



2006^年 曹其军考研英语 ②

英语

阅读理解 Step by Step

主编 曹其军

- 体例新颖独特
- 短文试题均译
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2020全国硕士研究生英语①

英语

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英语阅读理解

Step by Step

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英语阅读理解 Step by Step

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IF YOU REMOVE STONE BY STONE, EVEN MOUNTAIN WILL BE LEVELLED

(代前言)

英语能否过关,阅读理解是关键。考研英语试卷中,

Section I Use of English ——10 分(20 小题);

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A——多项选择题,40 分(20 小题),

Part B——选择搭配题,10 分(5 小题),

Part C——英译汉,10 分(5 小题)。

作为一项综合技能测试,“英语知识运用”首先检验的是阅读能力。它也可以说是阅读理解的一个变体,所以解题的首要步骤是将短文的大意理解清楚,提高阅读理解能力。

那么,如何从根本上提高阅读理解能力呢?首先要扩大词汇量,其次是长难句要过关,最后要泛读各类题材或体裁文章,扩大知识面,同时掌握一定的阅读技巧和解题方法。没有扎实的阅读基本功,而一味地强调应试技巧,或者机械地进行阅读理解模拟训练,阅读理解能力不可能从根本上得到提高。本书针对考生阅读理解基本功上的缺陷,从长难句、篇章理解等各方面入手,切中要害,各个击破,扫清了阅读理解过程中的主要障碍,使考生的阅读理解能力得到实质性提高。

本书有别于其他同类考研英语阅读书之特点:

1. 编写体例新颖、独特。首先,本书按考研英语阅读理解 **Part A** 部分短文内容涉及的题材(科普类、经济类、人文类、教育类及社会类)分单元编写;其次,本书按考研英语阅读理解 **Part C** 部分的要求,从每篇短文中抽出 5 个长难句给予句架分析;最后本书将 2005 年考研英语试卷中新增的选择搭配题型即阅读理解 **Part B** 部分单列出来分析讲解。

2. 短文与试题(题干及选项)均配译文。一方面,帮助考生彻底理解短文大意及试题内容;另一方面,增强考生的自信心和做阅读理解题的兴趣。有许多考生在看别的同类书时,就因那些书不配译文而看不懂短文意思导致心灰意冷。

3. 重点和超纲词汇重现。本书在参考译文中配有重点和超纲词汇中英文对照。一方面,帮助考生记住那些重点和常见超纲单词;另一方面,有利于提高考生的翻译水平。比如:有些单词在语境中是以名词或形容词出现的,但在翻译时应译成动词。如果译成名词或形容词,那么会导致译出来的汉语不通顺或不符合汉语习惯。

4. 答案解析详尽。本书在解析每道题时,首先点出**题型**(细节题、推论引申题、词义题、文章主旨题等),然后给出**题干的信号词(或句)**出自哪一自然段,最后详细说明**正确项的正确性**(与文章哪句相符)和**干扰项错在哪**(与文章哪句相背)。这样使考生知其所以然,便于考生掌握各类题型的解题思路及方法与技巧。

本书由**曹其军、马恒芬**主编。副主编有**习传进、章杰、岳中生**。在本书出版过程中,国家行政学院出版社的**李锦慧**作为本书的责任编辑,作了认真细致地编辑工作,在此表示感谢。

本书在编写、编辑和出版过程中,尽管我们抱着对广大考生认真负责的态度——高质量、严要求,但由于时间紧、任务重,加上我们水平有限,难免有许多不足、不尽人意之处。敬请广大读者和专家同行不吝赐教、批评指正。

能在复习备考路上助广大考生一臂之力是我们的心愿。结合实际情况使用本书,相信您的阅读及解题与翻译水平一定能有所突破!

