



环球时代
Greatness can be prepared

北京环球时代学校英语
专业四级考试指定用书

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总主编◎吴中东 宫玉波

ENGLISH

英语专业四级考试

培训教程

阅 读

主 编◎杨 俊



 中国人民大学出版社

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前言

阅读是英语专业四级考试中最主要的一部分,由四到五篇文章组成(自2005年起开始按照2004年出版的新考纲命题),共20个阅读理解题,答题时间共计25分钟,分值20分,占英语专业四级考试总分的20%。阅读部分考得理想不理想直接影响整个专四考试的总分。尽管阅读很重要,考生对这个部分却往往望而生畏,容易发挥失常。这里的原因有很多,如有的考生抱怨阅读部分的词汇量大,对理解造成影响;有的考生则抱怨阅读量太大,四个段落3000多词,而时间仅有25分钟,平均下来每分钟需要读将近120个单词,同时还要做20道理解题,在规定的时间内根本做不完。

阅读理解能力是英语专业技能中的核心部分,是学生应该具备的一项基本功。所谓阅读理解能力就是获取信息的速度和效率,而速度和效率决定了一个人学习水平之高低,甚至是学术能力之高下。教育部高等学校外语专业教学指导委员会2000年修订的《高等学校英语专业英语教学大纲》明确指出:“高等学校英语专业培养具有扎实的英语语言基础和广博的文化知识并能熟练地运用英语在外事、教育、经贸、文化、科技、军事等部门从事翻译、教学、管理、研究等工作的复合型英语人才。”而要实现这个目标,英语阅读理解能力的培养以及广泛而大量的阅读起到至关重要的作用。《高校英语专业四级考试大纲》(2004年3月)指出英语专业四级阅读部分的测试目的是测试学生通过阅读获取有关信息的能力,考核学生掌握相关阅读策略和技巧的程度,要求学生在阅读时既要保证准确性,还要有一定的速度。

本书编者融20余年的英语阅读教学经验和英语专业四级培训经验于一体,针对学生在英语阅读中遇到的各种困难和障碍,紧扣《高等学校英语专业英语教学大纲》和《高校英语专业四级考试大纲》,从英语阅读应试基本技巧培养、英语专业四级阅读部分考试题型分析以及解题攻略演绎等几个方面入手,努力培养学生对语言的敏感能力以及判断推理和分析归纳等逻辑思维能力,使学生在字词、句型、篇章结构、体裁和题材等方面进行系统的训练,逐渐把握英语专业四级阅读部分的特点和命题规律,在备考英语专业四级的同时扩大词汇量、提高阅读兴趣、加快阅读速度、提升理解能力并增强英语的语感。本书虽为应试和备考而编,但也不失为一本培养中级英语阅读能力的参考书和教科书,相信阅读本书的读者会有很多的收获。

为了增加学生对英语专业四级考试的感性认识,本书开篇为学生准备了英语专业四级考试阅读部分真题自测,通过自测学生可以找到自身英语阅读能力与英语专业四级考试所要求的阅读能力之间的差距,为自己确定备考英语专业四级考试阅读部分的起始点。有了第一章对英语专业四级考试阅读部分的感性认识之后,第二章进入到了对阅读部分的理性解读,专章讨论英语专业四级考试阅读部分的理论依据,重点解读英语专业四级考试阅读部分教学大纲和考试大纲的要求,分析阅读部分的测试形式。在体裁类型部分分别介绍了议论文、说明文、叙述议论和叙述文,并附有大量例子和练习供学生操练和体会。本章最后对阅读部分的选材原则进行解读以供学生参考。第三章涉及英语阅读必须掌握的一些基本技巧,并论述了阅读能力提高所必需的几个关键元素。第四章专门探讨英语专业四级考试阅读部分常见题型的特点以及解题攻略。第五章通过举例演绎英语专业四级考试阅读部分的答题步骤。如果说第二、三、四章为本书的理论部分的话,那么第六至第九章是本书的实践部分。这四章荟萃了60余篇文章,既有近年英语专业四级考试阅读部分的真题、2013年的最新真题解析,也有全真模拟试题、预测试题及答案详解。相信学生经过理论的武装及大量的实践和强化训练后,英语阅读能力能够迈向一个新的高度,从容应对英语专业四级阅读部分的考试。

本书的编写首先要感谢环球时代学校的英语专业四级的教学团队,正是这个专业的教学团队近二十年成功的专业四级培训所累积的经验为编辑本书提供了灵感和大量的素材。此外,北京交通大学的研究生马歆墨同学为本书的文字录入和校对做了许多工作,在此一并感谢。本书内容丰富、阅读材料充沛,但瑕疵在所难免,请广大读者及同行不吝赐教。

最后预祝参加英语专业四级考试的各位同学旗开得胜、马到成功!

