

BREAKTHROUGH

IN READING COMPREHENSION

沈启智 ◎总主编

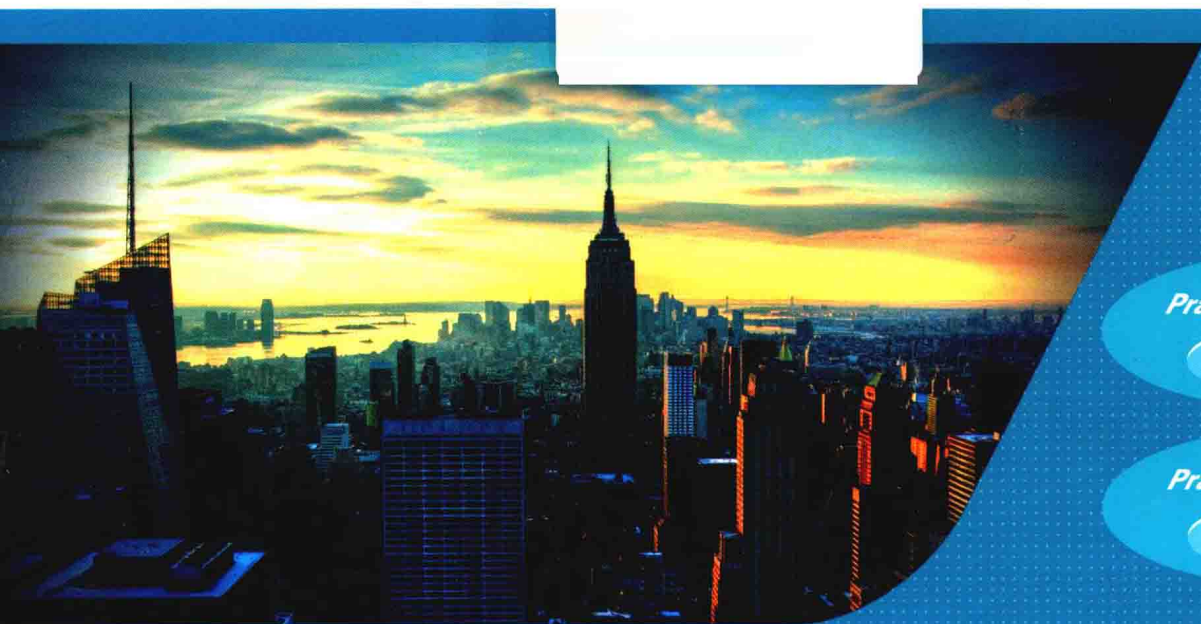
乐多英语

专项突破

阅读理解

高一分册

直面考试改革 突出语言运用



Practice A 基础训练

语言能力

Practice B 测试训练

应试能力

沈启智 © 总主编



阅读理解

高一分册

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编者的话

英语作为交际工具,无疑需要通过足量的合理训练来掌握,因此有“Practice makes perfect”的说法。问题在于:

练什么(What practice do we need)? 如何练(How to make it perfect)?

本套丛书功能定位为“专项突破”,希望能够帮助使用者通过适当有效的语言训练在语言知识和语言技能方面获得“突破”。

“工欲善其事,必先利其器”,本书希望为使用者提供“突破”的有效途径,同时在编写中也力图从以下几个方面能够实现“突破”:

一、编写理念前沿,要求科学合理

本书由一线教师参与编写,充分发挥其对教学与学生熟悉了解的优势。老师们对教学进行反思,将其多年来的教学成果与感悟融汇其中。各分册开宗明义,在 PART ONE (GENERAL INTRODUCTION)中按 FOCUS(要点)列出了“英语课程标准”和“考试大纲”关于英语基础知识与基本技能的相应目标与要求,希望与本书使用者共同看清方向,把握标高。

二、注重知识运用,提高语言技能

“学为用,用中学”是我们的共识,本书对语法和词汇等基础知识在做出适当讲解之后,主要通过语意充实、语境丰富的语言运用训练来掌握巩固;听力、阅读与写作等技能则也设计了合理真实的交际任务让使用者“学以致用”。本书主干内容(PART TWO)正是这样的注重语言运用的 PRACTICE。

三、区分训练目标,有效培养能力

“题与题不同”,学习语言过程中,仅以功能为语言测量工具的测试题(选择题是其代表)来占据全部训练时间的做法(即“以考代学”)是不可取的。训练分为基础训练与测试训练,前者为后者打下基础,后者侧重考查,二者不可混淆。本书分别设计了侧重形成性与过程性的 PRACTICE A 与针对测试与考查的 PRACTICE B 两类不同性质的训练。

四、尊重自主学习,显现学生主体

课程改革核心理念之一是要体现“学生为主体”,本书在讲解过程中,始终将学生的自主学习意识与能力的培养放在心中。训练答案的解析(ANSWER KEY)则更为集中地体现了这一原则。

