



Super · 分级分类英汉对照读物 · 四级

科普篇

主编◎ 司树森 刘典忠



最新材料、精辟分析、直击考题
大学英语四级考试高分必备

中国人民大学出版社

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前 言

为了适应我国高等教育发展的新形势,提高教学质量,满足新时期国家和社会对人才培养的实际需要,新《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行)对阅读理解能力(Reading Comprehension)提出了较高的要求:能读懂有一定难度的文章,理解其意义,能借助词典阅读英语原版教材和英语国家报刊上的文章,能比较顺利地阅读所学专业的综述性文献,并且在阅读速度上也有了新的要求,即阅读速度达到每分钟 70 个单词,在快速阅读篇幅较长、难度略低材料时,要求达到每分钟 100 个单词,能读懂工作、生活中常见的应用文体的材料,并在阅读中使用有效的阅读方法。为了适应上述要求,提高在校生及广大青年读者的英语阅读理解能力,扩大知识面,扩大词汇量和阅读的技能技巧,从而为通过英语四级统考打下坚实的基础。同时,坚持大量阅读也是培养语感、学会用英语思维的有效途径。为此目的,我们编写了《Super·分级分类英汉对照读物·四级》系列。本系列读物共分四册:《科普篇》、《经济法律篇》、《文学艺术篇》和《综合篇》,本系列读物的内容和难度紧扣最新《大学英语课程教学要求》对阅读理解的各项具体要求。短文取材新颖,多选自英美报刊和读物的最新信息,趣味性、知识性强,既可开阔眼界又可了解外部变化万千的世界,且具有启迪性,使读者在阅读中得到诸多方面的改善与提高。现将各篇简介如下:

《科普篇》内容涉及自然科学的各个领域,诸如基础科学研究、天体宇宙、太空飞行、生态环境保护、地震预测、医疗保健、生物工程、动植物、计算机、网络信息、黑客、交通运输及干细胞的研究与克隆技术的发展与现状等。

《经济法律篇》大部分文章为经济、法律领域的最新动态与发展,包括社会的热点话题与基础知识,有区域及世界经济发展

现状与问题，国际金融与对外贸易、通货膨胀、货币贬值与股票
证券交易、司法公正与犯罪以及中国入世最新评析等。

《文学艺术篇》轻松愉快引人入胜的名人轶事，文学家、艺术
家的生平事迹，富于哲理的寓言故事，音乐、美术、雕刻、历史
典故及作品赏析和文艺评论等。

《综合篇》的内容涉及政治人物、历史事件，军事发展、战争
模式与高科技的运用、体育交流、文化教育的发展与变化、地理
知识、各国的风土人情、习俗及人口爆炸与控制等。

本系列各册均有 100 篇短文，由浅入深，每篇 300 至 600 个单
词，少数短文较长，达 700 单词以上，旨在扩大信息量和阅读的
实际需要。为了便于自学，每篇短文后均有词汇用法、语法结构
或难句的分析，注释简洁，并配有阅读理解练习，其形式与英语
四级统考题型完全相同，这有助于读者的应试需要，参考译文有
助于理解和提高翻译水平。每篇文章后附有练习答案便于读者
自测。

本系列各册后面均附有 2003 年 1 月至 2004 年 6 月的四套全国
统一考试的全真试题及答案。

本系列各册不仅适用于准备参加大学英语四级考试的在校生，
也适用于广大中级英语自学者、自考生及参加全国英语等级考试
的读者使用。

编者

CONTENTS

目 录

Passage 1	Mae Jemison	(1)
	女宇航员梅·杰米森	(4)
Passage 2	Can a Computer Think?	(6)
	计算机能思考吗?	(8)
Passage 3	Black Holes	(10)
	黑洞之谜	(13)
Passage 4	Education May Protect against Effects of Shrinking Brain	(15)
	接受教育和大脑萎缩	(18)
Passage 5	Radioactivity	(20)
	放射性	(23)
Passage 6	Uses of Ultrasound	(25)
	超声波的用途	(27)
Passage 7	Challenges for a Webbed Society	(29)
	网络社会的挑战	(32)
Passage 8	The World of Robots	(35)
	机器人的世界	(37)
Passage 9	The Scientific Exploration of Space	(40)
	宇宙科学探索	(43)
Passage 10	Improving Industrial Efficiency through Robotics	(45)
	用机器人技术来提高工业效率	(48)
Passage 11	Bees and Colour	(50)
	蜜蜂和颜色	(52)
Passage 12	Gravitation	(54)

