

考研英语阅读理解 高分技巧与实践

白靖宇 编著



西北工业大学出版社

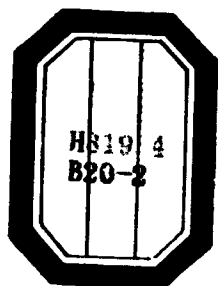
H319.4

B20-2

447207

考研英语 阅读理解高分技巧与实践

白靖宇 编著



西北工业大学出版社

1998年6月 西安

(陕)新登字 009 号

【内容简介】 本书共有四章。第一章简述了阅读理解命题规律及趋势。第二章介绍了六种阅读理解问题类型及解题技巧。第三章是四组阅读理解综合训练,共 100 篇文章。第四章为四套(1994—1997)考研英语阅读理解全真试题精解。本书最后附录了 1998 年全国攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试英语试题及答案。

本书最显著的特点是,突出了文化背景知识和词语知识在阅读理解中的重要作用,揭示了阅读理解的规律。实践证明,随着考生文化背景知识和词语知识的扩大,其阅读理解能力就一定会有实质性的提高和突破。

DV12/2902

考研英语阅读理解高分技巧与实践

编著者 白靖宇

责任编辑 郑永安

阎少云

责任校对 李 杰

*

©1998 西北工业大学出版社出版发行

(邮编:710072 西安市友谊西路 127 号 电话:8493844)

全国各地新华书店经销

西安电子科技大学印刷厂印装

ISBN 7-5612-1057-4/H·98

*

开本:787×1092 毫米 1.16 印张:15.875 字数:358 千字

1998 年 6 月第 1 版

1998 年 6 月第 1 次印刷

印数:1—5 000 册 定价:18.00 元

购买本社出版的图书,如有缺页、错页的,本社发行部负责调换。

前 言

阅读理解是全国攻读硕士学位研究生入学英语考试中一个十分重要的项目。实践证明,考生阅读理解能力的强弱是决定其英语成绩高低的关键。为了帮助考生提高阅读技能和英语考试成绩,增强其在考研竞争中的实力,我们编写了这本《考研英语阅读理解高分技巧与实践》。

本书共有四章。第一章简述了阅读理解命题规律及趋势,着重强调了文化背景知识在阅读理解中重要作用。第二章介绍了六种阅读理解问题类型及解题技巧。第三章是四组阅读理解综合训练,共 100 篇文章。每篇文章后都附有词语注释。一是为了方便考生,省却其翻阅字典的麻烦,但主要目的是希望考生记忆和巩固这些词语,为以后读懂同类背景知识的文章打下坚实的基础。许多成功的经验证明,只有阅读和词汇齐头并进,阅读能力才会有实质性的突破。第四章为四套(1994—1997)考研英语阅读理解全真试题精解。考生可先用这些全真试题进行模拟自测,然后对照答案和题解找出存在问题,提高应试能力。本书最后附录了 1998 年全国攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试英语试题及答案,以飨读者。

本书适用于硕士研究生入学英语考试,同时也适用于大学英语四、六级,WSK(EPT)和 TOEFL 等中高级水平考试。

由于作者水平有限,书中难免有错误和不妥之处,希广大读者批评指正。

编著者

1998 年 4 月

目 录

第一章 阅读理解命题规律及趋势.....	1
一、阅读理解题型与题量	1
二、阅读题材与背景知识	2
第二章 阅读理解问题类型及解题技巧.....	4
一、主旨大意题	4
二、事实细节题	8
三、词汇短语题.....	12
四、逻辑关系题.....	15
五、推理判断题.....	19
六、观点态度题.....	22
第三章 阅读理解综合训练	27
Unit One	27
Unit Two	69
Unit Three	109
Unit Four	151
Key to the Exercises	196
第四章 考研英语阅读理解试题精解	198
一、1994 试题	198
二、1995 试题	206
三、1996 试题	214
四、1997 试题	223
附录：1998 年全国攻读硕士学位研究生入学考试英语试题及答案	232

