



# 中考英语 经典阅读 150篇

(2012 版)



**尽现中考英语阅读理解测试热点  
指点命题方向 摆脱题海束缚**

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典型的真题 权威的命题 明确的导向

上海科学技术出版社

中学英语经典试题 150 系列

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(2012 版)

刘决生 主编



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# 前言

随着基础教育课程改革的全面深入,全国已有上百套中考英语试题各展风采。各地的中考英语试题在结合本地初中英语教学实际的同时,都在努力体现着课程改革的基本评价理念。

综观近几年各地中考英语试题,我们发现,中考英语阅读理解题所占的分值最大,题型也日益多样化;而且,各地中考英语命题组互相借鉴,如2011年海南三亚卷C篇关于地震的选材与2010年兰州卷十分相似;2010年苏州卷A篇阅读理解与江西卷的C篇一样。至于阅读理解与完形填空相互借鉴选材的例子更是屡见不鲜。因此,熟悉各地中考英语阅读理解的命题特点,进行系统而有针对性的训练,是快速有效地提高英语阅读理解答题能力、获得中考英语高分的捷径。

本书编者参照和研究了教育部考试中心对近年中考英语阅读理解命题的权威分析,系统阐述了中考英语阅读理解的命题特点,并结合全国各地的最新试题具体分析,为广大考生备战中考英语阅读理解提供了详细的答题策略指导。与众多模拟试题不同的是,本书精选的阅读理解150篇全部是最近两年全国各地中考英语阅读理解真题,并按试题选材范围分为人物经历篇、事件描述篇、介绍说明篇、异域风情篇、广告信息篇、话题谈论篇和任务型阅读七大板块。之所以全部采用各地(尤其是教育发达地区如上海、北京、江苏、湖北、浙江等地)中考英语真题,是因为真题的典型性更强,命题方式更权威,导向更明确。

特别需要指出的是,本书是《中考英语经典语法与词汇1500题》《中考英语经典完形填空150篇》《中考英语经典写作150篇》与《最新中考英语阅读模拟精选150篇》的姊妹篇,自2005年底推出第一版后,每年都再版印刷,深受广大师生的欢迎。一位厦门考生曾来函说,英语基础不好的他在使用本书后取得了149分的中考高分(满分150分),令编者十分欣慰。

为了适应广大师生备战2012年中考的最新需求,编者在借鉴原书体例的基础上,精选2011年全国各地中考英语阅读理解试题共100篇,同时保留了2010年经典阅读真题50篇,重新编写了第七版,以全新的内容面世,旨在为2012年全国各地广大中考考生导航。非初中毕业班的学生也可根据自己的实际情况选用。

参加本书编写的老师既有毕业于华东师范大学外语学院从事中、高考英语专业研究的语言测试专家,也有多年奋战在初三英语教学一线的名师。王炎、李力、张敏、孙文宾、李达、王文生、李珊珊、张欣、李丽、张建国、赵情、李志兵、吴建民、梅丽、孙辉、赵小静、钱志宏、刘湘、洪峰、王博等同志参加了本书的资料收集与编写。上海科学技术出版社英语编辑室的编辑们为本书的出版付出了辛勤的劳动,在此一并致谢。

由于编写时间有限,书中不足之处还望读者不吝指出,以便再版时及时修正。

编者

2011年7月

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# 第一章

## 中考英语阅读理解命题特点与答题指导

### 一、中考英语阅读理解命题特点

教育部考试中心在对近年的中考英语阅读理解试题进行分析总结时指出, 阅读英语文章是我国考生接触英语的最主要途径, 因此, 阅读理解题应该在试卷中占较大比重。综观近年各地中考英语阅读理解试题, 它们有以下特点: 试题难度适中, 个别地区略有起伏; 文章选材符合《考试大纲》的基本要求, 保证了题材、体裁类型多样; 对阅读理解的几种技能考查比较全面; 个别地区篇章长度和阅读量略有增加; 文章内容积极健康, 兼具知识性、思想性和教育性; 题型日益多样化, 标准选择题、是非判断题、主观问答题、填写表格题搭配合理。

