



# 征服 conquer

主编/孙瑜/杨党玲

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## 博士入学英语考试 阅读理解800题

世界图书出版公司

# 征服博士入学英语考试 阅读理解 800 题

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## 序

### 一、概说

近几年来,我国的研究生教育发展迅猛,各高校及科研院所招生人数逐年增加;广大考生的人数逐年攀升,英语水平也不断提高。在博士入学考试中,英语是必考项目,而阅读理解又是重中之重。尽管博士生入学英语考试还没有全国统考,但根据我们对北京大学、人民大学、西安交大、武汉大学等十几所招生单位几年来的试题的分析,发现阅读理解题大约占总分的30%—50%,而各校录取分数在40—55分之间,由此可见,阅读理解能力的好坏直接影响到能否被录取。

根据国家教育部1993年颁布的《硕士、博士学位研究生英语教学大纲》,非英语专业博士研究生的教学目的是“培养学生具有熟练的阅读能力,……能以英语为工具,熟练地进行本专业的研究并进行本专业的学术交流”,对考生的要求是“英语入学水平原则上应达到或略高于硕士生的通过水平”。

实际上,英语阅读能力无论是针对中学生、大学生还是研究生,始终是四项技能中要求最高的,因而也是一般学习者掌握最好的技能,也是运用范围最广的。到了博士生阶段,阅读的重要性更加明显。这是由博士生的科研性质所决定的。因为他们的科研课题必须具备创新之处,要创新,必须先广泛、快速、大量地阅读和检索国内外特别是国外相关专业的最新科研成果。众所周知,目前科研论文写作的通用语言恰好是英语,因此搞好英语阅读对自身科研能力的提升具有很大的促进作用。由此可见,无论对于入学考试还是对于考上之后博士阶段的学习、科研,提高阅读能力都是绝对必要的。

### 二、阅读理解题型

考博英语的阅读理解题大致分为三部分:

Section A 一般是三篇短文,每篇短文后有5个问题,要求考生选择正确答案。

Section B 一般是一篇短文,读完之后,要用英语写出70—90词的摘要或总结。

Section C 也是一篇短文,读后要求用英语回答3—5个问题。

当然有些学校可能只出单项选择题,仅仅考察理解力,并未将表达能力与理解力放在一起考查,因而没有写摘要和回答问题,而是在作文等其他项目中专门考察表达力,但这一趋势已经出现,应该引起考生的注意。

目前的主要题型仍然是单项选择题。它比较客观地体现学生的理解力,而且题目也是各个层次的问题均出现,既有微观水平上的题目,如词汇、长句、难句、细节等题目,又有宏观、全局、语篇水平上的理解,如主旨题、预测题、作者态度题、推理题等。具体讲,阅读测试主要考查考生以下能力:

1. 掌握所读材料的中心思想、文章大意和重要细节;

2. 对文章内容进行一定的分析、猜测、归纳、推理、判断;
3. 理解某些重要词汇、长句、难句,以及文章的宏观结构;
4. 领会、判断作者的观点和态度,区分事实与观点、主与次;
5. 辨认并有效运用文章中出现的“信号词”。

按照题目的意思分类,考博阅读理解题的题型概括起来有 6 种:

1. 主旨题(包括文章大意、给出标题等);
2. 细节题(包括事实);
3. 词汇题(包括根据上下文猜测词义);
4. 逻辑题(包括句子或句群之间的关系);
5. 推理题(包括引申、预测);
6. 观点题(包括作者的态度)。

考博英语阅读理解题的材料主要来源于美、英等国原版报刊、杂志、书籍等,内容涉及社会科学、自然科学和人文科学各个领域。文章的体裁主要是议论文、说明文,还有少量的描写文和记叙文。近几年的考试中,议论文逐年增多,说明文逐渐减少,这就对考生的逻辑推理能力、把握主旨的能力提出了更高的要求。