杨俊

2013年6月18日



环球时代
Greatness can be prepared.

英语专四 / 专八 / 考研培训第一品牌

环球时代学校英语学院

环球时代学校是一家专门服务于英语专业本科生的考试培训机构。学校汇集了国内重点院校,如北京大学、北京外国语大学、上海外国语大学、复旦大学、北京师范大学、外交学院等一线英语专业教授、硕士生导师、博士、业内专家,开设了英语专四和专八考试培训、英语专业考研培训、翻译硕士考研培训、汉语国际教育硕士考研培训,以及英语专业硕博留学 GRE、GMAT、TOEFL、IELTS 培训与留学申请等多项业务。学校自 2005 年成立以来,本着全心全意为学员服务的宗旨,培训学生数十万,出版相关图书数十种,专四和专八通过率超过 90%,考研成功率接近 80%,为学员提升学术高度、高效备考、实现人生飞跃提供了有力的支持和可靠的保障。

环球时代全年开设的重点课程

开班时间	开设课程
1月16日	专四保过、专八保过、英语专业考研预科、基础英语提高、考研英语预科、对外汉语考研预科、托福保100精讲、雅思保6.5精讲、GRE精讲、GMAT精讲等
2月16日	专四保过、专八精讲冲刺、词汇15000速记专项、英语语法通解
3月16日	考研复试培训、专四精讲冲刺、英研翻硕考研预科、考研英语预科、托福精讲、雅思精讲
4月4日	考研专业课导读、语法通解、考研二外日法基础、GRE精讲、GMAT精讲、口译、笔译
5月1日	英研翻硕考研预科、考研英语预科、基础英语提高、对外汉研预科、专八精讲
6月1日	托福精讲、雅思精讲、GRE精讲、GMAT精讲、英研翻硕考研预科、考研英语预科
7月13日	英研翻硕考研预科、考研英语精讲、专四保过、专八保过、词汇15000速记专项、英语语法通解、基础英语强化、考研二外日法德西俄、现代汉语、汉语语言学、托福保100精讲、雅思保6.5精讲等
8月6日	英美文学、英语语言学、英语国家文化概况、翻译理论与实践、翻硕英语、翻译基础、百科知识与汉语写作、汉研古代汉语、汉语国际教育基础、GRE精讲、GMAT精讲等
10月1日	英研翻硕考研预科、考研英语预科、专四保过、专八保过、基础英语强化、考研英语强化、英美文学深度解析、语言学深度解析、翻译深度解析、托福雅思精讲、GRE精讲、GMAT精讲等
11月15日	专四保过、专八保过、英研真题解析、翻硕真题解析、汉语国际真题解析、考研英语冲刺
12月9日	托福保100精讲、雅思保6.5精讲、GRE冲315精讲、GMAT冲700精讲等

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目 录

第一章 真题自测	1
第一节 真题自测.....	1
第二节 真题点评.....	9
第二章 理论解读	12
第一节 教学大纲要求.....	12
第二节 考试大纲要求.....	21
第三节 测试形式.....	22
第四节 体裁类型.....	31
第五节 选材原则.....	40
第三章 应试基本技巧	67
第一节 技巧篇.....	67
第二节 词汇篇.....	78
第三节 句子篇.....	83
第四节 背景篇.....	87
第五节 课外篇.....	89
第四章 考试题型与解题攻略	94
第五章 答题步骤	126
第六章 近年真题演练	132
第七章 2013 年真题解析	160
第八章 全真模拟训练	170
第九章 预测试题及答案详解	215

第一章 真题自测

第一节 真题自测

(2008 年)

PART V READING COMPREHENSION

(25 MIN)

In this section there are four passages followed by questions or unfinished statements, each with four suggested answers marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that you think is the best answer.

Mark your answers on your answer sheet.

TEXT A

When the sun is up in Amsterdam, the largest city in the Netherlands sits quietly on the Amstel River. You can rent a bicycle, visit the Van Gogh or Anne Frank museum, or take a water taxi.

But when the sun goes down, the partying begins. In the big clubs and in coffee shops, tourists gather to hang out, talk politics and smoke.

Several areas of the city clearly show the two worlds that rule Amsterdam. And they're all within a short cab ride of each other.