从整体上看, 各地的中考英语阅读理解试题基本都做到了以下三个方面: 第一, 阅读材料信息量大, 体现在 3~5 篇文章的题材与体裁多样化方面; 第二, 文章有易有难, 搭配适度, 命题者注意到合理把握文章及句子的难度; 第三, 恰当控制生词的数量, 较好地处理合成词与派生词。每份试题的文章都能合理安排好细节判断题、词意或句意猜测题、文意理解判断题及推理判断题的题量与出现的顺序, 命题者将知识性、趣味性和实用性融合在一起, 对考生的阅读理解能力进行全方位的、比较科学的检测。把握好选文的难度、思想性、时代性以及文章实用性是一门很深的学问, 命题者对中考后的数据进行了缜密分析, 透彻了解初中教学实际, 本着两个“有利于”(有利于高一级学校选拔人才、有利于促进初中教学)的基本原则, 在英语测试学的角度上命制试卷, 试题具有非常科学的信度、效度与区分度。

教育部考试中心对阅读文章选材有如下要求。

1. 阅读材料的主题要明确, 话题要新, 要有时代感。
2. 语言应地道, 条理清晰, 结构紧凑, 在时间顺序、空间顺序或逻辑推理上要有较大的复杂性。
3. 材料长短适宜。每篇文章要有足够的信息量, 以供设题之用。其中文章词量约占 2/3, 试题词量约占 1/3。
4. 语言难易要适度。材料中的生词量应控制在 1% 以内 (由构词法形成的词不计为生词), 避免短文中出现太多的汉语释义。每篇注释的词控制在 3 个以内。
5. 材料应具有真实性, 原汁原味, 选材新颖, 避免选用广为流传和人所共知的材料, 可涉及科普、社会、文化、政治、经济和生活等各方面。

6. 体裁应多样化, 应有记叙文、说明文、议论文、应用文等。每套试题最好有一篇考查特定信息能力的广告、公告类材料, 也可选用科普、新闻等体裁。

阅读能力重点考查点为以下八种阅读微技能: 第一, 领悟文章的大意; 第二, 了解文章话题的能力; 第三, 归纳概括文章主旨的能力; 第四, 理解文章细节和细节转换的能力; 第五, 了解文章的结构与写作手法; 第六, 文章寓意内涵的理解力; 第七, 词义的正确理解能力; 第八, 文章的推断能力。

(以上摘自教育部考试中心的试题分析报告)

以下是中考英语阅读理解测试能力层次的分类。

#### 1. 信息搜寻准确到位的能力

这类试题常见的测试方式有: 根据文章判断选项的正误、筛选错误的信息、挑选符合题意的选项等。

#### 2. 对细节语义转换理解的能力

这类试题往往提供数字、图表和文字描写等特定的情景, 常常要求考生换个角度思考。对考题的理解有如“横看成岭侧成峰”, 只不过是叙述的角度与表述的语言不同。这类试题在阅读理解试题中占的比例比较大。

#### 3. 对词义转换的理解能力

这类试题常见的命题方式是根据上下文猜测划线词的语义或者选择一个近义词等。

#### 4. 对文章主旨、作者意图的分析能力

这属于较高层次的考查思维能力的试题, 包括考查形象思维、逻辑思维以及从局部到整体的概括思维能力等。虽然一篇文章的细节内容可能很多, 但是核心意思都可以用一句或几句话概括, 甚至三言两语即可。“归纳”和“概括”考查的重点是在理解文意的基础上对文章进一步分析和整理的能力, 它可能要求归纳某一段落的中心思想, 也可能要求对文章整篇内容做归纳, 如给文章选择合适的标题等。

#### 5. 推理判断能力

考查推理判断能力是对考生潜在能力的测试, 读文章不完全是被动地“读”, 而要主动地“思”, 探究文章之外的知识。根据文章内容进行推断时要有理有据, 有时文章没有现成的结论, 要根据文章内容进行合理地想象推断。有时试题的题目在设计时对文章中的说法变换了叙述角度或表达方式, 是否符合题意不能直接看出, 需要在正确把握文章的前提下分析判断, 从而推理出符合文章意思的正确选项。

