



国家考试中心采用的最新题型

六级阅读理解 及简短回答

赵春霞 田 鹏 刘文英



西安交通大学出版社

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最新大学英语四、六级考试指导丛书

六级阅读理解及简短回答

内 容 提 要

本书是根据《大学英语六级考试大纲》和“关于全国大学英语六级考试采用新题型的通知”精神编写的应试指导书。它根据大纲对阅读理解和简答问题的要求,针对学生测试中常出现的问题,提供了阅读理解和简答题的具体方法,解决了学生阅读中的难点,定会帮助学生提高语言能力。全书共分四个部分:阅读技巧和解题方法、阅读材料和难点解释、模拟试题和简短回答题。

本书适用于参加大学英语六级考试的学生,也可供报考 TOEFL 和硕士的人员使用。

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前 言

本书是根据《大学英语六级考试大纲》和“关于全国大学英语六级考试采用新题型的通知”对阅读理解和简短回答题的要求编写的,针对学生测试中常出现的问题,提供阅读理解和简答题的具体方法以及应试技巧,解决学生理解中的难点,旨在帮助考生复习、巩固和加深所学的知识,提高阅读理解能力,使学生顺利通过六级考试。

本书共分四个部分:第一部分(PART I)是阅读技巧和解题方法,介绍如何确定中心思想;怎样推论句子、段落以及文章的含义;怎样逻辑推理、猜测词义、确定错误的选择项。第二部分(PART II)是阅读材料和难点解释,即选择有代表性的文章进行分析讲解。第三部分(PART III)是阅读理解模拟试题,其材料广泛,有人物传记、社会文化、政治经济、现代科技等;文章体裁多样,有议论文、记叙文、说明文。第四部分(PART IV)是简短回答题。

本书素材均选自国外书刊,内容丰富,题材新颖,信息量大,且具有较强的知识性和趣味性,有助于增加学生的语感,提高其阅读能力。书中大部分材料经

过试用,效果很好,因而适合于大学英语六级考生,也是报考 TOEFL 和硕士生考生进行阅读理解强化训练的理想教材。

由于我们水平有限,书中谬误疏漏之处在所难免,敬请各位读者对书中的错误不吝赐教。

编 者

1997 年 2 月

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PART I

阅读技巧和解题方法

I. 略谈阅读理解测试

根据《大学英语六级考试大纲》，阅读理解部分一般由四篇内容、难度和体裁不同的短文构成，阅读量在 1 400 词左右。考生必须在 35 分钟内读完这些文章内容并回答 20 个与短文内容有关的选择題。这些文章内容广泛，涉及物理、化学、动物、植物、文学、历史、天文、地理、人名名著、社会文化、政治经济、现代科技等。文章体裁多样，包括记叙文、论说文、说明文和应用文。

试题设计和答案选择的安排主要为下列几种：

- (1) 确定中心思想
- (2) 推论篇、段的含义
- (3) 逻辑推理
- (4) 猜测词义
- (5) 确定没有提及或错误的选择項

阅读理解要求考生既能掌握所读材料的主旨大意、事实和细节，又能根据所读材料进行判断和推理。一般来说，同一篇短文的选择題的先后顺序是根据文章内容的先后安排的（除了推理性问题），跳題现象很少。

这里所讲的阅读理解是篇章理解。当语段组成语篇时，各个语段之间都存在着不同的逻辑关系，可以表示并列、顺序、

递进、转折、总分、解释、因果等关系。并列关系指句子之间处于平等的地位；顺序表示句子是按事物的发展顺序来写的；递进关系是指句子是按语义的轻重、认识的深浅，即由轻到重，由浅入深来安排的；转折关系经常用对比和对照的方法写；总分关系一般是主题句后边的句子为主题句服务；解释关系是后边的句子对前边的句子作解释、引申、例证；因果关系也可以说是一种特殊的解释关系。句子就是由上述方法构成语篇的统一性(unity)、连贯性(coherence)和粘着性(cohesion)。

II. 阅读技巧和解题方法

阅读方法一般有三种：带着问题去阅读，读懂文章后做题，粗读后，再看题找答案。不同体裁、类别的文章其阅读方法不尽相同。

1. 确定中心思想

一篇文章的主旨大意往往只有一个，各个语段都必须围绕其中心话题。

例如：

Doctors are of the opinion that most people cannot live beyond 100 years, but a growing number of scientists believe that the aging process can be controlled. There are more than 12,000 Americans over 100 years old who receive Social Security benefits, and their numbers are increasing each year. Dr. James Langley of Chicago claims that, theoretically and under ideal conditions, animals, including man, can live six times longer than their normal period or growth. A person's period of growth lasts approximately twenty-five years. If

Dr. Langley's theory is accurate, future generations can expect a life span of 150 years.

