

最新大学英语阅读理解考试教程

ZUIXIN DAXUE YINGYU YUEDU LIJIE KAOSHI JIAOCHENG

二级阅读 100 篇

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workplace rules that would protect millions of workers, on assembly lines or at other jobs, from repetitive stress injuries.

tion (OSHA) is set

and could protect millions of people who work at
on assembly lines or at other jobs where workers suffer
stress injuries.

ice rules that would protect millions of
ers, on assembly lines or at other jobs
stress injuries.

in the workplace have suffered such injuries.
The Bureau of Occupational Safety and Health, part of the
Department of Labor, said the new rules would protect about
10 million workers from such injuries.

The new rules would require employers to provide workers with
information about the risks of repetitive stress injuries and to
provide them with training and other measures to prevent such injuries.

A study also reported that about 10 million workers suffer from
repetitive stress injuries each year. The study found that the most
common repetitive stress injuries are carpal tunnel syndrome and
tenosynovitis. Carpal tunnel syndrome is a condition in which the
median nerve in the wrist is compressed. Tenosynovitis is a condition
in which the tendons in the hand and wrist become inflamed.

The proposed rules would require employers to provide workers with
information about the risks of repetitive stress injuries and to provide
them with training and other measures to prevent such injuries.

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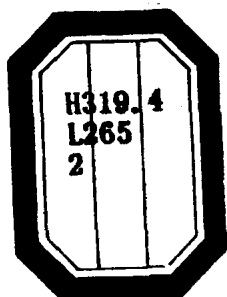
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前言

阅读能力是大部分大学生今后工作中所需要的主要技能。阅读是掌握语言知识、获取信息、提高语言应用能力的基础。因此,新修订的《大学英语教学大纲》强调,在大学英语教学中要始终注重阅读能力的培养,并对分级教学要求作了具体描述,把四级英语教学定为全国各类高等院校均应达到的基本要求。即使在非重点和专科院校中,从预备级开始的学生经过基础阶段两年的学习达到三级要求后,在高年级阶段还应继续努力达到四级要求。

在大学英语四级考试,六级考试和硕士研究生入学考试中,阅读理解考项都在 40 分左右。这是试题各考项中所占分数比例最大的一项。阅读能力的高低直接影响到英译汉、完形填空或简短回答问题等要求阅读理解能力较强的考项的得分比例,这些考项均占 10 分左右。因此,阅读水平是决定考生能否通过考试的关键。假如考生的与阅读理解考项有关的正确率达到 75% ($50 \text{ 分} \times 75\% = 37.5 \text{ 分}$, $60 \text{ 分} \times 75\% = 45 \text{ 分}$),而其他考项的正确率在 50~60% 之间,那么考生就比较容易通过考试关了。考生失利的主要原因:一是缺乏严格而标准的模拟训练,二是阅读累计字数总量达不到大纲要求。教学实践和有关考生通过率的材料表明,考生在考前目标阅读训练 200 篇(每篇 350 字左右)短文后,阅读理解正确率在 70% 左右。目标阅读训练 300 篇短文后,阅读理解正确率在 80% 左右。目标阅读训练 400 篇短文后,阅读理解正确率在 90% 以上。这是因为应试阅读训练严格按考试大纲和题型要求,有针对性地反复训练后形成了应试的理解思维模式:在阅读训练中巩固词汇,扩大词汇量;在熟练词汇的基础上提高了阅读速度——从而形成了正确的应试思维刺激反应。

“最新大学英语阅读理解考试教程”就是为了实现这一目标,在兼容大学英语泛读教程和快速阅读教程特点的基础上,针对大学英语四级考试的特点而专门设计编写的。本教程的主要特点是:(1)严格按新修订的《大学英语教学大纲》和《大学英语四级考试大纲》编写。每册由 20 单元组成,共 100 篇短文。本系列共 400 篇短文,阅读总量累计字数为 140,000 以上。(2)以全真考试题型为编写体例。每个单元就是两个完整的考项。即分别由四篇阅读短文、简短回答问题(一级、三级)、完形填空(二级、四级)、段落划句英译汉(三级)组成。(3)每个单元之后附有正确答案。答案的深入分析可参考《最新大学英语阅读理解 400 篇详解》。(4)短文难度呈梯级编排,难易渐进过渡。