综观 2011 年各地课改实验区的中考英语试题, 阅读理解的选材非常丰富, 既有对国内外有关情况的介绍, 又有对社会热点问题的关注。例如, 2011 年浙江温州卷的阅读理解既有对澳大利亚首都 Canberra (堪培拉) 的介绍, 又涉及到美国歌手 Jack Johnson 的传奇经历; 2011 年重庆卷的阅读理解 D 篇则以网上购物为题材。这些散发着时代与生活气息的阅读选材被引入中考试题后, 哪怕是英语基础再差的考生也会对阅读内容产生兴趣。可以这么说, 现在的中考英语阅读理解的选材真正做到了走近生活、贴近时代, 符合英语学科学以致用的特点。

## 二、中考英语阅读理解答题示例与指导

以 2011 年上海中考卷为例:

2011 年上海中考卷把 C 篇与 D 篇的完形填空纳入阅读理解部分, C 篇与 D 篇在《中考英语经典完形填空 150 篇》(2012 版)一书中已经详细分析了, 这里不再重复。以下结合 2011 年上海中考卷英语阅读理解部分的 A、B、E 三篇对其答题思路作简要分析。

**A. True or False** (判断下列句子是否符合短文内容, 符合的用“T”表示, 不符合的用“F”表示) (7 分):

Biggie Burger, a new fast food restaurant, will soon be opened in the town. A large group of kids and parents were holding signs shouting outside it yesterday. They were there because they didn't want the restaurant to open. Never!

"This kind of food is really bad for us!" said Diana. "It's high in salt, fat, and sugar. It's unhealthy and we are going to say 'No' to it!"

"Our town has been a quiet place. Restaurants like this bring people and also a lot of trouble to this area," said Barbara. "And I'm afraid they will take business away from our local restaurants."

Other local people disagree. The officials believe that Biggie Burger will bring in huge amounts of money to help improve the town. And 17-year-old Sandy can't wait for Biggie Burger to open. "I love their hamburgers and fried chicken wings! And I can get a job there."

Sandy's dad, a cleaner, agrees, "Biggie Burger's prices are just right for a family like ours."

Michael, who owns a toy shop next door to Biggie Burger, is excited, too. "Maybe people who come for a Biggie Burger will spend a few minutes in my store and pick up something."

The town will hold a meeting on Thursday to hear sides. Everyone is welcome to attend it. Come and voice your opinion!

71. Biggie Burger was opened yesterday and many people were there.

72. Diana thinks that the food in Biggie Burger is too expensive.

73. Barbara is afraid that fewer people will come to the local restaurants.

74. Sandy has found a job in Biggie Burger and loves food there.

75. Cleaners like Sandy's dad in the town can afford the food in Biggie Burger.

76. Michael welcomes the opening of Biggie Burger.

77. The town doesn't care about people's opinions when making a decision.

**答案与分析:**

71. F. 根据文中第一句 Biggie Burger, a new fast food restaurant, will soon be opened in the town. 中 will soon (不久将要) 可以看出, Biggie Burger 还没有开张。

72. F. 根据第二段内容, Diana 认为 It's high in salt, fat, and sugar. It's unhealthy, 而不是价格贵。

73. T. 根据文中第三段最后一句 And I'm afraid they will take business away from our local restaurants 来判断。

74. F. 根据第四段最后一句 And 17-year-old Sandy can't wait for Biggie Burger to open. "I love their hamburgers and fried chicken wings! And I can get a job there." Sandy 只说可能有工作机会, 并不是已经找到了工作。

75. T. 根据第五段中 Biggie Burger's prices are just right for a family like ours 来判断。



76. T. 根据第六段中 is excited 以及后面的话来判断, Michael 很欢迎 Biggie Burger 的开张。  
77. F. 根据最后一段中 The town will hold a meeting on Thursday to hear sides. 以及后面的内容可以看出, The town 要征询各方面意见。

**B. Choose the best answer (根据短文内容, 选择最恰当的答案) (7 分):**

You probably know you should say “please” and “thank you” at restaurants. You probably know the rules of a library. You know you should respect and be nice to your classmates. But do you have music manners?

**Keep It Down!** You have to notice the volume of your music. You should not play your music so loud that everyone around you can hear it. Some people might even get angry. Usually, when you play the music loud on an MP3 player, other people can't hear the words of the song. They just hear a loud sound. Not one wants to listen to this. Very loud music can also be bad for your ears, so even if you are alone when listening to your MP3 player, you shouldn't have it turned up too high.

