

无障碍

英语阅读理解系列

100 篇

四级

英语专业阅读理解

*A Guide to Reading
Comprehension of TEM4*

上海外国语大学 梁晓春 主编

山东科学技术出版社

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

无障碍英语专业阅读理解 100 篇(四级)/梁晓春主编.
济南:山东科学技术出版社,2003.8(2004.1 重印)

ISBN 7-5331-3390-0

I. 无... II. 梁... III. 英语—阅读教学—高等学校—水平考试—自学参考资料 IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2002)第 108357 号

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出版者:山东科学技术出版社

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发行者:山东科学技术出版社

地址:济南市玉函路 16 号

邮编:250002 电话:(0531)2020432

印刷者:济南申汇印务有限责任公司

地址:济南市王官庄 12 号

邮编:250022 电话:(0531)7966822

开本:850mm×1168mm 1/32

印张:7.25

字数:160 千

版次:2004 年 1 月第 1 版第 2 次印刷

ISBN 7-5331-3390-0

H·60

定价:10.00 元

前言

继星火英语推出无障碍大学英语阅读系列并受到广泛好评后,我们接着为英语专业的莘莘学子和广大英语爱好者倾力打造了这本《无障碍英语专业阅读理解 100 篇(四级)》,希望能再次给大家带来强大的上进动力,再掀学习英语的高潮。

英语专业四级的阅读材料和出题方式与大学英语相比难度更大,更着重于考生运用各项基本技能的能力,以及对语法结构和词语用法的掌握程度。英语专业四级考试大纲是这样规定的:阅读理解包括两个部分(Section A 和 Section B),A 部分由数段短文组成,短文共计 1 500 单词左右,其后共有 15 道选择题,要求学生根据短文的内容、隐含意义及文章特征在 25 分钟内完成试题;B 部分测试学生的速读能力,由数段短文组成,短文共约 900 词,其后共有 10 道选择题,要求学生运用速读及跳读的技巧在 5 分钟内根据短文内容完成试题。因此考试所选文章远非一般的英语阅读材料可比。有鉴于此,我们注重选编了一批难度较大、有一定超纲词的文章,完全能满足考生的实战演练需求。

本书特点——

◆ 全真模拟,保证信度

本书不仅精心选编了部分英语专业全真试题文章,还另外挑选了部分模拟文章,而且这部分模拟文章无论在长度、题材、难度、风格上,还是在文后问题的设计上,都渗透着历年真题的特点,保证了较高的信度。每个单元均给出 15 道题,严格遵循大纲要求。

Preface

✧ 选材广泛,触及热点

选材上既考虑涵盖历年真题选材范围,使考生短时间内全面熟悉阅读题材,又注重了对一些生活热点问题的触及,符合英语专业四级考试阅读选材趋势。

✧ 文章障碍,当页解决

我们对每篇文章的词汇障碍、难句障碍,都在文章中重点标出,在当页下端给出了详细解释和点拨,方便读者阅读和复习,适合精读训练,利于综合提高英语水平。

✧ 出题思路,详细解析

对每篇文章的篇章主旨、行文逻辑、出题者的思路以及解题技巧,文后都有详细、精辟的解析和指点,使读者在潜移默化中获得阅读技能和解题技巧的快速提高。

相信本书能帮助考生扎实提高阅读技能,科学掌握解题思路,快速语熟阅读题材,顺利摘取阅读高分。欢迎广大读者提出宝贵意见。来信必复,并表示衷心的感谢!

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无障碍阅读 Test 1

Text A

难度系数: ★★★
建议本篇用时: 5 分钟

A Wise Man

He was a funny looking man with a cheerful face, good natured and a great talker. He was described by his student, the great philosopher Plato, as "the best and most just and wisest man." Yet, this same man was condemned to death^① for his belief.

The man was the Greek philosopher, Socrates, and he was condemned for not believing in the recognized gods and for corrupting young people. The second charge stemmed from^② his association with numerous young men who came to Athens from all over the civilized world to study under him.

Socrates' method of teaching was to ask questions and, by pretending not to know the answers, to press his students into thinking for themselves. His teachings had unsurpassed influence on all the great Greek and Roman schools of philosophy. Yet, for all his fame and influence, Socrates himself never wrote a word.

Socrates encouraged new ideas and free thinking in the young, and this was frightening to the conservative people. They wanted him silenced. Yet, many were probably surprised that he accepted death so readily.

