

# 大学英语

## 六级考试习题集

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内 容 提 要

本书为大学英语六级考试习题集,内含 10 个 Test。每个 Test 有:阅读理解、词汇与结构、综合改错及写作。完成一个 Test 约需 100 分钟。本书的材料大部分选自最新英、美书刊和试题。本书设题巧妙、词汇覆盖面广、语法结构针对性强、难度适中,具有试题的信度和效度。书后附有词汇表,可节省学生查找生字的时间。本书可作为大学本科生、研究生的自测、自练材料,亦可作为大、中学英语教师选编试题或教学实例的参考书。

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# 前 言

全国大学英语六级考试(CET-6)是一种标准化考试,是衡量理工科大学生是否达到英语教学大纲所确定的各项目标的一个尺度。近年来,学生参加大学英语六级考试的积极性很高,迫切需要相应的测试材料进行考前复习。为了帮助学生提高英语水平,顺利通过英语六级考试,我们精心编写了此书。

在编写的准备阶段,我们对大学英语六级考题及各种模拟试题的范围、形式、难度等进行了认真的分析,以确保本书作为英语六级试题的信度和效度。在编写过程中,我们还用部分所编试题在本科生和研究生中进行了测试,受到了学生的好评。

本书是严格按照大学英语六级考试的各项要求编写的。但是,为了适应外语教学改革的深入发展和外语教学水平的不断提高,我们稍微加大了本书的难度,因此,它也适用于报考研究生,参加EPT或TOEFL考试的学生。同时,也可供有一定英语水平的读者作为进一步提高的自练、自测材料。

本书共有十套试题,每套试题包括四个部分:阅读理解、词汇与结构、综合改错及写作。阅读理解的文章大部分选自最新英、美书刊和试题。文章题材多样,内容新颖,文字规范流畅,富有知识性和趣味性。理解题设计巧妙,有很强的启发性。在词汇与语法结构中,词汇约占70%,突出了词和短语的用法,因而使词汇覆盖面宽、语法结构针对性强。综合改错选文难度适中,所设错误具有典型性,能真实地测试学生综合运用语言的能力和熟练程度。写作部分所设题目内容广泛、形式多

样,书中配有参考范文,供学生学习、模仿,以便提高学生的写作技巧和应试能力。

书后附有词汇表,可节省学生查找生词的时间;如经常翻阅,对扩大词汇量将大有裨益。

本书在编写过程中,曾得到谢长春、郑冬雪、耿玉祥、安琨及戴萌同志在搜集资料、出版、打字、校对等方面的关怀和帮助,在此一并致谢。

限于编者水平,错误疏漏之处在所难免,敬请读者批评指正。

编 者  
一九九六年四月

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# Test 1

## Part I Reading Comprehension

(35 minutes)

**Directions:** There are 4 reading 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 1 to 5 are based on the following passage.**

Carnegie Hall, the famous concert hall in New York City, has again undergone a restoration. While this is not the first, it is certainly the most extensive in the building's history. As a result of this new restoration, Carnegie Hall should once again have the quality of sound that it had when it was first built.

Carnegie Hall owes its existence to Andrew Carnegie, the wealthy owner of a steel company in the late 1800s. The hall was finished in 1891, and quickly gained a reputation as an excellent performing arts hall where accomplished musicians gained fame. Despite its reputation, however, the

concert hall suffered from several detrimental renovations (改造) over the years. During the Great Depression, when fewer people could afford to attend performances, the directors sold part of the building to commercial businesses. As a result, a coffee shop was opened in one corner of the building, for which the builders replaced the brick and terra cotta (瓷砖) walls with windowpanes. A renovation in 1946 seriously damaged the acoustical quality of the hall when the makers of the film "Carnegie Hall" cut a gaping hole in the dome of the ceiling to allow for lights and air vents. The hole was later covered with short curtains and fake ceiling, but the hall never sounded the same afterwards.

In 1960, the violinist Isaac Stern became involved in restoring the hall after a group of real estate developers unveiled (公布) plans to demolish Carnegie Hall and build a high-rise office building on the site. This threat spurred Stern to rally public support for Carnegie Hall and encourage the City of New York to buy the property. The movement was successful, and the concert hall is now owned by the city. In the current restoration, builders tested each new material for its sound qualities, and they replaced the hole in the ceiling with a dome. The builders also restored the outer walls to their original appearance and closed the coffee shop. Carnegie has never sounded better, and its prospects for the future have never looked more promising.