五、体例相对统一,分册留有空间

本书覆盖了初高中学段,涉及语法词汇与听力、读写等各个方面,编写中虽有统一的体例框架,但也未简单强求整齐划一,各系列与分册根据其内容,仍有一定变化空间,个性特征得以彰显。可谓“和而不同”。

本书编写者包括了十多所省市重点中学的一线教师,大多经历了十年乃至数十年的教学磨砺,积累了丰富的教学经验,他们热爱学生,敬业求精,此次的编写工作也是“厚积薄发”的一次体验。衷心希望得到各地同行的认可,听到他们的建议,尤其希望能听到学生使用者的心得与意见。

英语回归到工具学科的本来地位,突出运用能力的培养,正是我们的所愿,与本套丛书的编写初衷不谋而合。在英语学习得到空前关注的时代背景下,我们期望能够有所作为,有所突破,愿以此次努力作为一次尝试。

编写说明

在强调英语教学回归语言运用本质的今天,英语阅读能力的培养必将面临前所未有的挑战,这也对英语阅读教学和与之相配套的教辅资料提出了更高的要求。本套《阅读理解》系列丛书正好是顺应这种改革需求,突出教改理念,潜移默化地渗透阅读理解技巧,引领师生科学地进行阅读训练,使阅读训练事半功倍。

本系列丛书具有以下特点:

一、讲、练、测融为一体

“讲”:为 PART ONE GENERAL INTRODUCTION,讲高中生应达成的阅读水平,讲阅读能力目标,讲阅读方法,讲阅读训练的基本技能等;“练”,为 PART TWO 基础训练 PRACTICE A;“测”,即 PART TWO 中的 PRACTICE B。最后的“讲”,即 PART THREE ANSWER KEY 中答案解析,这个部分重总结、分析、点拨解题思路。精讲精练,科学测试,训练必然高效。

二、训练模式科学

本丛书 PRACTICE 由 PRACTICE A 基础训练和 PRACTICE B 测试性训练两种训练组成。基础训练和测试性训练并重,年级越低,基础训练力度越大。为了避免以考代学、以测代训的做法,基础训练不再用单一的选择题型,而是采用了填空、问答、判断、推理等主观题型,便于学知识、练能力、长经验、得方法。先基础训练,再测试性训练,真正提高学生语言运用能力和应试能力。

三、训练材料可靠

全部训练题由原创题与经典题按恰当的比例(8:2)组成。原创题选材于英美等国家书报杂志、课本、读物、英文网站等。所选文章都进行过适当的改编,对生词进行了恰当的处理,力求内容健康,难度适宜。经典题选材于近几年高考真题和全国英语教学质量较高的省、市及著名重点中学大型考试的真题。在保持试题原汁原味的前提下,部分试题经过了改编、打磨,因而更趋完善、更加精美。

四、训练循序渐进

本丛书严格按《普通高中英语课程标准》和《英语考试大纲》的要求,分年级安排训练内容,一年级一分册。训练文章题材、体裁与主流版本的高中英语教材课文相配套,文章所涉及的词汇、语法等语言知识尽可能与教材同步。阅读难度循序渐进。



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GENERAL INTRODUCTION

FOCUS 1 《普通高中英语课程标准》中与阅读相关的内容

语言技能是语言运用能力的重要组成部分。语言技能包括听、说、读、写四个方面的技能以及这四种技能的综合运用能力。听和读是理解的技能,说和写是表达的技能。其中读的技能要求与高考中“阅读理解”部分相对应。“高中英语课程标准”语言技能目标中对读的分级目标描述如下:

六级: 1. 能从一般文字资料中获取主要信息;
2. 能利用上下文和句子结构猜测词义;
3. 能根据上下文线索预测故事情节的发展;
4. 能根据阅读目的使用不同的阅读策略;
5. 能通过不同信息渠道查找所需要信息;
6. 除教材外,课外阅读量应累计达到 18 万词以上。

七级: 1. 能从一般文章中获取和处理主要信息;
2. 能理解文章主旨和作者意图;

3. 能通过上下文克服生词困难,理解语篇意义;
4. 能通过文章中的线索进行推理;
5. 能根据需要从网络等资源中获取信息;
6. 能阅读适合高中生的英语报刊或杂志;
7. 除教材外,课外阅读量应累计达到 23 万词以上。

八级: 1. 能识别不同文体的特征;
2. 能通过分析句子结构理解难句和长句;
3. 能理解阅读材料中不同的观点和态度;
4. 能根据学习任务的需要从多种媒体中获取信息并进行加工处理;
5. 能在教师的帮助下欣赏浅显的英语文学作品;
6. 除教材外,课外阅读量应累计达到 30 万词以上。

FOCUS 2 高考英语《考试大纲》中阅读技能的考查要求

(1) 理解主旨和要义;
(2) 理解文中具体信息;
(3) 根据上下文推断生词的词义;

(4) 作出简单判断和推理;
(5) 理解文章的基本结构;
(6) 理解作者的意图、观点和态度。

FOCUS 3 阅读理解 的 解题技巧

FOCUS 3.1 细节题

英语阅读理解文章中,为了支撑要阐述的主题,会有大量的细节信息。这些细节的准确掌握与理解,会影响到对于全文主旨的把握。此类试题有时比较直接,理解字面意义即可答出(在原文中可直接找到答案,常用 who, what, when, where, why 和 how 等提问);有时则不一定很直接,需要经过归纳、概括和推理才能作出判断选择(需要将题目信息与原文相关信息进行语义上的转换,两者存在表达上的差异,有时需要进行加工或整理后方能得出结论)。

例 1

56. What is found out American seniors? 2013 安徽卷(A)

- A. Most of them have good habits.
- B. Nearly 30% of them bathe three days a week.
- C. All of them are fighting germs better than expected.
- D. About one third of them brush their teeth only once a day.