	引力	(56)
Passage 13	Electricity	(58)
	电	(60)
Passage 14	Cells	(62)
	细胞	(65)
Passage 15	The Purification of Water	(67)
	水的净化	(70)
Passage 16	Expansion and Contraction	(72)
	膨胀和收缩	(74)
Passage 17	Inertia	(76)
	惯性	(78)
Passage 18	Life in the Universe	(80)
	宇宙中的生命	(83)
Passage 19	The Beginning of the Air Mail	(85)
	航空邮寄的开端	(88)
Passage 20	Behind the Looking Glass	(90)
	镜子背后的故事	(93)
Passage 21	Origin of Life	(95)
	生命的起源	(98)
Passage 22	Botany	(99)
	植物学	(101)
Passage 23	Defence Mechanism of Plants	(103)
	植物的防御机制	(106)
Passage 24	Diversity of Marine Life	(108)
	海栖生物的多样性	(110)
Passage 25	Computed Tomography	(112)
	X 线体层照相术	(114)
Passage 26	E. T. ?	(116)
	寻找外星人	(119)
Passage 27	Earth Exploration	(121)
	地球深层结构	(123)

Passage 28	Boeing 777	(125)
	波音 777	(128)
Passage 29	Heat Loss from the Human Body	(130)
	人体热量的损耗	(133)
Passage 30	Energy and Public Safety	(135)
	能源与公众安全	(139)
Passage 31	Earth Resources Technology Satellites	(141)
	地球资源技术卫星	(145)
Passage 32	Can Stress Make You Sick?	(147)
	压力会使你生病吗?	(150)
Passage 33	Can It Really Happen?	(152)
	那真的会发生吗?	(155)
Passage 34	An Ultrasonic Torch	(157)
	超声“电筒”	(160)
Passage 35	Miracle of the Brain	(163)
	大脑的奇迹	(166)
Passage 36	All Over in a Flash	(168)
	刹那间结束	(171)
Passage 37	Control Earthquakes	(173)
	控制地震	(176)
Passage 38	Smoking and Cancer	(179)
	吸烟与癌症	(182)
Passage 39	How Well Do You See?	(184)
	你的视力如何?	(187)
Passage 40	A Killer Is Born	(189)
	一种杀人武器的诞生	(192)
Passage 41	It May Be Easy to Live Longer	
	——Just Stop Eating	(194)
	略带三分饥, 长寿变容易	(197)
Passage 42	Study: T. Rex No Speedster	(200)
	研究发现: 霸王龙绝非速度型动物	(203)

Passage 43	Modern Examination	(205)
	现代测试	(209)
Passage 44	Ecology	(212)
	生态学	(215)
Passage 45	Appearances Can Be Important	(217)
	相貌也许很重要	(221)
Passage 46	Animal Senses	(224)
	动物的感官	(227)
Passage 47	Telecommunications Satellite Spins	
	Out of Control	(229)
	远程通讯卫星脱离轨道	(231)
Passage 48	Building Better Ultralight Computers	(233)
	打造更好的超轻电脑	(236)
Passage 49	NASA Oks Second Space Tourist	(239)
	国家航空航天局批准第二位太空旅游者	(241)
Passage 50	Drink to and for Your Health	(243)
	为健康而饮酒	(246)
Passage 51	Three Things That Will Change Your Life	(248)
	三样事情改变生活	(250)
Passage 52	Bye-bye Credit Cards & Hello Digital Money	(252)
	告别信用卡, 迎接数码币	(254)
Passage 53	Gender Detector	(256)
	性别检测仪	(259)
Passage 54	Air Pollution	(261)
	空气污染	(264)
Passage 55	Go to Bed; Get a Good Night's Dream	(267)
	睡觉, 做个好梦	(271)
Passage 56	Brown Lung Legacy	(273)
	来自棕色肺的问题	(277)
Passage 57	Comets: as Close to Nothing as You Can Get	(280)
	彗星——人类对它们近乎一无所知	(284)