曹其军

2005年2月

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编者按 *Knowledge comes from experience alone.* 历年考研英语阅读理解短文内容涉及社会科学(主要包括社会学、人类学、教育、心理学、经济、管理、金融等领域)、自然科学(主要包括普通物理、化学、生物、工程、计算机、医学、农业等领域)和人文科学(主要包括哲学、历史、文学、语言、新闻、艺术等领域);题材大多是涉及高科技和社会热点问题,如:网络应用、基因工程、现代人生活价值观等等;体裁更注重报刊新闻、专题报道和评述型文章;常考题型主要是:主旨大意题、推理判断题、词汇语义题、事实细节题及观点态度题。为此,我们针对考研英语阅读理解短文的特点——短文涉及内容、题材以及体裁,从最新英美时文报刊上分门别类地(科普类、经济类、人文类、教育类、社会类)精选了 80 篇有代表性且极具时代感(热点问题)的短文,并贯穿常考的五种题型进行分类讲解、训练,以帮助考生了解和掌握各类题材、体裁等短文的阅读技巧、命题规律(命题方式、命题考点)以及相应的解题方法与技巧。为了帮助考生真正理解短文意思,准确解答短文后的试题,我们从每篇短文中抽出 5 个长难句给予句架分析,并将每篇短文及短文后的试题(包括题干和选项)翻译成中文,而且对每道试题均作了非常详尽的解析,真正使考生的阅读理解能力和翻译水平得到实质性的提高。

Unit One 科普类

Passage 1

1) Genetic engineering holds great potential payoffs for farmers and consumers by making crops resistant to pests, diseases, and even chemicals used to kill surrounding weeds; but new research raises concerns that altering crops to withstand such threats may pose new risks — from none other than the weeds themselves. This is due to the weeds' ability to acquire genes from the neighboring agricultural crops. Researchers found that when a weed cross-breeds with a farm-cultivated relative and thus acquires new genetic traits — possibly including artificial genes engineered to make the crop hardier — the hybrid weed can pass along those traits to future generations.

"The result may be very hardy, hard-to-kill weeds," said Allison Snow, a plant ecologist at Ohio

State University in Columbus who conducted the experiments over the past six years along with two colleagues. They presented their results last week at the annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America in Madison, Wisconsin.

2) The findings suggest that genetic engineering done with the aim of improving crops — growing the new genetic traits such as resistance to herbicides or pests — could ultimately have unintended and harmful consequences for the crops if weeds acquire the same trait and use it to out-compete the crops. “Gene movement from crops to their wild relatives is an ongoing process that can be ultimately harmful to crops,” said Snow.

The results of the experiments challenge a common belief that hybrids gradually die out over several generations, Snow explained. “There has been an assumption that crop genes wouldn’t persist in crop-weed hybrids” because hybrids are thought to be less successful at reproducing, she said. However, Snow’s research contradicted this assumption: Hybrid wild radishes survived in all six generations that were grown since the study began.

3) Although the genetic traits the scientists monitored were natural and not genetically engineered, the findings nonetheless suggest that artificial improvements introduced into crops through genetic engineering could spread to weeds and become permanent traits of the weed population.

So strengthened, the weeds may pose a serious risk to the long-term health of agricultural crops. 4) The danger exists in a number of crop plants — including rice, sunflower, sorghum, squash, and carrots — that are closely related to weeds with which they compete. Snow is concerned that the transfer of genes from crops to related weeds could rapidly render many herbicides (chemicals which kill weeds) ineffectual. That situation, she said, would be much like bacterial diseases acquiring resistance to antibiotics.

5) Because plant hybrids arise in a single generation, however, it could happen much more quickly; “Modern agriculture is heavily dependent on herbicides,” she said, “so people will notice when those don’t work anymore.”

1. The word “this” (Line 4, Para. 1) probably refers to

- [A] threats posed by chemicals used to kill weeds. [B] ☒ risks of altering crops’ genetic makeups.
[C] dangers inherent in the nature of weeds. [D] the results of recent research.

2. According to the passage, genetic engineering can be used to

- [A] kill weeds through cross-breeding.
[B] make crops hardier.
[C] ☒ improve the yield and quality of most crops.
[D] make crops resistant to chemical fertilizers.

3. That genetically modified crops could have harmful effects can be deduced from the fact that

- [A] gene movement between cultivated plants and wild ones is inevitable.
[B] ☒ new research shows that genetically modified plants are likely to develop into weeds.
[C] cross-breeding is a natural process.
[D] hybrids are generally more successful at breeding than natural plants.