【答案】 D

【分析】本题考查考生对文章细节的判断能力。

本文主要介绍了一项针对美国老年人健康习惯的调查结果。由第一个“Finding: A full 33% of seniors brush their teeth only once a day.”可知,有 33% 的老年人每天只刷一次牙,故 D 项是最佳答案。

The Healthy Habits Survey (调查) shows that only about one third of American seniors have correct habits. Here are some findings and expert advice.

1. How many times did you brush your teeth yesterday?

• **Finding:** A full 33% of seniors brush their teeth only once a day.

• **Step:** Remove the 300 types of bacteria in your mouth each morning with a battery-operated toothbrush. Brush gently for 2 minutes, at least twice a day.

2. How many times did you wash your hands or bathe yesterday?

• **Finding:** Seniors, on average, bathe fewer than 3 days a week. And nearly 30% wash their hands only 4 times a day — half of the number doctors recommend.

• **Step:** We touch our faces around 3,000 times a day—often inviting germs (病菌) to enter our mouth, nose, and eyes. Use toilet paper to avoid touching the door handle. And, most important, wash your hands often with hot running water and soap for 20 seconds.

3. How often do you think about fighting germs?

• **Finding:** Seniors are not fighting germs as well as they should.

• **Step:** Be aware of germs. Do you know it is not your toilet but your kitchen sponge (海绵) that can carry more germs than anything else? To kill these germs, keep your sponge in the microwave for 10 seconds.

选材:本文是一篇调查报告,主要关注美国老年人健康习惯的问题。文章列出几种老年人遵守良好健康习惯状况的调查结果,比如调查了如下几个问题:每天刷牙多少次,每天洗手和洗澡多少次,多长时间想到抗病毒,并分别提供相应的专家建议:每天至少刷牙两次,每次轻轻地刷两分钟;尽可能避免直接接触门柄,接触后每次用热水和肥皂洗手 20 秒;把打扫厕所的海绵放在微波下烘烤 10 秒钟。

FOCUS 3.2 例证题

英语阅读理解中的例证题一般都有有一些标记

词汇。当题干中出现 example, case, illustrate, illustration 时,那就说明是例证题。首先应该返回原文,找出该例证所在的位置,给该例子定位。搜索该例证周围的区域,90%向上,10%向下,找出该例证支持的观点。例子周围具有概括抽象性的表达通常就是它的论点。

举例的目的是为了支持论点或是为了说明主题句,不能用例子中的话来回答这个问题。在阅读中,遇到比较长的例子,立即给这个例子定位,即找出起始点,从哪开始到哪结束。

例 2

61. The example of Finland is used to illustrate _____. 2013 湖北卷(C)

- A. the cause of heart disease
- B. the fashion of body shaping
- C. the effectiveness of a campaign
- D. the history of a body-conscious country

【答案】 C

【分析】本题考查学生对例子的理解。

由第四段 “In the 1970s, Finland, for example, had the highest rate of heart disease in the world and being overweight was its main cause. ... A public-health campaign has greatly reduced the number of heart disease deaths.” 可知 C 项是最佳答案。同样在这一句话里,可以判断过度肥胖是心脏病的主要原因,但并不是要说明的事,故 A 项有误。第五段里说,服药减肥或者外科手术去脂肪成为一种时尚,故选项 B 错误;根据 No wonder it ranks as the world's most body-conscious country. 来看, D 项中的 history 一词有误。

We've reached a strange—some would say unusual—point. While fighting world hunger continues to be the matter of vital importance according to a recent report from the World Health Organization (WHO), more people now die from being overweight, or say, from being extremely fat, than from being underweight. It's the good life that's more likely to kill us these days.

Worse, nearly 18 million children under

the age of five around the world are estimated to be overweight. What's going on?

We really don't have many excuses for our weight problems. The dangers of the problem have been drilled into us by public-health campaigns since 2001 and the message is getting through—up to a point.

In the 1970s, Finland, for example, had the highest rate of heart disease in the world and being overweight was its main cause. Not any more, A public-health campaign has greatly reduced the number of heart disease deaths by 80 percent over the past three decades.

Maybe that explains why the percentage of people in Finland taking diet pills doubled between 2001 and 2005, and doctors even offer surgery of removing fat inside and change the shape of the body. That has become a sort of fashion. No wonder it ranks as the world's most body-conscious country.

