

考研必备

# 英语

100篇

精读汇粹

清华大学外语系  
北京大学英语系

吴永麟 编著译  
陶洁 审阅

学苑出版社

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## 前 言

近年来,考研人数猛增。今年报考硕士研究生人数高达 30 万余人。考博生,以清华为例,从 90 年的 300 人左右,到今年突破 800 余人。如何获胜,除专业课外,英语是研究生考试中的重要科目。其成败直接影响录取线。而阅读又占英语试卷分值的 40%,英语能否过关,阅读至关重要。从历年的情况来看,似乎有点不尽人意。特别是在有些学校的考试试卷,没有阅读客观题,只有主观问答和阅后写总结,这也是今后研究生试卷的趋向,理解和写作并重,难倒了许多考生。

中国有句成语:“读书破万卷,下笔似有神。”阅读的重要性由此可见。英语词汇和语法的掌握和应用,语言所反映文化的了解,翻译和写作的起始和提高,都得通过阅读这座桥梁。否则,即使把词汇和语法规则背得滚瓜烂熟,也是看不懂、译不出、写不了,更谈不上文化的交流。何况死记硬背的东西容易忘。

阅读能力的提高,不是一朝一夕的事,更不是随意翻阅就能解决问题。提高速度、扩大视野,显然需要大量泛读。但掌握和应用英语,突破语言关以实力获得考试成功,必须进行从难从严的精读。作者就是针对这一要求,并结合十多年考研英语辅导班的教学经验及学生中存在的问题编写了此书,以助学生提高英语实力。

本书特点:

1. **题材广泛。**本书中文章是从国外报刊、杂志、书籍、考题中摘选的百篇材料。内容丰富,时效性强,涉及面广。本书所选文章涉及政治、经济、文化、文学、教育学、语言学、哲学、心理学、历史、人物传记和科普知识等诸方面,以便考生在提高能力的同时扩大视野,从而取得好成绩。

2. **体裁齐全。**本书所选文章包括叙事文、描写文、说明文和论说文四种,以论说文为主。以提高考生对各种体裁的文章的分析、解决问题的能力。

3. **层次分明。**本书按文章的难易程度分五部分给出,以便考生循序渐进地进行系统复习和训练。

(1)基础部分 20 篇。

(2)中级部分 35 篇。

(3)高级部分 20 篇。

(4)主观题型 10 篇。

(5)历年考题阅读精选 15 篇。

另外,每篇文章有摘要,并点出作者写作的方法,列有生词表。难点有注释,包括背景知识,人物介绍。答案有注释译文讲解,译文达 80% 左右。所以本书不仅可学习、提高阅读理解能力,还可以作为翻译的参考。

本书使用说明:

1. 本书中文章均选自国外最新报刊、杂志,内容丰富,时效性强,涉及面广。无论是体裁,还是文章篇幅等特别贴近考研阅读理解试题,因此考生在阅读时,不仅要做题,更重要的是要读懂每篇文章,从分析句子结构着手,仔细精读,最好每篇文章能翻译出来,这样不仅能提高考生的阅读水平,而且能提高考生的翻译、写作水平。

2. 本书中每篇文章均有摘要,点出了文章的写作方法,并且列有生词表,难点有注释,译文达 80% 左右,答案解答详细,因此考生在做题时,如果遇到了困难,不要急于看答案和解答,一定要读懂,只有这样才能达到本书编写目的,才能提高阅读水平,才能提高英语应试能力,才能取得好成绩。

我们相信,如果您能认真精读本书,您的英语阅读、翻译和写作水平定会登上一个新台阶。对于考研应试,您将有“一览众山小”的感觉。

本书是考研应试者的良师益友,也是大专院校的学生自学英语、提高英语水平和教师进行教学辅导的一本极有价值的精读参考书。

最后,对给予本书译文上有帮助的先生们表示感谢。

由于作者水平有限,错误和缺点在所难免,望读者不吝赐教,以备修订时改正。

吴永麟

1998 年 5 月于北京清华园



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## 第一部分 基础 20 篇

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### Passage One 印尼商业中的沉思

It looked like a typical business meeting. Six men, neatly dressed in white shirts and ties filed into the boardroom of a small Jakarta company and sat down at a long table. But instead of consulting files or hearing reports, they closed their eyes and began to meditate, consulting the spirits of ancient Javanese kings. Mysticism touches almost every aspect of life in Indonesia and business is no exception. One of the meditators said his weekly meditation sessions are aimed mainly at bringing the peace of mind that makes for good decision-making. But the insight gained from mystic communication with spirits of wise kings has also helped boost the profits of his five companies.