For example, Dam Square attracts daytime sightseers to its festivals, open markets, concerts and other events. Several beautiful and very popular hotels can be found there. And there is the Royal Palace and the Magua Plaza shopping mall.

But as evening descends on Dam Square so do the party-seekers. Hip pop or funk music begins blaring from Club Paradiso and Club Melkweg. These are two of the most popular clubs in Europe. So if you come, be ready to dance. The clubs don't shut down until 4 a.m.

And while you are there, check out the various inexpensive ways to tour the city. Don't worry about getting lost. Although Dutch is the official language, most people in

Amsterdam speak English and are happy to help you with directions.

And you'll notice that half the people in the streets are on bicycles. They rent for US \$17 to \$20 for a whole day.

Amsterdam also has a good canal system. From anywhere between US \$2 and \$9.50, you can use the canal bus or a water taxi to cruise the "Venice of the North".

You can take in the picturesque canal house architecture: the rows of neat, narrow four-story dwellings of brownstone with large windows are well worth seeing. Many of them are several centuries old.

You might also want to jump out of the canal bus at the Museum Quarter and start walking. Masterpieces by Dutch artists such as Rembrandt, Bruegel, Van Gogh and others are on display at the Van Gogh Museum, Rembrandt House and others.

The city has an appreciation of its historic past. One place to visit is the Anne Frank House in Nine Streets. It was there that the young Jewish girl wrote her famous diary during World War II. Visitors can view Anne's original diary and climb behind the bookcase to the room where she and her family hid from the Nazis for two years.

81. At the beginning of the passage, the author indicates that _____.
 - A. Amsterdam is generally known as a quiet city
 - B. parties go on all day long in Amsterdam
 - C. Amsterdam presents two different pictures
 - D. Amsterdam attracts many daytime visitors
82. Which tourist attraction is cited for elaboration in Paragraphs Four and Five?
 - A. Royal Palace.
 - B. Dam Square.
 - C. Club Paradiso.
 - D. Magua Plaza.
83. According to the passage, the local people have all the following characteristics EXCEPT _____.
 - A. they are party goers
 - B. they show hospitality
 - C. they can speak English
 - D. they are fond of cycling
84. Which of the following adjectives can best describe Amsterdam as a tourist city?
 - A. Modern.
 - B. Delightful.
 - C. Quiet.
 - D. Historic.

TEXT B

In an article some Chinese scholars are described as being "tantalized by the

mysterious dragon bone hieroglyphics.” Tantalized is one of many English words that have their origins in myths and legends of the past (in this case, Greek and Roman ones). The meaning of the verb tantalize is a very particular one: “to promise or show something desirable to a person and then take it away; to tease by arousing hope.” Many (but not all) English dictionaries give you a brief indication of a word’s origins in brackets before or after the explanation of the meaning. For tantalize the following explanation is given: [> Tantalus]. This means that you should look up the name *Tantalus* to find out the word’s origins, and if you do, you will find out that in Greek mythology, Tantalus was a king who was punished in the lower world with eternal hunger and thirst; he was put up to his chin in water that always moved away when he tried to drink it and with fruit on branches above him placed just a little bit out of his reach. Can you see why his name was changed into a verb meaning “to tease or torment by arousing desire”?

Another example is the word siren, familiar to us as the mechanical device that makes such an alarming sound when police cars, ambulances, or fire engines approach. This word also has its origins in Greek mythology. The traveler Odysseus (Ulysses to the Romans) made his men plug their ears so that they wouldn’t hear the dangerous voices of the sirens, creatures who were half bird and half woman and who lured sailors to their deaths on sharp rocks. So the word came to be associated both with a loud sound and with danger!

When someone speaks of a “jovial mood” or a “herculean effort”, he or she is using words with origins in mythology. Look these words up to find their meaning and relationship to myths.

Many common words, such as the names for the days of the week and the months of the year, also come from mythology. Wednesday derives from the ancient Norse king of the gods, Woden, and Thursday was originally Thor’s day, in honour of Thor, the god of thunder. As a matter of fact, all the planets, except the one we live on, bear names that come from Roman mythology, including the planet that is farthest away from the sun and for that reason was called after the Roman god of the dead. This god has also given his name to one of the chemical elements. Several other elements have names that come from mythology, too.

It seems that myths and legends live on in the English language.