**Take Them Off!** You need to know when to turn your MP3 player off and put it away. Libraries and schools don't allow MP3 players. There are other places, like museums, that don't have rules, but it would be rude to have your MP3 player on. Sometime, it just doesn't make sense to listen your MP3 player at event. Why would you listen to music at a play, a movie or a sporting event? You would miss what is going on and others would wonder why you even come.

**Take One Out!** Once in a while it's Okay just to take out one earphone and not other. Imagine you are listening on your MP3 player when someone asks you the way. It would not be rude to take out one earphone, tell him the way, and put back the earphone and continue listening. You can also do this when you order food at a fast-food restaurant or when you answer the telephone and it's not for you.

**It's Your Choice!** There are times when you need to decide what is best. For example, some people can listen to music on their MP3 players when reading books, while others think it is disturbing. In cases like this, you need to do what seems right for you.

78. The underlined word “volume” in paragraph two probably means “\_\_\_\_\_”.
- |                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| A. the type of music    | B. the amount of a sound      |
| C. the length of a song | D. the color of an MP3 player |
79. No one wants listen to \_\_\_\_\_ from others' MP3 players.
- |                 |                |                 |                        |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| A. a loud sound | B. sad stories | C. a long movie | D. the words of a song |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|
80. We should turn down the music when we are alone because loud music \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| A. is not enjoyable       | B. makes us tired |
| C. is bad for MP3 players | D. hurts our ears |
81. If we listen to our MP3 player at a play, \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                                    |                                  |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. the theatre won't allow it      | B. the actors will get angry     |
| C. others won't hear the play well | D. we will miss part of the play |
82. We call take one earphone out when we \_\_\_\_\_.
- |                           |                                 |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A. show others the way    | B. talk to friends on the phone |
| C. watch a sporting event | D. have dinner with our parents |
83. It's all right to use our MP3 player in \_\_\_\_\_.
- |            |              |                |            |
|------------|--------------|----------------|------------|
| A. schools | B. libraries | C. restaurants | D. museums |
|------------|--------------|----------------|------------|

84. What can be the best title of this passage?

- A. Music Lovers    B. Music Manners    C. MP3 Players    D. MP3 Earphones

答案与分析:

78. B. 根据上下文, 尤其是 You should not play your music so loud, 可以判断出划线单词是“音量”的意思。
79. A. 根据 when you play the music loud on an MP3 player, other people can't hear the words of the song. They just hear a loud sound. Not one wants to listen to this. 来判断。
80. D. 根据文中 Very loud music can also be bad for your ears, so even if you are alone when listening to our MP3 player, you shouldn't have it turned up too high. 来选择。
81. D. 根据文中 Why would you listen to music at a play, a movie or a sporting event? You would miss what is going on and others would wonder why you even came. 来判断。
82. A. 根据文中 when someone asks you the way. It would not be rude to take out one earphone, tell him the way 来选择。
83. C. 根据文中 You can also do this when you order food at a fast-food restaurant; 同时根据 You need to know when to turn your MP3 player off and put it away. Libraries and schools don't allow MP3 players. There are other places, like museums, that don't have rules, but it would be rude to have your MP3 player on. 排除其他选项。
84. B. 综合全文, 介绍的是正确听音乐的方式, 故选择 B 项。

**E. Answer the questions (根据短文内容回答下列问题) (14 分):**

Helen monsoon has always been interested in helping her community. Her first volunteer experience was for the American Red Cross when she was in high school. When she was a school teacher, she also found time to volunteer. One year, she organized a Super Saturday fun day for kids in the community. She also used to volunteer at the Mint Festival every year. One summer she served food, another year she organized an art programme.

After she retired, she started volunteering to help the old. When her father was older, he was not able to see as well as he used to, which made her sad because he had always enjoyed reading. She decided it would be fun to read to elderly people in her community. She also helped one woman write her stories. Ann was almost 100 years old, and Helen wrote down information about her life when she visited her. She put the information in a book and got it published. Ann was very excited to share her life story with her children and grandchildren.

