

2014

考研英语

历年真题阅读理解 精读笔记

适合英语（一）及英语（二）考生

主编：中国人民大学 **郭崇兴**

全面剖析近16年真题阅读理解

- 重点单词 统计出现频率
- 难句剖析 化解阅读障碍
- 答案解析 指点解题秘诀
- 全文精译 帮助理解原文

重要提示

本书赠送 2013 年考研英语（一）真题阅读理解精读笔记，
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内容简介

本书严格按照考研英语大纲英语(一)(非英语专业)和1997年至2013年的考研英语真题编写而成。围绕考研英语历年真题阅读理解Part A部分进行剖析,帮助考生迅速全面提高考研英语阅读水平和应试能力。内容包括历年真题阅读理解Part A每篇文章的大纲词汇和超纲词汇(并且精确统计出每个单词在历年真题中出现的次数)、文中的长难句以及相应的语法结构分析、每道题目答题方法的详细解析及相关知识点、阅读原文的精准翻译。适合所有参加英语(一)的考研学生,参加英语(二)的考研学生可参考本书。作者郭崇兴是考研英语辅导顶级名师。

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新大纲英语(一)、英语(二) 对考研英语阅读理解的要求

一、新大纲英语(一)对考研英语阅读理解的要求

考生应能读懂选自各类书籍和报刊的不同类型的文字材料(生词量不超过所读材料总词汇量的3%),还应能读懂与本人学习或工作有关的文献资料、技术说明和产品介绍等。对所读材料,考生应能:

- 1) 理解主旨要义;
- 2) 理解文中的具体信息;
- 3) 理解文中的概念性含义;
- 4) 进行有关的判断、推理和引申;
- 5) 根据上下文推测生词的词义;
- 6) 理解文章的总体结构以及上下文之间的关系;
- 7) 理解作者的意图、观点或态度;
- 8) 区分论点和论据。

二、新大纲英语(二)对考研英语阅读理解的要求

考生应能读懂不同题材和体裁的文字材料。题材包括经济、管理、社会、文化、科普等,体裁包括说明文、议论文和记叙文等。

根据阅读材料,考生应能:

- (1) 理解主旨要义;
- (2) 理解文中的具体信息;
- (3) 理解语篇的结构和上下文的逻辑关系;
- (4) 根据上下文推断重要生词或词组的含义;
- (5) 进行一定的判断和推理;
- (6) 理解作者的意图、观点或态度。

(二) 作者感言

我对考研英语的一些看法

笔者分析,影响考研英语做题速度、成绩的症结,主要有以下原因:

首先是单词。第一是生词(目前你还没有掌握的单词);第二是单词的熟词僻义(主要是中国人不常用,但在考研真题中经常出现);第三是长难单词(需要花时间看词根前后缀再分析出单词意思,比短单词浪费几倍时间)。

其次是词组和不常见的习语。这也是出题的重点,需要根据上下文来分析其意思。

最后是长难句。无论单词还是词组,都是为看懂句子、文章服务的。可是阅读中遇到的最大障碍就是长难句,只有破译了长难句,考研才能得高分。

克服了以上难关只能保证你看懂文章,但是,假如你还想得高分,就需要仔细研究历年真题的出题思路和解题方法(特别是阅读理解),不能仅仅把历年真题当做模拟试题来做,而应当把历年真题当做考研精读材料,仔细分析每一篇文章。首先分析其中的大纲词汇、超纲词汇(对应的大纲词汇是什么)、有无熟词僻义单词(不常用的词义、不常用的词性)、重点语法现象(长难句、经典句型、写作可以借鉴的句型)等,然后再分析答案选项(对的为什么对,错的为什么错,对错都要有理由,阅读理解出题点在何处),只有经过如此细致的分析,才可以说,你算是开始真正“精读”历年真题了。

对于单词的学习,《考研英语词汇真题词频语境记忆》精读版和背诵版足以让考生掌握考研英语的所需词汇。对于词组的学习,可以参阅《考研英语必记词组》。而关于历年真题阅读理解的研究,本书足矣。

郭崇兴于北京

2013年8月

前言

众所周知,英语往往是决定考研成败的一门重要公共课。对于大部分考研学生来说,想考好英语必须经历很长时间的^①有效复习。英语不能靠临时抱佛脚来过关,而需要单词、语法、阅读、写作等综合能力同时提高。看起来仅仅是一张100分的卷子,要考好却须花费更多的努力。

那么,考研英语到底该如何复习呢?其实最好的方法就是根据历年真题老老实实去记单词、做阅读和写作文。而其中阅读又是考研英语的重中之重,得阅读者得天下,所以考生一定要重视。

