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 新东方考研英语培训教材

考研英语

印建坤·主编

阅读理解 精读100篇 (高分版)

- 阅读文章精选自考研英语命题题源，为考生提供优质阅读练习素材
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前言

——写给考研阅读理解想考高分的人

印老师,您好!我是一名考研学生,正在准备考研英语的复习。我听说复习阅读理解做历年的真题非常有效,可历年真题就那么十几套,我就不用再做其他的练习题目了吗?

这个问题具有很强的代表性,我对这个问题的回答是:考研英语阅读理解真题具有极大的参考价值,但是,只研究真题不做更多的练习题目是绝对行不通的!在每年的考试现场,都有很大比例的考生无法在规定时间内答完试卷,与成功“失之交臂”。造成这个问题最主要的原因就是考生对阅读理解部分不够熟练,占用了太长的考试时间。如果想在规定时间内答完试卷,就必须加快解答阅读题目的速度,而提高阅读理解的速度的最好办法就是多做阅读理解练习。

在多年的考研英语教学过程中,曾经有无数学生问过我同样一个问题:“考研英语理解用什么课后练习册呢?”坦率地讲,每次遇到这个问题我都不知该从何回答。因为这个问题非常复杂,对于不同的考生会有不同的答案。一个考生如果选择了比自己能力高出许多倍的练习册,那么后果肯定是灾难性的——在无数次不必要的打击之后,该考生会坚定自己考不上的信念。反之,如果一个考生选择了比自己能力低许多的练习册,那么在做了很多练习之后考生看到的是虚假的繁荣景象,他会错误地以为自己已经达到了考试的最佳状态,以致在考试时“马失前蹄”。所以,考生在选择阅读理解课后练习的时候最重要的一个原则就是:选择适合自己的。不同水平的考生应该选择不同难度的练习册,这样才能真正做到事半功倍。

《考研英语阅读理解精读 100 篇(基础版)》自从 2006 年 8 月份问世以来受到了广大考生的热烈支持和喜爱,成为最畅销的考研英语阅读理解课后练习类图书之一。在此,谨代表我本人向广大读者的支持表示诚挚的谢意。但是,《考研英语阅读理解精读 100 篇(基础版)》编写时针对的主要是英语基本功一般或者不够扎实的考生。它能够帮助这类考生在阅读理解部分得到 24~28 分(该部分满分 40 分)。而对于那些英语基本功很扎实、想在考研英语考试中取得高分的考生来说,《考研英语阅读理解精读 100 篇(基础版)》是远远不够的。

为了满足各类考生的不同需求,经过 3 年多的努力之后,笔者终于编写完成了《考研英语阅读理解精读 100 篇(高分版)》。这本书的难度要比基础版高出一个层次。编写这本书的主要目的是为了帮助英语基本功优秀的考生反复演练各种考试技巧,在大量练习之后提高解题速度,以期在阅读理解部分达到 28 分以上的水平。

和《考研英语阅读理解精读 100 篇(基础版)》一样,本书的所有文章全部来自于英美国家的权威报纸杂志,主要包括 *Newsweek*, *Times*, *New York Times*, *Scientific American*, *Economist* 等。题目的命制思路也是完全仿照了历年考试的真题,所有题目已经被多位曾参加过研究生入学考试的的名校在读研究生反复检测。希望本书可以为广大考生在考研英语复习的道路上保驾护航,也祝愿广大考生能够心想事成,在考试中取得好成绩!

印建坤

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Unit ONE

TEXT ONE

Tesco is preparing a legal battle to clear its name of involvement in the dairy price-fixing scandal that has cost consumers £270 million. Failure to prove that it had no part in collusion with other supermarkets and dairy *processors* may land it with a fine of at least £80 million. The Office of Fair Trading (OFT) said yesterday that Asda, Sainsbury's and the former Safeway, plus the dairy companies Wiseman, Dairy Crest and Cheese Company, had admitted being in a *cartel* to fix prices for milk, butter and cheese. They were fined a total of just over £116 million as part of a leniency deal offered by the watchdog to companies that owned up quickly to anti-competitive behaviour.

Officials at the OFT admitted privately that they did not think they would ever discover which company or individual had initiated the pricing formula. But the watchdog recognises that at the time supermarkets were under pressure from politicians and farmers to raise the cost of milk to save dairy farming, though it is not certain that money found its way to farmers. The OFT claimed in September that it had found evidence that the retail chains had passed future milk prices to dairy companies, which then reached a fixed price among themselves.

The average cost to each household is thought to be £11.25 over 2002 and 2003. Prices went up an extra 3p on a pint of milk, 15p on a quarter of a pound of butter and 15p on a half pound of cheese. There is no direct recompense for consumers, however, and the money will go to the Treasury. The National Consumer Council gave warning that the admissions would dent consumer confidence in leading high street names and that people would become sceptical of their claims. Farmers for Action, the group of farmers that has led protests over low milk prices since 2000, is seeking legal advice on whether it can now bring a claim for compensation.