根据文章数目计算,阅读理解题的阅读量大约是 5 篇文章,2 000 个词汇,要求考生的阅读速度达到每分钟 60~70 个词。这就要求考生不但阅读速度快,而且要有较高的准确率。

### 三、本书特点

1. 选材广泛、新颖,既有报刊、杂志、书籍文章,又有网络文章;
2. 编者具有多年丰富的大学英语和研究生英语教学、辅导经历,熟悉考查重点、命题规律、测试学;
3. 编书时参考了十余所大学和科研院所近几年的考博真题,因此,所选的文章无论是长度、难度、内容的时效性、趣味性、启发性等都得到保证,使考生们不但做了题,提高了阅读理解力,而且也了解美、英等国的文化、科技、风俗、价值观念等。
4. 本书题型全部是单项选择题,每篇文章后面有 5 个问题供考生选择。
5. 以十篇文章为一个单元,共十六个单元。每个单元的英语原文后面给出了参考答案和较为详细的文章大意及答案解析,方便考生了解自己的实力。文章大意部分概括了全文的主要意思、提示了主题句所在、写作方法、文章结构、体裁、文章关键词、关键词等,为考生从宏观上把握全篇提供了很好的思路。答案解析部分对每个题目给出了解释,指出了考点和答案的出处,解析简洁、清楚、逻辑性强、令人信服。答案解析是全书的精华,倾注了所有编写人员大量的心血。目的是给考生以方法论的指导。当然,本书以 160 篇文章之巨从数量上得到保证,给考生以“鱼”;而在答案解析部分又给考生以“渔”,这样,既有数量,又有方法论的指导,再加上考生自身做题、看答案与解析,产生考生与书的互动,肯定能帮助考生提高阅读能力。果真如此,我们编书的初衷便达到了。

#### 四、答题方法

1.先问题后文章。由于大多数考生的阅读速度不够快、概括能力差,以及读后很快遗忘,使得先读文章再做题成为无的放矢、浪费时间之举。因此,我们建议大家,先读后面的题干,再带着问题看文章,不但能节省时间,而且增强了做题时的注意力,准确率得到提高。

2.先快读后慢读。带着问题读文章时,应先略读文章,等读到问题所涉及的句子时再放慢速度,仔细推敲。找到答案后继续快读,如此反复。这样既不会出现有些考生所担心的怕漏掉一些重要句子的现象,又抓住了重点,增强了针对性。

3.先细节后主旨。一般说来,每篇文章都会有一个主旨题,很可能是第一题。这时可先把它略过,而是从后面的题做起,等到微观的题完成后,对文章的印象会自然加深,再做主旨题就会容易、省时得多。

4.先容易后困难。一篇文章里面的问题有较简单的细节题,也有较复杂的主旨题;同样,五篇文章中也有更难的和更易的文章,一般来讲,人物传记、说明文等较易理解,而议论文就要困难一些。这样,应先浏览所有五篇文章,再按难易顺序做,保证较简单的题目能够做正确,发挥出自己正常的水平。

5.先平时后考试。不要以为考试前才需要看书、做题,更多的功夫应该渗透到平时的日积月累之中。阅读能力的获得和提高是一个漫长的过程,不是一朝一夕就能练成的。况且,阅读能力的提高是没有止境的,再好也还有提高的余地。之所以产生认为考前做题是非常重要的,这样的错觉,是因为到了考试前,阅读的迫切性更强、更明显罢了。

本书在编写过程中得到了世界图书出版西安公司的大力支持,长安大学董丽霞教授审阅了全部书稿,西安交大研究生赵珺参与了部分书稿的打印和编辑工作,在此一并表示感谢。

由于编写时间仓促,编者水平有限,书中难免有不足之处,敬请读者谅解。

杨党玲

2004年7月

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## Unit One

### Passage 1

The physical distribution of products has two primary aspects: transportation and storage. Both aspects are highly developed and specialized phases of marketing. The costs of both transporting and storing are built into the prices of products. Transportation can be by truck, railway, ship, or barge. For some items, such as exotic plants and flowers, or when rapid delivery is essential, air freight may be used.