We know what we should be doing to lose weight—but actually doing it is another matter. By far the most popular excuse is not taking enough exercise. More than half of us admit we lack willpower.

Others blame good food. They say: it's just too inviting and it makes them overeat. Still others lay the blame on the Americans, complaining that pounds have piled on thanks to eating too much American-style fast food.

Some also blame their parents—their genes. But unfortunately, the parents are wronged because they're normal in shape, or rather slim.

It's a similar story around the world, although people are relatively unlikely to have tried to lose weight. Parents are eager to see their kids shape up. Do as I say—not as I do.

选材:本文讲述的是肥胖成了威胁我们身体健康的一大杀手。根据世界卫生组织的调查,由于人们生活太好导致的肥胖,可能会成为我们的健康杀手。更糟糕的是,五岁以下的儿童也有很

多超重。对于肥胖,也许人们没有太多的借口。在芬兰,人们兴起了减肥运动。大家知道,没有参加足够的锻炼是肥胖的理由之一,也有人责备食物太诱人了。甚至还有人责备父母,说基因有问题。

FOCUS 3.3 指代题

英语阅读文章中,经常有一些指代词,如 it, that, these 或 those,用来指代上下文中出现的某一个词、词组或者从句。

在解答这类题型时,首先返回原文,找出出题的指代词。向上搜索,找最近的名词、名词性短语或句子(先从最近点开始找,找不到再找次近的,一般答案不会离得太远)。将找到的词、词组或句子的意思代入替换该指代词,看其意思是否通顺。

例 3

49. The underline part "its idea" in Paragraph 3 refers to the idea of _____. 2011 四川卷(C)
- A. the equipment
 - B. the project
 - C. the digital media
 - D. the physical library

【答案】 B

【分析】本题考查指代和推理判断。

根据第三段中的 "...the project is already providing chances for some of the many small new local companies working at the new technologies." 可知 its 即是 the project。

The multi-million pound new Library of Birmingham (LoB) will be the most visible sign of the way the city is accepting the digitalization (数字化) of everyday life.

Set to open in 2013, the £188m LoB is already beginning to take shape next to the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, with which it will share some equipment.

As digital media (媒介) is important to its idea, the project is already providing chances

for some of the many small new local companies working at the new technologies.

Brian Gambles, the LoB project director, says it is about giving people the right tools for learning: "The aim is to mix the physical with the digital, providing 24-hour services which can be used through many different ways. It is important to enable us to reach more people, more effectively."

The digital library will, he says, be as important as the physical one, allowing the distant use of the services, making sure that it is never closed to the public.

Even before the LoB is complete, the public has been able to go online to visit the Virtual(虚拟的) LoB, designed by Baden, the Birmingham virtual worlds specialists. Not only have the public been able to learn about LoB, but the virtual one has also enabled those working on the LoB to understand the building and how it will work before it even opens.

Two other small Birmingham-based digital companies are working on the LoB projects. Substrat, a digital design company, is developing what it calls an "enlarged reality" project. It is about the use of an exciting smart phone, an important part of the LoB which is the early stages of development. And The People's Archive is an online library of figures of the city being built content company in Cahoots, in which users will be encouraged to add to and comment on the material.

Gambles says: "Technology will enable us to make the library's and services open to citizens as never before."

选材: 本文主要介绍了位于英国 Birmingham 的一座在建的数字化图书馆, 这座图书馆的项目负责人 Brian Gambles 说, 它的目的是为了让自然的东西和数字结合起来, 通过不同的方式全天候地服务于人们。在图书馆建成之前, 人们可以上网去参观一个虚拟的 LoB。有两家当地的电子产品公司在这里工作, Gambles 说“这家图书馆将通

过高科技让我们前所未有地为大家提供服务”。

FOCUS 3.4 词汇题

在阅读英语材料中,遇到生词很正常;由于英语单词的多义性,有时即使遇到的是学过的单词,却也可能是新的词意。正确理解所读材料中单词或短语的含义是理解全文意思的基础,在阅读过程中根据上下文等背景条件推测词义也是阅读理解的一项重要技巧。根据具体语境把握词汇的确切意义才能真正理解文意,这类题型在英语卷“阅读理解”中经常出现。

首先返回原文,找出该词汇出现的地方,确定该词汇的词性。然后从上下文(词汇的前后几句)中找到与所给词汇具有相同词性的词(如一下子找不到就再往上往下找),代入所给词汇在文章中的位置(将之替换)看语义是否合适。如果该词汇是简单词汇,则其字面意思必然不是正确答案。词汇题的正确答案经常蕴藏在原文该词汇出现的附近,要根据上下文作出正确的判断。寻找时要注意同位语、特殊标点(比如分号,分号前后两句话的逻辑关系不是形式上的并列就是语义上的并列,所以可用其中一句话的意思来推测另一句话的意思从而推出所给词汇含义)、定语从句、前后缀,特别要注意寻找时的同义原则。

例 4

67. The underlined word “divergence” in Paragraph 4 means “_____.” 2011 湖南卷(C)

- A. evolution B. exhibition
C. separation D. examination

【答案】 C

【分析】本题考查词义猜测。

此处的意义可以从该词所在下一段的句子——There has long been debate in the scientific community that the two might be separate species 中猜测到。

A recent study of ancient and modern elephant has come up with the unexpected conclusion that the African elephant is divided

into two distinct (不同的) species.