The OFT investigation is continuing, however, in relation to Tesco, Morrisons and the dairy group Lactalis McLelland, and any legal action is expected to be delayed until that is completed.

Tesco was defiant and said that it was preparing a robust defence of its actions. Lucy Neville-Rolfe, its executive director, said: "As we have always said, we acted independently and we did not collude with anyone. Our position is different from our competitors and we are defending our own case vigorously. Our philosophy is to give a good deal to customers."

Morrisons has supported the OFT in inquiries into the former Safeway business that it took over, but in a statement said that it was still making "strong representations" in its defence. A spokeswoman for Lactalis McLelland said that the company was "co-operating" with the OFT. Industry insiders suggested that the three companies were deliberately *stalling* the OFT investigation.

Sainsbury's admitted yesterday that it had agreed to pay £26 million in fines, but denied that it had sought to *profiteer*. Justin King, the chief executive, said he was disappointed that the company had been penalised for actions meant to help farmers but recognised the benefit of a speedy settlement. Asda declined to say how much it would pay in fines and also said that its intention had been to help farmers under severe financial pressure.



1. From the first paragraph, we may infer that _____.
 [A] Tesco is the most resolute among all the retailers to defend its reputation
 [B] it is already proved that Tesco has colluded with Asda, Wiseman, Dairy Crest and Cheese Company in fixing the dairy price
 [C] Tesco is offered a leniency deal of £80 million because of its quick response to the anti-competitive behaviors
 [D] Tesco is trying its best to prove its innocence of the scandal
2. Who is most probably the initiator of the pricing formula?
 [A] Retail chains. [B] Farmers.
 [C] Dairy companies. [D] Politicians.
3. The word "defiant" (Line 1, Paragraph 5) most probably means _____.
 [A] resisiting [B] angry
 [C] deficient [D] confident
4. We may infer from Morrisons' statement that _____.
 [A] Morrisons turns out to be the most defensive when dealing with OFT
 [B] Morrisons is reluctant to support the inquiries into the former Safeway business
 [C] industry insiders suggest that Morrisons was trying to delay the OFT investigation with non-cooperation
 [D] Morrisons indeed refuses to admit its involvement in the scandal
5. The writer's attitude to Tesco can be said to be _____.
 [A] biased [B] objective
 [C] sympathetic [D] optimistic

文章剖析

本文介绍了目前奶制品公司因内部设定价格而面临的调查和处罚的状况。第一段通过 Tesco 公司目前正在通过法律解决自己面临的困境引出本文的话题；第二段是追溯牛奶价格上涨的原因；第三段是讲述牛奶价格上涨对消费者的损害；第四段又回到 Tesco 事件上，描述了其态度；第五段和第六段讲述其他相关公司对该事件的看法和态度。

词汇注释

processor *n.* 加工者

leniency *n.* 宽大, 慈悲, 慈悲宽厚的行为

stall *v.* (使)停转, (使)停止, 迟延

cartel *n.* 卡特尔, 联合企业, 垄断集团

dent *v.* 使凹下, 凹进, 削弱

profiteer *n.* 奸商

难句突破

① They were fined a total of just over £116 million as part of a leniency deal offered by the watchdog to companies that owned up quickly to anti-competitive behaviour.

整体句义 They were fined a total of just over £116 million as part of a leniency deal...

结构分析 这是一个复合句, 其成分比较复杂。offered by the watchdog to companies 作为一个分词短语, 来修饰前面的 deal, 而后面 that 引导的定语从句又修饰 companies。

句子译文 他们要接受的罚金总共只有 1.6 亿多英镑, 这是监察部门对积极坦白反竞争行为公司的一种宽大处理。

② The National Consumer Council gave warning that the admissions would dent consumer confidence in leading high street names and that people would become sceptical of their claims.

整体句义 The National Consumer Council gave warning...

结构分析 这是一个复合句, 句子的宾语 warning 带着两个同位语从句, 以 that 引导; 在第一个同位语从句中, confidence in 后面是一个分词短语作介词的宾语。

句子译文 全国消费者委员会警告说, 长此以往, 会损害消费者的信心, 人们也会开始怀疑委员会的声明。





题目分析

1. From the first paragraph, we may infer that _____.	1. 由第一段可以推断出_____。
[A] Tesco is the most resolute among all the retailers to defend its reputation	[A] 在所有的零售商中, Tesco 捍卫其名誉的态度最为坚决
[B] it is already proved that Tesco has colluded with Asda, Wiseman, Dairy Crest and Cheese Company in fixing the dairy price	[B] 已有证据显示, Tesco 和 Asda, Wiseman, Dairy Crest 及 Cheese Company 联合确定牛奶的价格
[C] Tesco is offered a leniency deal of £80 million because of its quick response to the anti-competitive behaviors	[C] 由于其对反竞争行为的快速反应, Tesco 会被轻罚 8,600 万英镑作为宽大处理
[D] Tesco is trying its best to prove its innocence of the scandal	[D] Tesco 竭力证明自己和丑闻无关

