

四级阅读 技巧与实践

高岩杰 杨翠萍 牛凤樟

大学英语四、六级考试指导丛书



西安交通大学出版社

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内 容 提 要

本书根据《大学英语四级考试大纲》的要求,针对学生阅读实践中的难点,通过对四级阅读试题的分析,总结了正确阅读的方法和解题的技巧。为了便于考生自学和自测,练习题附有详解和答案。本书选材广泛,内容新颖,深入浅出,注重指导性和实用性,是参加大学英语四级考试的学生及广大英语爱好者必备的应试指导书。

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序 言

本丛书是根据《大学英语教学大纲》、《大学英语四级考试大纲》和《大学英语六级考试大纲》的要求编写的,目的在于帮助学生复习和巩固英语基础知识,提高语言运用能力以及增强应试能力。本丛书具有以下特点:

一、针对性强。参加本丛书编写的都是具有丰富大学英语教学经验的教师。他们对英语学习和测试中的难点、重点和考点进行了潜心的分析,并提出了培养学生分析,解决问题能力的方法。

二、内容新颖。本丛书使用的素材均精选自国外最近出版的书刊。阅读理解部分的短文及完形填空部分的短文题材广泛,体裁多样。

三、模拟度高。在选材和试题设计的过程中,编者按照《大纲》规定的各项指标,参照正式公布的四、六级考试样题及试题,对试题的难易度,进行了认真分析和悉心整理,使本丛书的测试题基本达到标准化测试所要求的信度和效度。

四、指导性强。在分析学生学习英语和考试中存在问题的基础上,编者介绍了四、六级考试的测试要求、测试要点及方法。既注意突出重点,又注意覆盖面。通过讲解,可使考生举一反三,触类旁通。因此,考生通过对本丛书的学习,既可提高应试能力,又可提高语言运用能力。

本丛书包括:《新编大学英语四级考试模拟题》、《新编大学英语六级考试模拟题》、《四级阅读技巧与实践》、《六级阅读技巧与实践》、《四级听力技巧与实践》、《六级听力技巧与实践》。

践》、《大学英语写作技巧与实践》等。

本丛书听力理解测试部分各有录音磁带,可供考生自测用。

本丛书适用于大专院校非英语专业学生作为四、六级考试的复习材料或教材,也可供参加 TOEFL、WSK、硕士研究生入学考试的考生复习使用。

西安理工大学亢树森教授和西北大学朱继武教授对本丛书的编写提出了宝贵意见,并对本书作出了精心的审核,西安交大人文社会科学学院冯晓光老师对本丛书的“内容提要”、“前言”的汉语文字进行了修改,润色。在此谨向他们表示衷心的感谢。

由于编者水平有限,错误与疏漏之处在所难免,诚请读者不吝指正

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前 言

本书根据《大学英语四级英语考试大纲》编写。旨在帮助考生更有效地提高阅读能力和应试能力。

全书共分五部分。第一部分介绍了四级阅读考试的要求,并通过对真题的分析使考生对四级阅读的特点、形式、难易程度以及命题方式有个全面而清楚的认识。同时针对考生阅读的难点所在,提出了相应的解决办法。第二部分侧重于培养学生的综合阅读能力,特别是注重培养学生的猜词能力以及理解篇章之间的逻辑关系的能力。第三部分总结归纳了四级阅读测试的题型、特征及解题思路,以便考生掌握正确的阅读方法和解题技巧。第四部分和第五部分为综合练习,使考生通过实践来加深对理论的理解和认识,达到理论与实践相结合的目的。为了便与考生自学和自测,练习部分附有答案和详解。本书选材广泛,题材多样,内容丰富,注重指导性和实用性,是四级考试学生及其他英语爱好者必备的应试指导书。

