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大学英语四级“英译汉”测试指南

CET-4 Guide To Translation

田 艳 编著



CET-4



西北工业大学出版社

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【内容简介】本书是针对大学英语四级考试“英译汉”题而编写的一本辅导练习专用书,紧密围绕《大学英语教学大纲》,参照“英译汉”样题,有指导、有练习、有参考译文、有注释,以满足广大考生提高“英译汉”水平和复习迎考的需要。本书也可供广大读者提高“英译汉”水平使用。

大学英语四级“英译汉”测试指南

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前 言

1995年7月,全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会公布了将采用的“英译汉”样题;1996年1月,全国大学英语四级考试就增加了“英译汉”题。为帮助广大考生提高“英译汉”水平,积极复习迎考,编写了这本辅导练习专用书。

本书有以下几个特点:

一、注重指导。紧密围绕《大学英语教学大纲》,培养“英译汉”的能力。在指导文章中,介绍了采用新题型的目的和翻译的基本知识;通过对样题逐题分析和讲评,使考生了解翻译的过程和方法、“英译汉”题的难度及评分标准;还就如何提高“英译汉”水平和应试注意事项作了专门讲解。

二、注重实践。参考了“英译汉”样题和1996年1月全国大学英语四级考试“英译汉”题,精选了200个句子及36篇短文中的60个句子作练习题,练习量较大,使读者能在反复实践的基础上提高“英译汉”水平。

三、便于自学。所有练习都有难点注释和参考译文,考生可对照译文,参看注释,提高英汉语言水平,增强“英译汉”能力。

四、模拟实战。所有句子按5句一个单元编排,另附两套“英译汉”模拟题,材料分别选自1991年6月、1993年6月全国大学英语四级考试“阅读理解”题。这两套题均有难点注释并标出给分点的参考译文,便于自测。

在本书编写过程中,承西北工业大学外语系楼世正教授热情关怀,提出宝贵意见并审校了全部译文,在此表示衷心的感谢。

编著者

1996年5月

目 录

一、“英译汉”指导	1
1. 采用新题型的目的	1
2. 翻译的基本知识	1
3. “英译汉”题简介	2
4. “英译汉”样题	2
5. “英译汉”样题讲评	16
6. 如何提高“英译汉”水平	22
7. “英译汉”应试注意事项	23
二、“英译汉”练习	25
1. 单句翻译练习	25
2. 短文指定句翻译练习	52
三、“英译汉”练习参考译文和注释	97
1. 单句参考译文和注释	97
2. 短文指定句参考译文和注释	141
四、“英译汉”模拟题	156
模拟题 I	156
模拟题 II	168

五、模拟题参考译文和注释	182
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模拟题 I 参考译文和注释	182
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模拟题 II 参考译文和注释	183
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一、“英译汉”指导

1. 采用新题型的目的

全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会于 1995 年 7 月 15 日公布了大学英语四级考试第一批可能采用的两种新题型,即“英译汉”和“听写填空”。该委员会在《关于全国大学英语四级考试采用新题型的通知》中指出:“采用新题型的目的是使各校重视教学本身,把精力放在课堂教学上,切实提高学生的实际英语能力,避免应试教学。为了使各校在教学中更重视培养学生的英语能力,在某次考试中采用什么试题形式事先不公布。”显然,增加新题型的目的是要提高考生的英语交际能力,避免教学围绕考试转,这一点学生思想上一定要明确。因此,今后要想使四级考试考出好成绩,必须平时狠下功夫,切实提高英语水平。同样,要想使“英译汉”考题得高分,就必须提高英译汉的能力。

2. 翻译的基本知识

大学英语四级考试设置“英译汉”题,目的是考查考生对英语书面材料确切理解的能力,这不可避免会涉及汉语表达能力。因此,考生有必要具有一定的英汉语言知识和基本的翻译知识。由于考生不了解翻译的性质、过程 and 标准,即使理解了原文,也不一定能译出好译文。考生应认识这一点,并学习