4. The potential for hazardous weeds developing from genetically modified plants is greatest for

- [A] crops who rely on herbicides and pesticides for effective harvests.

[B] areas in which cross-breeding is kept to a minimum.

[C] agricultural crops grown for their content.

[D] crops that are closely related to weeds.

5. The author implies that the main impact that gene transfer between crops and weeds could have is

[A] the rapid development of unintended plant hybrids.

[B] the collapse of the agricultural industry.

[C] the development of pest and herbicide-resistant weeds.

[D] the difficulty to determine the given nature of current research.

► 长难句解析

1. Genetic engineering holds great potential payoffs for farmers and consumers by making crops resistant to pests, diseases, and even chemicals used to kill surrounding weeds; but new research raises concerns that altering crops to withstand such threats may pose new risks — from none other than the weeds themselves.

【解析】句中“by”引导的短语作状语；“used to kill surrounding weeds”短语修饰“chemicals”；“that”引导的同位语从句说明“concerns”的具体内容；破折号里面的内容是在解释带来风险的原因。“hold payoff for”应译成“为……带来好处”；“resistant to”应译成“抵抗……”；“concern”应译成“忧虑”；“withstand”应译成“抵御”；“none other than”应译成“正是……”。

【句意】参见参考译文。下同。

2. The findings suggest that genetic engineering done with the aim of improving crops — growing the new genetic traits such as resistance to herbicides or pests — could ultimately have unintended and harmful consequences for the crops if weeds acquire the same trait and use it to out-compete the crops.

【解析】句中“the findings”指的是前面提到的发现；“that”引导的是宾语从句；“done with the aim of improving crops”短语修饰“genetic engineering”；破折号里面的内容是在解释前面的“genetic engineering”；“if”引导的是条件状语从句。“do with”应译成“用于……”；“unintended”应译成“无意识的”；“out-compete”应译成“对付”。

3. Although the genetic traits the scientists monitored were natural and not genetically engineered, the findings nonetheless suggest that artificial improvements introduced into crops through genetic engineering could spread to weeds and become permanent traits of the weed population.

【解析】句中“although”引导的是让步状语从句；“the scientists monitored”是一个省略了引导词的定语从句，修饰“traits”；“that”引导的是宾语从句；“introduced into crops”短语修饰“improvements”。“monitor”应译成“测试”；“introduce into”应译成“引入……、实现……”。

4. The danger exists in a number of crop plants — including rice, sunflower, sorghum, squash, and carrots — that are closely related to weeds with which they compete.

【解析】句中破折号里面的内容是在举例说明；“that”引导的定语从句修饰“crop plants”；“with which”引导的定语从句修饰“weeds”；“they”指的是“crop plants”。“be related to”应译成“与……有关系”；“compete with”应译成“与……竞争”。

5. Because plant hybrids arise in a single generation, however, it could happen much more quickly; “Modern agriculture is heavily dependent on herbicides,” she said, “so people will notice when those don’t work any more.”

【解析】句中“it”指的是“plant hybrids arise in a single generation”这句话；“she”指的是“Snow”；

“those”指的是“herbicides”。“arise”应译成“出现”；“be dependent on”应译成“依赖……”；“work”应译成“有效”。

► 参考译文及重点词汇重现

1) 通过使农作物(crop)能够抵抗(resistant)害虫、疾病甚至是用来消除(kill)周围杂草(weed)的化学药品(chemical),基因工程(genetic engineering)能够为农场主和消费者带来可观的潜在(potential)利益(payload);但是,新的研究(research)却引发了人们的这些忧虑(concern):改变(alter)农作物以便它们抵御(withstand)这样的灾害可能导致(pose)新的危险(risk)——不是别的,正是杂草本身。这是因为,杂草能够从邻近的农作物那里获得基因(gene)。研究人员发现(find),当一种杂草与农场栽培的(cultivated)农作物类植物杂交(cross-breed)时它就因此获得新的基因特征(trait)——可能包括使庄稼更耐寒的人工合成(artificial)基因——杂交的(hybrid)杂草能够把这些特征代代相传。