教程的主要适用对象是参加 CET-1, CET-2, CET-3, CET-4 的考生和参加硕士研究生入学英语考试的考生及相当水平的学习者。全套教程共四册,本书为第二册,即大学英语二级考试水准要求。每单元分别由四篇 400 字左右的阅读理解短文和完形填空组成,其中阅读理解短文难度略高于考试要求。因此,本系列可在教师的指导下与《新编大学英语》配合使用,分四个学期阅读,也可在考前 80 天按每天一单元的计划进行强化阅读训练。

Contents

Unit One	1
Unit Two	7
Unit Three	13
Unit Four	19
Unit Five	25
Unit Six	31
Unit Seven	37
Unit Eight	43
Unit Nine	49
Unit Ten	55
Unit Eleven	61
Unit Twelve	67
Unit Thirteen	74
Unit Fourteen	81
Unit Fifteen	87
Unit Sixteen	93
Unit Seventeen	99
Unit Eighteen	105
Unit Nineteen	112
Unit Twenty	118

Part I Reading Comprehension**Passage One**

In an effort to produce the largest, fastest, and most luxurious ship afloat, the British built the Titanic. It was so superior to anything else at the seas that it was dubbed "unsinkable". So sure of this were the owners that they provided lifeboats for only 950 of its possible 3,500 passengers.

Many passengers were aboard the night when it rammed an iceberg, only two days at sea and more than half way between England and the New York destination. Because the luxury liner was traveling so fast, it was impossible to avoid the ghostly-looking iceberg. An unextinguished fire also contributed to the ship's submersion. Panic increased the number of casualties as people jumped into the icy water or fought to be among the few to board the lifeboats. Four hours after the mishap, another ship, the Carpathia, rescued the survivors—less than a third of those originally aboard.

The infamous Titanic enjoyed only two days of sailing glory on its maiden voyage in 1912 before plunging into 12,000 feet of water near the coast of Newfoundland.

1. Which of the following is NOT true ?

- A. Only a third of those aboard perished.
- B. The Carpathia rescued the survivors.
- C. The Titanic sank near Newfoundland.
- D. The Titanic was the fastest ship afloat in 1912.

2. Which of the following did NOT contribute to the large death toll ?

- A. Panic.
- B. Fire.
- C. Speed.
- D. The Carpathia.

3. How many days was the Titanic at sea before sinking ?

- A. 2.
- B. 4.
- C. 6.
- D. 12.

4. The word "unextinguished" (L. 4, Para. 2) means most nearly the same as _____.

- A. indestructible
- B. uncontrollable
- C. undiscovered
- D. unquenchable

5. The destination of Titanic's maiden voyage is _____.

- A. Ireland
- B. England
- C. New York
- D. Newfoundland

Unit One

Passage Two

One answer to the question of land shortage suggested by a committee some years ago was that: a city was to be built at sea, housing 30,000 people.

The suggestion was to shape the city like a harbour. The outer wall of the harbour would stand on steel columns resting on the sea-bed. Naturally this could only be where the water was fairly shallow. The people would live in flats within the fifty-metre high outer wall. The flats would all face inwards, and would be made of concrete and glass. The glass would be specially made and coloured to control the heat and strong light from the sun. The planners called this water the lake.

The water inside this man-made harbour would be calm. On it there would be floating islands carrying more buildings: a hospital, two theatres, a museum, an art exhibition hall and a church. On one of the islands there would be a special plant to take the salt out of sea water and turn it into fresh water.

People living in the city could move around on small boats driven by electricity, so there would be no air pollution from the burning of petrol. There would be platforms outside the main wall for ships bringing supplies. People could also travel to the mainland by motorboat or water plane.

6. What was suggested about the construction of a new city at sea ?

- A. The city was to be designed together with a harbour.
- B. The wall around the city would be made of steel and glass.
- C. The buildings of the city would rest on a floating island.
- D. The people would live in tall buildings surrounded by a wall.