After a hurricane (飓风) destroyed some southern cities, Helen volunteered again for the American Red Cross. She prepared food and answered phones in a care centre. She says, "I have always liked the Red Cross because the organization helps people in need no matter what."

One day Helen read an article in the newspaper about refugees (难民) who needed to learn English. Now, she meets once a week with Sahra, a 38-year-old woman from Somalia. Sahra is living and working in a town about 30 minutes' walk from where Helen lives. They work on reading and writing skills. Helen gave Sahra a camera and asked her to take pictures of her daily life. She developed the pictures, and then asked Sahra questions about them. In the end, they wrote a book together and used the photos in the book. This helped Sahra learn many new words about her everyday life.

Helen says, "The most rewarding (有益的) part of volunteer work is becoming friends with the

people I help. They enrich my life as well as I enrich theirs.”

99. When was Helen's first volunteer experience for the American Red Cross?

100. What did Helen do after she retired?

101. Why was Ann excited when her book got published?

102. Where did Helen work when she volunteered again for the American Red Cross?

103. How far is Sahra living and working from Helen's home?

104. Did Helen help Sahra to learn English?

105. What can you learn from Helen?

#### 答案与分析:

99. When she was in high school. 根据第一段中 Her first volunteer experience was for the American Red Cross when she was in high school. 来回答。

100. She started volunteering to help the old. 根据第二段第一句 After she retired, she started volunteering to help the old. 来回答。

101. Because she shared her life story with her children and grandchildren. 根据第二段最后一句 Ann was very excited to share her life story with her children and grandchildren. 来回答。

102. She worked in a care centre. 根据第三段中 she prepared food and answered phones in a care centre. 来回答。

103. It's about 30 minutes' walk. 根据第四段中 Sahra is living and working in a town about 30 minutes' walk from where Helen lives. 来回答。

104. Yes, she did. 根据第四段内容, 尤其是最后一句 This helped Sahra learn many new words about her everyday life. 来回答。

105. As a volunteer, we can help others and make friends with them. This also enriches our life. (此为开放题, 答案合理即可。)

评价是教学的指挥棒, 而具有选拔性质的考试, 对中小学教学的导向作用尤为明显。2011 年各地课改试验区的中考英语阅读理解试题反映出来的中考招生新理念, 对广大初中英语教师与学生来说, 应该很有启发。“开发课程资源, 拓展学用渠道”, 英语新课程的这条基本理念要求我们教师突破课本的限制, 为学生提供更多鲜活的英语训练材料。从 2011 年各地中考英语试题的内容创新来看, 网上购物、京沪高铁投入运营、到伦敦希思罗机场的火车车次等都还没有来得及进入我们的中学英语教材, 但是已经进入了中考招生命题者的选材范围。难道我们可以说, 现行的初中英语教材上没有这些内容, 它们就不应该出现在中考英语试题中吗?

中考英语阅读理解测试的内容比较全面, 方式也多种多样, 这里不再赘述。下一章是来自全国各地共 150 篇最新的中考英语阅读真题, 供考生逐题推敲、领会, 集中有效地悟出中考英语阅读理解题的答题思路和技巧。

## 第二章

### 最新中考英语阅读理解经典真题 150 篇

#### 第一节 人物经历篇

##### Passage 1 (北京)

Dereck Joubert and his wife, Beverly, have made many films about wild animals in Africa. Their films and photographs are very popular and one of the photographs has been on the front cover of a *National Geographic* magazine.

A working day for Dereck and Beverly starts very early—at 4:30 in the morning! That's when they get up and start filming. And it's a long day—they often work until 8:30 in the evening. In the winter it's very cold and in the summer it can be 40°C. Dereck always does the filming—Beverly never does that, and she doesn't write. But Dereck never takes photographs or records the sound. They work very well as a team, and they both believe we should shoot animals with cameras—not with guns!

When they have finished filming and taking photographs for the day, they have dinner and Dereck usually writes while Beverly looks at her photographs. At night, they usually sleep in a small tent, but they sometimes sleep in the Land Cruiser—when you're very close to wild animals, it's sometimes safer to sleep in the car.

Dereck and Beverly have also traveled around the world and given talks about their work. Dereck says that animals are not just something to look at—they play an important role. Beverly thinks the wild animals can teach us a lot about ourselves.