Passage 58	The Flu; Sure Nuisance, Possible Disaster	(287)
	流感: 真实的搅扰, 可能的灾难	(291)
Passage 59	The Long Habit	(294)
	长期的习惯	(300)
Passage 60	Big Numbers and Infinitives	(302)
	大数和无穷数	(306)
Passage 61	Oil	(309)
	油	(313)
Passage 62	An Observation and an Explanation	(316)
	观察与评论	(320)
Passage 63	A Robot about the House	(322)
	家用机器人	(327)
Passage 64	Making Surgery Safe	(330)
	保障外科手术安全	(334)
Passage 65	Using Land Wisely	(337)
	合理使用土地	(341)
Passage 66	The Karburator	(344)
	碳化装置	(349)
Passage 67	The Laws of Nature	(352)
	自然法则	(357)
Passage 68	Symptoms	(360)
	症状	(365)
Passage 69	Walking in Space	(368)
	太空漫步	(371)
Passage 70	The Current State of the World	
	Environment	(373)
	世界环境的现状	(377)
Passage 71	Petroleum	(379)
	石油	(382)
Passage 72	Hackers Are Enemy Number One on	
	the Internet	(384)

	黑客——因特网上的头号公敌	(387)
Passage 73	Communicating in the New Age	(390)
	新时代的通讯	(393)
Passage 74	The Credit Card Economy	(395)
	信用卡经济	(398)
Passage 75	Albert Einstein—Person of the Century	(400)
	世纪伟人爱因斯坦	(403)
Passage 76	What Is Multimedia, Anyway?	(406)
	究竟什么是多媒体?	(409)
Passage 77	Computer Viruses	(412)
	计算机病毒	(416)
Passage 78	China's Links with the World Expand through Giant Cable	(418)
	中国通过巨型电缆扩大与世界的联系	(421)
Passage 79	Telecommunications for the 21st Century	(424)
	21 世纪的通讯	(427)
Passage 80	Climate and the Human Factor	(429)
	气候变化与人为因素	(433)
Passage 81	S. O. S.	(435)
	紧急呼救	(439)
Passage 82	Going Grocery Shopping: Let Your Fingers Do the Walking	(441)
	食品购物: 以手代步	(445)
Passage 83	The Networked Economy Explodes	(447)
	网络经济爆炸	(451)
Passage 84	Cancer Vaccines	(453)
	癌疫苗	(456)
Passage 85	AIDS—The Risk to Heterosexuals	(459)
	艾滋病危及异性恋爱者	(462)
Passage 86	Space	(465)

	空间	(469)
Passage 87	Superstitious? Here's Why!	(472)
	迷信及其起因	(476)
Passage 88	The Web Lifestyle	(479)
	网络生活方式	(483)
Passage 89	Italian Doctor Says Cloning Must Go Ahead	(487)
	意大利医生说克隆技术必须向前发展	(491)
Passage 90	"Hot Air" Market Is Set for Take-off	(494)
	“热气”市场准备起动	(497)
Passage 91	First Dolly, Now Mickey: Scientists Clone Mouse	(499)
	先有多莉, 现有米基: 科学家克隆老鼠	(502)
Passage 92	The Science of Sex	(504)
	性科学	(509)
Passage 93	Making Sense of Smell	(512)
	对嗅觉意义的认识	(517)
Passage 94	Is a Race of Robots Possible?	(520)
	可能产生机器人人种吗?	(525)
Passage 95	The Biotech Century	(528)
	生物技术的世纪	(533)
Passage 96	U. S. Works on Star Wars	(535)
	美国的星球大战	(539)
Passage 97	Reading Hygiene	(542)
	用眼卫生	(546)
Passage 98	Sowing the Seeds of a New Revolution	(549)
	播种新革命	(553)
Passage 99	The Chimp-O-Mat	(556)
	供黑猩猩使用的售货机	(561)
Passage 100	Millionaire Finds Way to Protect Cash	(564)
	现金、票证防伪新方法	(568)

2003 年 1 月大学英语四级考试全真试题阅读理解部分	(571)
2003 年 6 月大学英语四级考试全真试题阅读理解部分	(580)
2004 年 1 月大学英语四级考试全真试题阅读理解部分	(589)
2004 年 6 月大学英语四级考试全真试题阅读理解部分	(598)
2003 年—2004 年大学英语四级考试全真试题 阅读理解部分答案	(607)

Imagine you are lying on your back, strapped into a chair, with your knees bent in front of you. You feel your heart beating with excitement as you hear a voice on the earphone inside your helmet counting down slowly, "Three, two, one," Then, beneath you, a deep rumble starts as rocket fuel ignites in the huge engines. You feel a lurch¹ as the docking mechanisms let go, and your rocket begins to rise.

