of them were not sure how to use it. They thought it was a vegetable and tried cooking the leaves. Then they served them mixed with butter and salt. They soon discovered their mistake but many people used to spread the used tea leaves on bread and give them to their children as sandwiches.

Tea remained scarce and very expensive in England until the ships of the East India Company began to bring it direct from China early in the seventeenth century. During the next few years so much tea came into the country that the price fell and many people could afford to buy it.

At the same time people on the Continent were becoming more and more fond of tea. Until then tea had been drunk without milk in it, but one day a famous French lady named Madame de Sevigne decided to see what tea tasted like when milk was added. She found it so pleasant that she would never again drink it without milk. Because she was such a great lady her friends thought they must copy everything she did, so they also drank their tea with milk in it. Slowly this habit spread until it reached England and today only very few Britons drink tea without milk.

At first, tea was usually drunk after dinner in the evening. No one ever thought of drinking tea in the afternoon until a *duchess* (公爵夫人) found that a cup of tea and a piece of cake at three or four o'clock stopped her getting "a sinking feeling" as she called it. She invited her friends to have this new meal with her and so, tea-time was born.

Q: This passage mainly discusses _____.

- A) the history of tea drinking in Britain
- B) how tea became a popular drink in Britain
- C) how the Britons got the habit of drinking tea
- D) how tea-time was born

Passage 2

The heritage of English law brought with it the seeds of American liberty—not the flower and the fruit, which were to be produced after long labor and painful struggle. Nevertheless, the seeds were there and they sprouted, took root and have continued to grow. To this extent, the inheritance was valuable, but it is not to be denied that even though English law gave us the seeds of liberty, it also imposed upon us a vast amount of useless lumber that we have not swept away entirely — after three hundred years of unceasing effort. Even the system of trial by jury, in spite of its enormous value, came to us with burdensome, outworn ideas and unnecessary precautions, on the one hand, and with no adequate means of adaptation to changing conditions, on the other. For one thing, in the early days it was assumed that ignorance of the facts was a guarantee of a juror's impartiality. At that time, when means of communication were few and slow, there was something to be said for the idea; but today, when means of communication were abundant and almost instantaneous, ignorance of the facts is evidence, not of impartiality, but of extraordinary stupidity, or of extraordinary indifference. The rule that a juror must be ignorant of the facts is, therefore, a rule that operates against, not for the effort to fill the jury box with honest men of ordinary intelligence. It has become so hopeless, indeed, that the courts literally ceased long ago trying to enforce it. It is, nevertheless, still a theoretical part of the system.

Q: The passage is main about _____.

- A) the seeds of American liberty
- B) the system of trial by jury
- C) a theoretical weakness of the jury system
- D) the changing conditions in the jury system

※ 备考锦囊

英文的段落组织大都是由一般到特殊,由抽象到具体,行文多是主题句(topic sen-

tence)向支持句(supporting sentence)的层层推进。因此,归纳的关键是抓住文章或段落的话题(topic),即围绕着谈论的中心议题。而话题,常常与文章的题目密切相关。文题(title),又称“文眼”,取画龙点睛之意。由此可见,由文题入手,大致可以了解行文脉络,进而分析段与段之间、句与句之间关系,可以归纳全篇。

阅读实战答案:A C