Storage, or warehousing, is a necessary function because production and consumption of goods rarely match: items generally are not sold as quickly as they are made. Inventories build up, both in warehouses and at retail establishments, before the goods are sold. The transportation function is involved in bringing goods to a warehouse and taking them from it to retail stores.

Storage performs the service of stabilizing market price. If, for example, no agricultural product could be stored, all food would have to be put on the market immediately. This would, of course, create a glut and lower prices drastically. There would be an immediate benefit to consumers, but in the long run they would suffer. Farmers, because of low prices, would be forced off the land, and the amount of food produced would decrease. This, in turn, would raise consumer prices.

Warehouses for storage are of several types. Private warehouses are owned by manufacturers. Public warehouses, in spite of their name, are privately owned facilities, but they are independent of manufacturer ownership. General-merchandise warehouses store a great variety of products. Cold-storage warehouses store perishable goods, especially food products. Grain elevators are a kind of warehouse used to keep wheat and other grains from spoiling. A bonded warehouse is one that stores goods, frequently imported, on which taxes must be paid before they are sold. Cigarettes and alcoholic beverages are common examples.

The distribution center is a more recently developed kind of warehouse. Many large companies have several manufacturing plants, sometimes located outside the country. Each plant does not make every company product but specializes in one or more of them. The distribution center allows a manufacturer to bring together all product lines in one place. Its purpose is to minimize storage and to ease the flow of goods from manufacturers to retailers rather than build up extensive inventories. It reduces costs by speeding up product turnover. Very large





## Unit One

corporations will have several distribution centers regionally or internationally based.

1. The main subject of this passage is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) transportation and storage      B) storage of products  
C) distribution center      D) two main aspects of product distribution
2. Warehousing is important in that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) inventories build up before the goods are sold  
B) the prices will go down  
C) more goods are produced than can be consumed  
D) the food has to be put on the market immediately
3. How many types of warehouses for storage are discussed in the passage?  
A) 3.      B) 4.      C) 6.      D) 7.
4. Where might one find meat and milk?  
A) Grain elevator.      B) Cold-storage warehouse.  
C) Private warehouse.      D) Bonded warehouse.
5. What is NOT true of a distribution center?  
A) It is a relatively new type of warehouse.  
B) Product is replaced more quickly and costs are down.  
C) Some distribution centers are not built in the same country as the factory.  
D) It builds up extensive inventories to minimize storage.

2008年12月大学英语四级考试真题及答案

## Passage 2

How much pain do animals feel? This is a question which has caused endless controversy. Opponents of big game shooting, for example, arouse our pity by describing the agonies of a badly-wounded beast that has crawled into a corner to die. In countries where the fox, the hare and the deer are hunted, animal-lovers paint harrowing pictures of the pursued animal suffering not only the physical distress of the chase but the mental anguish of anticipated death.

The usual answer to these criticisms is that animals do not suffer in the same way, or to the same extent, as we do. Man was created with a delicate nervous system and has never lost his acute sensitiveness to pain; animals, on the other hand, had less sensitive systems to begin with and in the course of millions of years, have developed a capacity of ignoring injuries and disorders which human beings would find intolerable. For example, a dog will continue to play with a ball even after a serious injury to his foot; he may be unable to run without limping, but he will go on trying long after a human child would have had to stop because of the pain. We are told, moreover, that even when animals appear to us to be suffering acutely, this is not so; what seems to us to be agonized contortions caused by pain are in fact no more than muscular contractions over which they have no control.

These arguments are unsatisfactory because something about which we know a great deal is



being compared with something we can only conjecture. We know what we feel; we have no means of knowing what animals feel. Some creatures with a less delicate nervous system than ours may be incapable of feeling pain to the same extent as we do: that as far as we are entitled to do, the most humane attitude, surely, is to assume that no animals are entirely exempt from physical pain and that we ought, therefore, wherever possible, to avoid causing suffering even to the least of them.