在编写过程中,西安理工大学外语部亢树森教授对本书作了精心的审阅,在此表示衷心感谢。

由于编者水平所限,错误及疏漏在所难免,请专家及广大读者批评指正。

编 者

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PART I

四级阅读考试命题探秘

《大学英语四级考试大纲》规定,学生应掌握基本的阅读技能,阅读速度达 50—80 词/分钟,阅读理解准确率为 70% 以上。四级考试的阅读部分是能否通过四级考试的关键项目,因为此项所占分数为 40 分,超过了整个试卷分数的 1/3。本部分通常由四篇短文组成,总阅读量在 1 000—1 200 词,要求考生在 35 分钟之内读完全部文章,并正确回答 20 个与短文内容有关的多项选择题。文章的题材通常包括历史、文化、科技、教育、地理、生物、化学、医药、电子、一般常识、文学、人物传记等等。文章的体裁可以是记叙文、议论文和说明文,其中说明文和议论文形式比较多见。

I. 试题剖析

为了对阅读考试的难易程度、命题方式、出题规律及命题重点有一个透彻的了解,这里特分析一套大学英语四级考试阅读部分的全真试题,供大家参考。

1. 转引全真试题

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage:

Oceanography has been defined as "The application of all sciences to the study of the sea".

Before the nineteenth century, scientists with an interest in the sea were few and far between. Certainly Newton considered

some theoretical aspects of it in his writings, but he was reluctant (不愿意) to go to sea to further his work.

For most people the sea was remote, and with the exception of early intercontinental travellers or others who earned a living from the sea, there was little reason to ask many questions about it, let alone to ask what lay beneath the surface. The first time that the question "What is at the bottom of the oceans?" had to be answered with any commercial consequence was when the laying of a telegraph cable from Europe to America was proposed. The engineers had to know the depth profile (起伏形状) of the route to estimate the length of cable that had to be manufactured.

It was to Maury of the US Navy that the Atlantic Telegraph Company turned, in 1853, for information on this matter. In the 1840s, Maury had been responsible for encouraging voyages during which soundings were taken to investigate the depths of the North Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Later, some of his findings aroused much popular interest in his book *The Physical Geography of the Sea*.

The cable was laid, but not until 1866 was the connection made permanent and reliable. At the early attempts, the cable failed and when it was taken out for repairs it was found to be covered in living growths, a fact which defied contemporary scientific opinion that there was no life in the deeper parts of the sea.

Within a few years oceanography was under way. In 1872 Thomson led a scientific expedition (考察), which lasted for four years and brought home thousands of samples from the sea. Their

classification and analysis occupied scientists for years and led to a five-volume report, the last volume being published in 1895.

1. The passage implies that the telegraph cable was built mainly _____.

A) for oceanographic studies ✕

B) for military purposes

~~C) for business considerations~~ ✓

~~D) for investigating the depths of the oceans~~

2. It was _____ that asked Maury for help in oceanographic studies.

A) the American Navy

B) some early intercontinental travellers

C) those who earned a living from the sea

~~D) the company which proposed to lay an undersea cable~~ ✓

3. The aim of voyages Maury encouraged in the 1840s was _____.

A) to make some sound experiments in the oceans

B) to collect samples of sea plants and animals

C) to estimate the length of cable that was to be made

~~D) to measure the depths of two oceans~~ ✓

4. "Defied" in the 5th paragraph probably means _____.

~~A) "doubted"~~

C) "challenged" ✓

B) "gave proof to"

D) "agreed to" ✕

5. This passage is mainly about _____.

~~A) the beginnings of oceanography~~ ✓

B) the laying of the first undersea cable

C) the investigation of ocean depths

D) the early intercontinental communications

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage:

Normally a student must attend a certain number of courses in order to graduate, and each course which he attends gives him a credit (学分) which he may count towards a degree. In many American universities the total work for a degree consists of thirty-six courses each lasting for one semester (学期). A typical course consists of three classes per week for fifteen weeks; while attending a university a student will probably attend four or five courses during each semester. Normally a student would expect to take four years attending two semesters each year. It is possible to spread the period of work for the degree over a longer period. It is also possible for a student to move between one university and another during his degree course, though this is not in fact done as a regular practice.