The discovery was made by researchers at York and Harvard University when they were examining the genetic relationship between the ancient woolly mammoth and mastodon modern elephants—the Asian elephant, African forest elephant, and African savanna elephant.

Once they obtained DNA sequences (序列) from two fossils (化石), mammoths and mastodons, the team compared them with DNA from modern elephants. They found the amazement that modern forest and savanna elephants are as distinct from each other as Asian elephants and mammoths.

The scientists used detailed genetic analysis to prove that the African savanna elephant and the African forest elephant have been distinct species for several million years. The divergence of the two species took place around the time of the divergence of Asian elephants and woolly mammoths. This result amazed all the scientists.

There has long been debate in the scientific community that the two might be separate species, but this is the most convincing scientific evidence so far that they are indeed different species.

Previously, many naturalists believed that African savanna elephants and African forest elephants were two populations of the same species, despite the elephants' significant size differences. The savanna elephant has an average shoulder height of 3.5 metres while the forest elephant has an average shoulder double the weight of the forest elephant. But the fact that they look so different does not necessarily mean they are different species. However the proof lay in the analysis of the DNA.

Alfred Roca, assistant professor in the Department of Animal Sciences at the University of Illinois, said, “We now have to treat the forest

and savanna elephants as two difficult units for conservation purpose. Since 1950, all African elephants have been conserved as one species. Now that we know the forest and savanna elephants have been distinct animals, the forest elephant should become a bigger priority (优先) for conservation purposes.”

选材:本文是一篇科普文章。美国约克和哈佛大学的研究者通过对古代和现代大象的研究发现,非洲象分为两个不同的种类。科学家用详细的基因数据证明非洲草原象和森林象已经灭绝几百万年了。以前很多自然学家认为,非洲草原象和森林象是同一个品种中的两大群体。但通过基因的研究,科学家们认为外形差别很大的两种象事实上是不同的品种,这有助于保护稀有物种。

FOCUS 3.5 句子理解题

英语阅读理解题中,有时也会出现句意理解题。相对于词义猜测题来说,这类题型更难一些。首先返回原文中找到原句,对原句进行语法和词义的精确分析(找主干),应该重点抓原句的字面含义。若该句的字面含义不能确定,则依据上下文进行判断。注意:局部含义是由整体决定的。一般来说,选项中的正确答案与原句意思完全相同,只不过用其他英语词汇换一种表达方式而已。选择时不要推得过远。

例 5

68. What can be inferred from the underlined sentence in Paragraph I? 2013 安徽(D)
- A. People can tell good from bad behavior.
 - B. Radar is able to observe human behavior.
 - C. People care little about their behavior.
 - D. Radar can be used to predict human behavior.

【答案】 C

【分析】本题考查对句意的理解。

画线句子前一句说“People are ruder today...”,画线句子后一句说“Due to our strong attraction to electronic equipment...”,再结合

画线部分字面意思“礼貌已经脱离了雷达”,可见作者说的是人们对电子设备的着迷导致他们不再关注礼貌,因此 C 项符合句意。

“People are ruder today because they are rushed and more ‘time poor’ than ever before,” says Patsy Rowe, “Manners have fallen off the radar(雷达).” Due to our strong attraction to electronic equipment it is a wonder more people don’t wake up each morning and greet the singing birds with a complaint (抱怨) about the noise. Here are some examples of rudeness.

Some people prefer to do almost everything over the internet. To them, dealing with an actual human is like an evolutionary step backward. It feels very slow because humans don’t work at 4G speeds. When you have dinner with friends, you will often notice someone paying more attention to his mobile phone. We have programmed ourselves to think that every new message brings life-changing news, so taking calls and checking our texts are more important than talking to the people we are with. What is worse, some people even tend to send anonymous (匿名的) rude messages by email.

However, rudeness is never acceptable. Don’t assume it is OK to be rude if the person you’re in touch with won’t recognize you. If you have something awful to say, have the courage to face the person and say it, write a letter or email and sign it, or forget it. Upsetting people with unsigned messages is cruel and disgusting.

We shouldn’t blame technology for our shortcomings. Technology is here to help us, but we should not allow it to take over our lives. An important step is acknowledging our shortcomings. People spend a lot of time pointing out bad manners but it would be even more help if we’d publicly acknowledge good manners when we see them.