答案: D

难度系数: ☆☆☆

分析: 推理题。第一段主要讲述了 Tesco 公司已被卷入和其他公司联手制定牛奶价格的丑闻中,目前正在通过法律手段来证明自己与此无关。选项 A 的表述在文章中并没有明确地阐述, Tesco 虽然正在诉诸法律手段捍卫其名誉,但是否是态度最坚决的我们无法得知。选项 B, 文章中只是说明后几家公司承认其定价行为,但并未说明 Tesco 与他们联合。选项 C, 文章指出,如果 Tesco 的丑闻被证实,就会被处罚,并且是一种宽大措施,但金额应该为 1.16 亿英镑而不是 8,600 万英镑。选项 D, Tesco 正在竭力证明自己和丑闻无关,这正是第一段论述的内容。

2. Who is most probably the initiator of the pricing formula?	2. 谁最有可能是价格形成的始作俑者?
[A] Retail chains.	[A] 零售商。
[B] Farmers.	[B] 牧场主。
[C] Dairy companies.	[C] 乳品公司。
[D] Politicians.	[D] 政治家。

答案: B

难度系数: ☆☆☆

分析: 细节题。关于价格形成最初是由谁引起的,第二段和第三段有相关论述。第二段提到,监察部门发现,超市受到政治家和农民要求上调牛奶价格的压力,而 OFT 发现,零售商将牛奶未来的价格信息传递给了乳品公司,乳品公司内部自己确定了价格。第三段又提到,牧场主团体和牧场主一直在反对低廉的牛奶价格。由此可以推断,牛奶价格确定最有可能的源头就是牧场主。

3. The word "defiant" (Line 1, Paragraph 5) most probably means _____.	3. defiant 这个词(第五段第一行)最可能的意思是_____。
[A] resisiting	[A] 抗议的
[B] angry	[B] 愤怒的
[C] deficient	[C] 不完善的
[D] Politicians.	[D] 自信的

答案: A

难度系数: ☆☆☆☆

分析: 猜词题。根据上下文的意思, Tesco 声称正在准备坚决地为自己的行为辩护,其执行理事的一番话也表明了他们这种强硬的态度,可见他们采取了一种抵抗的态度,选项 A 最为符合。



4. We may infer from Morrisons' statement that _____.	4. 从 Morrisons 的话可以推断出 _____。
[A] Morrisons turns out to be the most defensive when dealing with OFT	[A] Morrisons 在与 OFT 打交道时变得颇具防御性
[B] Morrisons is reluctant to support the inquiries into the former Safeway business	[B] Morrisons 不愿意支持对前 Safeway 业务的调查
[C] industry insiders suggest that Morrisons was trying to delay the OFT investigation with non-cooperation	[C] 业内人士透露说, Morrisons 以不合作的方式竭力推迟 OFT 的调查
[D] Morrisons indeed refuses to admit its involvement in the scandal	[D] Morrisons 实际上否认其卷入了丑闻

答案: D

难度系数: ☆☆☆

分析: 推理题。要结合上下文来理解 Morrisons 的意思: Morrisons has supported the OFT in inquiries into the former Safeway business that it took over, but in a statement said that it was still making "strong representations" in its defense. 前后两个分句之间是转折关系, 可以看出 Morrisons 的态度。虽然它支持 OFT 对于前 Safeway 的调查, 但是却声称在辩护中仍要做出抗议, 即行动上它是一种合作的态度, 但它还是要竭力维护自己的利益, 并且没有任何迹象表明其承认了卷入丑闻的指控, 因此选项 D 最为符合。而其余三个选项都与这个意思相反。

5. The writer's attitude to Tesco can be said to be _____.	5. 作者对于 Tesco 的态度可以说是 _____。
[A] biased	[A] 有偏见的
[B] objective	[B] 客观的
[C] sympathetic	[C] 同情的
[D] optimistic	[D] 乐观的

答案: B

难度系数: ☆

分析: 态度题。作者的态度可以通过对材料的选择和措辞看出来。作者在文章中列出了有关 Tesco 的事件, 但一直没有做出任何直接的评判, 也没有通过任何字眼来暗示自己的意思, 因此可以认为作者采取了一种比较客观的态度。

参考译文

Tesco 为了摆脱奶制品价格限定风波, 正在准备一场大官司, 奶制品价格事件已经给消费者造成了 2.7 亿英镑的损失。如果不能证明自己并未和其他超市以及奶制品加工企业串通一气的话, 它就得接受至少八千万英镑的罚单。昨天, 公平交易办公室 (OFT) 声称, Asda, Sainsbury's 和前 Safeway, 还有奶制品公司 Wiseman, Dairy Crest and Cheese Company 都已承认它们联合设定了牛奶、黄油及奶酪的价格。他们要接受的罚金总共只有 1.6 亿多英镑, 这是监察部门对积极坦白反竞争行为公司的一种宽大处理。