85. The purpose of the first sentence in Paragraph One is _____.

A. to describe the work of some Chinese scholars

- B. to arouse readers' interest in hieroglyphics
 C. to lead readers onto the main theme
 D. to link the preceding part to the present one
86. We learn from the passage, all English dictionaries include _____.
 A. legends B. mythology
 C. word origins D. word definitions
87. The example of tantalize is to show _____.
 A. how the word came into existence
 B. how Tantalus was punished in the lower world
 C. how all English dictionaries show word origins
 D. how the meaning of the word changed over the years
88. According to the passage, which of the following does NOT have origins in myths or legends?
 A. Jovial. B. Wednesday. C. Earth. D. March.
89. Which of the following can best serve as the title of the passage?
 A. Greek and Roman Mythology in Language.
 B. Mythological Origins of English Words.
 C. Historical Changes in Word Meanings.
 D. Mythology and Common Words.

TEXT C

My heart sank when the man at the immigration counter gestured to the back room. I'm an American born and raised, and this was Miami, where I live, but they weren't quite ready to let me in yet.

"Please wait in here, Ms. Abujaber," the immigration officer said. My husband, with his very American last name, accompanied me. He was getting used to this. The same thing had happened recently in Canada when I'd flown to Montreal to speak at a book event. That time they held me for 45 minutes. Today we were returning from a literary festival in Jamaica, and I was startled that I was being sent "in back" once again.

The officer behind the counter called me up and said, "Miss, your name looks like the name of someone who's on our wanted list. We're going to have to check you out with Washington."

"How long will it take?"

"Hard to say...a few minutes," he said. "We'll call you when we're ready for you."

After an hour, Washington still hadn't decided anything about me. "Isn't this computerized?" I asked at the counter. "Can't you just look me up?"

Just a few more minutes, they assured me.

After an hour and a half, I pulled my cell phone out to call the friends I was supposed to meet that evening. An officer rushed over. "No phones!" he said. "For all we know you could be calling a terrorist cell and giving them information."

"I'm just a university professor," I said. My voice came out in a squeak.

"Of course you are. And we take people like you out of here in leg irons every day."

I put my phone away.

My husband and I were getting hungry and tired. Whole families had been brought into the waiting room, and the place was packed with excitable children, exhausted parents, even a flight attendant.

I wanted to scream, to jump on a chair and shout, "I'm an American citizen; a novelist; I probably teach English literature to your children." Or would that all be counted against me?

After two hours in detention, I was approached by one of the officers. "You're free to go," he said. No explanation or apologies. For a moment, neither of us moved, we were still in shock. Then we leaped to our feet.

"Oh, one more thing." He handed me a tattered photocopy with an address on it. "If you weren't happy with your treatment, you can write to this agency."

"Will they respond?" I asked.

"I don't know—I don't know of anyone who's ever written to them before." Then he added, "By the way, this will probably keep happening each time you travel internationally."

"What can I do to keep it from happening again?"

He smiled the empty smile we'd seen all day. "Absolutely nothing."

After telling several friends about our ordeal, probably the most frequent advice I've heard in response is to change my name. Twenty years ago, my own graduate school writing professor advised me to write under a pen name so that publishers wouldn't stick me in what he called "the ethnic ghetto"—a separate, secondary shelf in the bookstore. But a name is an integral part of anyone's personal and professional identity—just like the town you're born in and the place where you're raised.

Like my father, I'll keep the name, but my airport experience has given me a whole

new perspective on what diversity and tolerance are supposed to mean. I had no idea that being an American would ever be this hard.

90. The author was held at the airport because _____.
 A. she and her husband returned from Jamaica
 B. her name was similar to a terrorist's
 C. she had been held in Montreal
 D. she had spoken at a book event
91. She was not allowed to call her friends because _____.
 A. her identity hadn't been confirmed yet
 B. she had been held for only one hour and a half
 C. there were other families in the waiting room
 D. she couldn't use her own cell phone
92. We learn from the passage that the author would _____ to prevent similar experience from happening again.
 A. write to the agency
 B. change her name
 C. avoid traveling abroad
 D. do nothing
93. Her experiences indicate that there still exists _____ in the US.
 A. hatred
 B. discrimination
 C. tolerance
 D. diversity
94. The author sounds _____ in the last paragraph.
 A. impatient
 B. bitter
 C. worried
 D. ironic

TEXT D

Public speaking fills most people with dread. Humiliation is the greatest fear; self-exposure and failing to appeal to the audience come a close second. Women hate it most, since girls are pressurized from an early age to be concerned with appearances of all kinds.

Most people have plenty of insecurities, and **this** seems like a situation that will bring them out. If you were under pressure to be perfect, you are terrified of failing in the most public of ways.

