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2015年

# 考研英语阅读100篇 及历年真题详解(英语二)

郭庆民 / 编著

- ✓ 详解历年真题，在解题过程中注重剖析命题思路和要点
- ✓ 题材、体裁接近真题，选文多涉及热点问题和传统话题，提高阅读各类文章的能力
- ✓ 配套参考译文，帮助考生总结疑难长句和关键词的处理技巧，同时提高阅读能力与英译汉能力

2015年

# 考研英语

阅读100篇及历年真题  
详解（英语二）

郭庆民/编著

中国人民大学出版社

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# 前言

本书 2015 年版根据 2014 年真题的特点进行重要修订,更换了大量文章,并添加了对 2014 年真题的翻译与题解。

2014 年完形填空部分难度适中,但阅读理解部分相当难,尤其是阅读理解 Part A 部分第三、四篇文章。Part B 部分的文章特别难,有相当数量的考生不能真正读懂这篇文章,可喜的是,许多考生无须读懂相关地方的确切含义,仍然能做对题。翻译和写作部分不是太难,大作文涉及城镇化问题,如果考生曾关注过这个话题,写这篇文章应该较轻松。总体来讲,2014 年的考题比 2013 年的考题难度大了不少,也包含很多超纲词汇,要想拿高分不容易。这再次说明,在备考过程中读一些难度较大的文章并记忆一部分常用的超纲词汇是必要的。

本书包括对历年真题的翻译、分析和精解,然后,基于对历年考题的选文和答题思路的分析,本书精选了 100 余篇文章,对每一篇文章都忠实地模仿真题命题思路出了模拟题,对全文进行了翻译,对答案进行了详解,对一部分文章的疑难长句进行了注解。目的是让考生通过精读一些好文章,积极扩展词汇、熟悉考研的命题思路、了解最新的社会热点问题、扩大知识面,以便提高复习的效率。另外,笔者认为,从研究和分析历年考题入手无疑是备考英语的最佳方式,因为只有认真研读历年真题,才能从文章的体裁、题材、命题角度上掌握命题思路,使自己的备考更具针对性。基于以上认识和目的,我们从以下几个方面对本书进行了精心的编写和修改。

**一、体裁的选择。**考研真题的大部分文章选自英美主流报刊,2014 年完形填空出自《大西洋月刊》(*The Atlantic*),第一篇阅读文章来自《经济学人》(*The Economist*),第二篇选自英国《卫报》(*The Guardian*),第三篇选自《大思维》(*Big Think*),第四篇选自《卫报》,阅读理解 Part B 选自英国《每日电讯报》。2013 年考题也不例外。它们分别出自《纽约时报》(Text 1、Text 3)、《华盛顿邮报》(Text 2)、《观察家报》(Part B)、《卫报》(翻译部分)。2012 年考题阅读理解 Part A 部分的 4 篇文章分别出自《洛杉矶时报》、《卫报》、《经济学人》和《大西洋月刊》,其中,登载于《卫报》的那篇文章实际上节选自一本书。从对 5 年的选文统计来看,命题人似乎钟爱《纽约时报》、《经济学人》和

《卫报》等,几乎每年都要从这里选择文章。当然,应该指出的是,虽然文章多出自报刊,但文章本身并不是新闻报道,而是新闻评论。

基于对历年真题中文章来源所做的统计,本书所选文章大部分出自英美主流报刊,尤其是上文提到的这些杂志。目的是让学生学会阅读报刊评论文章,熟悉这类文章的写法,提高阅读这类文章的能力。

**二、题材的选择。**2014 年考题的文章大部分发表于 2013 年 5、6 月间;2014 年阅读第一篇是对一本新书的评论,话题涉及花钱态度,第二篇涉及一项新的心理学实验,第三篇是对另一本新书的评价,话题涉及就业问题,第四篇涉及英国的住房问题。从这 4 篇文章来看,有 3 篇涉及经济热点问题。2013 年考题的文章发表于 2011 年至 2012 年间,2012 年的文章多数发表于 2010 年至 2011 年间,涉及的话题也相当新。例如,2013 年完形填空的文章涉及网络支付的安全性问题,阅读理解第一篇涉及美国目前的就业形势,第二篇涉及新时代美国的移民政策,第三篇涉及一项新的社会心理研究,第四篇谈到欧盟的一项新立法,等等。

由此可见,考生必须要读一些涉及社会热点问题的文章,了解事情发生的来龙去脉以及它们给重要的社会领域和行业造成的影响,了解英美国家和西方社会在这些问题上的基本立场。例如,在过去 3 年的考试中,经济类的文章是考试的重点,这些文章提到了金融危机、社会道德、艺术品拍卖市场、企业管理、欧元区的现状与未来、就业等。