很多人对英语阅读应该如何去读、如何去解题没有一个系统的方法,其实决定阅读成绩的是阅读实力和阅读方法,而不是阅读技巧。经济学中有个众所周知的“木桶理论”:决定盛水量的是箍成木桶的最短的木条。英语阅读中,阅读实际能力就是短木条,而阅读技巧是长木条。所以,在阅读复习的前中期一定要立足于提高实际能力,着重阅读方法,注重快速阅读中把握线索的能力等。阅读提高不在于读很多文章,而是要精读:即真正读懂每一篇文章,理解每道题正确选项为什么正确,错误选项为什么错误。

无论考研英语高分得主还是考研辅导名师都不得不承认一个事实:历年真题才是最好的复习资料。考生可以什么书都没有,但必须要有一本历年真题。真题的利用价值很大,从这些题中可以分析出考研的出题方式、出题角度和难度等,其好处有二:其一,历年真题都是很多命题专家仔细斟酌讨论的结果,虽然考过的题不会再考,但对其进行分析思考有助于了解命题思路,把握考题走向,掌握解题方法;其二,分析历年真题,使考生明确考题的难度、特点等,有助于挑选接近真题的练习题、模拟题。所以,每个考生都要对其仔细琢磨(而不仅仅是做做而已)。以往考研成功者的经验均是:反复地利用真题熟悉考试思路,直到弄懂每一个词、每一句话、每一个选项为止。研究真题的效果很明显,只要你找到个中关键所在,那么对阅读就一通百通了。对于真题建议大家至少仔细研读三遍。

实践证明,精读历年考研英语的阅读真题是提高阅读成绩最行之有效的手段。所谓精读,就是对阅读真题进行全面剖析,不仅牢记词汇和分析难句,使自己的语言水平得到提高,而且破解各种题型的解题思路,使自己永远立于不败之地。

基于以上思想,本书严格按照考研英语大纲英语(一)(非英语专业)和1997年至2013年的考研英语真题编写而成,围绕考研英语历年真题阅读理解Part A部分进行剖析,帮助考生迅速全面提高考研英语阅读水平和应试能力。本书内容包括历年真题阅读理解Part A每篇文章的大纲词汇和超纲词汇(并且精确统计出每个单词在历年真题中出现的次数)、文中的长难句以及相应的语法结构分析、每道题目答题方法的详细解析及相关知识点、阅读原文的精准翻译。

在此,笔者有一点需要提醒广大考生:阅读本书必须先做题,再看答案、解析。如果倒过来将毫无意义!做题时必须限制时间,每篇文章大约17~20分钟,四篇文章控制在70~80分钟,做完后必须花时间去分析文章、背诵单词、分析长难句、核对答案、研读解析,并且要仔细研究译文。绝对不能只简单地核对一下答案,这样你即使做一千篇,英语成绩的提高也是很渺茫的!

考研是非常辛苦的,但是只要方法得当,一定能事半功倍。希望所有考生都能在硕士研究生入学统一考试中取得好成绩!

郭崇兴于北京
2013年8月

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阅读的基本技巧

众所周知,考研是人生的一次重新洗牌和重大机遇,而在考研的四门课程中,英语成了许多考生前进征途上的一只凶猛的拦路虎和十分困难的羁绊与障碍。

详细分析历年考研英语试卷,又可以发现主要矛盾在于阅读(占60%的分数),故可谓:得阅读者得天下。阅读的60分细分为Part A、Part B和Part C,其中Part A为四篇阅读理解,占40分,是阅读理解考试中的主战场。那么,Part A有没有什么技巧呢?

技巧一:看懂

阅读理解其实主要考的是“阅读”之后的“理解”,所以,看得懂乃是第一项技巧。

任何一篇文章,若要能看懂它,至少需要两个条件:认识单词和看明白句子。单词就像盖房的砖瓦,考研词汇大约为5500个,这不是一个小数字,也并非三两天时间可以记住的,所以,考生必须先买一本考研英语词汇书进行系统、长期的学习和记忆。(推荐《考研英语词汇真题词频语境记忆精读版》,该书打破了传统考研词汇书按字母顺序排序的做法,而是采用历年真题作为单词出现频率的统计依据,将所有大纲单词及超纲单词按照历年真题出现的频率从高到低排列,而且全部按照考过的不同词义配不同的真题例句,可以使考生用最少的时间达到最好的学习效率)

拿到词汇书之后,首先用大约一周的时间把这些单词中你根本不认识的挑出来,如 rear, tedious, deteriorate, plausible, jargon, isotope 等等(因为这些单词你可能完全不认识,看到之后两眼漆黑,所以称之为“黑”字)。“黑”字是阅读的首要障碍,单词不认识,句子当然看不懂,所以,消灭“黑”字是当务之急。(争取用一个月左右的时间消灭它们!)