7. How would fresh water be supplied to the city ?

- A. By treating sea water.
- B. By getting it from the surrounding islands.
- C. By building a small lake of fresh water inside the city.
- D. By transporting it from the mainland.

8. There would be no air pollution to this city because ____.

- A. there was a special plant to treat the polluted air
- B. the city was away from the mainland
- C. people in the city did not burn oil or coal
- D. vehicles there were powered by electricity

9. The suggestion made by the committee is to solve the problem that ____.

- A. there is not enough space for building cities on land
- B. land transportation has become increasingly difficult
- C. there are too many people on land

Unit One

D. present cities are heavily polluted by cars and other vehicles

10. The purpose of the writer is _____.

- A. to suggest how a new type of harbour could be built at sea
- B. to give an account of a new type of city
- C. to draw people's attention to the problem of air pollution
- D. to introduce a new way of constructing harbour-cities

Passage Three

A report on smoking published in 1979 by the U. S. Surgeon General shows that over fifty million Americans, including six million teenagers, smoke cigarettes regularly, and that 346,000 Americans died the previous year of diseases related to heavy smoking. Research conducted in many countries has indicated that smoking causes lung cancer, heart disease and various respiratory ailments and that pregnant women who smoke run the risk of having deformed babies.

Responding to the overwhelming medical evidences of the harmful effects of smoking, many governments have taken action to reduce tobacco consumption. Some have imposed heavy taxes on tobacco products; others have prohibited cigarette commercials and conducted anti-smoking campaigns. None, however, has ever considered prohibiting the sale of tobacco. This is due partly to the political power of the big tobacco companies and partly to the fact that so many people, particularly in influential positions in society, are habitual smokers. Tobacco farmers and workers are also strongly opposed to the legislation.

11. According to researchers, what illnesses are caused by heavy smoking ?

- A. Cancer.
- B. Heart disease.
- C. Pneumonia.
- D. Fever.

12. How many Americans died of such diseases in 1978 ?

- A. 346,000.
- B. 6,000,000.
- C. 50,000,000.
- D. None of the above.

13. What might happen if a woman smokes regularly during pregnancy ?

- A. She will probably die of smoking.
- B. She will give birth to an ugly baby.
- C. Various diseases related to smoking will visit her.
- D. Both B and C.

14. In what ways have various governments tried to reduce tobacco consumption ?

- A. Governments have prohibited such commercials and conducted anti-smoking campaigns.

Unit One

- B. Governments are opposed to those who have prohibited tobacco consumption.
- C. Governments ordered tobacco producers to pay heavy taxes.
- D. Both A and C.

15. According to the text, is the sale of tobacco prohibited in any country ?

- A. Yes.
- B. No.
- C. The author didn't give the answer.
- D. Neither "Yes" nor "No".

Passage Four

During the summer session there will be a revised schedule of services for the university community. Specific changes for intercampus bus services, summer hours for the school hospital and recreational and athletic facilities will be posted on the bulletin board outside the cafeteria. Weekly movie and concert schedules which are in the process of being arranged will be posted each Wednesday outside the cafeteria.

Intercampus buses will leave the main hall every hour on the half hour and make all of the regular stops on their route around the campus. The cafeteria will serve breakfast, lunch and early dinner from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. during the week and from noon to 7 p.m. on weekends. The library will maintain regular hours during the week, but shorter hours on Saturdays and Sundays. The weekend hours are from noon to 7 p.m.

All students who want to use the library borrowing services and the recreational, athletic, and entertainment facilities must have a valid summer identification card. This announcement will also appear in the next issue of the student newspaper.

16. Specific schedule revisions for which of the following facilities are listed in this announcement ?

- A. Athletic and recreational.
- B. Food and transportation.
- C. Bookstore and post office.
- D. Medical and audio-visual.

17. Times for movies and concerts are NOT listed in this announcement because

_____.

- A. a film or concert occurs every Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- B. the full list would be too long
- C. films and concerts cannot be announced publicly
- D. the full list is not ready yet

18. According to the announcement, which of the following is true of special summer hours for the library ?

- A. It has them only on the weekends.
- B. It has them on both weekdays and weekends.