Which sentence best expresses the main idea?

- A) Within a few generations, most people will probably live for 150 years.
- B) Social Security pensioners are steadily increasing in number.
- C) Physicians and scientists disagree regarding man's possible life span.
- D) Man's normal period of growth compares with that of animals.

C)是正确答案。第一句话就说明主题。

What is the cause of chronic fatigue syndrome? Past research has suggested a link to the Epstein-Barr virus, but now many scientists are questioning that connection. New findings suggest that the Epstein-Barr virus is not a primary cause, but it may still trigger the illness. The symptoms may be due to a variety of things rather than just one. Still, some researchers are sticking with the idea of Epstein-Barr virus causing the illness. They say that it is premature to make such a judgment.

Chronic fatigue syndrome has been dubbed the "yuppie disease" by some since it is often diagnosed in professional women in their twenties and thirties. It may be the result of never recovering completely from illnesses such as the flu. Though the cause is not clear, the symptoms are. To be called a chronic fatigue sufferer, one must have the debilitating illness

for more than six months and must exhibit at least eight of the eleven symptoms, including sore throat, mild fever, and muscular aches.

With which of the following subjects is the passage mainly concerned?

- A) A disagreement between scientists
- B) Diseases affecting yuppies
- C) Causes and symptoms of an illness
- D) The relationship between a virus and an illness

C)是正确答案。第一段讨论慢性疲劳综合症的诱因,第二段讨论其症状。A)不对。文章讲到科学家们的不同观点,但不是本文的主题。B)不对。本文并非涉及到所有导致慢性疲劳综合症的疾病。D)不对。文章讲到 the Epstein-Barry virus 和慢性疲劳综合症的关系,但第二段并没有涉及。

做这类选择题时,我们要做到(1)略读(skimming)全文以获取总体印象;(2)在重要句子和作者的观点下画线(underlining);(3)推敲所画线部分,确定其题目和主旨大意。试做下题:

To keep clear of concealment, to keep clear of the need of concealment, to do nothing which he might not do out on the middle of Boston Common at noonday—I cannot say how more and more it seems to me to be the glory of young man's life. It is an awful hour when the first necessity of hiding anything comes. The whole life is different thenceforth. When there are questions to be feared and eyes to be avoided and subjects which must not be touched, then the bloom of life is gone. Put

off that day as long as possible. Put it off forever if you can.

The main idea of this passage is _____ .

- A) a time for concealment
- B) noonday on Boston Common
- C) a code for living
- D) penalties for putting things off

C)是正确答案。作者在推荐一种没有欺骗、没有隐瞒的生活准则,A)和B)不是主题。D)与最后两句意思相反。

让我们看下例图解

(1)

Topic	Africa-The fight against starvation in six West African
sentence	nations is being hampered by the rainy season.
supporting	Heavy rains are turning the dirt roads into
sentences	muddy rivers. Relief will have to wait for
	a dry spell which seems nowhere in
	sight. The weather bureau
	is maintaining silence
	for fear of causing
	increased
	alarm.

(2)

	if the
	wind be-
	comes gusty
	after a period of
supporting	calm, you should
sentences	seek shelter. The sky

	needs careful watching,
	too. Gradual darkening and
	“boiling” clouds should quicken
	your pace. Lightning and thunder
	are common enough storm indicators,
	but few people realize that the brightness
Topic	of the lightning is not nearly as important as
Sentence	the number of lightning flashes. The signs of
	an oncoming storm are many, and a person’s
	life may depend on his ability to interpret them.

(3)

	Despite
	the fact that
supporting	cars from Germany
Sentence	and Japan are flooding
	the American market. Ford,
	General Motors and Chrysler are
	hiring more workers than ever before.
Topic	The flood of cheaper foreign cars has not
Sentence	cost American auto workers their jobs as some ex-
	prets predicted. Ford operates as far as Asia,
	and General Motors is considered Aus-
Supporting	tralia’s biggest employer Yet GM
Sentences	has its huge American work
	force and hires hundreds
	of people every day
	to meet the needs
	of an insatiable

(4)

Supporting

Sentences or

Supporting

Details = Implied

Main Idea

Joshua Bingham studied four years at the University of Paris and decided to leave before his graduation. He transferred to the University of Berlin and graduated with honors. Harvard Law School and, later, Boston College provided him with an excellent legal background. He is presently a corporation lawyer in Miami, Florida.