基本的翻译知识。

从本质上讲,“翻译即译意”,是把充分理解的原文意思用译文表达出来。翻译并不是把原文的词一个不差地译成译语,或者不敢摆脱原文的结构,硬译、死译。

翻译的过程,简单讲是从原文理解到译文表达的过程。理解是前提,理解不正确肯定译不好,但理解的内容表达不好,同样会使人看不明白。所以想译好,既要重视理解,又要重视表达。

翻译以“忠实、通顺”为标准。“忠实”指忠实于原文所传达的内容,不随便增加、删减、遗漏;“通顺”指译文符合译语的表达习惯,意思清楚、连贯。

3. “英译汉”题简介

据考试委员会权威人士透露,增加“英译汉”题是为了弥补“阅读理解”题只划 A、B、C、D 选项的不足,也是四级考试增加主观题比例的措施之一。

“英译汉”题置于“阅读理解”题之后,共 5 题,每题 2 分,共 10 分;内容从阅读理解部分 4 篇文章中每篇确定 1 至 2 题,每题含 1 至 2 句。考试时间为 15 分钟。考生做完阅读理解题便于了解上下文。

为使“英译汉”题评分尽可能客观,采用局部和整体相结合的办法。把每句 2 分再分成 4 个 0.5 分,设置三个考点,共 1.5 分。另一个 0.5 分为“全句结构”分;全句翻译得意思正确,明白易懂,才能得分。

4. “英译汉”样题

(句子包含在 1995 年 6 月全国英语四级考试“阅读理解”

题短文中)

A. 1995 年 6 月全国英语四级考试“阅读理解”题:

Part II Reading Comprehension (35 minutes)

Directions: There are 4 passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following passage:

Researchers have established that when people are mentally engaged, biochemical changes occur in the brain that allow it to act more effectively in cognitive (认知的) areas such as attention and memory. This is true regardless of age.

People will be alert (警觉的) and receptive (愿意接受的) if they are faced with information that gets them to think about things they are interested in. And someone with a history of doing more rather than less will go into old age more cognitively sound than someone who has not had an active mind.

Many experts are so convinced of the benefits of chal-

lenging the brain that they are putting the theory to work in their own lives. "The idea is not necessarily to learn to memorize enormous amounts of information," says James Fozard, associate director of the National Institute on Aging. "Most of us don't need that kind of skill. Such specific training is of less interest than being able to maintain mental alertness." Fozard and others say they challenge their brains with different mental skills, both because they enjoy them and because they are sure that their range of activities will help the way their brains work.

Gene Cohen, acting director of the same institute, suggests that people in their old age should engage in mental and physical activities individually as well as in groups. Cohen says that we are frequently advised to keep physically active as we age, but older people need to keep mentally active as well. Those who do are more likely to maintain their intellectual abilities and to be generally happier and better adjusted. "The point is, you need to do both," Cohen says. "Intellectual activity actually influences brain-cell health and size."

21. People who are cognitively healthy are those _____.

- A) who can remember large amounts of information
- B) who are highly intelligent
- C) whose minds are alert and receptive
- D) who are good at recognizing different sounds

22. According to Pôzard's argument, people can make their brains work more efficiently by _____.
A) constantly doing memory work
B) taking part in various mental activities
C) going through specific training
D) making frequent adjustments
23. The findings of James and other scientists in their work _____.
A) remain a theory to be further proved
B) have been challenged by many other experts
C) have been generally accepted
D) are practiced by the researchers themselves
24. Older people are generally advised to _____.
A) keep fit by going in for physical activities
B) keep mentally active by challenging their brains
C) maintain mental alertness through specific training
D) maintain a balance between individual and group activities
25. What is the passage mainly about?
A) How biochemical changes occur in the human brain.
B) Why people should keep active not only physically but also mentally.
C) How intellectual activities influence brain-cell health.
D) Why people should receive special mental training as they age.

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage:

Attention to detail is something everyone can and should do especially in a tight job market. Bob Crossley, a human-resources expert notices this in the job applications that come across his desk every day. "It's amazing how many candidates eliminate themselves," he says.

"Resumes (简历) arrive with stains. Some candidates don't bother to spell the company's name correctly. Once I see a mistake, I eliminate the candidate", Crossley concludes. "If they cannot take care of these details, why should we trust them with a job?"