Socrates had the right to ask for lesser penalty^③, and he probably could have won over enough of the people who had previously condemned him. [But Socrates, as a firm believer in law, reasoned that it was proper to submit to the death sentence.]^④ So, he calmly accepted his fate and drank a cup of poison

① was condemned to death: 被判为死刑

② stem from: 产生于; 源自于

③ penalty n. 刑法, 处罚

④ 句意: 但是作为一个坚定的法律维护者, 苏格拉底认为应当服从法律的判决, 执行死刑。

hemlock^① in the presence of his grief-stricken^② friends and students.

- In the first paragraph, the word "yet" is used to introduce _____.
☒ A) contrast B) a sequence
☐ C) emphasis D) an example
- Socrates was condemned to death because he _____.
☐ A) believed in law
☐ B) was a philosopher
☐ C) published outspoken philosophical articles
☒ D) advocated original opinions
- The word "unsurpassed" in the third paragraph is close in meaning to _____.
☒ A) untold B) unequalled
☐ C) unnoticed D) unexpected
- By mentioning that Socrates himself never wrote anything, the writer implies that _____.
☒ A) it was surprising that Socrates was so famous
☐ B) Socrates was not so learned as he is reputed to have been
☐ C) Socrates used the work of his students in teaching
☐ D) the authorities refused to publish Socrates' works

2

Text B

难度系数: ★★★☆
建议本篇用时: 6 分钟

In England, along a stretch of the northeast coast which gently curves from Northumberland to the estuary^③ of the river Tees, [there was a spot, typical of many on that coast, where sea-coal collected richly and effortlessly.]^④ This coal was a coarse powder, clean and brilliant. It seemed to bear little resemblance to the large, filthy lumps put on the fire. Although it was coal, it was perfectly clean and it was silently deposited at high tide in a glittering carpet a kilometer long for the local community to gather up.

The gear needed for sea-coaling expeditions was a curious and traditionally proven assortment^⑤ which never varied from community to community along the

① hemlock *n.* 芹叶钩吻, 一种伞状类毒草植物

② grief-stricken *adj.* 万分悲痛

③ estuary *n.* 三角洲

④ 句意: 有一块地方, 它是海岸线上众多地方中典型的一处, 那里有丰富且极易开采的海上煤炭。

⑤ assortment *n.* 分类, 种类

entire northeast coastline. Sacks were essential to put the coal in, and string to tie the neck of each sack when it was full. A wooden rake^① was used to scrape the coal from the beach. The only alternative to the rake was a flat piece of board held in the hand. [A flat, broad shovel to lift the raked coal into the bag, completed the portable hardware.]^②

But the most crucial item of equipment was a bicycle, a special kind of rusty, stripped-down model which was the symbol of the sea-coaling craft. A lady's bike was no good because it lacked a crossbar, and that was an essential element in transporting sea-coal. One full sack could be slung through the triangular frame of a man's bike, another over the crossbar and, sometimes even a third on top of that. The beauty of this was that it not only enabled one to move the sea-coal from place to place, but the pressure of the metal bar against the full, wet sacks forced excess water out of the coal while it was being wheeled home. [On a good day, the path to the beach was generally a double snailtrack of water that had been forced from each end of a trail of coal sacks.]^③

5. The difference between the two types of coal was that _____.
 A) sea coal burnt better B) sea coal was cheaper
 C) sea coal was more finely-grained D) sea coal came in big piece
6. Certain equipment was used because _____.
 A) the people were very traditional
 B) it could be made by the communities themselves
 C) it had proved to be practical
 D) the communities had curious habits
7. Which piece of equipment was NOT vital to sea-coal collecting?
 A) A rake. B) A sack.
 C) A lady's bike. D) A piece of string.
8. By using the bicycle _____.
 A) the collectors could ride home
 B) the coal could be moved easily over the sand
 C) the collectors could sell more coal
 D) excess liquid could be removed

① rake n. 耙子

② 句意：一个扁平而且宽大的铁铲便成了采煤的便携工具，用它可以将耙过的煤面整之后装进煤袋。

③ 句意：如果天气好的话，从每个袋子渗出来的水，通常会在通往海滩的路上留下两道蜗牛痕迹状的水印。

Text C

难度系数: ★★★
建议本篇用时: 6 分钟

Did you know that all human beings have a "comfort zone" regulating the distance they stand from someone when they talk? This distance varies in interesting ways among people of different cultures.