“其结果(result)可能会产生非常耐寒、难于消除的杂草,”哥伦布市俄亥俄州立大学的植物生态学家(ecologist)阿里森·斯诺说,他和两个同事在过去6年里进行了这样的实验(experiment)。上星期在威斯康星州麦迪逊市召开的美国生态学会年会上他们公布了他们的实验结果。

2) 他们的发现(finding)显示,如果杂草获得了同样特征,并且利用(use)这种特征去对付(out-compete)农作物的话,那么为了改良(improve)农作物的目的而实施的基因工程——培育(grow)新的基因特征,比如抵抗除草剂或害虫的基因特征——最终可能会对农作物产生无意识的、有害的结果。斯诺说,“从农作物到它们的野生同类的基因转移(movement)是一个正在发生的过程,这一过程最终可能会对农作物有害。”

斯诺解释说,实验的结果对人们的一个普遍观点提出了挑战(challenge):杂交品种经过几代以后就会灭绝(die out)。“一直存在这样一种设想:农作物的基因不会在庄稼与杂草的杂交品种中延续(persist)下去”,因为人们认为杂交品种成功繁衍后代(reproduce)的机会更少,她说。不过,斯诺的研究驳斥(contradict)了这种设想:杂交的野生小萝卜在实验开始以来所培育的六代品种中都幸存(survive)下来了。

3) 虽然科学家测试(monitor)的基因特征是自然生成的,而不是基因合成的,但是,实验的发现还是表明,通过基因工程实现的农作物的人工改良能够传播(spread)到杂草中,并成为杂草的永久特征。

由于得到了这样的强化(strengthen),杂草可能对农作物的长期健康发展带来严重的危险。4) 这种危险存在于许多种农作物之中——包括水稻、向日葵、高粱、南瓜以及胡萝卜,这些农作物同那些它们与之竞争的杂草有着亲密的关系。斯诺担心的是,基因从农作物转移(transfer)到这些有关的杂草上可能使除草剂(消除杂草的化学药品)迅速失效(ineffectual)。她说,这种情形很像细菌性(bacterial)疫病能够抵挡(resistance)抗生素一样。

5) 不过,由于植物的杂交品种才出现一代,这种情况就可能发生得快得多。她说,“现代农业非常依赖于除草剂,所以人们会注意这些除草剂何时会失效。”

► 参考答案与详解

1. 单词“this”(第一段第四行)可能指的是

[A] 用来消除杂草的化学药品所造成的危险。 [B] 改变农作物的基因成分的风险。

[C] 杂草特征中的内在危险。

[D] 最近的研究所得到的结果。

[B]

【解析】 词义题。题干中的信号词出自于文章第一段。文章第一段指出:新的研究却引发了人们的这些忧虑,改变农作物以便它们抵御这样的灾害可能导致新的危险——不是别的,正是杂草本身;这是因为,杂草能够从邻近的农作物那里获得基因。这说明:该单词应该是指改变农作物成分的风险。

B 项中说“risks of altering crops' genetic makeup”,这与文章的意思相符。A 项、C 项和 D 项三项明显与文章的意思不符。

2. 根据本文,基因工程可以被用来

[A] 通过杂交消除杂草。

[B] 使得农作物更耐寒。

[C] 提高大多数农作物的产量与质量。

[D] 使得农作物能够抵抗化学肥料。

[B]

【解析】 细节题。文章第一段指出:研究人员发现,当一种杂草与农场栽培的农作物类植物杂交时它就因此获得新的基因特征——可能包括使庄稼更耐寒的人工合成基因。这说明:基因工程可以用来使庄稼更耐寒。B 项中说“make crops hardier”,这与文章的意思相符。A 项与文章的意思相反;文中没有提到 C 项;D 项与文章的意思不相符。

3. “基因转变的农作物可能产生有害的后果”这种观点能够从这样的事实中推知:

[A] 被栽培的植物与野生植物之间的基因转变是不可避免的。

[B] 新的研究显示,基因转变的农作物可能成长为杂草。

[C] 杂交是一种自然过程。

[D] 从基因上来说,杂交品种成功繁衍后代的机会比自然植物更多。

[A]