根据考题选文的这些特点,本书的选文多涉及经济、社会、文化、教育、法律、计算机网络、环保、传媒等方面的热点问题。我们每年不断更新大量文章,其主要目的就是让考生读到一些新话题,熟悉这些话题,扩大知识面,并了解西方人在这些话题上的基本观点和立场。

**三、词汇的记忆。**充足的词汇量不仅对应试阅读理解部分重要,而且也是整个考试成功的关键。大多数考生发觉他们背生词的效率太低,这主要是因为他们没有能力判断并选择优先记忆一些常用单词及其常见意思。我们在本书第二部分的文章后列出了文章中出现的生词,并分成“考研必备词汇”和“其他词汇”。基于我们对真题的统计和教学经验,“考研必备词汇”都是考研文章中频繁出现的单词,我们为每个单词选择了 2~4 个意思,这些意思就是这些词汇在考研文章中出现时的常见意思。需要说明的是:“考研必备词汇”中也包括部分虽然超纲但出现频率仍然很高的词汇,因为历年真题中也包含不少超纲词汇。

这种设计是为了提高考生背单词的效率,由于这些词和词义使用频率高,考生在阅读过程中会不断见到这些词。因此,通过积极背诵这些词语,考生可以学以致用。“其他词汇”则不需要记忆。

**四、命题思路。**从 2010—2014 年的考题来看,阅读理解中的大部分题考查作者的基本观点和文章的重要信息。从对真题阅读理解部分的分析可以看出,即使当某个题的提问指向文章的个别句子、单词和词组时,正确答案也往往与所在段的主题有关。对它的回答要求考生把握住作者的基本观点和意图,然后把被提问到的地方放到相关段落的上下文中去理解,否则就会失之片面。因此在阅读文章时,考生一定要学会把握文章的主旨和段落主题,并在这个框架的指导下理解具体信息。

本书第一部分为考生概括出一些重要的答题思路,并通过对 2010 年和 2011 年考题的

详细解析,为学生展示了真题的命题思路。本书第二、三部分的模拟试题也重点训练考生把握作者观点和文章重要信息的能力。建议考生在做完题后先对照答案,独立思考自己错在哪里,然后再阅读答案详解,这样可以找出自己的理解存在哪些偏差和误区,并通过有意识地练习去克服自己的缺点。

**五、英译汉的练习。**为了方便考生精读本书所有文章,我们给每篇文章配上了参考译文。在翻译这些文章时,我们力求做到忠实原文,不漏词,不随意加词,强调译文的完整性,并在此基础上尽量做到通顺易懂。在做完每一篇阅读理解后,考生还可以找出一个比较难以理解的段落动笔翻译一下,然后对照参考译文总结一些疑难长句和关键词的处理技巧。这样,考生在练习阅读能力的同时也提高了英译汉的能力,因为翻译部分也是节选自报刊文章,例如,2013年翻译部分节选自《卫报》2011年12月份登载的一篇文章,2012年翻译部分节选自《经济学人》2011年5月的一篇文章。从这种选材方式可以看出,翻译和阅读是密不可分的。

**六、模拟训练。**本书在第三部分精选了几套模拟试题,供考生综合练习并检验自己的阅读能力和解题思路。建议考生每精读完第二部分的20篇文章做一套第三部分的模拟试题,这样既可以及时综合检验自己取得的进步,也可以做到精读与泛读的结合。请考生把每一套模拟试题控制在50~60分钟内完成。

**七、历年考题题解。**我们对2010—2014年考题的各个部分进行了详解,并在解题过程中注重剖析命题思路和要点。针对英译汉部分,我们除了提供参考译文之外,还提供了“要点分析”;针对写作部分,我们除了提供范文之外,还给出了“审题指导”。希望学生背诵每一篇范文,认真体会并总结“审题指导”中提到的要点,提高写作水平。

如果按照我们以上揭示的思路去理解考题的特点、熟练掌握命题的思路、通过阅读此书的内容来按部就班地练习这些思路,我们相信,考生的应试能力必将获得全面的提高。

本书由中国人民大学外国语学院郭庆民副教授编著,他主编的《考研英语阅读200篇》多年来已经成为全国公认的考研类书籍经典,以其出题难度和命题角度最接近考研英语真题而深受考生欢迎。本书的主要编写者是郭庆民,孟庆生、孙桐乐、宋佳佳、李红琳、李欢、柯杉杉、白曼、周卓斌参加了部分材料的整理和编写工作。

由于作者水平有限,本书疏漏在所难免,请广大考生和同仁提出宝贵意见。

编者



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# 1.