Greeks, others of the Eastern Mediterranean, and many of those from South America normally stand quite close together when they talk, often moving their faces even closer as they warm up in a conversation. North Americans find this awkward and often back away a few inches. Studies have found that they tend to feel most comfortable at about 21 inches apart. In much of Asia and Africa, there is even more space between two speakers in conversation. ① This greater space subtly ② lends an air of dignity and respect ③. This matter of space is nearly always unconscious, but it is interesting to observe.

This difference applies also to the closeness with which people sit together, the extent to which they lean over one another in conversation, how they move as they argue or make emphatic ④ point. In the United States, for example, people try to keep their bodies apart even in a crowded elevator; in Paris they take it as it comes! ⑤

Although North Americans have a relatively wide "comfort zone" for talking, they communicate a great deal with their hands—not only with gesture but also with touch. They put a sympathetic hand on a person's shoulder to demonstrate warmth of feeling or an arm around him in sympathy; they nudge ⑥ a man in the ribs to emphasize a funny story; they pat an arm in reassurance ⑦ or stroke a child's head in affection; they readily take someone's arm to help him across a street or direct him along an unfamiliar route. To many people—especially those from Asia or the Moslem countries—such bodily contact is unwelcome, especially if inadvertently done with the left hand. (The left hand carries no special significance in the U. S. Many Americans are simply left-handed and use that hand more.)

① 句意: 在大部分亚洲和非洲, 当 they 与别人交谈时, 会保持一段相当的距离。

② subtly *adv.* 微妙地

③ an air of dignity and respect: 一种庄重的氛围

④ emphatic *adj.* 强调的

⑤ 句意: 在巴黎遇到这样的情况, 人们会挤在一起!

⑥ nudge *v.* 用肘推

⑦ in reassurance: 以示信任

9. In terms of bodily distance, North Americans _____.

- A) are similar to South Americans *g f n x*
 B) stand farthest apart
 C) feel ill at ease when too close *g f n*
 D) move nearer during conversations

10. For Asians, the comfort zone _____.

- A) is deliberately determined B) measures 21 inches
 C) varies according to status D) implies esteem

11. The passage mainly concerns _____.

- A) distance and bodily contact
 B) body language
 C) East and West cultural differences
 D) hand signals

Text D

难度系数：★★★★

建议本篇用时：6 分钟

5

Do Insects Think?

In a recent book entitled *The Psychic Life of Insects*, Professor Bouvier says that we must be careful not to credit the little winged fellow with intelligence when they behave in what seems like an intelligent manner. They may be only reacting. I would like to confront the Professor with an instance of reasoning power^① on the part of an insect which cannot be explained away in any other manner.

During the summer of 1899, while I was at work on my doctoral thesis, we kept a female wasp^② at our cottage. It was more like a child of our own than a wasp, except that it looked more like a wasp than a child of our own. That was one of the ways we told the difference.

It was still a young wasp when we got it (thirteen or fifteen years old) and for some time we could not get it to eat or drink, it was so shy. Since it is female we decided to call it Miriam, but soon the children's nickname for it—Pudge—became a fixture^③, and “Pudge” it was from that time on.

One evening I had been working late in my laboratory fooling around with

① an instance of reasoning power: 推理能力的实例

② wasp n. 黄蜂

③ fixture n. 固定名称

some gin^① and other chemicals, and in leaving the room I tripped over a nine of diamonds which someone had left lying on the floor and knocked over my card index which contained the names and addresses of all the larvae^② worth knowing in North America. The cards went everywhere.

I was too tired to stop to pick them up that night, and went sobbing to bed, just as mad as I could be. As I went, however, I noticed the wasp was flying about in circles over the scattered cards. "Maybe Pudge will pick them up", I said half laughingly to myself, never thinking for one moment that such would be the case.

When I came down the next morning Pudge was still asleep in her box, evidently tired out. And well she might have been. For there on the floor lay the cards scattered all about just as I had left them the night before. The faithful little insect had buzzed about all night trying to come to some decision about picking them up and arranging them in the boxes for me, and then had figured out for herself that, as she knew practically nothing of larvae of any sort except wasp larvae, [she would probably make more of a mess of rearranging them than if she had left them on the floor for me to fix.]^③ It was just too much for her to tackle, and, discouraged, she went over and lay down in her box, where she cried herself to sleep.

If this is not an answer to Professor Bouvier's statement, I do not know what is.