第一章 阅读理解命题规律及趋势

阅读理解(Reading Comprehension)是全国硕士研究生入学英语考试(National Master's English Entrance Test,简称NMEET)一项十分重要的项目。从分数比例来分析,该部分的分值占整个卷面分数(满分为100分)的40%,是全卷五大部分中分值比例最高的项目。更为重要的是,该部分考查考生通过阅读获取书面语言信息的能力,是集语言知识与阅读技能于一体的综合性测试。同其它单一测试项目相比,该部分是全卷测试项目中难度最大的。通过对考试成绩分析,大部分考生阅读理解成绩较低,基本得分都在该部分平均分20分以下。因此,对绝大部分考生来说,阅读理解仍是一个弱项。每一位考生应对此有一个清醒的认识,做好充分准备。实践证明,考生只要有较强阅读理解能力就会在日益激烈的考研竞争中脱颖而出,取得成功。

一、阅读理解题型与题量

据对历届试题分析,阅读理解部分命题的基本规律是:题型固定,题量变化较大。

题型固定是指阅读理解一直采用多项选择形式,至今未变换过其它任何题型。通常每篇文章后有3~5道选择题,要求考生根据短文内容从各题的四个选择项中选出一个最佳答案。

题量变化较大是指阅读理解部分短文篇数和阅读量的三次重大调整。1991年考研英语大纲规定,阅读量约1200词,篇数不少于3篇;1994年阅读量增加到1800词,篇数在5篇左右;1996年阅读量调整到2000~2500词,篇数仍是5篇左右。1998年阅读量和篇数与1996年一致。据对1998年试题统计,阅读理解总阅读量为1926词(其中不含每篇后的问题和选择项)。这说明目前阅读理解部分命题还控制在2000词左右,并未达到大纲的较高要求。由此可知,在今后的命题中还可能通过增长篇幅把阅读量逐步增加到大纲要求的2500词左右。根据这一趋势,考生应阅读较长一点文章(450~500词),注意提高阅读速度,以适应文章篇幅长和阅读量大的特点。据考生反映,由于考研阅读理解部分篇数多和阅读量大,考生一般读到第三篇文章就会感到头昏脑胀,后两篇文章根本没法读下去,问题回答得一筹二。经分析,造成这种情况的原因有两个方面:一从心理学角度来讲是考生焦虑心情造成的;二是考生习惯了大学英语四、六级考试的阅读量,对考研阅读的篇幅和阅读量不适应。四级考试大纲要求考生阅读4篇短文,总阅读量不超过1000词,每篇平均300词左右。六级考试大纲规定,阅读部分阅读量不超过1400词(一般4篇文章)。由此不难看出,考研阅读量是四级的一倍,比六级多600~1100词。因此,特别提醒那些四、六级考试通过的考生,决不可高枕无忧,仍应加强阅读训练,提高阅读技能。只有这样,才能在考研阅读理解考试中立于不败之地。

二、阅读题材与背景知识

阅读理解考试中,如果考生碰到自己熟悉或与自己所学专业相近的文章时就感到很容易读懂,反之就会觉得苦涩难懂。考生反映,1998年考研英语阅读理解难度较大,其原因是阅读文章题材比较生疏。例如,第五篇文章是关于地球物理学研究方面的内容。物理专业的学生读起来都感到十分吃力,更不用说文科的学生了。这一例子充分说明,考生对阅读材料背景知识的了解是读懂文章内容的关键。实际上,阅读是读者与作者之间的交流,往往产生一种相互作用。而这种相互作用的产生是以文化背景知识为基础的,因为语言是文化的载体。也就是说,如果读者不甚了解所读文章所涉及到的文化背景知识,他就不可能理解这篇文章的精神实质。

例如:My search for the underlying causes of the environmental crisis has led me to travel around the world to examine and study many of these images of destruction. At the very bottom of the earth, high in the Trans-Antarctic Mountains, with the sun glaring at midnight through a hole in the sky, I stood in the unbelievable coldness and talked with a scientist in the late fall of 1988 about the tunnel he was digging through time. ...