## 第一部分

### 阅读理解部分答题要点和 2011年、2010年考题阅读 理解部分译文与答案详解

#### 第一节 阅读理解部分答题要点

1. 做阅读理解部分的试题时可以首先通读全文，也可以边读边做题，考生可以根据自己的情况选择使用哪种方式。如果选择边读边做题，考生务必不要急于回答完所有问题。如果某个问题难以回答或没有把握，暂时不要急于回答这个问题，等阅读完全文后再尝试回答它。

2. 如果选择首先通读全文，在通读全文时，不要急于弄懂每一个句子或单词的意思，只要先把握住文章的主旨、每一段的基本主题、作者的基本观点和态度就足够了，待做题时再对句子的意思做更具体的解读。这样做可以防止通读文章占去太多时间。

3. 大部分题的正确答案跟段落主题和作者的基本观点有关，因此在读一篇文章时要学会把握文章的主要信息。所谓主要信息包括文章的基本观点、主要论据、作者的态度，也包括被作者批驳的观点或立场。

4. 文章的第一段和最后一段都要认真读，每一段的前两句也应该认真读。这意味着，在阅读一些重要地方时应该放慢阅读速度，包含重要信息的句子，如转折句，甚至应该读两遍以上，但切记不要纠缠陌生的词或词组，能把握住句子的基本意思即可。

5. 不要过多地纠缠被提问到的句子或短语，要学会在上下文中理解被提问的句子或词语，特别是要把握住句子所在段落的话题，以及作者在这个方面的基本观点和立场。

6. 回答涉及主题的提问时，比如提问文章的 title 和 main idea 之类的题，不要满足于仅仅在文章中找到支持某个选择项的个别句子。应该把文章多个段落的话题联系在一起做综合考虑，其中尤其还要注意文章的第一段（有时候也包括第二段），看一看作者在其中是否已经明确地点出了本文旨在谈论的话题，并表达了自己的立场。

7. 回答涉及作者态度的提问时，比如用 attitude 或 tone 提问的题，应该认真阅读集中代表作者观点的句子，比如各式各样的转折句，它们经常比较清楚地表达了作者的观点和态度。另外，作者经常在文章的最后一段重申自己的态度，特别是最后一段的最后两三句。

8. 当提问指向文章中的某个例子或引语时，一定不要在看懂例子和引语的基础上自己归纳结论。考生应该明白，无论是举例，还是引用其他人的话，作者的目的都是想用它们支持自己的观点和立场。作者往往在举例或引用之前或之后，明确阐明自己举例和引用旨在说明的道理。因此，回答这类问题时，考生一定要看作者在举例前说了什么道理，表达了什么观点，或举例之后作出了什么样的评价，并据此



来理解例子和引语的意思和意图。

9. 如果个别句子由于包含的生词太多或语法结构过于复杂而一时难以看懂,不要着急,也不要根据词根和词缀胡乱猜测生词的意思,以防严重曲解整个句子的意思。遇到这种情况,应该学会根据上一句和下一句的意思来确定难句的基本意思(而不是具体意思)。考生需要记住:不理解个别句子的意思,通常不会影响把握文章的主要信息。

10. 阅读理解部分的四篇文章可以用 60 分钟左右的时间完成,这意味着,每篇文章可以在 15 分钟左右完成。这也提醒考生,不必为了盲目地提高阅读速度把文章处理得很匆忙,致使答题出现严重失误。

11. 通过阅读本书第一部分第二、三节中对 2011 年、2010 年考题阅读理解部分的答案详解,考生可以学会以上提示的阅读技能和解题思路,并从中总结更多的思路。然后,在第二、三部分中严格按照这些思路来训练自己的阅读能力和解题能力。

## 第二节 2011 年考题阅读理解部分译文与答案详解

### Part A

#### Directions:

Read the following four passages. Answer the questions below each passage by choosing A, B, C and D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

### TEXT 1

Ruth Simmons joined Goldman Sachs's board as an outside director in January 2000: a year later she became president of Brown University. For the rest of the decade she apparently managed both roles without attracting much criticism. But by the end of 2009 Ms. Simmons was under fire for having sat on Goldman's compensation committee; how could she have let those enormous bonus payouts pass unremarked? By February the next year Ms. Simmons had left the board. The position was just taking up too much time, she said.