6. Animal-lovers assume that animals, being hunted, would suffer from \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) a great deal of agony both in body and in spirit  
B) mental distress once they are wounded  
C) only body pains without feeling sad  
D) crawling into the corner to die
7. Supporters of game shooting may argue that animals \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) cannot control their muscular contractions  
B) have developed a capacity of feeling no pain  
C) are not as acutely sensitive as human beings to injuries  
D) can endure all kinds of disorders
8. The author feels sure that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) animals don't show suffering to us  
B) dogs are more endurable than human children  
C) we cannot know what animals feel  
D) comparing animals with human beings is not appropriate
9. What is the author's opinion about animal hunting?  
A) We should feel the same as the hunted animals do.  
B) We should protect and save all the animals.  
C) We shouldn't cause suffering to them.  
D) We should take care of them if we can.
10. This passage seems to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) argue for something  
B) explain something  
C) tell a story  
D) describe an object

### Passage 3

In science, a theory is a reasonable explanation of observed events that are related. A theory often involves an imaginary model that helps scientists picture the way an observed event could be produced. A good example of this is found in the kinetic molecular theory, in which gases are pictured as being made up of many small particles that are in constant motion.

A useful theory, in addition to explaining past observations, helps to predict events that have not as yet been observed. After a theory has been publicized, scientists design experi-





ments to test the theory. If observations confirm the scientists' predictions, the theory is supported. If observations do not confirm the predictions, the scientists must search further. There may be a fault in the experiment, or the theory may have to be revised or rejected.

Science involves imagination and creative thinking as well as collecting information and performing experiments. Facts by themselves are not science. As the mathematician Jules Henri Poincare said: "Science is built with facts just as a house is built with bricks, but a collection of facts cannot be called science any more than a pile of bricks can be called a house."

Most scientists start an investigation by finding out what other scientists have learned about a particular problem. After known facts have been gathered, the scientist comes to the part of the investigation that requires considerable imagination. Possible solutions to the problem are formulated. These possible solutions are called hypotheses.

In a way, any hypothesis is a leap into the unknown. It extends the scientist's thinking beyond the known facts. The scientist plans experiments, performs calculations, and makes observations to test hypotheses. For without hypotheses, further investigation lacks purpose and direction. When hypotheses are confirmed, they are incorporated into theories.

11. The word "this" in the 3rd sentence in paragraph 1 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) a good example                      B) an imaginary model  
C) the kinetic molecular theory      D) an observed event
12. Bricks are mentioned in the 3rd paragraph to indicate how \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) mathematicians approach science  
B) building a house is like performing experiments  
C) science is more than a collection of facts  
D) scientific experiments have led to improved technology
13. In the last paragraph, the author refers to a hypothesis as "a leap into the unknown" in order to show that hypotheses \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) are sometimes ill-conceived      B) can lead to dangerous results  
C) go beyond available facts          D) require effort to formulate
14. What is a major function of hypotheses as implied in the last paragraph?  
A) Sifting through known facts.  
B) Communicating a scientist's thoughts to others.  
C) Providing direction for scientific research.  
D) Linking together different theories.
15. Which of the following statements is supported by the passage?  
A) Theories are simply imaginary models of past events.  
B) It is better to revise a hypothesis than to reject it.  
C) A scientist's most difficult task is testing hypotheses.  
D) A good scientist needs to be creative.



## Passage 4

It is commonly believed in the United States that school is where people go to get an education. Nevertheless, it has been said that today children interrupt their education to go to school. The distinction between schooling and education implied by this remark is important.