这段话摘自现任美国副总统 Al Gore 所著的 *Earth in the Balance* 一书。作者为探究造成地球环境危机的根本原因,到南极进行了实地考察。因此,这段话涉及到南极地区某种自然现象和环境保护知识。What's the midnight sun? Why did the author say the sun glared through a hole in the sky? Where comes the hole? 这些都是学生读后疑惑不解的问题,直接影响学生对该段意思的理解。实际上,the sun glaring at midnight 是在极地(polar region)可以观察到的一种自然现象,即24小时都可以看到太阳,没有昼夜之分。文中所提到的 a hole 指大气层中的臭氧层空洞(ozone depletion)。根据环保知识,由于大气层中臭氧层空洞的形成,地球受到太阳过多的热辐射,使地球气温上升,南极冰山溶化,自然失去平衡。

通过这个例子,我们应该认识到,文化背景知识对阅读理解并非是可有可无的事,而起着十分重要的作用。研究表明,读者对所读材料文化背景知识的了解程度与他对所读材料的理解程度成正比。文化背景知识越丰富,理解篇章的能力就越强。为了证明这一点,我们不妨再看一个实际例子。某校96级的一位研究生是在职人员。他大学毕业后被分配到基层一个中学当教师。在他任教的10年间,他广泛阅读,积累了各方面的知识。他在1996年全国攻读硕士学位研究生入学英语考试中阅读理解部分的答题正确率达到97%,大大超过了外语界公认的理解正确率70%的合格标准。尽管他没有答完全部英语试题(英译汉和短文写作两部分未答),但由于他阅读理解得分高,仍取得了50分的较好成绩,达到当年在职人员录取控制分数线。按照这位研究生自己的话,社会经验和知识面宽使他在阅读中取得了好成绩,实现了他考取研究生的宿愿。

目前,报考研究生是一个社会热点,报名人数逐年剧增,竞争达到了白热化的程度。然而,这场激烈的竞争实际上是考生之间英语水平的较量。进一步讲,英语总成绩中阅读理解占40%。也就是说,如果考生具有广博的阅历和丰富的知识,他就能够以高分通过阅读

理解,从而取得英语考试的好成绩。对此,国家教委考试中心在一份关于考研阅读理解部分的分析研究报告中指出,“从目前情况来看,在职考生人数在逐年增加。这批考生的实际工作经验比较丰富,知识面较广,理解能力强,所以阅读理解部分是他们的强项。”这有力地说明,丰富的文化知识能够增强读者的理解能力。因此,读者应积极扩大自己的知识面,丰富头脑中的知识网络系统。阅读实践证明,大量广泛阅读是扩大知识面的有效途径。阅读量增加了,知识面就随之扩大,阅读理解能力也就会有实质性的提高和突破。这里我们要告诫考生,在阅读训练中千万不要只注意作对了几个选择题,要把扩大知识面放到阅读练习的第一位,应注意吸收所读文章丰富的知识营养。

第二章 阅读理解问题类型及解题技巧

考研英语大纲规定阅读理解测试考生运用英语语言知识和阅读技能理解书面材料的能力,主要有以下六个方面:

1. 掌握所读材料的主旨和大意;
2. 了解用以阐述主旨的事实和有关细节;
3. 根据上下文判断某些词汇和短语的意义;
4. 既理解单句的意义,也理解上下句之间的逻辑关系;
5. 根据所读材料进行一定的判断、推理和引伸;
6. 领会作者的观点和态度。

根据上述测试能力的六个方面,阅读理解命题所提问题也相应有六种类型。

一、主旨大意题

阅读理解测试的首要目标是考查考生对所读材料中心大意的掌握情况。这也是阅读每一篇文章应达到的目的。因此,评价读者对一篇文章的理解程度,首先应看他是否了解了这篇文章的中心大意。

根据文章结构特点,考生要在阅读中掌握文章的中心大意就必须注意认真阅读第一段(主旨段)和最后一段(总结段),注意阅读文章每段的段首句。只有这样,考生才不难掌握所读文章的中心大意。

主旨大意常见问题形式有:

The main idea of the passage is ...

This passage is mainly about ...

What conclusion can be drawn from the passage?

The best title for the passage could be ...

The purpose of this passage is ...

The key point of the passage is ...

The article was written to explain ...

From the passage, we learn that ...

.....

例 1 (1992 年试题)

In the atmosphere, carbon dioxide acts rather like a one-way mirror—the glass in the roof of a greenhouse which allows the sun's rays to enter but prevents the heat from

escaping.