Outside directors are supposed to serve as helpful, yet less biased, advisers on a firm's board. Having made their wealth and their reputations elsewhere, they presumably have enough independence to disagree with the chief executive's proposals. If the sky, and the share price, is falling, outside directors should be able to give advice based on having weathered their own crises.

The researchers from Ohio University used a database that covered more than 10,000 firms and more than 64,000 different directors between 1989 and 2004. Then they simply checked which directors stayed from one proxy statement to the next. The most likely reason for departing a board was age, so the researchers concentrated on those "surprise" disappearances by directors under the age of 70. They found that after a surprise departure, the probability that the company will subsequently have to restate earnings increased by nearly 20%. The likelihood of being named in a federal class-action lawsuit also increases, and the stock is likely to perform worse. The effect tended to be larger for larger firms.

Although a correlation between them leaving and subsequent bad performance at the firm is suggestive, it does not mean that such directors are always jumping off a sinking ship. Often they “trade up.” Leaving riskier, smaller firms for larger and more stable firms.

But the researchers believe that outside directors have an easier time of avoiding a blow to their reputations if they leave a firm before bad news breaks, even if a review of history shows they were on the board at the time any wrongdoing occurred. Firms who want to keep their outside directors through tough times may have to create incentives. Otherwise outside directors will follow the example of Ms. Simmons, once again very popular on campus.

21. According to Paragraph 1, Ms. Simmons was criticized for \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] gaining excessive profits [B] failing to fulfill her duty  
[C] refusing to make compromises [D] leaving the board in tough times

22. We learn from Paragraph 2 that outside directors are supposed to be \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] generous investors [B] unbiased executives  
[C] share price forecasters [D] independent advisers

23. According to the researchers from Ohio University after an outside director's surprise departure, the firm is likely to \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] become more stable [B] report increased earnings  
[C] do less well in the stock market [D] perform worse in lawsuits

24. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that outside directors \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] may stay for the attractive offers from the firm  
[B] have often had records of wrongdoings in the firm  
[C] are accustomed to stress-free work in the firm  
[D] will decline incentives from the firm

25. The author's attitude toward the role of outside directors is \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] permissive [B] positive [C] scornful [D] critical

## TEXT 2

Whatever happened to the death of newspaper? A year ago the end seemed near. The recession threatened to remove the advertising and readers that had not already fled to the Internet. Newspapers like the *San Francisco Chronicle* were chronicling their own doom. America's Federal Trade Commission launched a round of talks about how to save newspapers. Should they become charitable corporations? Should the state subsidize them? It will hold another meeting soon. But the discussions now seem out of date.

In much of the world there is little sign of crisis. German and Brazilian papers have shrugged off the recession. Even American newspapers, which inhabit the most troubled corner of the global industry, have not only survived but often returned to profit. Not the 20% profit margins that were routine a few years ago, but profit all the same.

It has not been much fun. Many papers stayed afloat by pushing journalists overboard. The American Society of News Editors reckons that 13,500 newsroom jobs have gone since

2007. Readers are paying more for slimmer products. Some papers even had the nerve to refuse delivery to distant suburbs. Yet these desperate measures have proved the right ones and, sadly for many journalists, they can be pushed further.

Newspapers are becoming more balanced businesses, with a healthier mix of revenues from readers and advertisers. American papers have long been highly unusual in their reliance on ads. Fully 87% of their revenues came from advertising in 2008, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD). In Japan the proportion is 35%. Not surprisingly, Japanese newspapers are much more stable.

The whirlwind that swept through newsrooms harmed everybody, but much of the damage has been concentrated in areas where newspapers are least distinctive. Car and film reviewers have gone. So have science and general business reporters. Foreign bureaus have been savagely cut off. Newspapers are less complete as a result. But completeness is no longer a virtue in the newspaper business.

26. By saying "Newspapers like... their own doom" (Lines 3~4, Para. 1), the author indicates that newspaper \_\_\_\_.

- [A] neglected the sign of crisis                      [B] failed to get state subsidies  
[C] were not charitable corporations              [D] were in a desperate situation

27. Some newspapers refused delivery to distant suburbs probably because \_\_\_\_.

- [A] readers threatened to pay less  
[B] newspapers wanted to reduce costs  
[C] journalists reported little about these areas  
[D] subscribers complained about slimmer products

28. Compared with their American counterparts, Japanese newspapers are much more stable because they \_\_\_\_.

- [A] have more sources of revenue              [B] have more balanced newsrooms  
[C] are less dependent on advertising              [D] are less affected by readership

29. What can be inferred from the last paragraph about the current newspaper business?

- [A] Distinctiveness is an essential feature of newspapers.  
[B] Completeness is to blame for the failure of newspaper.  
[C] Foreign bureaus play a crucial role in the newspaper business.  
[D] Readers have lost their interest in car and film reviews.