Mysticism and profits have come together since the 13th century introduction of Islam to Indonesia by Indian Moslem merchants. Those devout traders, called "Wali Ullah" or "those close to God," energetically spread both trade and religion by adapting their appeals to the native mysticism of Java. Legends attribute magic power of foreknowledge to the Wali Ullah. These powers were believed to be gained through meditation and fasting.

Businessman Hadisiko said his group fasts and meditates all night every Thursday to become closer to God and to contact the spirits of the great men of the past. "If we want to employ someone at the managerial level, we meditate together and often the message comes that this man can't hold onto money or he is untrustworthy. Or maybe the spirits will tell us he should be hired." Hadisiko hastened to add that his companies also hold modern personnel management systems and that formal qualifications are essential for a candidate even to be considered. Perspective investments also are considered through mystic meditation. "With the mind relaxed and open, it is easier to be objective in judging the risk of a new venture. Meditation and contact with the wisdom of the old leaders sharpens your own insight and intuition. Then you have to apply that intuition to the information you have and work hard to be successful." Mystic meditation helped reverse a business slide his companies experienced in the mid-1980. Operating with normal business procedures, he lost more than \$ 3 millions in that year alone. Meditation brought back his peace of mind. Putting the right persons in the right jobs and gaining confidence in his business decisions were the keys to a turning around that has brought expansion and profitability. The mysticism in Hadisiko's boardroom is part of a growing movement in Indonesia called Kebatikan—the "search for the inner self."

One of his managers, Yusuf Soemado, who studied business administration at Harvard university, compared the idea of mystic management to western system of positive thinking. "Willpower and subconscious mind are recognized as important factors in business. Such approaches as psycho-cybernetics, Carnegie's think and growth rates, or the power of positive thinking are western attempts to tap the same higher intelligence that we contact through meditation," he said.

1. What is the most important factor in their doing business?  
 A. Mysticism. B. Religion.  
 C. Meditation. D. Investment.
2. Whom do they consult?  
 A. The spirits of ancient Javanese kings. B. Wali Ullah.  
 C. Old Kings. D. Carnegie.
3. Why did Hadisike hasten to add "his companies also hold modern personnel management systems ..."?  
 A. He thought Mysticism was not so good as expected.  
 B. To show they too focused on qualifications.  
 C. To show they hired qualified persons.  
 D. To show the possibility of combination of the scientific management with religion.
4. According to the passage, the function of the meditation is \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. to gain profit from the god B. to gain peace of mind to make decision  
 C. to gain foreknowledge D. to gain objective conclusion

## 词 汇

- |                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. file into                    | 鱼贯而入, 排队进去      |
| 2. Jakarta                      | 雅加达             |
| 3. meditate                     | 沉思, 冥想, 反省      |
| 4. Java                         | 爪哇              |
| 5. Javanese                     | 爪哇的             |
| 6. Mysticism                    | 神秘主义            |
| 7. boost                        | 促进, 增加, 提高      |
| 8. devout                       | 虔诚的, 热诚的        |
| 9. appeal (to)                  | 向...呼吁, 求助于, 魅力 |
| 10. legend                      | 传说, 神话          |
| 11. fasting (fast)              | 禁食, 斋戒          |
| 12. hold onto                   | 抓紧, 保住          |
| 13. personnel management system | 人事管理制度          |
| 14. perspective investment      | 远景投资            |
| 15. venture                     | (商业)投机, 风险      |
| 16. sharpen                     | 使...敏锐/尖锐, 磨尖   |
| 17. business slide              | 买卖/企业滑坡, 下滑     |
| 18. turn around                 | (生意)好转, 转变      |
| 19. subconscious                | 下意识的, 潜意识的      |
| 20. cybernetics                 | 控制论             |
| 21. Carnegie                    | 卡内基             |

## Passage Two 博士生辍学

Educators are seriously concerned about the high rate of dropouts among the doctor of philosophy candidates and the consequent loss of talent to a nation in need of Ph. D. s. Some have placed the dropouts loss as high as 50 percent . The extent of the loss was, however, largely a matter of expert guessing. Last week a well-rounded study was published. It was based on 22,000 questionnaires sent to former graduate students who were enrolled in 24 universities and it seemed to show many past fears to be groundless.