1. Dereck and Beverly start working \_\_\_\_\_.

- |                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| A. at 4:30 in the morning | B. at 4:30 in the afternoon |
| C. at 8:30 in the morning | D. at 8:30 in the evening   |

2. Dereck and Beverly usually sleep \_\_\_\_\_ at night.

- |             |              |               |               |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| A. in a car | B. in a tent | C. in a house | D. in a hotel |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|

3. Beverly thinks the wild animals \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. are something to look at  
C. play an unimportant role

- B. are very popular  
D. can teach us a lot

### Passage 2 (湖北黄冈)

I had the meanest mother in the whole world. While other kids ate candy for breakfast, I had to have porridge, eggs or toast. When others had Coke and candy for lunch, I had to eat a sandwich. But at least I wasn't alone when I was sad. My sister and two brothers had the same mean (刻薄的) mother as I did.

My mother preferred to know where we were all the time. She had to know who our friends were and where we were going. We had to clean clothes and take a bath every day. The other kids got to wear the same clothes for days. We could not lie in bed "sick" in order to miss school.

The worst is yet to come. We had to be in bed by nine each night and get up at eight the next morning. We couldn't sleep till noon like our friends. So while they slept, my mother was brave to break the *Child Labour Law*. She made us work. We had to wash dishes, make beds, and learn to cook and all sorts of things at home. I believe she lay awake thinking up all things for us to do.

My mother was a complete failure as a mother. Two of her children received higher education. None of us have ever been arrested (taken away by the police) or divorced. She forced us to grow up into educated and honest adults. I am trying to raise my three children this way. I am filled with pride when my children call me "mean". Why? Because now I thank God every day for giving me the meanest mother in the world.

- How many children does the writer's mother have?  
A. Four.                      B. Two.                      C. Three.                      D. Six.
- What can you infer (推测) from the passage?  
A. My family was rich, so I ate a sandwich for lunch.  
B. My mother was a great success. We love her.  
C. If we didn't want to go to school, the best way was to pretend to be sick.  
D. We needn't share the housework at home.
- The best title for this passage may be \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. My childhood                      B. The meanest mother  
C. I do as my mother did                      D. Unforgettable memories

### Passage 3 (武汉)

Perhaps the only test score that I remember is the 55 when I was in high school.

The test was the final for a course. I remember waiting anxiously as my teacher Mr. Right passed out our papers one by one. It was a rather difficult test. I heard my classmates groaning, and I could tell by the groans that the scores weren't looking good.

Mr. Right put my paper on my desk. There in big red numbers, circled to draw attention, was my score, 55!

I lowered my head, and covered the score up quickly. A 55 is not something that you wanted your classmates to see.

"The scores were not very good, none of you passed," Mr. Right said. "The highest score in the class was a 55."



A 55. That's me!

Suddenly my sad look didn't look so bad. I had the highest score. I felt a lot better.

I walked home alone that day with the low but high score. My father knew that I had a big test that day and asked me as soon as I got home, "How did you do in your test?"

"I made a 55," I said.

A frown (皱眉) now stood on my father's face. I knew I had to explain immediately. "But dad, I had the highest score in the class," I proudly stated. I thought that explanation would make a difference.

"You failed!" my father replied.

"But it's the highest!" I insisted.

"I don't care what scores others had, but you failed. What matters is what you do!" my father firmly said.

For years, my father was always that way. It didn't matter what others did, it only mattered what I did and that I did it excellently.

We often don't understand the wisdom (智慧) of good parents until we ourselves stand in the parents' shoes. My father's words have carried me throughout life.

1. The word "groaning" is the closest in meaning to "\_\_\_\_\_".

- A. singing                      B. laughing                      C. complaining                      D. quarreling

2. In class, to hide my score from my classmates, I \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. lowered my head                      B. covered my score up  
C. walked home alone                      D. explained immediately

3. A frown stood on my father's face because he thought \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. I did a bad job in the test                      B. I gave a good excuse  
C. I became the worst student                      D. I stood in his shoes

4. We can infer from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the father was strict with his child                      B. the writer was always poor in tests  
C. Mr. Right was worried about the writer                      D. the writer was always happy with his scores

5. Which is the best title of the passage?

- A. The Final Test                      B. That's Me!                      C. My Strict Teacher                      D. Scores, Important?