30. The most appropriate title for this text would be \_\_\_\_.

- [A] American Newspapers: Struggling for Survival  
[B] American Newspapers: Gone with the Wind  
[C] American Newspapers: A Thriving Business  
[D] American Newspapers: A Hopeless Story

### TEXT 3

We tend to think of the decades immediately following World War II as a time of

prosperity and growth, with soldiers returning home by the millions, going off to college on the G. I. Bill and lining up at the marriage bureaus.

But when it came to their houses, it was a time of common sense and a belief that less could truly be more. During the Depression and the war, Americans had learned to live with less, and that restraint, in combination with the postwar confidence in the future, made small, efficient housing positively stylish.

Economic condition was only a stimulus for the trend toward efficient living. The phrase “less is more” was actually first popularized by a German, the architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, who like other people associated with the Bauhaus, a school of design, emigrated to the United States before World War II and took up posts at American architecture schools. These designers came to exert enormous influence on the course of American architecture, but none more so than Mies.

Mies's signature phrase means that less decoration, properly organized, has more impact than a lot. Elegance, he believed, did not derive from abundance. Like other modern architects, he employed metal, glass and laminated wood—materials that we take for granted today but that in the 1940s symbolized the future. Mies's sophisticated presentation masked the fact that the spaces he designed were small and efficient, rather than big and often empty.

The apartments in the elegant towers Mies built on Chicago's Lake Shore Drive, for example, were smaller—two-bedroom units under 1,000 square feet—than those in their older neighbors along the city's Gold Coast. But they were popular because of their airy glass walls, the views they afforded and the elegance of the buildings' details and proportions, the architectural equivalent of the abstract art so popular at the time.

The trend toward “less” was not entirely foreign. In the 1930s Frank Lloyd Wright started building more modest and efficient houses—usually around 1,200 square feet—than the spreading two-story ones he had designed in the 1890s and the early 20th century.

The “Case Study Houses” commissioned from talented modern architects by California *Arts & Architecture* magazine between 1945 and 1962 were yet another homegrown influence on the “less is more” trend. Aesthetic effect came from the landscape, new materials and forthright detailing. In his Case Study House, Ralph Rapson may have mispredicted just how the mechanical revolution would impact everyday life—few American families acquired helicopters, though most eventually got clothes dryers—but his belief that self-sufficiency was both desirable and inevitable was widely shared.

31. The postwar American housing style largely reflected the Americans' \_\_\_\_.

- |                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| [A] prosperity and growth    | [B] efficiency and practicality |
| [C] restraint and confidence | [D] pride and faithfulness      |

32. Which of the following can be inferred from Paragraph 3 about Bauhaus?

- |   |
|---|
| [A] It was founded by Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.         |
| [B] Its designing concept was affected by World War II. |

- [C] Most American architects used to be associated with it.  
 [D] It had a great influence upon American architecture.
33. Mies held that elegance of architectural design \_\_\_\_\_.  
 [A] was related to large space  
 [B] was identified with emptiness  
 [C] was not reliant on abundant decoration  
 [D] was not associated with efficiency
34. What is true about the apartments Mies built on Chicago's Lake Shore Drive?  
 [A] They ignored details and proportions.  
 [B] They were built with materials popular at that time.  
 [C] They were more spacious than neighboring buildings.  
 [D] They shared some characteristics of abstract art.
35. What can we learn about the design of the "Case Study House"?  
 [A] Mechanical devices were widely used.  
 [B] Natural scenes were taken into consideration.  
 [C] Details were sacrificed for the overall effect.  
 [D] Eco-friendly materials were employed.

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## TEXT 4

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Will the European Union make it? The question would have sounded strange not long ago. Now even the project's greatest cheerleaders talk of a continent facing a "Bermuda triangle" of debt, population decline and lower growth.

As well as those chronic problems, the EU faces an acute crisis in its economic core, the 16 countries that use the single currency. Markets have lost faith that the euro zone's economies, weaker or stronger, will one day converge thanks to the discipline of sharing a single currency, which denies uncompetitive members the quick fix of devaluation.

Yet the debate about how to save Europe's single currency from disintegration is stuck. It is stuck because the euro zone's dominant powers, France and Germany, agree on the need for greater harmonization within the euro zone, but disagree about what to harmonize.