The dropouts rate was found to be 31 per cent, and in most cases the dropouts, while not completing the Ph. D. requirement, went on to productive work. They are not only doing well financially, but, according to the report, are not far below the income levels of those who went on to complete their doctorates.

Discussing the study last week, Dr. Tucker said the project was initiated " because of the concern frequently expressed by graduate faculties and administrators that some of the individuals who dropped out of Ph. D. programs were capable of completing the requirement for the degree. Attrition at the Ph. D. level is also thought to be a waste of precious faculty time and a drain on university resources already being used to capacity. Some people expressed the opinion that the shortage of highly trained specialists and college teachers could be reduced by persuading the dropouts to return to graduate schools to complete the Ph. D. "

"The results of our research" Dr. Tucker concluded, "did not support these opinions."

1. Lack of motivation was the principal reason for dropping out.
2. Most dropouts went as far in their doctoral program as was consistent with their levels of ability or their specialities.
3. Most dropouts are now engaged in work consistent with their education and motivation.

Nearly 75 per cent of the dropouts said there was no academic reason for their decision, but those who mentioned academic reason cited failure to pass the qualifying examination, uncompleted research and failure to pass language exams. Among the single most important personal reasons identified by dropouts for noncompletion of their Ph. D. program, lack of finances was marked by 19 per cent.

As an indication of how well the dropouts were doing, a chart showed 2 % in humanities were receiving \$ 20,000 and more annually while none of the Ph. D. 's with that background reached this figure. The Ph. D. 's shone in the \$ 7,500 to \$ 15,000 bracket with 78% at that level against 50 % for the dropouts. This may also be an indication of the fact that top salaries in the academic fields, where Ph. D. 's tend to rise to the highest salaries, are still lagging behind other fields.

As to the possibility of getting dropouts back on campus, the outlook was glum. The main condition which would have to prevail for at least 25 % of the dropouts who might consider returning to graduate school would be to guarantee that they would retain their present level of income and in some cases their present job.



1. The author states that many educators feel that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. steps should be taken to get the dropouts back to campus
  - B. the dropouts should return to a lower quality school to continue their study
  - C. the Ph.D. holder is generally a better adjusted person than the dropout
  - D. the high dropout rate is largely attributable to the lack of stimulation on the part of faculty members
2. Research has shown that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Dropouts are substantially below Ph.D.'s in financial attainment
  - B. the incentive factor is a minor one in regard to pursuing Ph.D. studies
  - C. The Ph.D. candidate is likely to change his field of specialization if he drops out
  - D. about one-third of those who start Ph.D. work do not complete the work to earn the degree
3. Meeting foreign language requirements for the Ph.D. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. is the most frequent reason for dropping out
  - B. is more difficult for the science candidate than for the humanities candidate
  - C. is an essential part of many Ph.D. programs
  - D. does not vary in difficulty among universities
4. After reading the article, one would refrain from concluding that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. optimism reigns in regard to getting Ph.D. dropouts to return to their pursuit of the degree
  - B. a Ph.D. dropout, by and large, does not have what it takes to learn the degree
  - C. colleges and universities employ a substantial number of Ph.D. dropouts
  - D. Ph.D.'s are not earning what they deserve in nonacademic positions

## 词 汇

- |                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. dropout                     | 辍学者, 中途退学          |
| 2. well-rounded                | 全面的                |
| 3. attrition                   | 缩/减员, 磨损           |
| 4. drain                       | 枯竭                 |
| 5. bracket                     | 一类人, (尤指按收入分类的) 阶层 |
| 6. lagging behind other fields | 落后于其它领域            |
| 7. glum                        | 阴郁的                |

## Passage Three 严格交通法规制止交通事故

From the health point of view we are living in a marvellous age. We are immunised from birth against many of the most dangerous diseases. A large number of once fatal illnesses can now be cured by modern drugs and surgery. It is almost certain that one day remedies will be found for the most stubborn remaining diseases. The expectation of life has increased enormously. But though the possibility of living a long and happy life is greater than ever before, every day we witness the incredible slaughter of men, women and children on the roads. Man versus the motor-car! It is a never-ending battle which

man is losing. Thousands of people the world over are killed or horribly killed each year and we are quietly sitting back and letting it happen.