According to a weather expert's prediction, the atmosphere will be 3°C warmer in the year 2050 than it is today, if man continues to burn fuels at the present rate. If this warming up took place, the ice caps in the poles would begin to melt, thus raising sea level several meters and severely flooding coastal cities. Also, the increase in atmospheric temperature would lead to great changes in the climate of the northern hemisphere, possibly resulting in an alteration of the earth's chief food-growing zones.

In the past, concern about a man-made warming of the earth has concentrated on the Arctic because the Antarctic is much colder and has a much thicker ice sheet. But the weather experts are now paying more attention to West Antarctica, which may be affected by only a few degrees of warming; in other words, by a warming on the scale that will possibly take place in the next fifty years from the burning of fuels.

Satellite pictures show that large areas of Antarctic ice are already disappearing. The evidence available suggests that a warming has taken place. This fits the theory that carbon dioxide warms the earth.

However, most of the fuel is burnt in the northern hemisphere, where temperatures seem to be falling. Scientists conclude, therefore, that up to now natural influences on the weather have exceeded those caused by man. The question is: Which natural cause has most effect on the weather?

One possibility is the variable behavior of the sun. Astronomers at one research station have studied the hot spots and 'cold' spots (that is, the relatively less hot spots) on the sun. As the sun rotates, every 27.5 days, it presents hotter or 'colder' faces to the earth, and different aspects to different parts of the earth. This seems to have a considerable effect on the distribution of the earth's atmospheric pressure, and consequently on wind circulation. The sun is also variable over a long term; its heat output goes up and down in cycles, the latest trend being downward.

Scientists are now finding mutual relations between models of solar-weather interactions and the actual climate over many thousands of years, including the last Ice Age. The problem is that the models are predicting that the world should be entering a new Ice Age and it is not. One way of solving this theoretical difficulty is to assume a delay of thousands of years while the solar effects overcome the inertia (惯性) of the earth's climate. If this is right, the warming effect of carbon dioxide might thus be serving as a useful counter-balance to the sun's diminishing heat.

1. It can be concluded that a concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere would

- _____.
- A. prevent the sun's rays from reaching the earth's surface
- B. mean a warming up in the Arctic

- C. account for great changes in the climate in the northern hemisphere
D. raise the temperature of the earth's surface
2. The article was written to explain _____.
A. the greenhouse effect
B. the solar effects on the earth
C. the models of solar-weather interactions
D. the causes affecting weather
3. Although the fuel consumption is greater in the northern hemisphere, temperatures there seem to be falling. This is _____.
A. mainly because the levels of carbon dioxide are rising
B. possibly because the ice caps in the poles are melting
C. exclusively due to the effect of the inertia of the earth's climate
D. partly due to variations in the output of solar energy
4. On the basis of their models, scientists are of the opinion that _____.
A. the climate of the world should be becoming cooler
B. it will take thousands of years for the inertia of the earth's climate to take effect
C. the man-made warming effect helps to increase the solar effects
D. the new Ice Age will be delayed by the greenhouse effect
5. If the assumption about the delay of a new Ice Age is correct, _____.
A. the best way to overcome the cooling effect would be to burn more fuels
B. ice would soon cover the northern hemisphere
C. the increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere could warm up the earth even more quickly
D. the greenhouse effect could work to the advantage of the earth

答案及第2题简解:

1. D 2. D 3. D 4. A 5. D

第2题是一个主旨大意题。此文的主题句是第五段第二句话: Scientists conclude, therefore, that up to now natural influences on the weather have exceeded those caused by man. (所以, 科学家得出结论, 到目前为止, 自然因素对气候的影响超过了人为因素)。纵观全文, 此文前四段讲述了影响气候的人为因素(大量燃烧燃料), 后三段谈论了自然因素(太阳活动变化)对气候的影响。由此可知, 这篇短文主要讲影响气候的因素, 所以 D 是正确答案。

例2 (1990年试题)

In May 1989, space shuttle "Atlantis" released in outer space the space probe "Megallan", which is now on her 15-month and one-billion-kilometer flight to Venus. A new phase in space exploration has begun.