图(1)的第一句话是主题句,我们用倒三角形▼(an inverted triangle)来表示;图(2)的最后一句话是主题句,我们用三角形▲(a regular triangle)来表示;图(3)的主题句在中间,我们用菱形◇(the shape of the diamond)来表示;图(4)没有主题句,需要我们分析推敲某种主旨大意,我们常用长方形□(a rectangle)来表示。

从上面图解我们得知,段落一般都是由一个主题句(topic sentence)和若干个辅助句(supporting sentence)构成。主题句还常常带有关键词,这些关键词对全段内容起主导作用。辅助句必须围绕着主题句做文章,否则就会损害段落的统一性。在段落中,主题句可在不同位置,但最常见的位置还是在段首。这对作者来说,比较容易突出中心思想;对读者来说,也比较容易地把握作者的思路。所以,只要读者仔细分析,认真思考,中心思想是不难确定的。

请做下列试题:

(1)Pity the poor steelhead trout. As if it weren't risky enough dodging fishermen and hungry predators, some of the luckless fish fight their way miles upstream to mate, only to be stopped by a high waterfall or an impassable dam. Because of this problem, thoughtful water officials have installed special ladders and pools at their pumping stations. Now as the fish swim upstream they encounter a new series of low rock dams and pools instead of the 4-foot waterfall that made a difficult jump for the steelhead. And during the entire migrating season a fish ladder will allow fish to make it over the wooden dam, even when the company pumps are operating.

This passage is mainly about _____ .

- A) a problem for fish
- B) waterfalls that are too high.
- C) company pumps
- D) the mating season for trout

(2)Originator of the Montessori method of education for preschool children, Maria Montessori was the first woman to receive a medical degree in Italy. After receiving her degree in 1894, she worked with subnormal children as a psychiatrist at the University of Rome. It was there that she pioneered in the instruction of retarded children, especially through the use of an environment rich in manipulative materials. The success of Maria's program with retarded children led her to believe that the same improvements could be made in the education of normal preschool children. This led her to open the first day care

center in Rome. With its success similar institutions were opened in other parts of Europe and in the United States. In the early part of this century, however, interest in the Montessori method declined because of those who argued that education should be more disciplined. But by the late 1950s the Montessori method experienced a renaissance, and in the 1960s the American Montessori Society was formed. The chief components of the Montessori method are self-motivation and autoeducation. Followers of the method believe that a child will learn naturally if put in an environment with the proper materials. The teacher acts as observer and only interferes if help is needed. Educators in this system are trying to reverse the traditional system of an active teacher and a passive class.

The best title for this passage is _____ .

- A) Self-Motivation
- B) The Montessori Method
- C) Educating Subnormal Children
- D) A New System of Education

(3) Edwin Forrest, often acknowledged as America's first national idol of American theater was born in Philadelphia in 1806. He was only 14 years old when he played Young Norval in Home's Douglas. He gained experience supporting Edmund Kean in Shakespearean roles. In 1826 he established himself as one of the great tragedians of the century with his role as Othello in a New York debut. His acting was bold and forceful, though he was also criticized for his boasting and loud lan-

guage. His violent temper did not injure his reputation as an actor though and his last appearance as Richelieu in Boston in 1871 was greeted with acclaim.

Which of the following statements is best supported by this passage?

- A) Though Edwin Forrest was criticized, his reputation was not damaged.
- B) Forrest was a great actor, but was brought down by his uncontrollable temper.
- C) Though bold in his acting, in reality Forrest's life was a tragedy.
- D) Forrest became a national idol at age 14, but was ruined later.

(1)A)是正确答案。第一、二句话告诉我们本文讲鱼所遇到的问题。B)只是问题的一个例子。C)是问题所发生的地方。D)也只是问题发生时的一个例子。

(2)B)是正确答案,这篇文章总的介绍了 Montessori 方法。A)和 C)只是其方法的一个方面;D)是错误的,因为这种教学法始于本世纪初期。

(3)A)是正确答案。最后两句话告诉我们,人们批评他说话口气太大,但他当演员的声誉并没有受到影响。B)正好与 A)相反。C)本文没有讲到 Forrest 的生活是个悲剧。D)不对,因为他 14 岁时,并没有成为民族的偶像,只是第一次登台表演。

2. 推论句子、段落以及文章的含义

推论性选择题即是在文章里作者没有明确地说明他/她