Unit One

- C. It has no special summer hours.
- D. This information is not available.

19. According to the announcement, a validated identification card is required to

_____.

- A. ride on intercampus buses
- B. read announcements in the cafeteria
- C. make use of the school hospital
- D. check books out of the library

20. The main purpose of this announcement is to help members of the university community to _____.

- A. make better use of intercampus buses
- B. secure faster service in the cafeteria
- C. make more effective use of campus facilities
- D. obtain extensions of overdue library books

Part II Cloze

Pop stars today enjoy a style of living which was once the prerogative only of royalty. Wherever they go, people 1 in their thousands to greet them. The crowds go 2 trying to catch a brief glimpse of their smiling, colorfully-dressed idols. They are surrounded by a permanent entourage of managers, press agents and bodyguards. Pop stars are no longer private individuals, but public 3. The financial rewards they receive for this sacrifice cannot be calculated, for their rates of pay are 4.

And why not? Society has always 5 its top entertainers lavishly. The great days of Hollywood have become legendary: "Famous stars enjoyed fame, wealth and adulation 6 an unprecedented scale." By today's standards, the excesses of Hollywood do not seem quite so spectacular. A single record nowadays may earn much more in royalties than the films of past ever did. The competition for the title "Top of the Pops" is 7, but the rewards are truly colossal.

It is only 8 that the stars should be paid in this way. Don't the top men in industry earn enormous salaries for the services they perform for their companies and their countries? Pop stars earn vast sums in foreign 9—often more than large industrial concerns—and the taxman can only be 10 for their massive annual contributions to the Exchequer. So who would begrudge them their rewards?

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. A. take turns | B. turn out | C. turn up | D. in turn |
| 2. A. wild | B. wildly | C. wildish | D. in wildness |
| 3. A. popularity | B. prospect | C. prosperity | D. property |
| 4. A. formidable | B. undeserving | C. astronomical | D. invaluable |

Unit One

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| 5. A. awarded | B. rewarded | C. contributed | D. exploited |
| 6. A. at | B. in | C. by | D. on |
| 7. A. fierce | B. violent | C. fearful | D. aggressive |
| 8. A. unreasonable | B. right | C. believable | D. unfair |
| 9. A. funds | B. money | C. currency | D. finance |
| 10. A. greedy | B. graceful | C. guilty | D. grateful |

Key to Reading Comprehension

1. A 2. D 3. A 4. D 5. C 6. C 7. A 8. D 9. A 10. B
 11. B 12. A 13. B 14. D 15. B 16. B 17. D 18. A 19. D 20. C

Key to Cloze

1. B 2. A 3. D 4. C 5. B 6. D 7. A 8. B 9. C 10. D

Part I Reading Comprehension

Public goods are those commodities from whose enjoyment nobody can be effectively excluded. Everybody is free to enjoy the benefits of these commodities, and one person's utilization does not reduce the possibilities of anybody else's enjoying the same good.

Examples of public goods are not as rare as one might expect. A flood-controlling dam is a public good. Once the dam is built, all persons living in the area will benefit—irrespective of their own contribution to the construction cost of the dam. The same holds true for highway signs or aids to navigation. Once a lighthouse is built, no ship of any nationality can be effectively excluded from the utilization of the lighthouse for navigational purposes. National defense is another example. Even a person who voted against military expenditures or did not pay any taxes will benefit from the protection afforded.

It is no easy task to determine the social costs and social benefits associated with a public good. There is no practicable way of charging drivers for looking at highway signs, sailors for watching a lighthouse, citizens for the security provided to them through national defense. Because the market does not provide the necessary signal, economic analysis has to be substituted for the impersonal judgment of the marketplace.

1. With which topic is the passage mainly concerned ?

- A. Mechanisms for safer navigation.
- B. The economic structure of the marketplace.
- C. A specific group of commodities.
- D. The advantages of lowering taxes.

2. Which of the following would NOT be an example of a public good as described in the passage ?

- A. A taxicab.
- B. A bridge.
- C. A fire truck.
- D. A stoplight.