12. Professor Bouvier believes that insects _____.

- ☒ A) do not have intelligence
- B) behave in an intelligent way
- C) are capable of reasoning
- D) are more intelligent than we thought

13. On the evening the author fell over, someone _____.

- A) had moved his card index
- ☒ B) had been playing card games
- ☒ C) had knocked over his boxes containing cards
- D) had looked at his collection of diamonds

14. When he came to the laboratory the next morning, the author _____.

- ☒ A) saw that his cards had already been rearranged
- B) realized that the wasp had been trying to help

① gin n. 杜松子酒

② larva n. 幼虫

③ 句意:重新整理的话,她可能会弄得更糟,还不如留在原处让我收拾。

- C) found evidence of the wasp's intelligence
D) found his index cards still scattered about the room

15. The author's account of his wasp's intelligence _____.

- A) in imaginary B) is convincing
C) firmly proves his point of view D) is valuable for insect study

自我测试

用 时

参考答案

正确率

Text A _____

A) D) B) D)

Text B _____

C) C) C) D)

Text C _____

C) D) A)

Text D _____

A) D) B) C)



答案详解

Text A



本文为叙事文。主要写苏格拉底的智慧。由于他不相信当时既有的神明,鼓励青年人思想自由,善于发现新观点,同时又是一个坚定的法律维护者,因此遭当局和保守者的仇视,最终被处死。

1. A) 语意题。文章第一段说苏格拉底被学生柏拉图描述为最优秀、最正直和最智慧的人,然而,他却因为自己的信仰而被判死刑。yet 很显然是表示相反的意思,形成对比。因此, A) 项为正确答案。
2. D) 推理题。D) 选项中的“original”的意思为“新颖的,创新的”。文章第四段说“Socrates encouraged new ideas and free thinking in the young, and this was frightening to the conservative people. They wanted him silenced.”,表明由于苏格拉底鼓励年轻人自由思考,发现新观点,使守旧派们感到恐惧,因此被判处死刑。D) 项为正确答案。
3. B) 词汇题。形容词 unsurpassed 表示未被凌驾于上的,非常卓越的。四个选项中, B) unequalled 意为“无比的,无可匹敌的”; A) untold 意为“未说过的,未提到的”; C) unnoticed 意为“没有注意到的,忽略的”; D) unexpected 意为“意想不到的”。因此, B) 项为正确答案。
4. D) 推理题。文章第三段最后一句说“Yet, for all his fame and influence, Socrates himself never wrote a word.”,表明尽管苏格拉底是那么的著

名,那么有影响力,但从未写过书。这并不是因为他没有学识,或借用学生的作品,也不表示作者对此表示惊讶。那么,必然是当局对他不满,因而禁止他出版自己的作品。因此,D)项为正确答案。

Text B



本文为说明文。主要说明了一种比较特殊的煤炭——海煤。作者首先描述了该煤的形状、特性等,然后介绍了开采工具以及运输工具和运输方式。

5. C) 推理题。文章第一段只是谈到这种海煤是一种粗粉状,比一般煤炭更干净、发亮,并没有谈到燃烧的好坏,以及价格高低。因此,两种煤的主要区别在于外表,C)项为正确答案。
6. C) 排除题。首先,人们使用传统的工具并不表示他们传统。其次,文章第二段谈到各个地区都是用同样的工具,并未谈到工具是否由他们自己制造。文章中更没谈到这些地区的人们有什么怪诞的嗜好。排除了这三项,只有C)项为正确答案。
7. C) 细节题。文章第三段说“A lady's bike was no good”,说明女式的自行车没有用处。因此,C)项为正确答案。
8. D) 推理题。文中最后一段说“... the pressure of the metal bar against the full, wet sacks forced excess water out of the coal while it was being wheeled home.”,表明这样可以挤出煤中的多余水分。因此,D)项为正确答案。

Text C



本文为说明文。作者主要谈及了不同文化背景下的人的谈话距离有何不同,和他们之间对身体距离和接触的不同看法。作者以例证的方式说明在不同的国度、不同的场合,人们总是保持不同的距离。

9. C) 推理题。文章第一段谈到北美人感到南美谈话的距离太近,总要后退几英尺。而非洲人和亚洲人的谈话距离比北美人更远。因此,C)项为正确答案。
10. D) 排除题。文章第二段说“This greater space subtly lends an air of dignity and respect.”,说明亚洲人没有故意规定谈话距离,也没有指出他们的谈话距离会随着地位的不同而有所变化。而21英寸是北美人最为舒服的谈话距离。因此,D)项为正确答案。
11. A) 主旨题。全文整篇都在讨论不同文化背景的人的谈话距离有何不同和他们之间对身体距离和接触的不同看法,并不是讨论东西方的文化差异,或身体语言和手势的问题。因此,A)项为正确答案。