It has been rightly said that when a man is sitting behind a steering wheel, his car becomes the extension of his personality. There is no doubt that the motor-car often brings out a man's very worst qualities. People who are normally quiet and pleasant may become unrecognisable when they are behind a steering-wheel. They swear, they are ill-mannered and aggressive, wilful as two-year-olds and utterly selfish. All their hidden frustrations, disappointments and jealousies seem to be brought to the surface by the act of driving.

The surprising thing is that society smiles so benignly on the motorist and seems to condone his behaviour. Everything is done for his convenience. Cities are allowed to become almost uninhabitable because of heavy traffic; towns are made ugly by huge car parks; the countryside is desecrated by road networks; and the mass annual slaughter becomes nothing more than a statistic, to be conveniently forgotten.

It is high time a world code ~~were~~ created to reduce this senseless waste of human life. With regard to driving, the laws of some countries are notoriously lax and even the strictest are not strict enough. A code which was universally accepted could only have a dramatically beneficial effect on the accident rate. Here are a few examples of some of the things that might be done. The driving test should be standardised and made far more difficult than it is; all the drivers should be made to take a test every three years or so; the age at which young people are allowed to drive any vehicle should be raised to at least 21; all vehicles should be put through stringent annual tests for safety. Even the smallest amount of alcohol in the blood can impair a person's driving ability. Present drinking and driving laws (where they exist) should be made much stricter. Maximum and minimum speed limits should be imposed on all roads. Governments should lay down safety specifications for manufacturers, as has been done in the USA. All advertising stressing power and performance should be banned. These measures may sound inordinately harsh. But surely nothing should be considered as too severe if it results in reducing the annual toll of human life. After all, the world is for human beings, not motor-cars.

1. The main idea of this passage is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Traffic accidents are mainly caused by motorists
  - B. Thousands of people the world over are killed each year
  - C. The laws of some countries about driving are too lax
  - D. Only stricter traffic laws can prevent accidents
2. What does the author think of society toward motorists?
  - A. Society smiles on the motorists.
  - B. Huge car parks are built in the cities and towns.
  - C. Victims of accidents are nothing.
  - D. Society condones their rude driving.
3. Why does the author say: "his car becomes the extension of his personality?"
  - A. Driving can show his real self.
  - B. Driving can show the other part of his personality.

- C. Driving can bring out his character.  
 D. His car embodies his temper.
4. Which of the followings is NOT mentioned as a way against traffic accidents?
- A. Build more highways.  
 B. Stricter driving tests.  
 C. Test drivers every three years.  
 D. Raise age limit and lay down safety specifications.

## 词 汇

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 1. immunise                              | 使免役, 使免除      |
| 2. expectation of life = life expectancy | 平均寿命          |
| 3. versus = against                      | 对顶, 反对        |
| 4. mutilate                              | 伤害            |
| 5. wilful                                | 任性的, 固执的      |
| 6. benign                                | 宽厚的, 仁慈的      |
| 7. condone                               | 宽容            |
| 8. desecrate                             | 亵渎, 玷污        |
| 9. code                                  | 法规, 规则, 惯例    |
| 10. stringent                            | 严格的, 紧急的, 迫切的 |
| 11. performance                          | 演出, 成品, 这里是指  |

car's behavior such as speed, function etc. 可译成行为, 汽车行为、功能等

## Passage Four 城市扩展

Mass transportation revised the social and economic fabric of the American city in three fundamental ways. It catalyzed physical expansion, it sorted out people and land uses, and it accelerated the inherent instability of urban life. By opening vast areas of unoccupied land for residential expansion, the omnibuses, horse railways, commuter trains, and electric trolleys pulled settled regions outward two to four times more distant from city centers than they were in the premodern era. In 1850, for example, the borders of Boston lay scarcely two miles from the old business district; by the turn of the century the radius extended ten miles. Now those who could afford it could live far removed from the old city center and still commute there for work, shopping, and entertainment. The new accessibility of land around the periphery of almost every major city sparked an explosion of real estate development and fueled what we now know as urban sprawl. Between 1890 and 1920, for example, some 250,000 new residential lots were recorded within the borders of Chicago, most of them located in outlying areas. Over the same period, another 550,000 were plotted outside the city limits but within the metropolitan area. Anxious to take advantage of the possibilities of commuting, real estate developers added 800,000 potential building sites to the Chicago region in just thirty years—lots that could have housed five to six million people.