

大学

英语阅读翻译四级应试测试

新题型

彭萍 李贵和 邓隽 编著

四川大学出版社

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## 前 言

大学英语四级统考新题型给考生提出了一项新的任务——在阅读理解的基础上进行翻译。我们正是根据四级统考这一新题型而编写了此书,旨在帮助考生提高阅读和翻译水平。

本书共有文章 100 篇,内容涉及历史、地理、教育、科技、经济、风土人情等。每篇文章后附有五个阅读理解选择题,两个翻译练习题。在书末还附有阅读理解选择题的答案与解析、翻译参考译文及注释。

本书由彭萍、李贵和、邓隽编写。其中彭萍编写 Passage 1-3、6-21、25-26、28-31、37-38、40、46-48、95-100,共三十五篇,并负责全书的统稿;邓隽编写 Passage 14、32、41、59、68、77、85-87,共十篇;其余五十五篇由李贵和编写。

在本书的成书过程中,张凤桐教授和责编张晶女士给我们提出了许多宝贵的修改意见,给予我们极大的帮助。在此,我们表示最诚挚的谢意!

由于我们水平有限,书中错误疏漏之处在所难免,恳请广大读者和同仁不吝赐教。

编 者

一九九六年七月

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## Passage 1

Human variation also arises through new combinations of the genes received from each parent. Unlike mutation, though, recombination does not introduce new genetic material into the species. It merely reshuffles(改组) the existing genes so that individuals in the new generation will have gene combinations that differ from those of their parents. . . In addition, some cultural practices limit the number of possible new combinations. Human beings generally tend to marry those most like themselves. Most marriages take place between people who belong to the same social and economic class, and who adhere to the same religion. . . (1) Tall people marry one another much more frequently than mere chance would dictate, and the same is true of short people, fat people, thin people, deaf people, and people with the same skin color. . .

The tendency for humans to vary at random through mutations and through new combinations of genes is also severely limited by what is known as of evolution. (2) Natural selection influences an individual's capacity to pass on genes to the next generation because of several facts clearly observable both in humans and in other animal species. The first is that each generation of adults is potentially capable of producing many more offspring than could possibly survive and reproduce. The second is that all of those offspring vary in their genetic makeup because of recombinations of genes from their parents and, rarely, be-

cause of favorable mutations. Third, those offspring that survive are the ones that possess the most "fit" genetic makeup. These individuals will not only survive; they will also leave more offspring. In the long run, the most fit individuals and the descendants to whom they pass on their genes will replace those with a less favorable genetic makeup.

Exercise A: Choose the best answer.

1. From the passage we know that \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. recombination introduces new genetic material into the species
  - B. cultural practices limit the number of possible new combinations
  - C. mutation introduces new genetic material into the species
  - D. the function of combination is far from reshuffling
2. Which of the following limits the human genetic variation?
  - A. Recombination does not introduce new genetic material.
  - B. Human beings tend to marry those most like themselves.
  - C. Natural selection also limits the human genetic variation.
  - ☒ D. Both B and C.
3. Which of the following is not an example of people marrying people most like themselves?
  - A. Tall people tend to marry tall people.

- ☒ B. Short people tend to marry tall people.
- C. People tend to marry people with the same skin color.
- D. Deaf people tend to marry deaf people.
4. The fundamental focus of Darwin's theory of evolution is
- ☒ A. natural selection
- B. mutation
- C. combination of genes
- D. genetic makeup
5. Which of the following statements is true?
- A. Individuals who possess the most fit genetic makeup survive better and produce more offspring.
- B. Humany variation is further limited because most individuals born with mutations do not very often survive. ✖
- C. People with favorable mutations have offspring vary in their genetic makeup.
- ☒ D. None of the above.

Exercise B: Translate the underlined sentences into Chinese.

(1)

(2)

## Passage 2

Nearly everyone agrees that money doesn't buy as much as it used to, no matter where you want to spend it. This is certainly true of the paper money that passes so quickly through one's hands. Inflation eats away at its buying power just as the steady appetite of waves chews at sand cliffs. But what about coins that seem to do very little except clutter up purses and pockets? (1) Unlike notes, metal money becomes more valuable the longer it is held, especially if it is put away where it won't get scratched or worn. Why is this? One reason is that coins, being more durable, fall more readily into a category for collectors. Naturally, the rarer gold pieces must become more valuable as the price of this metal goes up.