1. This passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.

- ☒ A. changes to Carnegie Hall
  - B. the appearance of Carnegie Hall
  - C. Carnegie Hall's history during the Great Depression
  - D. damage to the ceiling in Carnegie Hall
2. What was probably the most important aspect of the recent renovation?
- A. Restoring the outer wall.
  - B. Expanding the lobby.
  - C. Restoring the plaster trim.
  - ☒ D. Repairing the ceiling.
3. What is Isaac Stern's relationship to Carnegie Hall?
- A. He made the movie "Carnegie Hall" in 1946.
  - B. He performed on opening night in 1891.
  - ☒ C. He worked to save the hall beginning in 1960.
  - D. He opened a coffee shop in Carnegie Hall in 1934.
4. How does the author seem to feel about the future of Carnegie Hall?
- ☒ A. Ambiguous.

B. Guarded.
- C. Optimistic.

☒ D. Negative.
5. Which of the following would most likely be the topic of the next paragraph?
- A. A scientific explanation of acoustics and the nature of sound.
  - ☒ B. A description of people's reactions to the newly renovated hall.
  - C. A discussion of the coffee shop that once was located in the building.



D. Further discussion about the activities of Isaac Stern in 1960.

**Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage.**

It's easy to switch on the television set when there's nothing else to do. But many people watch TV not just because it's convenient, but because it provides escape from the anxiety they feel during idle moments.

Psychologist Robert W. Kubey has looked at television's role during idle time by having 107 married, divorced, and single men and women complete questionnaires describing what they were doing and how they felt whenever an electronic pager (寻呼机) signaled them. Each participant was paged from seven to nine times a day over one week. All were employed, and ranged in age from 18 to 63 years old.

Kubey found that the heaviest viewers of television reported more negative feelings when alone and when they had nothing to do than did those who watched TV least. Heavy TV viewers reported more positive feelings in structured situations, such as working, engaging in hobbies, or doing housework. Overall, they reported unpleasant fantasies, thoughts, and feelings more frequently than did light viewers. For them, Kubey says, "Television seems to offer a ready means of structuring attention that permits both escape from and avoidance of the discomfort that normally occurs during idle time."

The results also suggest that lack of structure is more

troublesome than the solitude that so often accompanies idle time. The heavy TV viewers consistently were in better spirits when involved in an activity, whether with others or alone, than when they had nothing to do.

But using television to overcome the discomfort idle time may bring only makes matters worse. People who increasingly depend on TV may become less capable of filling their free time when it isn't around. "Heavy viewing of the rapid montage (蒙太奇) of much contemporary television may help reinforce an intolerance in the heavy viewer for daily activities that are not chock full (塞满) of sight and sound," Kubey says.

6. The central idea expressed in this passage is that television \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. makes time pass faster  
B. makes work more enjoyable  
C. overcomes discomfort idle time brings  
D. makes us less capable of handling spare time without television
7. The first sentence of the third paragraph ("Kubey found that the ...") indicates that the author's purpose is to \_\_\_\_\_.  
B A. state a problem in TV watching  
B. describe the results of a survey  
C. define "excessive" TV watching  
D. argue for legal remedies

8. In developing the passage, the organizational pattern used by the author could be described as \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. definition B. cause and effect  
 D C. contrast and comparison D. simple listing
9. The author of this passage has created a tone that could be described as \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. analytical B. arrogant  
 A C. ambivalent(感情矛盾的) D. evasive(含糊的)
10. From this passage, you could infer that TV probably has \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. an impact on only heavy viewers  
 B. an unpredictable impact on our lives  
 C a greater impact on our lives than we have realized  
 D. no real impact on our lives.

**Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage.**

There is one fact about the origin of life which is reasonably certain. Whenever and wherever it happened, it started a very long time ago, so long ago that it is extremely difficult to form any realistic idea of such vast stretches of time. The shortness of human life necessarily limits the span of direct personal recollection.

Human culture has given us the illusion that our memories go further back than that. Before writing was invented, the experience of earlier generations, embodied in stories, myths and moral precepts to guide behavior, was passed down verbally or, to a lesser extent, in pictures, carvings and

statues. Writing has made more precise and more extensive the transmission of such information and, in recent times, photography has sharpened our images of the immediate past. Even so, we have difficulty in contemplating steadily the march of history, from the beginnings of civilization to the present day, in such a way that we can truly experience the slow passage of time. Our minds are not built to deal comfortably with periods as long as hundreds or thousands of years.

Yet when we come to consider the origin of life, the time scales we must deal with make the whole span of human history seem but the blink of an eyelid. There is no simple way to adjust one's thinking to such vast stretches of time. The immensity of time passed is beyond our ready comprehension. One can only construct an impression of it from indirect and incomplete descriptions, just as a blind man laboriously builds up, by touch and sound, a picture of his immediate surroundings.

The customary way to provide a convenient framework for one's thoughts is to compare the age of the universe with the length of a single earthly day. Perhaps a better comparison, along the same lines, would be to equate the age of our earth with a single week. On such a scale the age of the universe, since the Big Bang, would be about two or three weeks.