The planet Venus is only slightly smaller than Earth; it is the only other object in the solar system, in fact, that even comes close to the earth's size. Venus has a similar density, so it is probably made of approximately the same stuff, and it has an atmosphere complete with clouds. It is also the closest planet to earth, and thus the most similar in distance from the sun. In short, Venus seems to justify its long-held nickname of "earth's twin".

The surface temperature of Venus reaches some 900 F. Added to that is an atmospheric pressure about 90 times Earth's. High overhead in the carbon dioxide (CO₂) that passes for air is a layer of clouds, perhaps 10 to 20 miles thick, whose little drops consist mostly of sulfuric acid (H₂SO₄). Water is all but nonexistent.

Born with so many fundamental similarities to earth, how did Venus get to be so radically different? It is not just an academic matter. For all its extremes, Venus is a valuable laboratory for researchers studying the weather and climate of earth. It has no earth's oceans, so the heat-transport and other mechanisms are greatly simplified. In addition, the planet Venus takes 243 earth-days to turn once on its axis, so incoming heat from the sun is added and distributed at a more leisurely, observable pace.

1. Venus is similar to Earth in _____.
 - A. size and density
 - B. distance from the sun
 - C. having atmosphere
 - D. all of the above
2. The greatest value in studying Venus should be to _____.
 - A. allow us to visit there
 - B. understand Earth better
 - C. find a new source of energy
 - D. promote a new space program
3. The main idea of this passage is about _____.
 - A. problems of space travel
 - B. scientific methods in space exploration
 - C. the importance of Venus to Earth
 - D. conditions on Venus

答案及第3题简解:

1. D 2. B 3. C

第3题为主旨大意题。此短文最后一段总结了前两段所述内容:金星与地球有许多相同之处,也有实质的差别。尽管如此,金星仍对研究地球十分重要(Venus is a valuable laboratory for researcher studying the weather and climate of earth.)。因此,C符合文章主题,是正确选择。

二、事实细节题

阅读文章一方面要注意抓住文章的主旨大意,同时也要注意了解文章中阐述主旨大意的事实与细节,如例证、原因、时间、数据等。事实细节题往往就文章中某一个段落或某一句话来提问。因此,考生在解答这类题时应在文章中找到与问题相关的段落或句子。

事实细节题形式多样,常见的有:

1. According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?
2. Which of the following statements is NOT true?
3. According to the author, it is true that _____.
-

例 1 (1991 年试题)

The period of adolescence, i. e. , the period between childhood and adulthood, may be long or short, depending on social expectations and on society's definition as to what constitutes maturity and adulthood. In primitive societies adolescence is frequently a relatively short period of time, while in industrial societies with patterns of prolonged education coupled with laws against child labor, the period of adolescence is much longer and may include most of the second decade of one's life. Furthermore, the length of the adolescent period and the definition of adulthood status may change in a given society as social and economic conditions change. Examples of this type of change are the disappearance of the frontier in the latter part of the nineteenth century in the United State, and more universally, the industrialization of an agricultural society.

In modern society, ceremonies for adolescence have lost their formal recognition and symbolic significance and there no longer is agreement as to what constitutes initiation ceremonies. Social ones have been replaced by a sequence of steps that lead to increased recognition and social status. For example, grade school graduation, high school graduation and college graduation constitute such a sequence, and while each step implies certain behavioral changes and social recognition, the significance of each depends on the socio-economic status and the educational ambition of the individual. Ceremonies for adolescence have also been replaced by legal definitions of status roles, rights, privileges and responsibilities. It is during the nine years from the twelfth birthday to the twenty-first that the protective and restrictive aspects of childhood and minor status are removed and adult privileges and responsibilities are granted. The twelve-year-old is no longer considered a child and has to pay full fare for train, airplane, theater and movie tickets. Basically, the individual at this age loses childhood privileges without gaining significant adult rights. At the age of sixteen the adolescent is granted certain adult rights which increases his social status by providing him with more freedom and choices. He now can obtain a driver's

license; he can leave public schools; and he can work without the restrictions of child labor laws. At the age of eighteen the law provides adult responsibilities as well as rights; the young man can now be a soldier, but he also can marry without parental permission. At the age of twenty-one the individual obtains his full legal rights as an adult. He now can vote, he can buy liquor, he can enter into financial contracts, and he is entitled to run for public office. No additional basic rights are acquired as a function of age after majority status has been attained. None of these legal provisions determine at what point adulthood has been reached but they do point to the prolonged period of adolescence.