While extroverts will feel less fear before the ordeal, it does not mean they will necessarily do it better. Some very shy people manage to shine. When I met the British comedian Julian Clary, he was shy and cautious, yet his TV performances are perfect.

In fact, personality is not the best predictor of who does it well. Regardless of what

you are like in real life, the key seems to be to act yourself.

Actual acting, as in performing the scripted lines of a character other than yourself, does not do the job. While politicians may limit damage by having carefully rehearsed, written scripts to speak from, there is always a hidden awareness among the audience that the words might not be true.

Likewise, the incredibly perfect speeches of many American academics are far from natural. You may end up buying their book on the way out, but soon afterwards, it is much like fast food, and you get a nameless sense that you've been cheated.

Although, as Earl Spencer proved at his sister Princess Diana's funeral, it is possible both to prepare every word and to act naturally. A script rarely works and it is used to help most speakers.

But, being yourself doesn't work either. If you spoke as if you were in your own kitchen, it would be too authentic, too unaware of the need to communicate with an audience.

I remember going to see British psychiatrist R. D. Laing speak in public. He behaved like a seriously odd person, talking off the top of his head. Although he was talking about madness and he wrote on mental illness, he seemed to be exhibiting rather than explaining it.

The best psychological place from which to speak is an unselfconscious self-consciousness, providing the illusion of being natural. Studies suggest that this state of "flow", as psychologists call it, is very satisfying.

95. Women hate public speaking most mainly because of _____.

- A. their upbringing very early on
- B. their inability to appeal to the audience
- C. their sense of greater public pressure
- D. their sense of greater humiliation

96. "this" in Paragraph Two refers to _____.

- A. insecurity
- B. sense of failure
- C. public speaking
- D. pressure

97. Which of the following is NOT the author's viewpoint?

- A. Acting like performers spoils the message in a speech.
- B. Perfection of scripts is necessary in making good impressions.
- C. Acting naturally means less dependence on the prepared script.

D. There should be a balance between actual acting and acting naturally.

98. What is the author's view on personality?

A. Personality is the key to success in public speaking.

B. Extroverts are better public speakers.

C. Introverts have to learn harder to be good speakers.

D. Factors other than personality ensure better performance.

99. The author implies that while speaking R. D. Laing _____.

A. was both too casual and authentic

B. was acting like a performer

C. was keeping a good balance

D. was aware of his audience

100. In the last paragraph the author recommends that _____.

A. you forget about your nervousness

B. you feel natural and speak naturally

C. you may feel nervous, but appear naturally

D. you may imagine yourself to be natural

第二节 真题点评

1. 整体介绍

在这四篇文章中,从体裁上看,第一篇为说明文,第二篇为议论文,第三篇为叙述文,第四篇为议论文。

从题材上看,第一篇介绍阿姆斯特丹,类似一篇游记;第二篇探讨的是英语词汇的神话根源;第三篇叙述的是种族歧视;第四篇探讨的是公共演讲。

2. 试题点评

TEXT A

81.【答案】C 【考点】本题考查的是对细节的综合理解。第一段和第二段的首句呈现了阿姆斯特丹在白天和晚上两种不同的光景,因此,C选项最符合题意。

82.【答案】B 【考点】本题考查的是对细节的理解。题干中的“elaboration”(详细说明)是答题关键所在,强调作者格外推介什么地方。尽管在第四段和第五段提到了几个景点,但是第五段开始的But,还是将重点放在了Dam Square,因此,B选项符合题意。

83.【答案】A 【考点】本题考查的是对细节的综合理解。B、C、D选项提到的“聚会爱好者”、“热情好客”以及“喜欢汽车”在第六段的末句和第七段的首句均提到,因此可以排除。

84.【答案】B 【考点】本题考查的是对文章的主旨大意的把握。正确选项一定是一个概括性很强的形容词。从全文看,作者始终将阿姆斯特丹描绘成一个适合娱乐和观光的旅游城市,C和D选项只能概括该城市的一个侧面,A选项在文中没有提及。

TEXT B

85.【答案】C 【考点】本题考查的是某句话在篇章中的作用。第一段的首句、第二句及之后频繁出现的是tantalize这个单词以及对该词的分析,并进而引出词源这个话题,可见第一句话的目的就是将读者引到主题上,故C选项合理。

86.【答案】D 【考点】本题考查的是对细节的推断。第一段第四句话提到“Many (but not all) English dictionaries give you a brief indication of a word's origins in brackets before or after the explanation of the meaning.”,即很多英语词典都会在括号中注明单词的起源,因此我们可以推断出所有英语词典都会提供单词释义。