(2) But, curiously, one of the rarest coins in the world is not made of gold, but of the relatively cheaper silver. In 1840, the United States mint (造币厂) struck 19,570 silver dollars. That is what its records show. Today only six of this original number remain and these are unlikely ever to reach the auction (拍卖) market. So what happened to some 19,564 large silver coins, not the easiest sort of things to lose? One of the more romantic theories is that they were part of the payment to Napoleon for the American territory then known as Louisiana. But they never reached France. Somewhere in the Gulf of Mexico, the ship transporting them was sunk, either by a storm or by pirates (海盜). The probable answer to the mys-

tery is that they were melted down — since the silver value was greater than the actual value of the coin. What really happened to the rest will probably always remain a mystery. What is known is that whoever can come up with one will find himself instantly rich.

Exercise A: Choose the best answer.

1. Because of inflation \_\_\_\_\_.  
☒ A. metal money is worth more than paper money  
☒ B. money does not buy as much as it did before  
☐ C. metal money has lost its value  
☐ D. paper money becomes more valuable than metal money
2. Which of the following statements is true of a coin? 2/22  
☒ A. The longer it lasts, the more it values.  
☐ B. The longer it is held, the less valuable it becomes.  
☐ C. The less it gets scratched, the less it values.  
☒ D. The more it wears out, the more valuable it becomes.
3. Based on the passage, one of the rarest coins in the world is made of \_\_\_\_\_.  
☒ A. gold                      B. paper  
☐ C. silver                      D. copper
4. Coins become more valuable because \_\_\_\_\_.  
☐ A. they can buy more than paper money  
☐ B. the price of metal goes up  
☐ C. they fall more readily into a category for collectors due to their duration

~~D.~~ both B and C

5. What really happened to some 19,564 large silver coins?

~~A.~~ Nobody knows.

B. They were melted down.

C. They were stolen by some pirates.

D. They were sunk in the Gulf of Mexico.

Exercise B: Translate the underlined sentences into Chinese.

(1)

(2)

### Passage 3

(1) The United States could benefit greatly — in research, in education, in economic development, and in scores of other areas — by efficiently processing and dealing with information that is available but unused. What we need is a nationwide network of “information superhighways”, linking scientists, business people, educators and students by fiber-optic cable(光缆). This network would encourage a second information revolution.

Today, the idea has really taken hold in all of the industries related to communication, computing and information.

The president's science adviser, Allan Bromley, recently said that such a network is the single most cost-effective step America could take to become more competitive in the world economy. It is also the single most important step the United States could take to improve its proficiency in science, technology and research.

We're now drowning in information. We have automated the process of collecting information, but we have not successfully mastered the task of organizing and distilling the information for our productive use. (2) For example, the Mission to Planet Earth satellite program will soon send down to the Earth's surface from orbit every day a quantity of information equal to all the bits of data in the entire Library of Congress. We can't even handle the information we now have about Planet Earth.

Exercise A: Choose the best answer.

1. How could US benefit greatly in large scores of areas?  
☒ A. Dealing with information efficiently.  
☐ B. Developing economy nationwide.  
☐ C. Building a superhighway.  
☐ D. Linking scientists and business people.
2. In the beginning of paragraph two, "Today, the idea has really..." What does "idea" refer to?  
☒ A. A revolution.  
☐ B. Information.



- ☒ C. A network of "information superhighways".  
 D. Communication.
3. What is the most cost-effective measure which can make US more competitive in the world economy?  
 A. Computerization.  
~~B. Superhighways.~~  
 C. Some special programmes.  
~~D. The network of information.~~
4. What can we learn from the passage?  
 A. A second information revolution is around the corner.  
~~B. US has met new challenges.~~  
~~C. A second information revolution is important.~~  
 D. US should become the strongest economy in the world.
5. This passage is probably written \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. in the 1930's                      B. in the 1960's  
 C. in the 1980's                      ~~D. in the 1990's~~

Exercise B: Translate the underlined sentences into Chinese.

(1)

(2)