考研词汇中,除“黑”字外,还有大量意思非常明白的所谓“白”字,如 able, benefit, culture, space, topic 等等。此类单词可一掠而过,除“黑”字(完全不认识)和“白”字(完全明白)两类外,还有许多似会不会的“灰”字,如 treaty, tutor, sample, saddle, fuss 等等。甚至还有大量你觉得会但其实并非如此的“灰”字,如 spring 除了“春天”之意外,还当“泉水”、“弹簧”讲;account 除了“账户”,还作“原因;理由;解释;说明;报告;占……”解; affect 除了“爱,深情”之外,还有“做作”之义。背诵单词时,一定要多看词汇书中所给的例句才能牢记其意义。

除单词外,有时句子太长也会对阅读造成致命的障碍,如:

If you add to this the effects of a sonar set mounted in the small nose of a torpedo rushing through the water at speeds up to 80 miles per hour with its consequent noise and vibration, plus hullborne vibrations from the power plant, it can be seen that only the most advanced electronic filtering gives any chance of success.

看完此句,很多考生如坠云里雾中,不知所云。其实,看懂长难句有点像撒网捕鱼,收网时应收紧网绳(纲),渔网自然会合拢。不要去乱抓网眼(目)。看长难句亦应做到“纲举目张”,先找句子的骨架(主+谓+宾),再解决修饰成分(定、状等)。

此句 it 后为主句,但它不是其真正主语,是形式主语,真正主语为后边的 that 从句,一般来说,英语的“主+谓+宾”也应像汉语那样按顺序排列,主语放谓语前,即:“只有最先进的电子过滤器才有成功的可能,这一点可以被看得很明白。”(形式主语 it 不必译)但英译汉时,应尽量少用被动句型。所以,此句可译为:“可以很清楚地看出:只有最先进的电子过滤器才有可能获得成功。”

it 前边的内容不是句子的主要部分,而是一个由 if 所引导的很长的状语从句。(如果说主+谓+宾是树干的话,定、状则像枝叶,要繁杂和麻烦得多)在整个 if...这样一个句子构成的状语中,if you(主语)add(谓语)the effect to this(双宾语)为基本框架;那第二个宾语为何要倒过来呢?这是因为第一个宾语 effects 后面跟了那么长那么多的定语(注意:英语常将定语写在名词后,这一点

与中文大相径庭,中文的定语一律放在名词前)。

第一个定语为介词词组“of a sonar set”,修饰 effects,译为:“一套声呐设施的效果”;第二个定语为“mounted in the small nose”,过去分词做定语:“被安装在一个小鼻子上的”;第三个定语“of a torpedo”:“一个鱼雷的”;第四个定语“rushing...”译为:“以每小时 80 英里速度穿行于水里的”;后边还有一个“with...”(“plus...”为两逗号间的插入语),英文定语在名词后,中文译文却应将定语放在名词前边。若定语不止一个,常采用倒着翻译的方法,我们称之为“倒解连环”。

故整句意思为:

“如果你把带着巨大噪音和震动的、以每小时 80 英里速度穿过水中的鱼雷的鼻尖部位上所安装的一套声呐设备的效果也考虑进去的话,再加上由电机部分所造成的外壳的震动,那么,可以清楚地看到:只有最先进的电子过滤器才有可能获得成功。”

这就是考研英语的实情。难怪每年的百万考研大军中,过 60 分者每年也只有 18% 左右,英语考得好的同学,前途自然也比其他人更为光明。

大家切记,英语的句子中,“主+谓+宾”基本与中文一致,是按顺序摆放的,而定、状语经常倒着放,又长又多,比主、谓、宾要难很多。定、状语放好了,句子才能看明白,想看懂阅读理解中的长难句,语法基本功一定要扎实。

技巧二:选题

看懂文章后,还有一个如何选题的问题,所以第二项技巧是选题。

众所周知,读完文章之后就要针对文章后面的 questions 选出正确选项。许多考生说,文章有时看懂了,题就是选不对。其实选题也是大有技巧的,阅读的 questions 基本上分为五大类:

1. 主旨题(又称中心思想题):这类题基本上是问 main idea,或 best title;也可以问作者写此文章的 purpose 何在;或问此文的 conclusion 可总结为什么。碰到这类题最简单的方法是把文中每段的首句串起来考虑。若是仅问其中某一段的中心思想,则可将该段的首、尾句加起来考虑。

2. 词汇题(又称词语释义题):这类题常问考生一些不认识、从未见过的生词或词组的意思是什么。解题技巧为参考上下文,尤其是下文。因为下文常常有对该词的解释、说明、举例等。

3. 作者态度题:常问作者对某事持什么态度:主观(subjective)还是客观(objective);肯定(positive)还是否定(negative);赞成(approval)还是反对(opposition)等。解题的关键是要看作者在文中用了什么样的口气。若用褒义词,显然是赞成。若用贬义词,显然是反对。若客观陈述,则是中性的立场,不偏不倚。注意:作者态度常常在转折词后表明出来。所以, but 一词至关重要(类似的还有 yet, however, although, nevertheless 等)。

4. 推理性问题:其典型词有两个 infer 和 imply。如: What can you infer from the story? 或 What is the implied meaning of this sentence?