OFT 的官员私下声称, 他们不一定能找出到底是哪家公司或哪个人发起这次价格行动的, 但是监察部门承认, 这次超市受到来自政客和农民的双重压力, 要求提高牛奶的价格, 以拯救奶制品畜牧业, 但是钱最终还不一定能到农民手中。OFT 在 9 月份称, 他们已经发现证据, 证明零售链已经将未来的牛奶价格告知奶制品公司, 然后奶制品公司自己内部设定了价格。

2002 和 2003 年间, 平均每户居民的损失为 11.25 英镑。每品脱牛奶的价格上涨了 3 便士, 每 0.25 磅黄油的价格上涨了 15 便士, 每半磅奶酪涨了 15 便士。但是消费者却没有得到任何直接的补偿, 利润全部到了国库。全国消费者委员会警告说, 长此以往, 会损害消费者的信心, 人们也会开始怀疑委员会的声明。“牧场主行动”组织 2002 年以来一直领导农民抗议牛奶价格过低, 目前在就是否可以申请补偿寻求法律意见。





不过 OFT 还在继续对 Tesco, Morrisons 和奶制品集团 Lactalis McLelland 进行调查, 任何法律行为都将推迟到调查结束。

Tesco 对此不屑一顾, 并声称在准备坚决地为自己的行为辩护。Tesco 的执行理事 Lucy Neville-Rolfe 说: “正如我们一贯宣称的, 我们的行动完全独立, 和谁都没有联合。我们的立场和我们的对手不一样, 我们在尽力保护我们的事业。我们的理念就是更好地为消费者服务。”

Morrisons 支持 OFT 调查它所管理的前 Safeway 的业务, 但是在一次声明中却声称, 自己依然会在辩护中进行“强烈的抗议”。Lactalis McLelland 的一个发言人说, 公司在和 OFT“合作”, 而业内人士暗示这三家公司在蓄意拖延 OFT 的调查。

昨天, Sainsbury's 承认, 已经同意支付 2,600 万英镑的罚金, 但是却否认它在牟取暴利。执行董事 Justin King 说, 公司本来是要帮助农民, 却因此受罚, 对此他感觉很失望, 但他也承认尽快解决问题对公司更为有利。Asda 不愿意透露要赔付多少钱, 并声称其初衷是要帮助那些负有沉重经济压力的农民。

TEXT TWO

He emerged, all of a sudden, in 1957: the most explosive new poetic talent of the English post-war era. Poetry specialised, at that moment, in the *wry* chronicling of the everyday. The poetry of Yorkshire-born Ted Hughes, first published in a book called *The Hawk in the Rain* when he was 27, was unlike anything written by his immediate *predecessors*. Driven by an almost Jacobean *rhetoric*, it had a visionary *feravour*. Its most eye-catching characteristic was Hughes's ability to get beneath the skins of animals: foxes, otters, pigs. These animals were the real thing all right, but they were also, *armorial* devices—symbols of the countryside and *lifeblood* of the earth in which they were rooted. It gave his work a raw, primal *stink*.

It was not only England that thought so, either. Hughes's book was also published in America, where it won the Galbraith Prize, a major literary award. But then, in 1963, Sylvia Plath, a young American poet whom he had first met at Cambridge University in 1956, and who became his wife in the summer of that year, committed suicide. Hughes was vilified for long after that, especially by feminists in America. In 1998, the year he died, Hughes broke his own self-imposed public silence about their relationship in a book of loose-weave poems called *Birthday Letters*. In this new and exhilarating collection of real letters, Hughes returns to the issue of his first wife's death, which he calls his “big and unmanageable event”. He felt his talent *muffled* by the perpetual *eavesdropping* upon his every move. Not until he decided to publish his own account of their relationship did the burden begin to lighten.

The analysis is raw, pained and ruthlessly self-aware. For all the moral torment, the writing itself has the same rush and vigour that possessed Hughes's early poetry. Some books of letters serve as a personalised historical chronicle. Poets' letters are seldom like that, and Hughes's are no exception. His are about a life of literary engagement: almost all of them include some musing on the state or the nature of writing, both Hughes's own or other people's. The *trajectory* of Hughes's literary career had him moving from obscurity to fame, and then, in the eyes of many, to life-long *notoriety*. These letters are filled with his wrestling with the consequences of being the part-private, part-public creature that he became, desperate to devote himself to his writing, and yet subject to endless invasions of his privacy.

Hughes is an *absorbing* and *intricate* commentator upon his own poetry, even when he is standing back from it and good-humouredly condemning himself for “its fantasticalia, its pretticipisms and its infinite verballifications”. He also believed, from first to last, that poetry had a special place in the education of children. “What kids need”, he wrote in a 1988 letter to the Secretary of State for Education in the Conservative Government, “is a headful[sic] of songs that are not songs but blocks of refined and achieved and exemplary language.” When that happens, children have “the guardian angel installed behind the tongue”. Lucky readers, big or small.