Education is much more open-ended and all-inclusive than schooling. Education knows no bounds. It can take place anywhere, whether in the shower or on the job, whether in a kitchen or on a tractor. It includes both the formal learning that takes place in schools and the whole universe of informal learning. The agents of education can range from a revered grandparent to the people debating politics on the radio, from a child to a distinguished scientist. Whereas schooling has a certain predictability, education quite often produces surprises. A chance conversation with a stranger may lead a person to discover how little is known of their religions. People are engaged in education from infancy on. Education, then, is a very broad, inclusive term. It is a lifelong process, a process that starts long before the start of school, and one that should be an integral part of one's entire life.

Schooling, on the other hand, is a specific, formalized process, whose general pattern varies little from one setting to the next. Throughout a country, children arrive at school at approximately the same time, take assigned seats, are taught by an adult, use similar textbooks, do homework, take exams, and so on. The alices of reality that are to be learned, whether they are the alphabet or an understanding of the workings of government, have usually been limited by the boundaries of the subject being taught. For example, high school students know that they are not likely to find out in their classes the truth about political problems in their communities or what the newest filmmakers are experimenting with. There are definite conditions surrounding the formalized process of schooling.

16. What is the main idea of the passage?
- A) The best schools teach a wide variety of subjects.
  - B) Education and schooling are quite different experiences.
  - C) Students benefit from schools, which require long hours and homework.
  - D) The more years students go to school the better their education is.
17. The word "integral" in the last sentence in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) equitable      B) profitable      C) pleasant      D) essential
18. The phrase "For example" in the last paragraph introduces a sentence that gives examples of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) similar textbooks      B) the results of schooling  
C) the workings of government      D) the boundaries of classroom subjects
19. Which of the following conclusions does the passage support?  
A) Without formal education, people would remain ignorant.



- B) Education systems need to be radically reformed.  
C) Going to school is only part of how people become educated.  
D) Education involves many years of professional training.
20. The passage is organized by \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) listing and discussing several educational problems  
B) contrasting the meanings of two related concepts  
C) narrating a story about excellent teachers  
D) giving examples of different kinds of schools

### Passage 5

The phrase "civil disobedience" is usually attributed to the nineteenth-century American philosopher Henry David Thoreau. Although the concept is unquestionably much older (its roots lie in ancient Greek philosophy), the designation is nonetheless telling: people tend to credit Thoreau, an American, with the idea because civil disobedience is a hallmark of American ethics and politics. The clash between the dictates of individual conscience on one hand, and the imperatives of civil law on the other, forms much of this country's history. Examples range from the incidents leading up to the Revolution through the many social protests of the 1960's.

What constitutes an act of civil disobedience? First, an act of civil disobedience requires a formal legal structure that is enforced by the government. Second, it requires as its target a specific law or policy, rather than the entire legal system. This is true even if the protester's ultimate goal is to alter radically the legal system; an act of civil disobedience must be directed against one concrete example of that system's inequities. The American civil rights movement, for example, first targeted discrimination on public transportation, then used its victories as a springboard to address other injustices. Third, the act must be done publicly, because the effectiveness of such a protest depends on its ability to mobilize public sentiment against the protest's target. Finally, those protesting must understand the penalties their acts entail—usually jailing—and be willing to accept those penalties. This last requirement strengthens the act's effect on public opinion, since it serves to underscore the injustice of the protest's target.

21. The word "telling" in the 2nd sentence in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) inappropriate      B) revealing      C) insignificant      D) challenging
22. In the passage, the author mentions that the civil rights movement \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) focused its early efforts on public transportation  
B) did not always practice civil disobedience  
C) started in nineteenth century  
D) used the Revolution of 1776 as its model
23. According to the passage, for which of the following reasons should civil protests be done publicly?