切记,推理性问题原文中没有现成的答案。答案是你自己推想出来的,但不能凭空瞎想,必须以原文中某句话或某个词语为依据合理推测才能找到合适的答案。

以上四种题型最多占阅读理解考试总分的 1/4,而其他约 30 分的题都属于以下提到的细节性问题!

5. 细节性问题:(声明:本书中没有指出题型的,大多为细节题)。

此类题占阅读总分 40 分中的 30 分左右,因此十分重要。注意,这类问题与推理性问题截然相反,都可以从原文中找到答案,只不过为了迷惑考生,常常将原文进行改写,换一种说法。所以,照抄原文,一字不改的不一定就是答案,而与原文意思相同的才有可能正确答案。

除了将文章看懂,把题目选对之外,做阅读理解题还有两个非常重要的注意事项:速度与步骤。

技巧三:速度

大家都知道,仅仅把题选对是不够的,因为考试还有时间的限制。考试总共 180 分钟,四篇阅读最多占 70~80 分钟(即 17~20 分钟一篇),其余时间还要分配给作文、翻译、英语知识运用等。

那么,对于做题速度较慢的考生,又该如何复习呢?

第一,加大词汇量,这样读起来才会势如破竹,一气呵成。若看不懂的单词太多,自然会磕磕

绊绊,看不了太快。

第二,阅读中最忌讳的是一个单词一个单词地去读,那样效果又慢又差。正确的方法是用眼去抓句子的大致结构(叫意群阅读法)。以上文提到的长难句为例,我们并没有孤零零地去看每一个词,而是先找到了 it 后面的主句;前头的 if 句虽然很长,但只是个状语而已。而在主句中,又抓住了它的主语 that only the most advanced electronic filtering gives any chance of success 和谓语 can be seen。这种提纲挈领式的读法,不仅可以使速度加快,更可以使准确率提高。

第三,考研是一场艰苦卓绝的拼搏。考研英语又比四、六级要难,所以保持头脑清醒和旺盛的斗志至关重要。因此,考试前一天晚上的充足睡眠十分重要,在考场上保持敏锐清醒的头脑,对提高速度和专注精力大有裨益!

技巧四:步骤

阅读的步骤也十分重要。许多考生拿到文章后从头读起,读完再去一个一个选答案。这种方法十分传统,称为整体阅读法。其优点是可以有一种全局感或整体感。缺点是文章太长,读后细节记不住,再去找答案又费劲又容易出错,许多细节都混淆在一起了,得分经常不高。建议同学们用一下查找阅读法:读完第一段就做第一题。然后看第二个问题问的是什么,带着这个问题去看第二段,然后是第三段、第四段,依此类推(有一种问题可能此方法不太适用,那就是:主旨性问题)。查找式阅读法虽然把文章看得支离破碎,但得分往往很高,因为你刚看一段就去做一道题,这样记得住细节,抓得很准,广大考生不妨一试!

2013 年考研英语(一)真题阅读理解

Text 1

In the 2006 film version of *The Devil Wears Prada*, Miranda Priestly, played by Meryl Streep, scolds her unattractive assistant for imagining that high fashion doesn't affect her. Priestly explains how the deep blue color of the assistant's sweater descended over the years from fashion shows to department stores and to the bargain bin in which the poor girl doubtless found her garment.

This top-down conception of the fashion business couldn't be more out of date or in odds with fashion world described in *Overstuffed*, Elizabeth Cline's three-year indictment of "fast fashion". In the last decades or so, advances in technology have allowed mass-market labels such as Zara, H&M, and Primark to react to trends more quickly and anticipate demand more precisely. Quicker turnarounds mean less wasted inventory, more frequent releases, and more profit. Those labels encourage style-conscious consumers to see clothes as disposable—meant to last only a wash or two, although they don't advertise that—and to renew their wardrobe every few weeks. By offering on-trend items at dirt-cheap prices, Cline argues, these brands have hijacked fashion cycles, shaking all industry long accustomed to a seasonal pace.

The victims of this revolution, of course, are not limited to designers. For H&M to offer a \$2.92 knit miniskirt in all its 2,300-plus stores around the world, it must rely on low-wage, overseas labor, under conditions that strain natural resources, and use massive amounts of harmful chemicals.

Overstuffed is the fashion world's answer to consumer activist bestseller like Michael Pollan's *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. "Mass-produced clothing, like fast food, fills a hunger and need, yet is non-nutritious, and wasteful," Cline argues. Americans, she finds, buy roughly 50 billion garments a year—about 64 items per person—and no matter how much they give away, this excess leads to waste.

Towards the end of *Overstuffed*, Cline introduced her ideal, a Brooklyn woman named Sarah Kate Beaumont, who since 2008 has made all of her own clothes—and beautifully. But as Cline is the first to note, it took Beaumont decades to perfect her craft; her example, can't be knocked off.