Germany thinks the euro must be saved by stricter rules on borrowing, spending and competitiveness, backed by quasi-automatic sanctions for governments that do not obey. These might include threats to freeze EU funds for poorer regions and EU mega-projects and even the suspension of a country's voting rights in EU ministerial councils. It insists that economic co-ordination should involve all 27 members of the EU club, among whom there is a small majority for free-market liberalism and economic rigour; in the inner core alone, Germany fears, a small majority favour French interference.

A "southern" camp headed by France wants something different: "European economic government" within an inner core of euro-zone members. Translated, that means politicians

intervening in monetary policy and a system of redistribution from richer to poorer members, via cheaper borrowing for governments through common Eurobonds or complete fiscal transfers. Finally, figures close to the France government have murmured, euro-zone members should agree to some fiscal and social harmonization; e. g., curbing competition in corporate-tax rates or labour costs.

It is too soon to write off the EU. It remains the world's largest trading block. At its best, the European project is remarkably liberal; built around a single market of 27 rich and poor countries, its internal borders are far more open to goods, capital and labour than any comparable trading area. It is an ambitious attempt to blunt the sharpest edges of globalization, and make capitalism benign.

36. The EU is faced with so many problems that \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] it has more or less lost faith in markets
- [B] even its supporters begin to feel concerned
- [C] some of its member countries plan to abandon euro
- [D] it intends to deny the possibility of devaluation

37. The debate over the EU's single currency is stuck because the dominant powers \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] are competing for the leading position
- [B] are busy handling their own crises
- [C] fail to reach an agreement on harmonization
- [D] disagree on the steps towards disintegration

38. To solve the euro problem, Germany proposed that \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] EU funds for poor regions be increased
- [B] stricter regulations be imposed
- [C] only core members be involved in economic co-ordination
- [D] voting rights of the EU members be guaranteed

39. The French proposal of handling the crisis implies that \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] poor countries are more likely to get funds
- [B] strict monetary policy will be applied to poor countries
- [C] loans will be readily available to rich countries
- [D] rich countries will basically control Eurobonds

40. Regarding the future of the EU, the author seems to feel \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] pessimistic
- [B] desperate
- [C] conceited
- [D] hopeful

## TEXT 1

### 答案详解

21. [B] 意为: 没有履行她的责任。

第一段提到, Simmons 在 2009 年末受到了激烈批评 (under fire), 其中的原因并不是她自己拿到多



少奖金,而是她身为公司薪酬委员会的一员(sit on 这里指担任委员),眼看着公司支出如此多奖金而没有发表任何言论(unremarked),也就是说,她没有履行自己的职责。注意:这个题主要指向第一段第三句这个转折句,转折句往往表达文章重要信息。

[A] 意为:获得过多的利益。第一段并没有提到她自己获得很多钱。她只是 let those enormous bonus payouts pass unremarked,即让巨大的红利支出在委员会上得以通过而没有表示反对。

[C] 意为:拒绝作出妥协。

[D] 意为:在困难的时候离开了董事会。

22. [D] 意为:独立顾问。

这道题提问的仍然是文章重要信息,即外部董事的特点。第二段提到,人们通常期待外部董事能在董事会上发挥作用,但同时不带有先入之见或个人倾向。他们被认为有足够的独立性,能对公司总裁的建议提出不同意见。第二段实际上介绍了外部董事的主要职责,由此可见,外部董事最大的特点就是比内部董事的独立性更强,他们可以借助自己在其他公司获得的管理经验,对公司的一些决定进行更客观的评价,表达不同意见。

[A] 意为:慷慨的投资者。

[B] 意为:无偏向的董事。第二段提到,外部董事被认为能起到 less biased advisors 的作用。外部董事不同于内部董事,他们不参加公司管理,公司只是借助他们的经验为公司出谋划策。由此看来,他们的角色更像公司的顾问。

[C] 意为:股价预测者。

23. [C] 意为:在股票市场上表现不太好。

第三段提到俄亥俄州立大学的一项研究。研究者发现,外部董事离开后更可能发生如下事情:(1)公司重编收益报表;(2)公司容易卷入集体诉讼案(class-action lawsuit 通常指工人因工资等问题集体状告公司的案件);(3)股票表现欠佳。