Even this comparison hardly makes the longer time scale comprehensible to us. Another alternative is to draw a

linear map of time, with the different events marked on it. The problem here is to make the line long enough to show our own experience on a reasonable scale, and yet short enough or convenient reproduction and examination. But perhaps the most vivid method is to compare time to the lines of print themselves. Let us make a 200-page book equal in length to the time from the start of the Cambrian(寒武纪) to the present; that is, about 600 million years. Then each full page will represent roughly 3 million years, each line about ninety thousand years and each letter or small space about fifteen hundred years. The origin of the earth would be about seven books ago and the origin of the universe ten or so books before that. Almost the whole of recorded human history would be covered by the last two or three letters of the book.

11. The phrase "to a lesser extent" in Line 5, Paragraph 2 indicates that, before the invention of writing, the wisdom of earlier generations was \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. rejected by recent generations when portrayed in pictures, carvings or statues  
B. passed down orally, or not at all  
C. transmitted more effectively by spoken word than by other means  
D. based on illusory memories that turned fact into fiction
12. The analogy of the "blind man" (Paragraph 3) is present-

ed primarily to show that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. humans are unable to comprehend long periods of time
- B. myths and legends fail to give an accurate picture of the past
- C. human history is only a fraction of the time since life began
- ☒ D. long periods of time can only be understood indirectly

13. In Paragraph 4, the author mentions the Big Bang in order to demonstrate which point?

- A. The age of the earth is best understood using the time scale of a week.
- ☒ B. Human history can be traced as far back as to the Big Bang.
- ☒ C. Convenient time scales do not adequately represent the age of the earth.
- D. The customary framework for thinking about the age of the universe should be discarded permanently.

14. According to Paragraph 5, one difficulty of using a linear representation of time is that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. linear representations of time do not meet accepted scientific standards of accuracy
- ☒ B. the more accurate the scale, the more difficult the map is to copy and study
- C. prehistoric eras overlap each other

- D. our knowledge of pre-Cambrian time is insufficient to construct an accurate linear map
15. The author of this passage discusses several kinds of time scales primarily in order to illustrate the \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. difficulty of assigning precise dates to past events  
B. variety of choices faced by scientists investigating the origin of life  
C. evolution of efforts to comprehend the passage of history  
D. immensity of time since life began on earth

**Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage.**

For me, scientific knowledge is divided into mathematical sciences, natural sciences or sciences dealing with the natural world (physical and biological sciences), and sciences dealing with mankind (psychology, sociology, all the sciences of cultural achievements, every kind of historical knowledge). Apart from these sciences is philosophy, about which we will talk later. In the first place, all this is pure or theoretical knowledge, sought only for the purpose of understanding, in order to fulfill the need to understand that is intrinsic and consubstantial (同质的) to man. What distinguishes man from animal is that he knows and needs to know. If man did not know that the world existed, and that the world was of a certain kind, that he was in the world and that he himself was of a certain kind, he wouldn't be man. The technical aspects or applications of knowledge are equally neces-

sary for man and are of the greatest importance, because they also contribute to defining him as man and permit him to pursue a life increasingly more truly human.

But even while enjoying the results of technical progress, he must defend the primacy and autonomy (自主性) of pure knowledge. Knowledge sought directly for its practical applications will have immediate and foreseeable success, but not the kind of important result whose revolutionary scope is in large part unforeseen, except by the imagination of the Utopians. Let me recall a well-known example. If the Greek mathematicians had not applied themselves to the investigation of conic (圆锥的) sections, zealously and without the least suspicion that it might someday be useful, it would not have been possible centuries later to navigate far from shore. The first men to study the nature of electricity could not imagine that their experiments, carried on because of mere intellectual curiosity, would eventually lead to modern electrical technology, without which we can scarcely conceive of contemporary life. Pure knowledge is valuable for its own sake, because the human spirit cannot resign itself to ignorance. But, in addition, it is the foundation for practical results that would not have been reached if this knowledge had not been sought disinterestedly.

16. The most important advances made by mankind come from \_\_\_\_\_.

A. technical applications



- B. apparently useless information
  - C. the natural sciences
  - D. the biological sciences
17. In the paragraph which follows this passage, we may expect the author to discuss \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. the value of technical research
  - B. the value of pure research
  - C. philosophy
  - D. scientific foundations
18. The author points out that the Greeks who studied conic sections \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. were mathematicians
  - B. were interested in navigation
  - C. were unaware of the value of their studies
  - D. worked with electricity
19. The title below that best expresses the ideas of this passage is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. Technical Progress
  - B. Man's Distinguishing Characteristics
  - C. Learning for Its Own Sake
  - D. The Difference between Science and Philosophy
20. The practical scientist \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. knows the value of what he will discover
  - B. is interested in the unknown
  - C. is a philosopher
  - D. conceives of contemporary life