#### Passage 4 (杭州)

When I was a kid in Minnesota, watermelon was expensive. One of my father's friends, Bernie, was a rich businessman, who owned a large store in St. Paul.

Every summer, when the first watermelons arrived, Bernie would call. Dad and I would go to Bernie's place. We'd sit on the edge of the dock (码头), feet dangling (摇晃), and got ready for a big meal.

Bernie would take his knife, cut our first watermelon, hand us both a big piece and sit down next to us. Then we'd bury our faces in watermelon, eating only the heart—the reddest, juiciest, firmest, sweetest, most seed-free part—and throw away the rest.

Bernie was my father's ideal of a rich man. I always thought it was because he was such a successful businessman. Years later, I realized that it was not Bernie's wealth itself but his way of dealing with it that my father liked. Bernie knew how to stop working, get together with friends and

eat only the heart of the watermelon.

What I learned from Bernie is that being rich is a state of mind. Some of us, no matter how much money we have, will never be free enough to eat only the heart of the watermelon. If you don't take the time to dangle your feet over the dock and enjoy life's small pleasure, your work is probably hurting your life.

For many years, I forgot that lesson I'd learned as a kid on the loading dock. I was too busy making all the money I could.

Well, I've relearned it. I hope I have time left to enjoy the success of others and to take pleasure in the day. That's the heart of the watermelon. I have learned again to throw the rest away.

1. We learned from the second paragraph that the writer and his father were feeling \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. relaxed      B. worried      C. hungry      D. proud

2. How did the writer and his father eat the watermelon?

- A. They ate it in a polite way.      B. They only ate its best part.  
C. They ate every part of it.      D. They shared only one piece.

3. In the eyes of the writer's father, Bernie \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. was just a rich businessman      B. worked hard all the time  
C. lived a rich but healthy life      D. knew how to make money

4. The underlined part "the heart of the watermelon" in the last paragraph refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the best part of the watermelon      B. the writer's busy life  
C. the writer's decision of making money      D. the writer's hope of enjoying life

5. It can be learned from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. one has to work hard to reach his goal      B. a friend in need is a friend in deed  
C. watermelon is the healthiest fruit      D. one should keep work-life balance

### Passage 5 (江西)

The train I was traveling on was already half an hour late. I had to arrive in Vienna at 7:15 in time to catch the 7:25 train to Paris, but there was no hope of that now. I told the conductor about it. He advised (建议) me to get off two stops before Vienna station and take a taxi (出租车). When the time came, the conductor even helped me with my bags. He wished me good luck as I jumped off. And a few minutes later, I was racing towards the centre of the city in a taxi. It was almost 7:25 when we stopped outside the station. I paid the driver quickly, took hold of my bags quickly and hurried inside. "Paris train" was all I had time to say to the official (铁路职工) I saw. You can guess how I feel when he pointed to a train that was just moving out of the station.

1. The writer arrived at Vienna station at \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. 7:15      B. 7:25      C. 7:45      D. 7:55

2. Why did the writer get off the train two stops before Vienna station?

- A. He wanted to have a rest.      B. He wanted to catch the 7:25 Paris train.  
C. He wanted to go to Paris by taxi.      D. He wanted to meet the official.

3. How did the writer feel at Vienna station?

- A. He felt lonely.      B. He felt angry.      C. He felt surprised.      D. He felt sad.

## Passage 6 (安徽)

Charles Chaplin was born in London on April 16, 1889. His parents were music hall actors. The Chaplin family were very poor, and life was difficult in London. Charlie, as he was called, used to do his mother's job in the theatre when she was ill.



When he was only 17 years old, Chaplin got his first real job as an actor. What he did was to do silly things to make people laugh in the theatre. Seven years later he went to the USA. And over the next four years, he formed his own way of art. He developed the character of a homeless gentleman which became very popular.

From the 1920s to the 1950s, Chaplin made his most famous films. The film *Modern Times* (1936) shows his care about the modern industry workers. Many of his films describe the poor life and hard time of the working people during that period.