3. The word "holds" (L. 3, Para. 2) could best be replaced by "_____".

- A. has
- B. is
- C. grasps
- D. carries

4. According to the passage, finding out the social costs of a public good is a _____.

- A. difficult procedure
- B. daily administrative duty
- C. matter of personal judgment
- D. citizen's responsibility

Unit Two

5. Which of the following statements best describes the organization of the first two paragraphs ?

- A. Suggestions for the application of an economic concept are offered.
- B. Several generalizations are presented from which various conclusions are drawn.
- C. Persuasive language is used to argue against a popular idea.
- D. A general concept is defined and then examples are given.

Passage Two

It is estimated that some seven hundred million people—about half the world's adult population—are unable to read or write, and there are probably two hundred and fifty millions more whose level of attainment is so slight that it barely qualifies as literacy.

Recently the attack on illiteracy has been stepped up. A world plan has been drawn up by a committee of UNESCO experts in Paris, as part of the United Nations Development Decade, and an international conference on the subject has also been held. UNESCO stresses that functional literacy is the aim. People must learn the basic skills of responsible citizenship: the ability to read notices, newspapers, timetables, letters, price-lists, to keep simple records and accounts, to sort out the significance of the information gathered and to fill in forms.

The major areas of illiteracy are in Asia, Africa and Central and South America. In Africa there are at least one hundred million illiterates, comprising eighty to eighty-five percent of the total population. In Europe the figure is about twenty-four millions, most of which is southern, with Spain, Italy, Portugal, and Yugoslavia heading the list (the United Kingdom has about seven hundred thousand).

6. The figure of world illiteracy was obtained by _____.

- A. a committee of UNESCO
- B. experts in Paris
- C. an international organization
- D. none of these

7. Studying carefully the clues in the passage, we learn that the total population of Africa is _____.

- A. approximately seven hundred million
- B. approximately one hundred and twenty-five million
- C. approximately eight point five thousand million
- D. exactly twenty-four million

8. The figure of illiteracy in Britain comprises _____.

- A. zero point one percent to that of illiteracy in the world
- B. zero point two percent of the world's adult population
- C. thirty-five percent of Europe's population

Unit Two

D. three point five percent of that of the illiteracy in Southern Europe

9. It is obvious that UNESCO _____.

A. is a company in France

B. is a world organization attached to the U. N.

C. works mainly at combating illiteracy

D. has many experts whose level of attainment is far from literacy

10. A world plan mentioned in the passage aims at _____.

A. training responsible citizens

B. enforcing the functions of UNESCO

C. helping illiterates learn how to read and write

D. urging Southern European countries to take the lead in attacking illiteracy

Passage Three

You have been badly injured in a car accident. It is necessary to give you a blood transfusion because you lost a great deal of blood in the accident. However, special care must be taken in selecting new blood for you. If the blood is too different from your own, the transfusion could kill you.

There are four basic types of blood: A, B, AB, and O. A simple test can indicate a person's blood type. Everybody is born with one of these four types of blood. Blood type, like hair color and height, is inherited from parents.

Because of substances contained in each type, the four groups must be transfused carefully. Basically, A and B cannot be mixed. A and B cannot receive AB, but AB may receive A or B. O can give to any other group; hence it is often called the universal donor. For the opposite reason, AB is sometimes called the universal recipient. However, because so many reactions can occur in transfusions, patients usually receive only salt or plasma (liquid) until their blood can be matched as exactly as possible in the blood bank of a hospital. In this way, it is possible to avoid any bad reactions to the transfusion.

There is a relationship between your blood type and your nationality. Among Europeans and people of European ancestry, about 42 percent have type A while 45 percent have type O. The rarest is type AB. Other races have different percentages. For example, some American Indian groups have nearly 100 percent type O.