- The poetry of Hughes's forerunners is characteristic of _____.
 [A] its natural, crude flavor
 [B] its distorted depiction of people's daily life
 [C] its penetrating sight
 [D] its fantastical enthusiasm
- The word "vilified" (Line 4, Paragraph 2) most probably means _____.
 [A] tortured [B] harassed
 [C] scolded [D] tormented
- According to the third paragraph, Hughes's collection of letters are _____.
 [A] the exact reason responsible for both his fame and notoriety
 [B] personalized description of his double identity as a public and a private figure
 [C] reflections of his struggle between his literary devotion and the reality
 [D] his meditation and exploration on the literary world and the essence of literature
- From the letters, we may find the cause of Hughes's internal struggle is _____.
 [A] his eager and unsatisfied passion for literature
 [B] that he is a part-private, part-public creature
 [C] that he is constrained by the fear of his privacy being exposed to the criticism of the public
 [D] the moral torment exerted by himself
- By "lucky readers" in the last sentence, the author means _____.
 [A] children who are imparted with the beauty and wisdom of poetry
 [B] children who have a headful of fantastic and verbally perfect songs
 [C] children who own blocks of refined and achieved and exemplary language
 [D] children who are believed to have the guardian angel installed behind the tongue

文章剖析

本文讲述了英国著名诗人特德·休斯作品的特点和其所反映出来的诗人的一些情况。第一段讲述休斯诗歌的特色；第二段讲述诗人因其妻子的原因而编写了一部书信集的情况；第三段讲述这本书信集的特点和反映的情况；第四段讲述休斯对诗歌的看法和态度。

词汇注释

wry *adj.* 枯燥乏味的

rhetoric *n.* (措词、文体的)浮夸与修饰

armorial *adj.* 徽章的

stink *n.* 气息, 气味

muffle *vt.* 压抑, 阻止

notoriety *n.* 恶名, 臭名, 声名狼藉

intricate *adj.* 难以理解的

predecessor *n.* 前辈, 前任

fervour *n.* 热情

lifeblood *n.* 生命力或生命之源的力量

eavesdropping *n.* 偷听

trajectory *n.* 道路, 轨迹

absorbing *adj.* 吸引人的, 非常有趣的

难句突破

① But then, in 1963, Sylvia Plath, a young American poet whom he had first met at Cambridge University in 1956, and who became his wife in the summer of that year, committed suicide.

句子成分 But then Sylvia Plath... committed suicide.

结构分析 这是一个同位语带有定语从句的复合句。whom 和 who 引导的两个定语从句修饰 a young American poet, 整体作为 Sylvia Plath 的同位语。

句子译文 但是在 1963 年, 西尔维亚·普拉斯自杀了, 1956 年, 他在剑桥大学第一次见到这个年轻的美国诗人, 当年夏天成为了他的妻子。

② These letters are filled with his wrestling with the consequences of being the part-private, part-public creature





that he became, desperate to devote himself to his writing, and yet subject to endless invasions of his privacy.

主体句式 These letters are filled with his wrestling...

结构分析 这是一个简单句，难点在于最后两个形容词短语 (desperate to devote himself to his writing, and yet subject to endless invasions of his privacy) 的成分。这两个形容词短语用来修饰前面的名词 creature，而 creature 后面紧跟着的 that 引导的从句也是修饰它的定语从句。

句子译文 这些信中处处都显现出休斯因为自己成为半私人、半公开这样一种人物而反复挣扎的心理，他渴望全身心地投入文字当中，但私人空间又时时受到侵扰。

题目分析

1. The poetry of Hughes's forerunners is characteristic of _____.	1. 休斯之前的诗人们创作的诗歌的特点是 _____。
[A] its natural, crude flavor	[A] 自然、原始的风味
[B] its distorted depiction of people's daily life	[B] 对人们日常生活的变形描写
[C] its penetrating sight	[C] 洞穿一切的视角
[D] its fantastical enthusiasm	[D] 梦幻式的热情

答案：B

难度系数：☆☆☆

分析：细节题。本文第一段讲述了休斯诗歌的特点。第一段第二句说明了当时的诗歌盛行的特色是 the wry chronicling of the everyday，紧接着第三句就指出，休斯的作品不同于他前辈的诗歌，接下来的几句都是讲述休斯作品具体是什么特色。由此可以推理，第二句所描写的就是其前人作品的特点，是“对日常生活的变形描写”，故选项 B 为正确答案。

2. The word "vilified" (Line 4, Paragraph 2) most probably means _____.	2. vilified 这个词 (第二段第四行) 最有可能的意思是 _____。
[A] tortured	[A] 折磨
[B] harassed	[B] 骚扰
[C] scolded	[C] 斥责
[D] tormented	[D] 折磨