Though several fast-fashion companies have made efforts to curb their impact on labor and the

开篇演练

在开始研究历年真题阅读理解之前,有一件特别重要的事情必须提醒广大读者:要使自己的阅读水平真正提高,必须先做题,后看答案和解析。如果顺序颠倒过来,那么阅读水平丝毫得不到提高。做题时间为每篇文章 17~20 分钟,Part A 四篇文章时间控制在 70~80 分钟。下面,以 2013 年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语(一)试题中的阅读理解题为开篇,请同学们以这几篇真题阅读文章为练习,在规定的时间内,检测自己的真实水平。参考答案见 2014 年考研英语大纲或登录北京航空航天大学出版社教育培训事业部博客(地址:blog.sina.com.cn/u/1689582545)查询。无论做的结果如何,都保持一种从零开始的心态,认真研读此书,一定获益匪浅!



2013 年考研英语(一)真题阅读理解

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Overdressed is the fashion world's answer to consumer activist bestsellers like Michael Pollan's *The Omnivore's Dilemma*. "Mass-produced clothing, like fast food, fills a hunger and need, yet is non-durable, and wasteful," Cline argues. Americans, she finds, buy roughly 20 billion garments a year—about 64 items per person—and no matter how much they give away, this excess leads to waste.

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Though several fast-fashion companies have made efforts to curb their impact on labor and the

environment—including H&M, with its green Conscious Collection Line—Cline believes lasting change can only be effected by the customer. She exhibits the idealism common to many advocates of sustainability, be it in food or in energy. Vanity is a constant; people will only start shopping more sustainably when they can't afford to it.

21. Priestly criticizes her assistant for her _____

- [A] poor bargaining skill. [B] insensitivity to fashion.
[C] obsession with high fashion. [D] lack of imagination.

22. According to Cline, mass-market labels urge consumers to _____

- [A] combat unnecessary waste. [B] shut out the feverish fashion world.
[C] resist the influence of advertisements. [D] shop for their garments more frequently.

23. The word "indictment" (Line 2, Para. 2) is closest in meaning to _____

- [A] accusation. [B] enthusiasm. [C] indifference. [D] tolerance.

24. Which of the following can be inferred from the last paragraph?

- [A] Vanity has more often been found in idealists.
[B] The fast-fashion industry ignores sustainability.
[C] People are more interested in unaffordable garments.
[D] Pricing is vital to environment-friendly purchasing.

25. What is the subject of the text?

- [A] Satire on an extravagant lifestyle.
[B] Challenge to a high-fashion myth.
[C] Criticism of the fast-fashion industry.
[D] Exposure of a mass-market secret.

Text 2

An old saw has it that half of all advertising budgets are wasted—the trouble is, no one knows which half. In the internet age, at least in theory, this fraction can be much reduced. By watching what people search for, click on and say online, companies can aim "behavioural" ads at those most likely to buy.

In the past couple of weeks three deals and a quarrel have illustrated the value to advertisers (and their suppliers of software) of such fine-grained information: Should advertisers assume that people are happy to be tracked and sent behavioural ads? Or should they have explicit permission?

In December 2010 America's Federal Trade Commission (FTC) proposed adding a "do not track" (DNT) option to internet browsers, so that users could tell advertisers that they did not want to be followed. Microsoft's Internet Explorer and Apple's Safari both offer DNT; Google's Chrome is due to do so this year. In February the FTC and the Digital Advertising Alliance (DAA) agreed that the industry would get cracking on responding to DNT requests.

On May 31st Microsoft set off the row. It said that Internet Explorer 10, the version due to appear with Windows 8, a new incarnation of the software firm's operating system, would have DNT as a default.

Advertisers are horrified. Human nature being what it is, most people stick with default settings. Few switch DNT on now, but if tracking is off it will stay off. Bob Liodice, the chief executive of the Association of National Advertisers, one of the groups in the DAA, says consumers will be worse off if the industry cannot collect information about their preferences. People will not get fewer ads, he says, "They'll get less meaningful, less targeted ads."

It is not yet clear how advertisers will respond. Getting a DNT signal does not oblige anyone to stop tracking, although some companies (including Twitter) have promised to do so. Unable to tell whether someone really objects to behavioural ads or whether they are sticking with Microsoft's default, some may ignore a DNT signal and press on anyway.

Also unclear is why Microsoft has gone it alone. After all, it has an ad business too, which it says will comply with DNT requests, though it is still working out how. If it is trying to rile Google, which

relies almost wholly on advertising, it has chosen an indirect method: there is no guarantee that DNT by default will become the norm. DNT does not seem an obviously huge selling point for Windows 8 though the firm has compared some of its other products favourably with Google's on that count before. Brendon Lynch, Microsoft's chief privacy officer, blogged: "We believe consumers should have more control." Could it really be that simple?