Can we pay too much attention to details? Absolutely. Perfectionists struggle over little things at the cost of something larger they work toward. "To keep from losing the forest for the trees," says Charles Garfield, associate professor at the University of California, San Francisco, "we must constantly ask ourselves how the details we're working on fit into the larger picture. If they don't, we should drop them and move to something else."

Garfield compares this process to his work as a computer scientist at NASA. "The Apollo II moon launch was slightly off-course 90 percent of the time," says Garfield. "but a successful landing was still likely because we knew the exact coordinates of our goal. This allowed us to make adjustments as necessary." Knowing where we want to go helps us judge the importance of every task we undertake.

Too often we believe what accounts for others' success is some special secret or a lucky break (机遇). But rarely is success so mysterious. Again and again, we see that by doing little things within our grasp well, large rewards follow.

26. According to the passage, some job applicants were rejected _____.
- A) because of their carelessness as shown in their failure to present a clean copy of a resume
 - B) because of their inadequate education as shown in their poor spelling in writing a resume
 - C) because they failed to give a detailed description of their background in their applications
 - D) because they eliminated their names from the applicants' list themselves
27. The word "Perfectionists" (Para. 3, line 2) refers to those who _____.
- A) demand others to get everything absolutely right
 - B) know how to adjust their goals according to the circumstances
 - C) pay too much attention to details only to lose their major objectives
 - D) are capable of achieving perfect results in whatever they do
28. Which of the following is the author's advice to the reader?

- A) Although too much attention to details may be costly, they should not be overlooked.
 - B) Don't forget details when drawing pictures.
 - C) Be aware of the importance of a task before undertaking it.
 - D) Careless applicants are not to be trusted.
29. The example of the Apollo II moon launch is given to illustrate that _____.
- A) minor mistakes can be ignored in achieving major objectives
 - B) failure is the mother of success
 - C) adjustments are the key to the successful completion of any work
 - D) keeping one's goal in mind helps in deciding which details can be overlooked
30. The best title for this passage would be _____.
- A) Don't Be a Perfectionist
 - B) Importance of Adjustments
 - C) Details and Major Objectives
 - D) Hard Work Plus Good Luck

Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following passage:

Britain almost more than any other country in the world must seriously face the problem of building upwards, that is to say, of accommodating a considerable proportion of its population in high blocks of flats. It is said that the Eng-

lishman objects to this type of existence, but if the case is such, he does in fact differ from the inhabitants of most countries of the world today. In the past our own blocks of flats have been associated with the lower-income groups and they have lacked the obvious provisions, such as central heating, constant hot water supply, electrically operated lifts from top to bottom, and so on, as well as such details, important notwithstanding (然而) as easy facilities for disposal of dust and rubbish and storage places for baby carriages on the ground floor, playgrounds for children on the top of the buildings, and drying grounds for washing. It is likely that the dispute regarding flats versus (对, 对抗) individual houses will continue to rage on for a long time as far as Britain is concerned. And it is unfortunate that there should be hot feeling on both sides whenever this subject is raised. Those who oppose the building of flats base their case primarily on the assumption (设想) that everyone prefers an individual home and garden and on the high cost per unit of accommodation. The latter ignores the higher cost of providing full services to a scattered community and the cost in both money and time of the journeys to work for the suburban resident.

31. We can infer from the passage that _____.

- A) English people, like most people in other countries, dislike living in flats

- B) people in most countries of the world today are not opposed to living in flats.
 - C) people in Britain are forced to move into high blocks of flats
 - D) modern flats still fail to provide the necessary facilities for living
32. What is said about the blocks of flats built in the past in Britain?
- A) They were mostly inhabited by people who did not earn much.
 - B) They were usually not large enough to accommodate big families.
 - C) They were sold to people before necessary facilities were installed.
 - D) They provided playgrounds for children on the top of the buildings.
33. The word "rage" (line 17) means "_____".
- A) be ignored
 - B) develop with great force
 - C) encourage people greatly
 - D) be in fashion
34. Some people oppose the building of flats because _____.
- A) the living expenses for each individual family are higher
 - B) it involves higher cost compared with the building