- A) To alter the legal system in radical way.
  - B) To uphold the imperatives of civil law.
  - C) To stimulate public support for a cause.
  - D) To announce the success of a previous act of civil disobedience.
24. The author suggests that when protesters go to jail \_\_\_\_\_ .
- A) it helps convince the public to support their cause
  - B) they usually do so unwillingly
  - C) it is because their protest has not gone according to plan
  - D) they are always released almost immediately
25. In the 2nd paragraph, the author \_\_\_\_\_ .
- A) argues that civil disobedience is unnecessary
  - B) provides an extensive history of civil disobedience
  - C) presents several differing viewpoints on civil disobedience
  - D) defines the concept of civil disobedience

## Passage 6

In taking up a new life across the Atlantic, the early European settlers of the United States did not abandon the diversions with which their ancestors had traditionally relieved the tedium of life. Neither the harshness of existence on the new continent nor the scattered population nor the disapproval of the clergy discouraged the majority from the pursuit of pleasure.

City and country dwellers, of course, conducted this pursuit in different ways. Farm dwellers in their isolation not only found it harder to locate companions in play but also, thanks to the unending demands and pressures of their work, felt it necessary to combine fun with purpose. No other set of colonists took so seriously an expression of the period, "Leisure is time for doing something useful." In the countryside farmers therefore relieved the burden of the daily routine with such double-purpose relaxations as hunting, fishing, and trapping. When a neighbor needed help, families rallied from miles around to assist in building a house or barn, husking corn, shearing sheep, or chopping wood. Food, drink, and celebration after the group work provided relaxation and soothed weary muscles.

The most eagerly anticipated social events were the rural parties. Hundreds of men, women, and children attended from far and near. The men bought or traded farm animals and acquired needed merchandise while the women displayed food prepared in their kitchens, and everyone, including the youngsters, watched or participated in a variety of competitive sports, with prizes awarded to the winners. These events typically included horse races, wrestling matches, and foot races, as well as some nonathletic events such as whistling competitions. No other occasions did so much to relieve the isolation of farm existence.

With the open countryside everywhere at hand, city dwellers naturally shared in some of



## Unit One

the rural diversions. Favored recreations included fishing, hunting, skating, and swimming. But city dwellers also developed other pleasures, which only compact communities made possible.

26. What is the passage mainly about?
- A) Methods of farming used by early settlers of the United States.
  - B) Hardships faced by the early settlers of the United States.
  - C) Methods of buying, selling, and trading used by early settlers of the United States.
  - D) Ways in which early settlers of the United States relaxed.
27. What can be inferred about the diversions of the early settlers of the United States?
- A) They followed a pattern begun in Europe.
  - B) They were enjoyed more frequently than in Europe.
  - C) The clergy organized them.
  - D) Only the wealthy participated in them.
28. Which of the following can be said about the country dwellers' attitude toward "the pursuit of pleasure"?
- A) They felt that it should help keep their minds on their work.
  - B) They felt that it was not necessary.
  - C) They felt that it should be productive.
  - D) They felt that it should not involve eating and drinking.
29. What is meant by the phrase "double-purpose" in the 4th sentence in paragraph 2?
- A) Very frequent.
  - B) Useful and enjoyable.
  - C) Extremely necessary.
  - D) Positive and negative.
30. What will the author probably discuss in the paragraph following this passage?
- A) The rural diversions enjoyed by both urban and rural people.
  - B) Leisure activities of city dwellers.
  - C) Building methods of the early settlers in rural areas.
  - D) Changes in lifestyles of settlers as they moved to the cities.

### Passage 7

For me, scientific knowledge is divided into mathematical sciences, natural sciences or sciences dealing with the natural world (physical and biological sciences), and sciences dealing with mankind (psychology, sociology, all the sciences of cultural achievements, every kind of historical knowledge). Apart from these sciences is philosophy, about which we will talk later. In the first place, all this is pure or theoretical knowledge that is intrinsic and consubstantial to man. What distinguishes man from animal is that he knows and needs to know. If man did not know that the world existed, and that the world was of a certain kind, that he was in the world and that he himself was of a certain kind, he wouldn't be a man. The technical aspects or ap-



plications of knowledge are equally necessary for man and are of the greatest importance, because they also contribute to defining him as man and permit him to pursue a life increasingly more truly human.