Although Charlie Chaplin was British, he lived in the USA until 1953. But he never got US nationality. Then Chaplin, his wife and his five children had to move to Switzerland where he lived until he died. When he was 83 years old, he won his only Oscar for the music he wrote for the film *Limelight*. He was named Sir Charles Chaplin at the age of 85. Charlie Chaplin died in Switzerland on December 25, 1975.

1. Chaplin used to \_\_\_\_\_ when his mother was ill.
  - A. look after her
  - B. do the housework
  - C. do his mother's job
  - D. do his father's job
2. From paragraph 2, we can know that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Chaplin went to the USA when he was 24 years old
  - B. Chaplin became famous when he was 17 years old
  - C. people liked Chaplin because he was a homeless gentleman
  - D. Chaplin did many silly things to make people laugh in the street
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Chaplin made his most famous films.
  - A. From 1889 to 1936
  - B. From the 1920s to the 1950s
  - C. From 1953 to 1975
  - D. From the 1950s to the 1980s
4. We can infer from the passage that Chaplin left the USA because of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. his family
  - B. his work
  - C. the US government
  - D. the Swiss government
5. Chaplin won the Oscar for \_\_\_\_\_ when he was 83 years old.
  - A. the acting
  - B. the art
  - C. the film
  - D. the music

## Passage 7 (南宁)

Bill Gates was born on October 28, 1955. He grew up in Seattle, Washington. Bill Gates was named William Henry after his father and grandfather. He was a very clever boy. His favourite subjects at school were Science and Maths. When people asked him what he wanted to be in the future, he always said, "A scientist."

When he was 13 years old, Bill started to play with computers. At that time, computers were very large machines. Once he was interested in a very old computer. He and some of his friends spent lots of time doing unusual things with it. In the end, they worked out a software program (电脑软件程序) with the old machine. Bill sold it for 4,200 dollars when he was only 17.

In 1973, Bill went to Harvard University. At Harvard, he developed the BASIC language for the first microcomputer (微型计算机). In his third year, he left Harvard to work for a company called Microsoft (微软公司). Bill began this company in 1975 with his friend Paul Allen. They thought that the computer would be a very important tool in every office and in every home, so they began developing software for personal computers. They improved the software to make it easier for people to use computers.

In 1999, Bill wrote a book called *Business @ the Speed of Thought*. In the book he told people how computer technology (技术) could solve business problems in new ways. It was one on the bestsellers of the *New York Times* list.

Bill married Melinda French on January 1, 1994. They have two children: a daughter and a son. Bill enjoys reading very much. He also enjoys playing golf and bridge.

1. What were Bill Gates' favourite subjects?  
A. Science and Technology. B. Maths and Business.  
C. Science and Maths. D. Business and Computer.
2. Where did he develop the BASIC language for the first microcomputer?  
A. At Harvard. B. In Seattle. C. In New York. D. In Washington.
3. Whom did he begin his company with in 1975?  
A. His father. B. His grandfather. C. Paul Allen. D. Melinda French.
4. When did he write the book *Business @ the Speed of Thought*?  
A. In 1973. B. In 1975. C. In 1994. D. In 1999.
5. Bill Gates' hobbies (爱好) are \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. making software and writing books  
B. reading, playing golf and bridge  
C. doing unusual things and developing the BASIC language  
D. playing with computers and working out software programmes

### Passage 8 (浙江温州)

Jack Johnson is one of the most popular singer and song writers in the world.

Jack was born on May 18, 1975 in Hawaii. Being the son of a famous surfer, Jack naturally has an interest in surfing. Most of his life lessons were learned in the water. At the age of 17, Jack entered the finals of the Pipeline Masters—the world's most famous surfing competition. Everyone thought Jack would become a professional surfer like his father. Unluckily, one month later, he had a deadly accident while surfing and was seriously hurt.

Life is like a revolving door. When it closes, it also opens. Jack started to practice playing the guitar and write songs when he was staying in hospital. At first, his father thought Jack only did it for fun, but soon he was surprised at the great progress his son had made.

When studying in the university, Jack didn't stop practicing his guitar skills. He played the guitar for school parties. He wrote songs and sang for his teachers and friends. They liked his songs. His first music album *Brushfire Fairytales* came out in 2001. It was a great success. His second album, *On and On*, was much like his first. They were filled with sweet, easy-going songs that