For every course that he follows a student is given a grade, which is recorded, and the record is available for the student to show to prospective employers. All this imposes a constant pressure and strain of work, but in spite of this some students still find time for great activity in student affairs. Elections to positions in student organisations arouse much enthusiasm. The effective work of maintaining discipline is usually performed by students who advise the academic authorities. Any student who is thought to have broken the rules, for example, by cheating has to appear before a student court. With the enormous numbers of students, the opera-

tion of the system does involve a certain amount of activity. A student who has held one of these positions of authority is much respected and it will be of benefit to him later in his career.

6. Normally a student would at least attend _____ classes each week.

A) 36

C) 20

B) 12

D) 15

7. According to the first paragraph an American student is allowed _____.

A) to live in a different university

B) to take a particular course in a different university

C) to live at home and drive to classes

~~D) to get two degrees from two different universities~~

8. American university students are usually under pressure of work because _____.

A) their academic performance will affect their future careers

B) they are heavily involved in student affairs

C) they have to observe university discipline

D) they want to run for positions of authority

9. Some students are enthusiastic for positions in student organisations probably because _____.

A) they hate the constant pressure and strain of their study

B) they will then be able to stay longer in the university

C) such positions help them get better jobs

10. The student organisations seem to be effective in _____

- A) dealing with the academic affairs of the university
- B) ensuring that the students observe university regulations
- C) evaluating students' performance by bringing them before a court
- D) keeping up the students' enthusiasm for social activities

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage:

Do you find getting up in the morning so difficult that it's painful? This might be called laziness, but Dr. Kleitman has a new explanation. He has proved that everyone has a daily energy cycle.

During the hours when you labour through your work you may say that you're "hot". That's true. The time of day when you feel most energetic is when your cycle of body temperature is at its peak. For some people the peak comes during the forenoon. For others it comes in the afternoon or evening. No one has discovered why this is so, but it leads to such familiar monologues (自言自语) as: "Get up, John! you'll be late for work again!" The possible explanation to the trouble is that John is at his temperature-and-energy peak in the evening. Much family quarrelling ends when husbands and wives realize what these energy cycles mean, and which cycle each member of the family has.

You can't change your energy cycle, but you can learn to

make your life fit it better. Habit can help, Dr. Kleitman believes. Maybe you're sleepy in the evening but feel you must stay up late anyway. Counteract (对抗) your cycle to some extent by habitually staying up later than you want to. If your energy is low in the morning but you have an important job to do early in the day, rise before your usual hour. This won't change your cycle, but you'll get up steam and work better at your low point.

Get off to a slow start which saves your energy. Get up with a leisurely yawn (呵欠) and stretch. Sit on the edge of the bed a minute before putting your feet on the floor. Avoid the troublesome search for clean clothes by laying them out the night before. Whenever possible, do routine work in the afternoon and save tasks requiring more energy or concentration for your sharper hours.

11. If a person finds getting up early a problem, most probably _____.

~~A) he is a lazy person~~

B) he refuses to follow his own energy cycle

C) he is not sure when his energy is low

D) he is at his peak in the afternoon or evening

12. Which of the following may lead to family quarrels according to the passage?

A) Unawareness of energy cycles.

B) Familiar monologues.

C) A change in a family member's energy cycle.

D) Attempts to control the energy cycle of other family

members.

13. If one wants to work more efficiently at his low point in the morning, he should _____.
- A) change his energy cycle
 - B) overcome his laziness
 - ~~C) get up earlier than usual~~
 - D) go to bed earlier
14. You are advised to rise with a yawn and stretch because it will _____.
- ~~A) help to keep your energy for the day's work~~
 - B) help you to control your temper early in the day
 - C) enable you to concentrate on your routine work
 - D) keep your energy cycle under control all day
15. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE?
- A) Getting off to work with a minimum effort helps save one's energy.
 - ~~B) Dr. Kleitman explains why people reach their peaks at different hours of day.~~
 - C) Habit helps one adapt to his own energy cycle.
 - D) Children have energy cycles, too.

Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage:

We find that bright children are rarely held back by mixed-ability teaching. On the contrary, both their knowledge and experience are enriched. We feel that there are many disadvantages in streaming (把……按能力分班) pupils. It does not take into account the fact that children develop at different rates. It can have