But even while enjoying the results of technical progress, he must defend the primacy and autonomy of pure knowledge. Knowledge sought directly for its practical applications will have immediate and foreseeable success, but not the kind of important result whose revolutionary scope is in large part unforeseen, except by the imagination of the Utopians. Let me recall a well-known example. If the Greek mathematicians had not applied themselves to the investigation of conic sections zealously and without the least suspicion that it might someday be useful, it would not have been possible centuries later to navigate far from shore. The first men to study the nature of electricity could not imagine that their experiments, carried on because of mere intellectual curiosity, would eventually lead to modern electrical technology, without which we can scarcely conceive of contemporary life. Pure knowledge is valuable for its own sake, because the human spirit cannot resign itself to ignorance. But, in addition, the foundation for practical results would not have been reached if this knowledge had not been sought disinterestedly.

31. The most important advances made by mankind come from \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) technical applications                      B) apparently useless information  
C) the natural sciences                      D) philosophy
32. The word "Utopians" in the 2nd sentence in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) idealists                      B) Greek mathematicians  
C) scientists                      D) true human
33. In the paragraph the follows this passage, we may expect the author to discuss \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) the value of technical research                      B) the value of pure research  
C) philosophy                      D) unforeseen discoveries
34. The word "resign" in the 6th sentence in the 2nd paragraph is closest in meaning to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) dismiss                      B) quit                      C) remark                      D) submit
35. The title that best expresses the ideas of this passage is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) "Technical Progress"  
B) "A Little Learning is a Dangerous Thing"  
C) "Man's Distinguishing Characteristics"  
D) "The Function of Theoretical Knowledge as Compared to Its Practical Applications"

## Passage 8

In most of the human civilization of which we have any proper records, youth has drawn on either art or life for models, planning to emulate the heroes depicted in epics on the shadow





play screen or the stage, or those known human beings, fathers or grandfathers, chiefs or craftsmen, whose every characteristic can be studied and imitated. As recently as 1910, this was the prevailing condition in the United States. If he came from a nonliterate background, the recent immigrant learned to speak, move, and think like an American by using his eyes and ears on the labor line and in the homes of more acculturated cousins, by watching school children, or by absorbing the standards of the teacher, the foreman, the clerk who served him in the store. For the literate and the literate children of the nonliterate, there was art—the story of the frustrated artist in the prairie town, of the second generation battling with the limitations of the first. And at a simpler level, there were the Western and Hollywood fairy tales which pointed a moral but did not, as a rule, teach table manners.

With the development of the countermovement against Hollywood, with the efflorescence (全盛) of photography, with Time-Life-Fortune types of reporting and the dead-pan New Yorker manner of describing the life of an old-clothes dealer in a forgotten street or of presenting the “accurate”, “checked” details of the lives of people whose eminence gave at least a sort of license to attack them, with the passion for “human documents” in Depression days—a necessary substitute for proletarian art among middle class writers who knew nothing about proletarians, and middleclass readers who needed the shock of verisimilitude(真实)—a new era in American life was ushered in, the era in which young people imitated neither life nor art nor fairy tale, but instead were presented with models drawn from life with minimal but crucial distortions. Doctored life histories, posed carelessness, “candid” shots of people in their own homes which took hours to arrange, pictures shot from real life to scripts written months before supplemented by national polls and surveys which assured the reader that this bobby soxer(少女) did indeed represent a national norm or a growing trend—replaced the older models.

36. This article is based on the idea that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) people today no longer follow models  
B) People attach little importance to whoever they follow  
C) people generally pattern their lives after models  
D) People no longer respect heroes
37. Stories of the second generation battling against the limitations of the first were often responsible for \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) inspiring literate immigrants  
B) frustrating educated immigrants  
C) preventing the assimilation of immigrants  
D) instilling into immigrants an antagonistic attitude toward their forebears
38. The countermovement against Hollywood was a movement \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) toward realism  
B) toward fantasy  
C) against the teaching of morals  
D) away from realism