答案：C

难度系数：☆☆

分析：猜词题。这个词的意思要根据上下文来推断。该词出现的前一句讲述休斯的妻子，一位美国诗人自杀了。紧接着就说，该事件发生后很长一段时间里，美国的女权主义者对休斯采取了行动。后面又讲述了休斯在去世之前将他与妻子的关系以书信集的方式讲述出来，直到这本集子出版，他的负担才得以减轻。那么休斯一直背负着的就是一种精神负担，这是由那些女权主义者造成的，可能性比较大的就是一种精神上的谴责，故答案 C 最为符合。

3. According to the third paragraph, Hughes's collection of letters are _____.	3. 从第三段可以得知，休斯的书信集是 _____。
[A] the exact reason responsible for both his fame and notoriety	[A] 同时给他带来声誉和恶名的直接原因
[B] personalized description of his double identity as a public and private figure	[B] 关于他作为一个公共人物和一个人这种双重身份的个性化描述





[C] reflections of his struggle between his literary devotion and the reality	[C] 他在文学信仰与现实间挣扎的反映
[D] his meditation and exploration on the literary world	[D] 他对文学世界的思考和探索

答案: D

难度系数: ☆☆☆

分析: 推理题。根据文章第三段, 休斯的这封信集和一般的书信集不同, 不是陈述自己的经历, 而是所有书信都包含有对自己或对别人作品的思考, 是对他的文学思想的展示。最后一句是说, 从这些书信中可以看出, 他是要把自己完全展示在作品中, 还是要维护个人隐私而苦苦挣扎过。从这些描述可以看出, 该书信集主要是对他的文学观点的一些表述, 从中可以看出他的思想发展历程, 因此答案 D 最符合。A 和 B 选项与第二段关系较为密切, 因此与本题无关。选项 C 看似有理, 但要注意休斯并不是在文学与现实之间的挣扎, 而是一种在文学世界中探索的痛苦挣扎。

4. From the letters, we may find the cause of Hughes's internal struggle is _____.	4. 由休斯的书信可以看出, 休斯内心挣扎的原因在于 _____。
[A] his eager and unsatisfied passion for literature	[A] 他对文学的那种热切和无法满足的激情
[B] that he is a part-private, part-public creature	[B] 他是一个半隐秘、半公开的人物
[C] that he is constrained by the fear of his privacy being exposed to the criticism of the public	[C] 他在文学创作中担心自己的私人生活被暴露在公众批评之中
[D] the moral torment exerted by himself	[D] 他加在自己身上的道德折磨

答案: C

难度系数: ☆☆☆

分析: 细节题。题干要求找出休斯内心挣扎的原因, 这在第三段最后一句中有所提及。文章指出, 书信中处处都流露出休斯和自己半隐密、半公开这么一个双重身份进行斗争的印迹: 一方面他想完全投入创作, 而另一方面又担心自己的隐私会受到侵害。可以看出, 休斯内心之所以挣扎, 是由于他一面想要在作品中展示自己, 而在现实中又想保护自己的隐私, 因此答案 C 最为符合。

5. By "lucky readers" in the last sentence, the author means _____.	5. 文章最后一句话中的“幸运的读者”指的是 _____。
[A] children who are imparted with the beauty and wisdom of poetry	[A] 那些被灌输了诗歌是优美的和智慧的概念的孩子
[B] children who have a headful of fantastic and verbally perfect songs	[B] 那些脑子里装满了精彩、优美歌曲的孩子
[C] children who own blocks of refined and achieved and exemplary language	[C] 那些会讲精致、优雅的语言的孩子
[D] children who are believed to have the guardian angel installed behind the tongue	[D] 那些语言能力高超的孩子

答案: A

难度系数: ☆☆☆

分析: 细节题。理解这句话需要结合上下文, 文章最后一段主要是讲述休斯认为诗歌在教育孩子方面发挥着特殊的作用, 他认为孩子需要的是诗歌, 是精致、完美的语言, 如果真的拥有这些了, 那么孩子的语言能力就会出神入化, 那他们就是幸运的读者了。虽然四个答案都仿佛正确, 但从根本上来说, 是因为读诗, 孩子才会拥有以上所说的一切, 才是幸运的, 而且本段也着重强调诗歌对于教育孩子的重要性。因此, 最佳答案为 A。



参考译文

1957年，他横空出世，成为战后英国最具爆炸性的诗坛天才。当时，诗歌的主要题材皆是日常生活中乏味的琐事。但出生在约克郡的特德·休斯的作品却与其前辈截然不同，他27岁时在名为《雨中的鹰》一书中发表了第一首诗。受詹姆士一世风格的影响，其诗歌呈现出一种梦幻般的激情，其最显著的特点是，休斯可以描述动物外表下面的东西，无论是狐狸、水獭还是猪。这些动物的确是真实的，但同时又是标志性的，代表着乡村，代表着它们植根的地球的生命之源。正是这一点赋予了其作品一种野性和原始的气息。