26. It is suggested in Paragraph 1 that "behavioural" ads help advertisers to _____

- [A] ease competition among themselves.
- [B] lower their operational costs.
- [C] avoid complaints from consumers.
- [D] provide better online services.

27. "The industry" (Line 4, Para. 3) refers to _____

- [A] online advertisers.
- [B] e-commerce conductors.
- [C] digital information analysis.
- [D] internet browser developers.

28. Bob Liodice holds that setting DNT as a default _____

- [A] may cut the number of junk ads.
- [B] fails to affect the ad industry.
- [C] will not benefit consumers.
- [D] goes against human nature.

29. Which of the following is true according to Paragraph 6?

- [A] DNT may not serve its intended purpose.
- [B] Advertisers are willing to implement DNT.
- [C] DNT is losing its popularity among consumers.
- [D] Advertisers are obliged to offer behavioural ads.

30. The author's attitude towards what Brendon Lynch said in his blog is one of _____

- [A] indulgence.
- [B] understanding.
- [C] appreciation.
- [D] skepticism.

Text 3

Up until a few decades ago, our visions of the future were largely—though by no means uniformly—glowingly positive. Science and technology would cure all the ills of humanity, leading to lives of fulfillment and opportunity for all.

Now utopia has grown unfashionable, as we have gained a deeper appreciation of the range of threats facing us, from asteroid strike to epidemic flu and to climate change. You might even be tempted to assume that humanity has little future to look forward to.

But such gloominess is misplaced. The fossil record shows that many species have endured for millions of years—so why shouldn't we? Take a broader look at our species' place in the universe, and it becomes clear that we have an excellent chance of surviving for tens, if not hundreds, of thousands of years. Look up *Homo sapiens* in the "Red List" of threatened species of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and you will read: "Listed as Least Concern as the species is very widely distributed, adaptable, currently increasing, and there are no major threats resulting in an overall population decline."

So what does our deep future hold? A growing number of researchers and organisations are now thinking seriously about that question. For example, the Long Now Foundation has its flagship project a medical clock that is designed to still be marking time thousands of years hence.

Perhaps willfully, it may be easier to think about such lengthy timescales than about the more immediate future. The potential evolution of today's technology, and its social consequences, is dazzlingly complicated, and it's perhaps best left to science fiction writers and futurologists to explore the many possibilities we can envisage. That's one reason why we have launched Arc, a new publication dedicated to the near future.

But take a longer view and there is a surprising amount that we can say with considerable assurance. As so often, the past holds the key to the future; we have now identified enough of the long-term patterns shaping the history of the planet, and our species, to make evidence-based forecasts about the situations in which our descendants will find themselves.

This long perspective makes the pessimistic view of our prospects seem more likely to be a passing fad. To be sure, the future is not all rosy. But we are now knowledgeable enough to reduce many of the risks that threatened the existence of earlier humans, and to improve the lot of those to come.

31. Our vision of the future used to be inspired by

- [A] our desire for lives of fulfillment. [B] our faith in science and technology.
[C] our awareness of potential risks. [D] our belief in equal opportunity.

32. The IUCN's "Red List" suggests that human beings are

- [A] a sustained species. [B] a threat to the environment.
[C] the world's dominant power. [D] a misplaced race.

33. Which of the following is true according to Paragraph 5?

- [A] Arc helps limit the scope of futurological studies.
[B] Technology offers solutions to social problem.
[C] The interest in science fiction is on the rise.
[D] Our immediate future is hard to conceive.

34. To ensure the future of mankind, it is crucial to

- [A] explore our planet's abundant resources.
[B] adopt an optimistic view of the world.
[C] draw on our experience from the past.
[D] curb our ambition to reshape history.

35. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?

- [A] Uncertainty about Our Future.
[B] Evolution of the Human Species.
[C] The Ever-bright Prospects of Mankind.
[D] Science, Technology and Humanity.

Text 4

On a five to three vote, the Supreme Court knocked out much of Arizona's immigration law Monday—a modest policy victory for the Obama Administration. But on the more important matter of the Constitution, the decision was an 8-0 defeat for the Administration's effort to upset the balance of power between the federal government and the states.

In *Arizona v. United States*, the majority overturned three of the four contested provisions of Arizona's controversial plan to have state and local police enforce federal immigration law. The Constitutional principles that Washington alone has the power to "establish a uniform Rule of Naturalization" and that federal laws precede state laws are non-controversial. Arizona had attempted to fashion state policies that ran parallel to the existing federal ones.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, joined by Chief Justice John Roberts and the Court's liberals, ruled that the state flew too close to the federal sun. On the overturned provisions the majority held the congress had deliberately "occupied the field" and Arizona had thus intruded on the federal's privileged powers.

However, the Justices said that Arizona police would be allowed to verify the legal status of people who come in contact with law enforcement. That's because Congress has always envisioned joint federal-state immigration enforcement and explicitly encourages state officers to share information and cooperate with federal colleagues.