【解析】 推论题。文章第六段指出:杂草可能对农作物的长期健康发展带来严重的危险;这种危险存在于许多种农作物之中,这些农作物同那些它们与之竞争的杂草有着亲密的关系。这说明:农作物与野生植物之间的杂交会产生有害的后果,而这一过程难以避免。A 项中说“gene movement between cultivated plants and wild ones is inevitable”,这与文章的意思相符。文中没有提到 B 项;C 项是文中明确说明的,所以不对;文中也没有提到 D 项。

4. 基因转变的农作物成长为危险的杂草的可能性对于_____来说是最大的。

[A] 依赖于除草剂和杀虫剂有效提高产量的农作物

[B] 杂交被限定在最低限度的领域

[C] 为了它们的满足而生长的农作物

[D] 与杂草有密切关系的农作物

[D]

【解析】 细节题。文章第五、六段指出:实验的发现还是表明,通过基因工程实现的农作物的人工改良能够传播到杂草中,并成为杂草的永久特征;由于得到了这样的强化,杂草可能对农作物的长期健康发展带来严重的危险;这种危险存在于许多种农作物之中,这些农作物同那些它们与之竞争的杂草有着亲密的关系。这说明:对于那些与杂草有着亲密关系的基因转变农作物来说,成长为危险的杂草的可能性很大。D 项中说“crops that are closely related to weeds”,这与文章的意思相符。A 项、B 项和 C 项三项都与文章的意思不相符。

5. 作者暗示:基因从农作物到杂草的转变可能产生的主要影响就是

[A] 无意识的植物杂交品种的迅速发展。

[B] 农业生产的崩溃。

[C] 抵抗除草剂的杂草以及害虫的发展。

[D] 确定目前研究特定性质的困难。

[C]

【解析】 推论题。文章最后两段指出:斯诺担心的是,基因从农作物转移到这些有关的杂草上可能使除草剂(消除杂草的化学药品)迅速失效;现代农业非常依赖于除草剂,所以人们会注意这些除草剂何时会失效。这说明:作者认为,基因从农作物到杂草的转变可能产生的主要影响就是能够抵抗除草剂的杂草和害虫的肆意发展。C 项中说“the development of pest and herbicide-resistant weeds”,这与文章的意思相符。A 项明显与文章的意思不符;文中没有提到 B 项和 D 项两项。

Passage 2

Climatic conditions are delicately adjusted to the composition of the Earth's atmosphere. If there

were a change in the atmosphere — for example, in the relative proportions of atmospheric gases — the climate would probably change also. A slight increase in water vapor, for instance, would increase the heat-retaining capacity of the atmosphere and would lead to a rise in global temperatures. 1) In contrast, a large increase in water vapor would increase the thickness and extent of the cloud layer, reducing the amount of solar energy reaching the Earth's surface.

The level of carbon dioxide, CO_2 , in the atmosphere has an important effect on climatic change. 2) Most of the Earth's incoming energy is short-wave-length radiation, which tends to pass through atmospheric CO_2 easily; the Earth, however, reradiates much of the received energy as long-wave-length radiation, which CO_2 absorbs and then remits toward the Earth. This phenomenon, known as the greenhouse effect, can result in an increase in the surface temperature of a planet. An extreme example of the effect is thrown by Venus, a planet covered by heavy clouds composed mostly of CO_2 , whose surface temperatures have been measured at 430°C . If the CO_2 content of the atmosphere is reduced, the temperature falls. 3) According to one respectable theory, if the atmospheric CO_2 concentration were halved, the Earth would become completely covered with ice; another equally respectable theory, however, states that a halving of the CO_2 concentration would lead only to a reduction in global temperatures of 3°C .

If, because of an increase in forest fires or volcanic activity, the CO_2 content of the atmosphere increased, a warmer climate would be produced. Plant growth, which relies on both the warmth and the availability of CO_2 , would probably increase. As a consequence, plants would use more CO_2 . Eventually CO_2 levels would diminish and the climate, in turn, would become cooler. With reduced temperatures many plants would die; CO_2 would thereby be returned to the atmosphere and gradually the temperature would rise again. 4) Thus, if this process occurred, there might be a long-term oscillation in the amount of CO_2 present in the atmosphere, with regular temperature increases and decreases of a set magnitude.