11. A good title for this selection is "_____".

A. Getting Blood and Plasma

B. Special Blood Colors

C. Human Blood Types

D. The Blood Bank of a Hospital

12. The word "hence" (L. 3, Para. 3) means _____.

Unit Two

A. always

B. often

C. therefore

D. seldom

13. The author suggests that the third most common blood type of Europeans is type

_____.

A. A

B. B

C. AB

D. O

14. People with type A blood can receive _____.

A. AB

B. B

C. O

D. none of the above

15. If you need a transfusion, the best and safest blood for you is _____.

A. type AB

B. exactly the same type as yours

C. a mixture of salt, plasma, and type O

D. type A

Passage Four

Shakespeare in Love isn't going to come near big-bang champ *Armageddon*'s 1998 box-office gross of more than \$ 200 million. But the romantic comedy about the young Bard is the year's big surprise, winning three Golden Globe awards and 13 Oscar nominations, including best picture, best director, best actress and best original screenplay. After 400 years of being merely the greatest of all writers, Shakespeare is suddenly an adorable guy and a pop icon (流行偶像).

The movie is, of course, not a biography but a fantasia on the theme of Shakespeare. Many "facts" are known about the Bard (that he's married and that his theatrical rival is Christopher Marlowe), but by connecting these dots you will get not a life but a presence. This situation has allowed both wackos (怪人) and worthies to develop elaborate theories—such as the notion that Shakespeare didn't write Shakespeare's plays. As for his sexuality, well, as one academic put it ironically, Shakespeare "was almost certainly homosexual, bisexual or heterosexual". Scholars believe he wrote many of his sonnets (十四行诗)—including "Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day"—to a fair-haired young man. In the movie, William Shakespeare is as straight and potent as one of his pentameters (五音步诗). What's so terrific is that, fact or fantasy, the vital sense of the man and the milieu (背景) come through. Many scholars and academics who've seen the film love it.

16. *Shakespeare in Love* wins _____ Golden Globe awards.

A. three

B. thirteen

C. seven

D. sixteen

17. Shakespeare was a great writer about _____ years ago.

A. 400

B. 1,600

- C. 2 D. 4
18. The story of *Shakespeare in Love* is _____.
 A. a biography B. a fantasia
 C. an autobiography D. true
19. The word "adorable" (L.5, Para. 1) most probably means _____.
 A. very attractive B. beautiful
 C. famous D. notable
20. The style of this short passage is _____.
 A. a summary B. a comment
 C. an introduction D. a story

Part II Cloze

For centuries town and city have been regarded as being in opposition to each other. It has been suggested that the 1 differences between the two—wide open spaces contrasting with brick and concrete are 2 important than the contrasting attitude of town and city.

I am one of the many city people who are always saying that given the 3 we would prefer to live in the country away from the dirt and noise of a city. I have 4 to convince myself that if it were not for my job I would immediately head out for the open spaces and go back to nature in some sleepy village 5 in the country. But how realistic is this dream?

People in the country have the 6 of knowing that there is always someone to turn to when they need help. 7 country life has disadvantages too. While it is true that you may be among friends in a village, it is also true that you are 8 off from the exciting and important events that take place in cities. There is little 9 of going to a new show or to the latest movie. Shopping becomes a major problem, and for anything slightly out of the 10 you have to go on an expedition to the nearest large town. The city resident who leaves for the country is often oppressed by a sense of unbearable stillness and quiet.

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|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. A. primary | B. preliminary | C. essential | D. superficial |
| 2. A. more | B. even | C. less | D. far |
| 3. A. chance | B. choice | C. selection | D. consideration |
| 4. A. managed | B. failed | C. succeeded | D. enabled |
| 5. A. covered | B. swallowed | C. hidden | D. buried |
| 6. A. advantage | B. ability | C. opportunity | D. benefit |
| 7. A. So | B. But | C. Still | D. Thus |
| 8. A. cut | B. kept | C. separated | D. put |
| 9. A. hope | B. condition | C. circumstance | D. possibility |
| 10. A. place | B. question | C. ordinary | D. order |

Unit Two

Key to Reading Comprehension

- 1.C 2.A 3.B 4.A 5.D 6.D 7.B 8.A 9.B 10.C
11.C 12.C 13.B 14.C 15.B 16.A 17.A 18.B 19.A 20.B
- 1.D 2.C 3.B 4.A 5.D 6.A 7.B 8.A 9.D 10.C

Key to Cloze