1. The period of adolescence is much longer in industrial societies because _____.
 - A. the definition of maturity has changed
 - B. the industrialized society is more developed
 - ☒ C. more education is provided and laws against child labor are made
 - D. ceremonies for adolescence have lost their formal recognition and symbolic significance
2. Former social ceremonies that used to mark adolescence have given place to _____.
 - ☒ A. graduations from schools and colleges
 - ☒ B. social recognition
 - C. socio-economic status
 - D. certain behavioral changes
3. No one can expect to fully enjoy the adulthood privileges until he is _____.
 - A. eleven years old
 - B. sixteen years old
 - ☒ C. twenty-one years old
 - D. between twelve and twenty-one years old
4. Starting from 22, _____.
 - A. one will obtain more basic rights
 - B. the older one becomes, the more basic rights he will have
 - ☒ C. one won't get more basic rights than when he is 21
 - D. one will enjoy more rights granted by society
5. According to the passage, it is true that _____.
 - ☒ A. in the late 19th century in the United States the dividing line between adolescence and adulthood no longer existed
 - B. no one can marry without the permission of his parents until the age of twenty-one
 - C. one is considered to have reached adulthood when he has a driver's license
 - D. one is not free from the restrictions of child labor laws until he can join the army

答案与 1. 2. 3. 4 题简解:

1. C 2. A 3. C 4. C 5. A

第1题问工业化社会中青春期较长的原因。根据文章第一段第二句话的意思,在工业化社会中青春期较长的原因是受教育时间的延长和反童工法的制定(in industrial society with patterns of prolonged education coupled with law against child labor)。所以,C是正确答案。

第2题要求从文章中找出什么取代了以前标志青春期的社会仪式。这个问题的答案可直接在文章第二段第二、三句话中找到。第二句话谈到以前标志青春期的社会仪式被一系列的阶段所代替(文中的 have been replaced by 与题干中的 have given place to 意思相同)。第三句话列举说明这一系列阶段为初中、高中和大学毕业(grade school graduation, high school graduation and college graduation)。显然,A符合文章原意。

第3题问多么大岁数的人才能完全享受成年人的权利。文章第二段倒数第四句话直接回答了这个问题。At the age of twenty-one the individual obtain his full legal rights as an adult。(一个人到21岁才能完全得到成年人的法律权利)毫无疑问,C是正确答案。

第4题要求确定从22岁起一个人是否会享受更多的权利。文章第二段倒数第二句话(No additional basic rights are acquired as a function of age after majority status has been attained)表明,一个人21岁后(从22岁起)不会享受更多的权利。由此可见,C符合文章原意。

例2 (1991年试题)

Most growing plants contain much more water than all other materials combined. C. R. Barnes has suggested that it is as proper to term the plant a water structure as to call a house composed mainly of brick a brick building. Certain it is that all essential processes of plant growth and development occur in water. The mineral elements from the soil that are usable by the plant must be dissolved in the soil solution before they can be taken into the root. They are carried to all parts of the growing plant and are built into essential plant materials while in a dissolved state. The carbon dioxide (CO_2) from the air may enter the leaf as a gas but is dissolved in water in the leaf before it is combined with a part of the water to form simple sugars—the base material from which the plant body is mainly built. Actively growing plant parts are generally 75 to 90 percent water. Structural parts of plants, such as woody stems no longer actively growing, may have much less water than growing tissues.