Two of the three objecting justices—Samuel Alito and Clarence Thomas—agreed with this Constitutional logic but disagreed about which Arizona rules conflicted with the federal statute. The only



major objection came from Justice Antonin Scalia, who offered an even more robust defense of state privileges going back to the alien and Sedition Acts.

The 8-0 objection to President Obama turns on what Justice Samuel Alito describes in his objection as “a shocking assertion of federal executive power”. The White House argued that Arizona’s laws conflicted with its enforcement priorities, even if state laws complied with federal statutes to the letter. In effect, the White House claimed that it could invalidate any otherwise legitimate state law that it disagrees with.

Some powers do belong exclusively to the federal government, and control of citizenship and the borders is among them. But if Congress wanted to prevent states from using their own resources to check immigration status, it could. It never did so. The Administration was in essence asserting that because it didn’t want to carry out Congress’s immigration wishes, no state should be allowed to do so either. Every Justice rightly rejected this remarkable claim.

36. Three provisions of Arizona’s plan were overturned because they

- [A] deprived the federal police of Constitutional powers.
- [B] disturbed the power balance between different states.
- [C] overstepped the authority of federal immigration law.
- [D] contradicted both the federal and state policies.

37. On which of the following did the Justices agree, according to Paragraph 4?

- [A] Federal officers’ duty to withhold immigrants’ information.
- [B] States’ independence from federal immigration law.
- [C] States’ legitimate role in immigration enforcement.
- [D] Congress’s intervention in immigration enforcement.

38. It can be inferred from Paragraph 5 that the Alien and Sedition Acts

- [A] violated the Constitution.
- [B] undermined the states’ interests.
- [C] supported the federal statute.
- [D] stood in favor of the states.

39. The White House claims that its power of enforcement

- [A] outweighs that held by the states.
- [B] is dependent on the states’ support.
- [C] is established by federal statutes.
- [D] rarely goes against state laws.

40. What can be learned from the last paragraph?

- [A] Immigration issues are usually decided by Congress.
- [B] Justices intended to check the power of the Administration.
- [C] Justices wanted to strengthen its coordination with Congress.
- [D] The Administration is dominant over immigration issues.

进入角色



2012年考研英语(一)真题阅读理解精读笔记

Text 1

Come on—Everybody's doing it. That whispered message, half invitation and half forcing, is what most of us think of when we hear the words *peer pressure*. It usually leads to no good—drinking, drugs and casual sex. But in her new book, *Join the Club*, Tina Rosenberg contends that peer pressure can also be a positive force through what she calls the social cure, in which organizations and officials use the power of group dynamics to help individuals improve their lives and possibly the world.

Rosenberg, the recipient of a Pulitzer Prize, offers a host of examples of the social cure in action: In South Carolina, a state-sponsored antismoking program called *Rage Against the Haze* sets out to make cigarettes uncool. In South Africa, an HIV-prevention initiative known as *LoveLife* recruits young people to promote safe sex among their peers.

The idea seems promising, and Rosenberg is a perceptive observer. Her critique of the lameness of many public-health campaigns is spot-on: they fail to mobilize peer pressure for healthy habits, and they demonstrate a seriously flawed understanding of psychology. “Dare to be different, please don't smoke!” pleads one billboard campaign aimed at reducing smoking among teenagers—*teenagers*, who desire nothing more than fitting in. Rosenberg argues convincingly that public-health advocates ought to take a page from advertisers, so skilled at applying peer pressure.

But on the general effectiveness of the social cure, Rosenberg is less persuasive. *Join the Club* is filled with too much irrelevant detail and not enough exploration of the social and biological factors that make peer pressure so powerful. The most glaring flaw of the social cure as it's presented here is that it doesn't work very well for very long. *Rage Against the Haze* failed once state funding was cut. Evidence that the *LoveLife* program produces lasting changes is limited and mixed.

There's no doubt that our peer groups exert enormous influence on our behavior. An emerging body of research shows that positive health habits—as well as negative ones—spread through networks of friends via social communication. This is a subtle form of peer pressure; we unconsciously imitate the behavior we see every day.

Far less certain, however, is how successfully experts and bureaucrats can select our peer groups and steer their activities in virtuous directions. It's like the teacher who breaks up the troublemakers in the back row by pairing them with better-behaved classmates. The tactic never really works. And that's the problem with a social cure engineered from the outside: in the real world, as in school, we insist on choosing our own friends.

21. According to the first paragraph, peer pressure often emerges as _____.

- [A] a supplement to the social cure. [B] a stimulus to group dynamics.
[C] an obstacle to social progress. [D] a cause of undesirable behaviors.

22. Rosenberg holds that public-health advocates should _____.

- [A] recruit professional advertisers. [B] learn from advertisers' experience.
[C] stay away from commercial advertisers. [D] recognize the limitations of advertisements.