这一点不仅仅在英国得到认同。休斯的书也在美国出版，并且赢得了一项重要的文学奖——加尔布雷思奖。但是在1963年，西尔维亚·普拉斯自杀了，1956年他在剑桥大学第一次见到这个年轻的美国诗人，当年夏天成为了他的妻子。这之后很长的时间里，休斯都受到人们的谴责，尤其遭到美国女权主义者的抨击。1998年，也就是休斯去世的那一年，他在自己一本名为《生日信札》的结构松散的诗集中公开了他俩的关系，打破了自己一直以来的缄默。在这本令人兴奋的新书信集中，休斯回忆了他第一个妻子的死，称此事对于他来说是“难以处理的大事情”。他感觉自己的一举一动都受到监视，他的天赋因而受到了制约。直到决定公开自己与妻子的关系后，他身上的负担才得以减轻。

他的自我剖析自然、饱含痛苦，极具自知之明。尽管书中竭尽所能地表达了其精神上的苦痛，但文字本身却具有休斯早期诗作的激情和活力。某些书信集只是个人经历的记录而已，但是诗人的书信集中却不同，休斯的也不例外。他的书信集中描写了其文学生涯：几乎所有的书信都有关于写作状态或写作性质的思考，有他自己的，也有别人的。休斯的文学生命轨迹是从无名到闻名，而后，在众人看来又经历了漫长的名誉扫地的阶段，直到生命的尽头。这些信中处处都显现出休斯因自己成为半私人、半公开这样一种人物而反复挣扎的心理，他渴望全身心地投入文字当中，但私人空间又时时受到侵扰。

有意思而令人费解的是，休斯还对自己的诗歌进行评论，他甚至还以局外人的身份来看待自己的作品，幽默地批评自己的诗歌“有空想色彩、唯美且咬文嚼字”。他还从始至终坚信，诗歌在教育孩子方面有特殊的作用。1988年，他在给保守党政府教育部长的一封信中这样写道：“孩子们需要的是满脑子的歌曲，其实也不是歌曲，而是精致、优秀、堪称楷模的语言。”如果真能做到这样，那么孩子们的“语言能力就会炉火纯青了”。真是幸运的读者，不管是成人还是孩子。

TEXT THREE

Controlled bleeding or cauterisation? That was the unappealing choice facing UBS, a Swiss bank which has been badly hurt by the *carnage* in America's mortgage market. The bank opted for the latter. First it opened the wound, by announcing a *hefty* \$10 billion *write-down* on its exposure to subprime-infected debt. UBS now expects a loss for the fourth quarter, which ends this month. Then came the hot iron: news of a series of measures to shore up the bank's capital base, among them investments from sovereign-wealth funds in Singapore and the Middle East.

Bad news had been expected. UBS's third-quarter write-down of over SFr4 billion in October looked overly optimistic compared with more aggressive *markdowns* at other banks such as Citigroup and Merrill Lynch. Steep falls in the market value of subprime debt since the end of the third quarter made it certain that UBS would take more pain, given its sizeable exposure to toxic collateralised-debt obligations (CDOs). Analysts at Citigroup were predicting in November that write-downs of up to SFr14 billion were possible.

Why then did this new batch of red ink still come as a shock? The answer lies not in the scale of the overall loss, more in UBS's decision to take the hit in one go. The bank's mark-to-model approach to valuing its subprime-related holdings had been based on payments data from the underlying mortgage loans. Although these data show a worsening in credit quality, the deterioration is slower than mark-to-market valuations, which have the effect of instantly crystallising all expected future losses.





Thanks to this gradualist approach, UBS had been expected to take write-downs in managed *increments* of SFr2 billion-3 billion over a period of several quarters. It now appears that the bank has incorporated market values into its model, sending its fourth-quarter write-downs into orbit. The change of approach may be on the advice of auditors and regulators but it is more likely to reflect a desire by UBS's bosses to avoid months of speculation about the bank's exposure, something that Marcel Rohner, the chief executive, described as "distracting".

In a particular *indignity* for a bank long associated with conservatism, concerns about the level of UBS's capital ratio had even started to surface. Hence the moves to strengthen its tier-one capital, an important measure of bank *solidity*, by SFr19.4 billion, a great deal more than the write-down. The majority of that money will come from sovereign-wealth funds, the white knights of choice for today's bank in distress. Singapore's GIC, which manages the city-state's foreign reserves, has *pledged* to buy SFr11 billion-worth of convertible bonds in UBS; an unnamed Middle Eastern investor will put in a further SFr2 billion. UBS will also raise money by selling treasury shares, and save cash by issuing its 2007 dividend in the form of shares. Its capital ratio is expected to end up above 12% in the fourth quarter, a strong position.