Some climatologists argue that the burning of fossil fuels has raised the level of CO_2 in the atmosphere and has caused a global temperature increase of at least 1°C . 5) But a supposed global temperature rise of 1°C may in reality be only several regional temperature increases, restricted to areas where there are many meteorological stations and caused simply by shifts in the pattern of atmospheric circulation. Other areas, for example, the South Hemisphere oceanic zone, may be experiencing an equivalent temperature decrease that is unrecognized because of the shortage of meteorological recording stations.

1. The author is primarily concerned with

- [A] explaining the effects that the burning of fossil fuels might have on climate.
- [B] illustrating the effects of CO_2 on atmospheric radiation.
- [C] discussing effects that changes in the CO_2 level in the atmosphere might have on climate.
- [D] challenging hypotheses about the effects of water vapor and CO_2 on climate.

2. It is implied in the passage that a large decrease in the amount of CO_2 in the atmosphere would result in

- [A] at least a slight decrease in global temperatures.
- [B] at the most a slight increase in short-wave-length radiation reaching the Earth.
- [C] a slight short-term increase in atmospheric water vapor content.
- [D] a large long-term increase in the amount of volcanic activity.

3. Which of the following questions does the passage supply information to answer?

- [A] Why are projects of the effects of changes in water vapor levels on the climate so inaccurate? 不准确
[B] What are the steps in the process that takes place as CO_2 absorbs long-wave-length radiation?
[C] How might our understanding of the greenhouse effect be improved if the burning of fossil fuels were decreased?
[D] What might cause a series of regular increases and decreases in the amount of CO_2 in the atmosphere?

4. The passage suggests that if there were a slight global warming at the present time, it would be

- [A] easy to measure the exact increase in temperature because of the abundance of temperature recording stations throughout the world.
[B] easy to prove that the warming was caused by an increase of cloud cover.
[C] easy to demonstrate the effects of the warming on the water vapor in the atmosphere.
[D] difficult to prove that the warming was caused by the burning of fossil fuels.

5. What does the word “oscillation” (Line 6, Para. 3) most probably mean?

- [A] Snatch. 夺取 [B] Swaying. 摆动 [C] Sliding. 滑动 [D] Slant. 倾斜

► 长难句解析

1. In contrast, a large increase in water vapor would increase the thickness and extent of the cloud layer, reducing the amount of solar energy reaching the Earth's surface.

【解析】句中“in water vapor”修饰“increase”；“reducing”引导的短语作状语；“reaching the Earth's surface”修饰“solar energy”。“in contrast”应译成“与之相反”；“thickness”应译成“厚度”；“extent”应译成“密度”；“cloud layer”应译成“云层”。

【句意】参见参考译文。下同。

2. Most of the Earth's incoming energy is short-wave-length radiation, which tends to pass through atmospheric CO_2 easily; the Earth, however, reradiates much of the received energy as long-wave-length radiation, which CO_2 absorbs and then remits toward the Earth.

【解析】句中两个“which”引导的定语从句分别修饰“short-wave-length radiation”和“long-wave-length radiation”。“short-wave-length”应译成“短波”；“pass through”应译成“穿透”；“reradiate”应译成“再辐射”；“remit”应译成“再传送”。

3. According to one respectable theory, if the atmospheric CO_2 concentration were halved, the Earth would become completely covered with ice; another equally respectable theory, however, states that a halving of the CO_2 concentration would lead only to a reduction in global temperatures of 3°C .

【解析】句中“if”引导的是条件状语从句；“that”引导的是宾语从句。“respectable”应译成“值得尊重的”；“concentration”应译成“含量”；“be covered with”应译成“被……覆盖”。

4. Thus, if this process occurred, there might be a long-term oscillation in the amount of CO_2 present in the atmosphere, with regular temperature increases and decreases of a set magnitude.

【解析】句中“this process”指的是前面提到的内容；“there might be”引导的是一个虚拟句；“with”引导的短语作状语。“oscillation”应译成“波动”；“amount”应译成“含量”；“set”应译成“固定的”。

5. But a supposed global temperature rise of 1°C may in reality be only several regional temperature increases, restricted to areas where there are many meteorological stations and caused simply by shifts in the pattern of atmospheric circulation.