[A] 意为:变得更稳定。

[B] 意为:报告收益上的增长。

[D] 意为:在诉讼案中表现更差。

24. [A] 意为:可能因为公司给的有吸引力的薪酬而留下来。

这是一道推理题,也就是说,考生不能根据文章的内容直接获得答案,必须要经过一定的逻辑推理才能选出正确答案。最后一段提到,虽然调查发现在不良状况发生的时候外部董事仍然在董事会里,但是如果他们在坏消息泄露(break 这里意为“泄露,暴露”)之前离开,就能避免他们的名誉受损。如果公司想在困难时期挽留外部董事,不得不提供激励,否则,他们就要像 Simmons 一样一走了之。由此推断,如果公司提供 incentives (指物质激励,如增加薪金),这些外部董事有可能留下来,继续为公司服务。

[B] 意为:在公司中经常有不良行为记录。最后一段中所说的 wrongdoing 指的是公司的不良行为。

[C] 意为:习惯了公司无压力的工作。

[D] 意为:将谢绝公司提供的激励。

25. [D] 意为:批评的。

这是一道态度题,回答这类题要注意抓住作者的基本观点。作者似乎对外部董事没有好感。第一段提到 Simmons 的经历,她黯然离开了 Goldman Sachs (一家金融投资公司的名字),虽然她自己说当外部董事占用了她很多时间,但真正原因是她受到批评被迫离开。俄亥俄州立大学的调查也发现,伴随外部董事的突然离开经常出现一些不好的事情。这些人在公司出现不良状况时离开,但他们往往又能高就。在第三段中,trade up 原意是“通过买卖使价格提高”,这里指这些人换一个公司能获得更好的待遇。结果,他们就离开更危险、更小的公司,到更大、更稳定的公司中就职。最后一段还提到他们可能受到 incentives 的诱惑。

[A] 意为:宽容的。

[B] 意为: 支持的。

[C] 意为: 讽刺的。

## 译文

Ruth Simmons 在 2000 年 1 月以外部董事身份加入高盛公司董事会, 并于一年之后, 成为布朗大学的校长。接下来的十年里, 她游走于两个角色之间, 显然没有引起多少批评。但到了 2009 年末, 她因作为高盛公司薪资委员会成员而备受指责: 她怎么能坦然地让如此巨额的奖金分配提案得以通过呢? 2010 年 2 月, Simmons 女士离开了高盛董事会。她说这个职位实在是占用了她太多时间。

外部董事被认为是公司董事会得力的、没有偏见的顾问。因为已在其他地方挣足了钱并获得了名望, 所以他们被认为应该有足够的独立性对首席执行官的提案提出异议。如果天——或股票价格——塌下来, 外部董事应该能以自己之前应对危机的经验来进言献策。

来自俄亥俄州立大学的研究人员建立了一个数据库, 资料涵盖 1989 年至 2004 年间 10 000 多家公司和超过 64 000 位不同的董事。他们考察了两次股东委托书之间董事的去留状况, 发现董事离职的首要原因是年龄。所以, 研究者们把 70 岁以下董事的“意外”离职作为研究重点。他们发现, 在“意外”离职发生后, 公司紧接着需要重编收益表的可能性增加了 20%, 卷入联邦集体诉讼的几率也增加了, 同时其股票也很可能表现得更糟糕。这种影响在大公司表现得更为明显。虽然外部董事的离职和公司后来的糟糕表现之间存在的联系不是确定的, 但这并不意味着他们总是“跳下沉船”。他们通常会“另攀高枝”, 离开风险更大、规模更小的公司, 去规模更大、更稳定的公司。

但研究者相信, 如果外部董事在公司的问题被揭露之前先行离开, 他们更容易避免名誉上的损失, 即使审查历史资料时我们也会发现: 公司运转不良时他们是董事会的一员。那些想要在困难时期留住其外部董事的公司可能需要提供激励。否则, 外部董事就会效法 Simmons 女士离开, 回到校园也同样受欢迎。

## TEXT 2

### 答案详解

26. [D] 意为: 处于绝望状态。

在这个句子中, chronicle 是动词, 意为“记载”; 所谓“正在记载自己的末日”, 指报纸濒临死亡的边缘。如果不认识 chronicle 和 doom 这两个词, 这句话的意思就必须放入上下文加以理解。上文提到了“报纸死亡”、“末日似乎很近”等, 下文提到要不要拯救报纸的问题。因此第四句仍然谈的是报纸行将消亡。

[A] 意为: 忽视了危机信号。

[B] 意为: 没有能够获得州政府补贴。

[C] 意为: 不是慈善机构。

27. [B] 意为: 报纸想要降低成本。

从 probably 来看, 这个题要求一定程度的推理, 在原文中不能直接找到答案。第三段提到了报纸的一些做法, 包括裁减记者 (pushing journalists overboard), 削减报纸厚度 (slimmer products), 不给远郊区送报, 还包括最后一段中提到的关闭国外办事处 (foreign bureaus have been savagely cut off)。不幸的是, 这些措施都证明是对的。根据第二、三段中提到的这些做法都使得报纸开始挣钱, 避免了倒闭的厄运。一个合理的推论是, 这些做法都是为了降低报纸的运营成本。