选材: 本文讲述的是如今的人们比以前变得更粗鲁了。由于互联网和手机的使用,越来越多的人经常通过它们来彼此联系,很少与社会中的人面对面交流,即使大家一起吃饭,你会注意到有些人也只是把玩着自己的手机,他们也许认识到接电话或发短信比和我们待在一起更重要。作者认为,个中原因尽管和新的科技有关,但粗鲁是不可以接受的,作者对此提出了一些建议:不要因为粗鲁而责备科技,科技对我们是有帮助的,但不能让它取代了我们的生活。重要的是我们要认识到自己的缺点,花一些时间去指出我们的不当行为方式。如果我们能够在公共场合看到礼貌的行为并认可它们,也许会有更多的帮助。

FOCUS 3.6 推理题

阅读英语材料的主要目的是为了获取信息,即作者所要传达的信息。在实际阅读活动中,有时需要我们根据文字材料所提供的事实与线索,经过逻辑推理,才能掌握作者虽未提及、但确实存在或很有可能会发生的事实。

这类题型题干中一般有标志词,如 learn, infer, imply, inform, indicate 等。首先看能否通过题干返回原文或依据选项返回原文,一般要围绕文中的一两个重点进行推理。若有一个选项跟原文的意思一模一样,则该选项肯定不是正确答案。推理题不是考查我们的想象力,它实际是考查我们原文中的某几个点如一个、两个点所涉及的问题我们读透了没有。做题时不能想得太多,推得过远,是否把原文读懂才是关键。

例 6

57. What can be inferred from the fact that the milkman had the key to the boy's house? 2011 海南卷(A)
- A. He wanted to have tea there.
B. He was a respectable person.
C. He was treated as a family member.
D. He was fully trusted by the family.

【答案】 D

【分析】 本题考查对文章的推理判断。

根据第三段第二句 There existed a close relationship between families and their milkmen. 可知,家里人与送奶人之间关系很密切,送奶人甚至有家里的钥匙,由此推断送奶人得到了充分的信任,故选 D 项。

When milk arrived on the doorstep

When I was a boy growing up in New Jersey in the 1960s, we had a milkman delivering milk to our doorstep. His name was Mr. Basille. He wore a white cap and drove a white truck. As a 5-year-old boy, I couldn't take my eyes off the coin changer fixed to his belt. He noticed this one day during a delivery and gave me a quarter out of his coin changer.

Of course, he delivered more than milk. There was cheese, eggs and so on. If we needed to change our order, my mother would pen a note—"Please add a bottle of buttermilk next delivery"—and place it in the box along with the empty bottles. And then, the buttermilk would magically (魔术般) appear.

All of this was about more than convenience. There existed a close relationship between families and their milkmen. Mr. Basille even had a key to our house, for those times when it was so cold outside that we put the box indoors, so that the milk wouldn't freeze. And I remember Mr. Basille from time to time taking a break at our kitchen table, having a cup of tea and telling stories about his delivery.

There is sadly no home milk delivery today. Big companies allowed the production cheaper milk, thus making it difficult for milkmen to compete (竞争). Besides, milk is for sale everywhere, and it may just not have been practical to have a delivery service.

Recently, an old milk box in the countryside I saw brought back my childhood memories. I took it home and planted it on the back porch (门廊). Every so often my son's friend will ask what it is. So I start telling

stories of my boyhood, and of the milkman who brought us friendship along with his milk.

选材:本文讲述一位送奶工的故事。作者小时候,有一位送奶工经常将牛奶送到我们家门口,有时还会送一些奶酪、鸡蛋之类的东西。如果有时想变化一下,妈妈只需要写下需要的东西放在空牛奶箱的盒子里,他也会送过来。现在由于大公司的产品让牛奶更便宜了,就没有人送牛奶了,因此我们经常回忆起小时候,给孩子们讲述送奶工的故事,以及我们和他之间的友谊。

FOCUS 3.7 主旨大意题

英语阅读文章中,任何一段独立完整的材料都会有其主旨要义。有时可以从一开头就看出,作者希望读者能够通过材料了解些什么;有时则需要从文章的字里行间中推断出其主旨。这类试题主要考查考生通过略读(skimming)领会大意和归纳、概括的能力,所问范围既可能是整段材料(text),也可能仅为其中的某一自然段(paragraph)。

主旨题题干中的标志词有: mainly about, mainly discuss, the best title。文章首段和每一自然段的第一句话是关键,弄清其意思,然后连接成一个整体。要注意总结性的提示词和转折词,特别要注意中心句。(主要针对自然段少的文章;针对自然段多的文章,主旨题最好联系中心句。)其错误选项的特征可能是:(1)局部信息;(2)范围过宽。

例 7

50. This article is mainly about _____. 2012 浙江卷(C)

- A. the lives of school children
- B. the cause of arguments in schools
- C. how to analyze youth violence
- D. how to deal with school conflicts

【答案】 D

【分析】本题考查文章的主旨大意。

文章的主旨大意一般在第一段。根据文章第一段最后一句 Given that this is the case, why aren't students taught to manage conflict the way

they are taught to solve math problems, drive cars, or stay physically fit? 和整体理解,可知答案 D 符合文义。

Two friends have an argument that breaks up their friendship forever, even though neither one can remember how the whole thing got started. Such sad events happen over and over in high schools across the country. In fact, according to an official report on youth violence, "In our country today, the greatest threat to the lives of children and adolescents is not disease or starvation or abandonment, but the terrible reality of violence". Given that this is the case, why aren't students taught to manage conflict the way they are taught to solve math problems, drive cars, or stay physically fit?