【解析】句中“restricted to”引导的短语作定语修饰“temperature increases”；“where”引导的定语从句修饰“areas”；“and caused”引导的短语是“restricted to”短语的并列成分，也作定语修饰“temperature increases”。“supposed”应译成“想象中的”；“meteorological station”应译成“气象站”；“atmospheric circulation”应译成“大气环流”。

► 参考译文及重点词汇重现

气候(climatic)状况(condition)被微妙地改变,以便适应(adjust)地球大气(atmosphere)的构成(composition)。如果大气发生了变化——比如,大气中的气体的相对(relative)比例(proportion)发生变化(change),那么气候(climate)也会发生变化。比如,水蒸汽(water vapor)比例的些许增加将提高(increase)大气保持热量(heat-retaining)的能力(capacity),并且导致(lead to)全球气温(temperature)的上升(rise)。1)与之相反,水蒸气的大幅度增加将云层(layer)的厚度(thickness)与密度(extent),减少(reduce)到达地球表面(surface)的太阳(solar)能量(energy)。

大气中二氧化碳的含量(level)对气候的变化有着重要的影响(effect)。2)地球吸收到的(incoming)大多数能量是短波(short-wave-length)辐射(radiation),这种辐射往往可以轻易穿透(pass through)大气中的二氧化碳;然而,地球又把吸收的能量变成长波辐射发射(reradiate)出去,而二氧化碳可以吸收(absorb)这些长波辐射,然后再传送(remit)到地球。这种现象(phenomenon)就是所知的(known)温室效应(greenhouse effect),它能够导致(result in)一个星球(planet)表面温度的升高。这种效应的一个极端例子被金星得到了证实(throw)——金星是一个覆盖(planet)着厚厚云层的星球,这些云层主要是由二氧化碳组成(compose of)的,因此人们测量(measure)出金星表面的温度为430℃。如果大气中二氧化碳的含量减少,那么温度就会下降。3)根据一种值得尊重的(respectable)理论(theory),如果大气中二氧化碳的含量(content)减半,那么地球将会完全被冰层(ice)覆盖;然而,另一种值得尊重的理论声称,二氧化碳的含量(concentration)减半只会导致地球的温度下降3℃。

如果因为森林火灾或火山的运动二氧化碳的含量增加了,那么将会导致更暖和的气候。植物的生长可能会加快——植物的生长既依赖(rely on)于暖和(warmth)的气候,也依赖于吸收(availability)二氧化碳。结果,植物将会吸收更多的二氧化碳。最后,二氧化碳的含量将会减少,反过来,气候将会变得更冷。由于气温降低,许多植物将会死亡;二氧化碳因此会返回(return)到大气层,地球的气温又将逐渐升高。4)所以,如果这一过程(process)发生的话,那么由于气温的升高、固定含量(set magnitude)的减少这种现象有规律地(regular)发生,目前大气中二氧化碳的含量将可能有一个长期的波动(oscillation)。

一些气候学家(climatologist)认为,燃烧矿物燃料(fossil fuel)使得大气中二氧化碳含量的增加,导致全球的温度至少升高了1℃。5)但是,想象中的(supposed)全球升温1℃实际上可能只是几个地区的气温升高,仅限于有许多气象站(meteorological station)的地区,并且只是由于大气环流(atmospheric circulation)形式(pattern)的改变(shift)所导致的。其他地区,比如南半球的海洋带(oceanic zone),可能正经历着同样的气温降低,由于缺少气象记录站,这种降温没有得到认可(unrecognize)。

► 参考答案与详解

1. 作者主要关注于

- [A] 解释矿物燃料的燃烧可能对气候产生的影响。
- [B] 阐述二氧化碳对大气辐射产生的影响。
- [C] 探讨大气中二氧化碳含量的变化可能对气候产生的影响。
- [D] 挑战有关水蒸气和二氧化碳对气候产生影响的假设。