[A] 意为: 读者威胁说要少付钱。

[C] 意为: 记者几乎不对这些地区进行报道。

[D] 意为: 订阅者抱怨产品变薄。

28. [C] 意为: 对广告的依赖更小。

第四段提到, 美国报纸严重依赖广告收入, 而日本报纸依赖广告收入的程度就小多了, 只占总收入的 35%, 因此日本报业比美国报业更稳定。

[A] 意为: 有更多的收入来源。无论是日本报业还是美国报业, 都要靠各种收入来源, 包括出售报纸和登载广告等赚取的收入。

[B] 意为: 有更平衡的编辑力量。一般来讲, newsroom 指编辑室, 这里可以理解为比喻意义, 指编辑人员或编辑力量。

[D] 意为: 更少受到读者群的影响。

29. [A] 意为: 特色是报纸的一个基本要素。

这是一道推理题。最后一段讲到, 对报纸来说, 受害最深的领域是那些最没有特色的领域, 比如车评和影评等。言外之意, 一个栏目办得有特色是报纸生存的关键要素。

[B] 意为: 报纸的垮台应该归罪于完整性。最后一段提到, 去掉了一些没有特色的领域之后, 报纸就变得不完整了, 但是“完整性”或“全面性”不再是报纸的一个优势。从本文来看, 作者并没有认为追求完整性是导致报纸衰落的原因, 根据第一段, 网络才是导致报纸衰败的真正原因。

[C] 意为: 国外办事处在报业起着关键作用。根据最后一段, 网络的应用使得很多国外办事处没有用了, 因此被大刀阔斧地砍掉了。

[D] 意为: 读者失去了对车评和影评的兴趣。

30. [A] 意为: 美国报纸: 为生存而挣扎。

第一段提到报纸所面临的危险形势, 第一段最后一句是一个转折句, 指出了下文将要讨论的主题, 即有关报纸死亡或拯救报纸的争论已经过时, 因为报纸没有死, 已经摆脱了危机, 开始盈利。报纸在收入来源上已经变得更平衡。

[B] 意为: 美国报纸: 随风而去。

[C] 意为: 美国报纸: 一个兴旺发达的行业。

[D] 意为: 美国报纸: 一个绝望的故事。这个选项跟 [B] 一样都是说美国报纸已经不可救药。

## 主旨译文

报纸究竟会不会消亡? 一年前, 末日似乎已近。经济衰退威胁要把那些还没有逃往网络的广告和读者彻底转移过去。像《旧金山纪事报》这样的报纸正在编写着自己的厄运史。美国联邦贸易委员会发起了一轮谈话, 来讨论如何拯救报纸。他们是否应该变为慈善团体? 州政府是否应该为其提供补贴? 紧接着还要举行新一轮的会议。但现在看来, 这些讨论似乎已经过时了。

在世界很多地方, 并不存在多少危机迹象。德国和巴西的报纸已经摆脱了衰退。即使是处于全球行业麻烦最大的角落的美国报纸, 不仅存活下来, 而且往往还能恢复盈利。并不是几年前那种 20% 的利润率, 但好歹是盈利了。

这一过程并无多少乐趣可言。许多报纸通过辞退记者而得以存活。美国新闻编辑协会估算, 自 2007 年以来, 有 13 500 个新闻职位已经消失。读者花钱更多, 但买的报纸更薄。某些报纸甚至有胆量拒绝向远郊投递。但是, 这些不顾一切的手段却证明是正确的。不幸的是, 对于许多记者来说, 他们还可能面临被辞退的压力。

来自读者和广告客户的收益形成一个更加健康的组合, 正使得报业变得更加平衡。美国报纸一直以来过度依赖于广告。根据经济合作与发展组织的数据, 在 2008 年, 高达 87% 的收入来自广告。而在日本, 这个比例是 35%。所以, 日本报业更为稳定也就不足为怪了。

这股横扫报业的旋风伤及每个人, 但是很大一部分损失集中于报纸最没有特色的部分。汽车和电影评论员离开了, 科学和商业记者也离开了。海外办事处遭到疯狂精简。结果导致报纸不再那么完整。但是, 完整已经不再被视作报业的一个优点。