Text D

读精

part

本文为议论文。文章以作者的黄蜂有智慧为例证,反驳了 Bouvier 教授的观点,即人们不要误把昆虫的本能反映当作是他们有智慧的表现。

12. A) 推理题。文章第一段就谈到 Bouvier 教授提醒人们不要误把昆虫的本能反应当作是它们有智慧的表现,表明这位教授并不相信昆虫也有智慧。因此,A)项为正确答案。
13. D) 细节题。文章第四段说“... I tripped over a mine of diamonds which someone had left lying on the floor and knocked over my card index”,表明由于有人曾经看过他的钻石收藏,把其中一颗放到了地上,因而绊倒了他,并且使他撞翻了卡片盒。因此,D)项为正确答案。
14. B) 推理题。文中谈到虽然卡片仍然像第一天晚上一样散落一地,但是作者已经意识到他的黄蜂曾经试图帮助他整理卡片。因此,B)项为正确答案。
15. C) 推断题。作者对于他的黄蜂有智慧的描述既不是凭空想象的,也不是完全令人信服的,只是证明自己的观点。因此,C)项为正确答案。

无障碍阅读 Test 2

Text A

难度系数: ★★★

建议本篇用时: 6 分钟

If you are buying a property in France, whether for a permanent or a holiday home, it is important to open a French bank account. Although it is possible to exist on traveller's cheques, Eurocheques^① and credit cards issued by British banks, the fees for these services can be expensive.

The simplest way to pay regular bills, such as electricity, gas or telephone, particularly when you are not in residence^②, is by direct debit^③ (a sum withdrawn from an account) from your French account.

To open a current account, you will need to show your passport and birth certificate and to provide your address in the United Kingdom. You will be issued with a cheque book within weeks of opening the account. In France it is illegal to be overdrawn. All accounts must be operated in credit. However, there are no bank charges.

Note that cheques take longer to clear in France than in Britain, and can only be stopped if stolen or lost.

The easiest way to transfer money from a British bank account to a French one is by bank transfer: simply provide your British bank with the name, address and number of your French bank account. The procedure takes about a week and costs between £5 and £40 for each transaction, depending on your British bank.

Alternatively, you can transfer money via a French bank in London. You can also send a sterling cheque^④ (allow at least 12 days for the cheque to be cleared), Eurocheques or traveller's cheques.

Finally, it is a good idea to make a friend of your French bank manager. His help can prove invaluable.

1. If you buy a property in France, you can save money by _____.

✓ A) having a French bank account

① eurocheques n. 欧洲货币支票(一种通用于若干欧洲国家的信用卡)

② in residence: 在住地

③ direct debit: 直接支取

④ sterling cheque: 英镑支票

- B) transferring money from Britain
C) cashing traveller's cheques or Eurocheques
D) using credit cards issued by British banks
2. One advantage French banks have over British banks is that _____.
A) you may take out more money than is in the account
B) the interest rates on bank accounts are higher
C) cheques are dealt with more rapidly
D) you do not have to pay for services
3. The swiftest way to send money from England to France is _____.
A) to forward an English cheque to your French bank
B) to go to a French bank in London
C) to use a cashier's cheque
D) to arrange a bank transfer
4. The best title for this passage is _____.
A) "How to Open a French Bank Account"
B) "The Difference between Banking in Britain and France"
C) "The Way to Transfer Money from Britain to France"
D) "A Guide to Banking in France"

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Text B

难度系数: ★★☆☆
建议本篇用时: 5 分钟

Proof against Heart Attacks

Does a drink a day keep heart attacks away? Over the past 20 years, numerous studies have found that moderate alcohol consumption—say, one or two beers, glasses of wine or cocktails daily—helps to prevent coronary heart disease^①. Last week a report in the New England Journal of Medicine added strong new evidence in support of that theory. More important, the work provided the first solid indication of how alcohol works to protect the heart.

In the study, researchers from Boston's Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School compared the drinking habits of 340 men and women who had suffered recent heart attacks with those of healthy people of the same age and sex. The scientists found that people who sip^② one to three drinks a day are about half as likely to suffer heart attacks as nondrinkers are. The apparent

① coronary heart disease: 冠心病

② sip v. 啜, 小饮