The actual amount of water in the plant at any one time, however, is only a very small part of what passes through it during its development. The processes of photosynthesis, by which carbon dioxide and water are combined—in the presence of chlorophyll(叶绿素) and with energy derive from light—to form sugars, require that carbon dioxide from the air enter the plant. This occurs mainly in the leaves. The leaf surface is not solid but contain great numbers of minute openings, through which the carbon dioxide enters. The same structure that permits the one gas to enter the leaf, however, permits another gas—water vapor—to be lost from it. Since carbon dioxide is present in the air only in trace quantities

(3 to 4 parts in 10 000 parts of air) and water vapor is near saturation in the air spaces within the leaf (at 80°F, saturated air would contain about 186 parts of water vapor in 10 000 parts of air), the total amount of water vapor lost is many times the carbon dioxide intake. Actually, because of wind and other factors, the loss of water in proportion to carbon dioxide intake may be even greater than the relative concentrations of the two gases. Also, not all of the carbon dioxide that enters the leaf is synthesized into carbohydrates(碳水化合物).

1. A growing plant needs water for all of the following except _____.
 - A. forming sugars
 - B. sustaining woody stems
 - ☒ C. keeping green
 - ☒ D. producing carbon dioxide
2. The essential function of photosynthesis in terms of plant needs is _____.
 - ☒ A. to form sugars
 - B. to derive energy from light
 - C. to preserve water
 - ☒ D. to combine carbon dioxide with water
3. The second paragraph uses facts to develop the essential idea that _____.
 - A. a plant efficiently utilizes most of the water it absorbs
 - B. carbon dioxide is the essential substance needed for plant development
 - ☒ C. a plant needs more water than is found in its composition
 - D. the stronger the wind, the more the water vapor loss
4. According to the passage, which of the following statements is TRUE?
 - ☒ A. The mineral elements will not be absorbed by the plant unless they are dissolved in its root.
 - B. The woody stems contain more water than the leaves.
 - C. Air existing around the leaf is found to be saturated.
 - ☒ D. Only part of the carbon dioxide in the plant is synthesized.
5. This passage is mainly about _____.
 - A. the functions of carbon dioxide and water
 - ☒ B. the role of water in a growing plant
 - C. the process of simple sugar formation
 - D. the synthesis of water with carbon dioxide

答案与 1. 2. 4 题简解:

1. D 2. A 3. C 4. D 5. B

第1题要求确定下面四个选择项中哪一项与植物生长需要水这一事实无关。这四个

选择项涉及到文章第一段倒数第三句话和第二段第二句话,A、B和C与其意思一致。但是,根据文章第一段倒数第三句话(The carbon dioxide from the air may enter the leaf ...),植物在生长过程中吸收二氧化碳,并非产生二氧化碳。因此,D不符合文章原意,是正确选择项。

第2题问植物光合作用的主要作用是什么。文章第二段第二句话(The process of photosynthesis, ... enter the plant)表明光合作用主要是“生成糖分”(to form sugars)。所以,A是正确答案。

第4题要求确定出下面四个选择项中哪一项是对的。

A 错,与文章第一段第四句话(The mineral elements ... into the roots)的意思相悖。

B 错,与文章第一段最后一句话(structural parts of plants ... growing tissues)的意思不一致。

C 错,根据文章第二段倒数第三句话(since carbon dioxide ... the carbon dioxide intake),叶子周围的水蒸气饱含了,而不是空气饱含了。

D 对,文章最后一句话(Also, not all of the carbon dioxide ... into carbohydrates)表明,只有部分二氧化碳在植物中被合成,所以D符合文章原意。

三、词汇短语题

这类试题主要测试考生利用上下文猜测生词或短语的能力。考研英语大纲明确规定,阅读文章材料中允许有占总阅读量3%的生词率。这要求考生在阅读时要充分利用上下文的线索来判断生字或短语的意义,提高阅读技能。

阅读中碰到生字或做词义推断题时,考生要认真阅读该生字的上下文,分析和归纳其意义。这样就会很容易猜测出生字的意思。

词汇短语题常见问题形式有:

1. The word "X" (line X, para. X) most probably means
2. What is the possible meaning of the word "X" in the X paragraph?
3. The expression "X" probably means
-

例1 (1993年试题)

When an invention is made, the inventor has three possible courses of action open to him; he can give the invention to the world by publishing it, keep the idea secret, or patent it.

A granted patent is the result of a bargain struck between an inventor and the state, by which the inventor gets a limited period of monopoly(垄断) and publishes full details of his invention to the public after that period terminates.

Only in the most exceptional circumstances is the life-span of a patent extended to alter this normal process of events.