First of all, students need to realize that conflict is unavoidable. A report on violence among middle school and high school students indicates that most violent incidents between students begin with a relatively minor insult (侮辱). For example, a fight could start over the fact that one student eats a peanut butter sandwich each lunchtime. Laughter over the sandwich can lead to insults, which in turn can lead to violence. The problem isn't in the sandwich, but in the way students deal with the conflict.

Once students recognize that conflict is unavoidable, they can practice the golden rule of conflict resolution (解决) stay calm. Once the student feels calmer, he or she should choose words that will calm the other person down as well. Rude words, name-calling, and accusation only add fuel to the emotional fire. On the other hand, soft words spoken at a normal sound level can put out the fire before it explodes out of control.

After both sides have calmed down, they can use another key strategy for conflict resolution: listening. Listening allows the two sides to understand each other. One person should describe his or her

side, and the other person should listen without interrupting. Afterward, the listener can ask non-threatening questions to clarify the speaker's position. Then the two people should change roles.

Finally, students need to consider what they are hearing. This doesn't mean trying to figure out what's wrong with the other person. It means understanding what the real issue is and what both sides are trying to accomplish. For example, a shouting match over a peanut butter sandwich might happen because one person thinks the other person is unwilling to try new things. Students need to ask themselves questions such as these: How did this start? What do I really want? What am I afraid of? As the issue becomes clearer, the conflict often simply becomes smaller. Even if it doesn't, careful thought helps both sides figure out a mutual solution.

There will always be conflict in schools, but that doesn't mean there needs to be violence. After students in Atlanta started a conflict resolution program, according to Educators for Social Responsibility, "64 percent of the teachers reported less physical violence in the classroom; 75 percent of the teachers reported an increase in student cooperation; and 92 percent of the students felt better about themselves". Learning to resolve conflicts can help students deal with friends, teachers, parents, bosses, and coworkers. In that way, conflict resolution is a basic life skill that should be taught in schools across the country.

选材: 本篇文章讲述关于学生的校园生活。因为一些小事或者带有侮辱性的玩笑,学生之间会出现冲突,甚至出现暴力行为。这种因冲突而发生的校园暴力是学生生命的最大威胁。文章提出,学生应该学会冷静,认真考虑所听到的内容,了解真正的问题所在,不要因为一时的冲动而出现暴力冲突。作者也提出了自己的观点,学校和家长应该向学生们教授处理冲突的方法。

FOCUS 3.8 作者态度题

英语阅读中的每篇文字材料都有其特定的写作目的,或为向读者传递某些信息,或为愉悦读者,也可能要阐述某一道理。这些信息往往并不直接用语言表达出来,很可能隐含于字里行间,我们要学会在理解整体内容的基础上,来领会作者的言外之意、弦外之音。

作者态度题中的标志词是: attitude, tune, tone。在做这类题型时,一定要精确理解四个选项的含义,千万不要掺杂自己的观点。另外可以寻找文中一些具有感情色彩的词。如: fortunately, excessively, too many。注意举例的方式,抓论述的主线。把第一段读透,把其他各段的段首段尾句拉出来,看整个文章的谋篇结构。做这类题目时特别注意:首先看清楚是谁对谁的态度。

例 8

45. Which best describes the writer's tone in the postage? 2012 浙江卷(A)

- A. Approving. B. Concerned.
C. Enthusiastic. D. Doubtful.

【答案】 B

【分析】 本题考查作者的写作态度。

根据对文章的整体理解,可以推断出作者对兔子这一问题很关注、关切(concerned),故答案 B 符合作者的态度。Approving 赞同的;Enthusiastic 热情的;Doubtful 质疑的,均不符合语境,故排除 A、C、D 三项。

Easter (复活节) is still a great day for worship, randy in baskets and running around the yard finding eggs, but every year it gets quite a bit worse for bunnies.

And no, not because the kids like to pull their ears. The culprit is climate change, and some researchers found that rising temperatures are having harmful effects on at least five species of rabbit in the US.

Take the Lower Keys March rabbit, for instance. An endangered species that lives in the Lower Florida Keys, this species of cottontail is a great swimmer — it lives on the

islands! — but it is already severely affected by development and now by rising sea levels. According to the Center for Biological Diversity, an ocean level rise of only 0.6 meters will send these guys jumping to higher ground and a 0.9-meter rise would wipe out their habitat (栖息地) completely.

The snowshoe hare, on the other hand, has a color issue. Most of these rabbits change their fur color from white in the wintertime to brown in the summer, each designed to give them better cover from predators (捕食者). As the number of days with snow decreases all across the country, however, more and more bunnies are being left in white fur during brown dirt days of both fall and spring, making them an easier mark for predators. Researchers know that the color change is controlled by the number of hours of sunlight, but whether the rabbit will be able to adapt quick enough to survive is a big question. The National Wildlife Federation has reported that hunters have noticed their numbers are already markedly down.