23. In the author's view, Rosenberg's book fails to _____

- [A] adequately probe social and biological factors.
- [B] effectively evade the flaws of the social cure.
- [C] illustrate the functions of state funding.
- [D] produce a long-lasting social effect.

24. Paragraph 5 shows that our imitation of behaviors _____

- [A] is harmful to our networks of friends.
- [B] will mislead behavioral studies.
- [C] occurs without our realizing it.
- [D] can produce negative health habits.

25. The author suggests in the last paragraph that the effect of peer pressure is _____

- [A] harmful. [B] desirable. [C] profound. [D] questionable.

Text 1

大纲单词

action¹⁸ /ækʃən/ *n.* ①行动, 行为; ②动作, 活动; ③(on)作用

advocate¹⁵ /ædvəkit/ *n.* 提倡者, 鼓吹者; *v.* 提倡, 鼓吹

apply¹³ /ə'plai/ *v.* ①(for)申请, 请求; ②(to)适用, 应用, 运用

argue²⁸ /ɑ:gju:/ *v.* ①争论, 辩论; ②认为, 主张, 论证; ③说服

behave² /bi'heiv/ *v.* ①举止, 举动, 表现; ②运转, 开动

behavior²¹ /bi'heivjə/ *n.* ①行为, 举止; ②(机器的)特性

casual⁶ /kæʒjuəl/ *a.* ①偶然的, 碰巧的; ②临时的, 非正式的; ③随便的, 放松的

commercial¹¹ /kə'mɜ:ʃəl/ *a.* 商业的, 商务的, 贸易的

communication¹⁴ /kə'mju:ni'keiʃən/ *n.* ①通讯, 传达; ②[pl.] 通讯系统; ③[pl.] 交通(工具); ④交流

contend⁴ /kən'tend/ *v.* ①竞争, 斗争; ②坚决主张, 声称, 认为

demonstrate⁸ /demənstreit/ *v.* ①论证, 证实; ②演示, 说明

desirable⁶ /di'zaiərəbl/ *a.* 称心的, 期望得到的

detail¹¹ /di'teil/ *n.* 细节, 详情; *v.* 详述

emerge¹³ /i'mɜ:dʒ/ *v.* 浮现, 出现

enormous⁶ /i'nɔ:məs/ *a.* 巨大的, 庞大的

evade³ /i'veid/ *v.* 规避, 逃避, 躲避

evidence²³ /'evidəns/ *n.* ①根据, 证据; ②形迹, 迹象

exert⁴ /ig'zɜ:t/ *v.* 尽(力), 施加(压力等)

experience³⁴ /iks'piəriəns/ *n.* 经验, 经历; *v.* 体验, 经历

expert¹⁶ /eks'pɜ:t/ *n.* 专家, 能手; *a.* ①熟练的, 有经验的; ②专门的, 专家的

factor¹⁵ /fæktə/ *n.* 因素, 要素

flaw⁴ /flo:/ *n.* ①裂缝; ②缺陷

function¹⁷ /fʌŋkʃən/ *n.* ①功能, 作用; ②[pl.] 职务, 职责; ③函数; *v.* 起作用

glare¹ /gleə/ *v.* ①怒视; ②刺眼; ③出众; *n.* ①怒视; ②耀眼, 光泽

illustrate⁹ /iləstreit/ *v.* ①举例说明, 阐明; ②图解, 加插图

imitate³ /imiteit/ *v.* ①模仿, 仿效; ②仿造, 伪造

imitation² /imi'teifən/ *n.* ①模仿, 仿效; ②仿制; ③仿造品

influence³⁶ /'influəns/ *n.* ①(on)影响, 感化; ②势力, 权势; *v.* 影响, 感化

initiative⁴ /iniʃiətiv/ *a.* 创始的, 起始的; *n.* 第一步, 创始, 主动精神

invitation¹ /invi'teifən/ *n.* ①邀请, 招待; ②请柬

limitation⁴ /limi'teifən/ *n.* 限制, 局限性

mislead⁸ /mis'li:d/ *v.* 带错路, 把...引入歧途

mobilize¹ /məubilaiz/ *v.* 动员

negative⁷ /negətiv/ *a.* ①否定的, 消极的, 反面的; ②负的, 阴性的; *n.* ①负数; ②(摄影)底片

network¹⁰ /netwɜ:k/ *n.* ①网状物; ②广播网, 电视网; ③网络; *v.* 联网, 将...联网

obstacle² /'ɒbstəkl/ *n.* 障碍, 妨碍, 干扰

organization¹ /ɔ:ɡənaɪzeiʃən/ *n.* ①组织体制; ②团体, 机构

peer¹⁶ /piə/ *n.* ①同等的人, 贵族; ②同伴, 伙伴; *v.* ①凝视, 窥视; ②与...同等, 封为贵族

plead² /pli:d/ *v.* ①恳求, 请求; ②为...辩护; ③提出...为理由(或借口)