This is the moment Mae Jemison has been waiting and working for since 1987. The first African-American female astronaut-in-training at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)², Jemison is scheduled to "fly" in September 1992. She is to serve as a specialist on Spacelab-J, a joint Japanese-American research project.

Mae Jemison was thirty-three when she was selected for NASA's astronaut training program. Astronaut candidates must have science degree. They must be fit and healthy with normal blood pressure and good eyesight. They must stand between five feet and six feet four inches tall. They must complete a one-year training program that includes water-survival lessons and weightless walks in a huge antigravity tank.

On the 1991 mission, astronaut Jemison says that her "responsibilities are to be familiar with the shuttle and how it operates, to do the experiments once you get into orbit, to help launch the payloads³ or satellites, and also to do extra-vehicular activities, or space walks."

How did Mae Jemison grow up to become such a special person?

Science—especially astronomy—fascinated her from childhood.

She also had a strong desire to help other people. Born in Alabama, but raised in Chicago, she studied chemical engineering and African-American culture and history at Stanford University. To help others, she decided to become a doctor. While still a medical student, she went to Cuba and Kenya on study trips, then worked in a refugee⁴ camp in Thailand. She spent three years in West Africa as a doctor with the Peace Corps. When Dr. Jemison finally returned to the United States, she settled in California to practice medicine. And it was then that she decided to reach for the stars.

Mae Jemison's first application to NASA was not successful. Then, in 1986, the Challenger space shuttle exploded, killing all aboard⁵. NASA did not take in any new astronauts for about a year. When it finally reopened its application process, Mae Jemison was ready, and so was NASA. After being selected as a minority astronaut, Mae Jemison received a good deal of attention from newspaper and television. She explained to reporters that the space program and other fields in high technology offer promising careers for African-Americans and other minorities who study hard and make the most of their opportunities⁶. (454 words)

Notes

1. **lurch** *n.* a sudden, uncontrolled movement, a lurching movement 突然失控, 突然倾斜
2. **the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**: 美国国家航空航天局
3. **payload** *n.* the total weight of the instruments, crew, and life-support systems that a spacecraft carries or can carry 飞船有效负荷
4. **refugee** *n.* one who flees in search of refuge, as in times of war, political oppression, or religious persecution 难民, 避难者, 在战争、政治压迫或宗教迫害的时候为寻求避难而逃出的人

5. **the Challenger space shuttle exploded, killing all aboard.** killing all aboard 是现在分词短语作伴随状语
6. **She explained to reporters... the most of their opportunities.** 句中 that 引导一个宾语从句, 作 explained 的直接宾语。who 引导一个定语从句, 先行词是 African-Americans 和 other minorities.

Exercises

- The first paragraph is about _____.
 - how excited Mae Jemison was when she became an astronaut
 - how Mae Jemison became an astronaut
 - how the people usually feel when the rocket they take begins to rise
 - what Mae Jemison did after she was able to fly a rocket
- Which of the following statements is true?
 - Mae Jemison had a strong desire to become famous.
 - Mae Jemison was brought up in Alabama.
 - Mae Jemison studied astronomy at Stanford University.
 - Mae Jemison studied medicine.
- When did the Challenger space shuttle explode?
 - Before Mae Jemison became a doctor.
 - Shortly after Mae Jemison graduated from Stanford University.
 - About a year before Mae Jemison was selected as an astronaut.
 - About a year after Mae Jemison became famous all over the world.
- Mae Jemison believed that _____.
 - men and women were not equal
 - women were better paid than men were
 - American blacks were unable to find satisfactory jobs no matter how hard they studied