American pikas or rock rabbits, a relative of rabbits and hares, might be the first of these species to go extinct due to climate change. About 7-8 inches long, pikas live high in the cool, damp mountains west of the Rocky Mountains. As global temperatures rise, they would naturally migrate (迁徙) to higher ground — but they already occupy the mountaintops. They can't go any higher. The National Wildlife Federation reports that they might not be able to stand the new temperatures as their habitat heats up.

The volcano rabbit has the same problem. These rabbits live on the slopes of volcanoes in Mexico, and recent studies have shown that the lower range of their habitat has already shifted upward about 700 meters, but there are not suitable plants for them to move higher, so they are stuck in the middle. Scientists are concerned about their populations.

Native to the US, pygmy rabbits weigh less

than 1 pound and live in the American West. They are believed to be the smallest rabbits in the world. Their habitats have been destroyed by development. Several populations, such as the Columbia Basin pygmy, almost went extinct and were saved by zoo breeding programs. Pygmy rabbits also rely on winter cover by digging tunnels through the snow to escape predators, but lesser snowfall is leaving them exposed.

All of this gives new meaning to dressing up in a giant bunny costume this Easter.

选材: 本篇文章讲述的是关于全球气温变暖引发兔子生存危机的问题。由于气候变化, 研究者发现, 生活在美国的五种兔子目前存在生存问题或面临威胁。作者对五种兔子的栖息地及它们的食物情况做了一些探讨, 发现它们的生存环境或多或少出现了一些问题。

FOCUS 3.9 判断题

在英语中, 阅读材料的主要目的是为了获取信息, 即作者所要传达给读者的信息。在实际阅读活动中, 有时需要我们根据文字材料所提供的事实与线索, 经过逻辑推理, 才能掌握作者虽未提及、但确实存在或很有可能会发生的事实。这种推理判断能力也是阅读理解部分经常考查的。

做这类题目时, 可根据自然段原则定位, 将每个选项都对应返回原文, 不能凭主观印象进行判断, 做题是要看清题干所表述的内容。

例 9

67. According to the study, who made the most accurate prediction of their future life satisfaction? 2013 湖北卷(E)
- A. Optimistic adults.
B. Middle-aged adults.
C. Adults in poor health.
D. Adults of lower income.

【答案】 B

【分析】 本题考查对文章内容的判断。

本题可以从文章第四段前半部分“The researchers found that young adults (age 18 to

39) routinely overestimated their future life satisfaction, while middle-aged adults (age 40 to 64) more accurately predicted how they would feel in the future.”可知,主要是 18 岁到 39 岁的年轻人和 40 岁到 64 岁中年人对未来的生活满意度做了非常精确的预测。

A German study suggests that people who were too optimistic about their future actually faced greater risk of disability or death within 10 years than those pessimists who expected their future to be worse.

The paper, published this March in *Psychology and Aging*, examined health and welfare surveys from roughly 40,000 Germans between ages 18 and 96. The surveys were conducted every year from 1993 to 2003.

Survey respondents (受访者) were asked to estimate their present and future life satisfaction on a scale of 0 to 10, among other questions.

The researchers found that young adults (age 18 to 39) routinely overestimated their future life satisfaction, while middle-aged adults (age 40 to 64) more accurately predicted how they would feel in the future. Adults of 65 and older, however, were far more likely to underestimate their future life satisfaction. Not only did they feel more satisfied than they thought they would, the older pessimists seemed to suffer a lower ratio (比率) of disability and death for the study period.

“We observed that being too optimistic in predicting a better future than actually observed was associated with a greater risk of disability and a greater risk of death within the following decade,” wrote Frieder R. Lang, a

professor at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg.

Lang and his colleagues believed that people who were pessimistic about their future may be more careful about their actions than people who expected a rosy future.

“Seeing a dark future may encourage positive evaluations of the actual self and may contribute to taking improved precautions (预防措施)”, the authors wrote.

Surprisingly, compared with those in poor health or who had low incomes, respondents who enjoyed good health or income were associated with expecting a greater decline. Also, the researchers said that higher income was related to a greater risk of disability.

The authors of the study noted that there were limitations to their conclusions. Illness, medical treatment and personal loss could also have driven health outcomes.

However, the researchers said a pattern was clear. “We found that from early to late adulthood, individuals adapt their expectations of future life satisfaction from optimistic, to accurate, to pessimistic”, the authors concluded.

选材:本文是一篇议论文,讲述的是德国专家对未来持乐观态度和悲观态度的人的一项研究。研究发现,18 岁到 39 岁的年轻人和 40 岁到 64 岁中年人对未来比较乐观,65 岁及以上的成年人比较悲观。专家们观察到,对未来持乐观态度的人比持悲观态度的人更容易残疾或死亡。对未来持悲观态度的人们对自己有更积极的评价,而且这种悲观态度可能让他们提高预防意识。作者通过详细的调查,从多个方面分析其中的原因,解释乐观态度对人们身体可能带来的危害。