Hopeful talk of lines being drawn under the subprime crisis has been a feature of banks' quarterly reporting since September. Marring bigger-than-expected write-downs with bigger-than-expected *boosts* to capital looks like the right treatment in this environment. But UBS still cannot be sure that its problems are over. Further deterioration in its subprime asset values is possible; the broader economic impact of the credit *crunch* is unclear; and the damage to the bank's reputation cannot yet be quantified. The patient still needs watching.

- The author uses the metaphor "hot iron" to imply that _____.
 [A] UBS again becomes a victim of America's mortgage market
 [B] UBS's capital base has obtained adequate financial support to digest its debt
 [C] those measures will forcefully stop UBS from further loss
 [D] good news from those measures would prevent UBS from bankruptcy
- Compared with the mark-to-market valuations, the mark-to-model approach could _____.
 [A] slow down the worsening in credit quality
 [B] present the effect of instantly crystallization of all expected future loss
 [C] show data against a worsening the credit quality
 [D] accelerate the deterioration in credit quality
- The reason that Marcel Rohner thought the change of approach was "distracting" is _____.
 [A] this change was unexpected to take place in such a situation
 [B] this change was result of the advice of auditors and regulators
 [C] this change was not favorite to UBS's speculation about the bank's exposure
 [D] this change was taken to make people dispel their guess
- The phrase "the white knights" (Line 4, Paragraph 5) most probably means _____.
 [A] rich people [B] wealthy saviors
 [C] generous investors [D] brave fighters
- The author's attitude towards UBS's future is _____.
 [A] optimistic
 [B] pessimistic
 [C] uncertain
 [D] none of the above

文章分析

本篇文章介绍了 UBS 银行目前面临的困境以及为摆脱困境而采取的一系列措施。第一段讲述 UBS 银行在面对困境时做出了强行解决的选择;第二段讲述 UBS 银行目前面临的不利的因素;第三段和第四段分析了其估值的方式;第五段讲述 UBS 银行为解决资金困难而采取的一系列措施;第六段分析 UBS 银行面临的一些问题。



词汇注释

carnage *n.* 大屠杀, 残杀

write-down *n.* [会计] 账面价值的故意降低

markdowns *n.* 削价

distracting *adj.* 转移注意力的

solidity *n.* 可靠性

boost *n.* 增加, 提高

hefty *adj.* 异常大的, 相当多的

shore up 支持

increment *n.* 增加, 增量

indignity *n.* 轻蔑, 侮辱, 侮辱的行为

pledge *vi.* 保证, 发誓; 抵押, 典当

crunch *n.* 危急情况, 紧急状态

难句突破

① Then came the hot iron: news of a series of measures to shore up the bank's capital base, among them investments from sovereign-wealth funds in Singapore and the Middle East.

主体句式 Then came the hot iron...

结构分析 这是一个有复杂同位语的简单句。news of... 是前面 the hot iron 的同位语, to shore up the bank's capital base 是不定式短语作定语, 修饰前面的 measures, 而后面的 among them... 也是用来修饰 measures 的, 即具体介绍其中的一些措施。

句子译文 紧接着就传来了热点议题: 报道说, 有一系列的措施来支持银行的资本基础, 其中就有来自新加坡和中东的君主财富基金的投资。

② The change of approach may be on the advice of auditors and regulators but it is more likely to reflect a desire by UBS's bosses to avoid months of speculation about the bank's exposure, something that Marcel Rohner, the chief executive, described as "distracting".

主体句式 The change of approach may be... but...

结构分析 这是一个并列句, but 引导的分句比较复杂, 不定式短语 to avoid... 作前面 a desire 的定语, 而 something that... 是 a desire 的同位语, 该同位语中又包含了一个定语从句。

句子译文 改变方法可能是审计员或调节员建议的, 但更反映了 UBS 的高层要避免数月来对银行曝光的猜测——这被首席执行官 Marcel Rohner 形容为“转移注意力(的方案)”。

题目分析

1. The author uses the metaphor "hot iron" to imply that _____.	1. 作者用“热烙铁”这个比喻来暗示 _____。
[A] UBS again becomes a victim of America's mortgage market	[A] UBS 再次成为了美国抵押贷款市场的受害者
[B] UBS's capital base has obtained adequate financial support to digest its debt	[B] UBS 的资本基础已经得到了足够的财政支持, 用以消化其债务
[C] those measures will forcefully stop UBS from further loss	[C] 这些措施会强行让 UBS 避免遭受进一步的损失
[D] good news from those measures would prevent UBS from bankruptcy	[D] 这些措施带来的好消息会防止 UBS 破产

答案: C

难度系数: ☆☆☆

分析: 细节题。作者将一系列的措施比喻为“热烙铁”, 而这些措施又是在为 UBS 提供资金, 是一些好的措施, 这个比喻让人费解。但结合第一段的上下文就可以理解, 文章第一段开头就摆出 UBS 面临的抉择, 是有控制地“流血”还是“被灼伤”, UBS 选择了后者, 先是将伤口裸露出来, 接着就来了“热烙铁”。