【C】

【解析】主旨题。文章指出:气候状况被微妙地改变,以便适应地球大气的构成;如果大气发生了变

化,那么气候也会发生变化;大气中二氧化碳的含量对气候的变化有着重要的影响;然后具体说明了产生的影响;根据一种值得尊重的理论,如果大气中二氧化碳的含量减半,那么地球将会完全被冰层覆盖;另一种值得尊重的理论声称,二氧化碳的含量减半只会导致地球的温度下降3℃;如果因为森林火灾或火山的运动二氧化碳的含量增加了,那么将会导致更暖和的气候;如果这一过程发生的话,那么由于气温的升高、固定含量的减少这种现象有规律地发生,目前大气中二氧化碳的含量将可能有一个长期的波动。这说明:作者主要关注的是二氧化碳含量的变化可能对地球气候产生的影响。C项中说“discussing effects that changes in the CO₂ level in the atmosphere might have on climate”,这与文章的意思相符。A项、B项和D项三项只是部分段落的意思,不能表达文章的中心意思。

2. 本文暗示:大气中二氧化碳含量的大幅度减少将导致

[A] 至少全球气温些许的降低。 [B] 至多到达地球的短波辐射的些许减少。

[C] 大气中水蒸气含量的些许短期减少。 [D] 火山活动量大幅度的长期增加。

[A]

【解析】 推论题。文章第二段指出:如果大气中二氧化碳的含量减少,那么温度就会下降;根据一种值得尊重的理论,如果大气中二氧化碳的含量减半,那么地球将会完全被冰层覆盖;另一种值得尊重的理论声称,二氧化碳的含量减半只会导致地球的温度下降3℃。这说明:大气中二氧化碳含量的大幅度减少将导致地球的温度至少下降3℃。A项中说“at least a slight decrease in global temperatures”,这与文章的意思相符。B项、C项和D项三项明显与文章的意思不符。

3. 本文提供的信息回答了下面哪个问题?

[A] 为什么有关水蒸气含量的变化对气候产生的影响的科研项目如此不准确?

[B] 随着二氧化碳吸收长波辐射,在这个过程中发生了什么步骤?

[C] 如果矿物燃料的燃烧减少的话,那么我们有关温室效应的了解可能如何加强?

[D] 什么可能导致大气中二氧化碳含量的一系列有规律的增加和减少?

[D]

【解析】 归纳题。文章第二段分析了大气中二氧化碳的含量对气候的变化产生的重要影响,说明了地球发射的辐射与二氧化碳含量之间的关系,并且提到了温室效应;第三段指出:如果因为森林火灾或火山的运动二氧化碳的含量增加了,那么将会导致更暖和的气候;第四段指出:一些气候学家认为,燃烧矿物燃料使得大气中二氧化碳含量的增加,导致全球的温度至少升高了1℃。这说明:本文回答的问题是——什么导致二氧化碳含量的增加和减少?。D项中说“What might cause a series of regular increases and decreases in the amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere?”,这与文章的意思相符。A项、B项和C项三项都不是文章分析的问题。

4. 本文暗示:如果目前全球的气温升高一点点,那么将会

[A] 容易测量温度上升的准确度数,因为世界各地有许多温度测量站。

[B] 容易证实:气温的上升是由于云层覆盖厚度增加所导致的。

[C] 容易论证升温对大气中水蒸气所产生的影响。

[D] 难以证实:升温是由于燃烧矿物燃料所导致的。

[D]

【解析】 推论题。文章最后一段指出:想象中的全球升温1℃实际上可能只是几个地区的气温升高,仅限于有许多气象站的地区,并且只是由于大气环流形式的改变所导致的;其他地区,比如南半球的海洋带,可能正经历着同样的气温降低,由于缺少气象记录站,这种降温没有得到人们的认可。这说明:如果目前全球的气温升高一点点,也难以确定是什么原因导致的。D项中说“difficult to prove that the warming was caused by the burning of fossil fuels”,这与文章的意思相符。A项、B项和C项三项都与文章的意思相反。

5. 单词“oscillation”(第三段第六行)最可能的意思是什么?

[A] 攫取。

[B] 摇动。

[C] 滑行。

[D] 倾斜。

[B]