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阅读指导

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前 言

本书系CET升级必备系列丛书中的《阅读指导》一书,是根据《大学英语教学大纲》、《大学英语四级考试大纲》的要求,针对阅读理解的难点和答题技巧而编写的辅导教材。它不但能直接帮助和指导大学英语四、六级应试者考前最后阶段的冲刺准备,也可作为其它相应的水平测试如TOEFL、EPT及研究生入学考试等的应试参考书,还可作为同等水平英语教学的辅助教材。

本书形式新颖,以题材分类,根据每种题材的文章自有的语言特点和词汇范畴进行分类。本书内容选材新、文字规范(大多数文章选自近期的国外期刊原文,涉及哲学、生理学、医学、家庭问题及计算机等方方面面)、难度适宜,针对四级学生临考前最后一个月的冲刺阶段要求进行精练,目的性强。本书不是单纯的习题集,而是融指导与练习为一体的一本实用教材。它既有辞典之效(书后附有阅读题型中常用的词汇),又似一位教师时刻伴于学生之侧给予指导、解惑,与学生共同归纳阅读规律及技巧。此外,本书在易于接受和消化的基础上提供典型丰富的练习,满足学生提高阅读技巧及能力的要求。

本书的讲解部分按阅读文章题材共分为三大部分: I. 科普 类; I. 人文类; II. 经济类。每部分又按四级阅读考题类型分 为:阅读理解、翻译及简答三种题型。每类题型中包括例文分析、 总结指导和习题详解。本书的练习部分收编了四套模拟试题以便 学生自测。书后附有以上三类文章中常用的词汇表,以便学生扩 大词汇,准确把握各类文章的词汇含义及特点,举一反三,提高阅读速度及准确率。

编 者 1999年7月

第一部分 科普类短文

一、阅读理解

大学英语四级考试中阅读理解部分包括四篇文章,总篇幅为 1000 词,每篇下设五道多项选择题,即考生根据文章内容从每题 四个选项中选出一个最佳答案,一题两分,共 20 题,占卷面总分数的 40%,而其中一至两篇文章属科普文章。这类文章主要是说明文,涉及天文地理、医疗卫生、科学技术、生物环境等等。文中往往谈到人们对某种自然现象的一般看法,有关实验的叙述,通过分析得出的新的结论或某些发明发现对社会的影响等,特点是信息量大、逻辑性强。因此这部分的考题重在测试学生判断和确认事实细节,并且根据所读材料进行一定的推理的能力。希望下面文章的阅读训练能够帮助你找到解题的基本思路、方法和技巧,从而提高你的应试能力。

首先我们选出两篇阅读文章,并对其中的考题加以解析,帮助考生们了解四级阅读部分科普类文章试题的出题方式、要点。

1. 例文分析

Directions: Read the following passages, and then choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

Example 1

Dr. Trounson has gone one step further than the "test-tube" fertilization technique, first employed successfully in 1978 and since emulated in such places as the United States, South Africa, Britain itself, and Australia, by setting up an "embryo bank" to keep a supply of frozen fertilized eggs available indefinitely. In case the first fertilized egg failed to pregnancy when transplanted back into the mother, or possibly into another woman, another of the stored eggs which had been taken from the mother and fertilized by the father at the same time as the first, could be withdrawn from the bank for a second attempt.

The pioneers of successful "test-tube" births, Steptoe and Edwards, had been the first to come up with this storage idea, but they had been forced to withdraw their plan because of the controversy it aroused. The problem in both countries was, of course, one of morality, although that should not be taken to imply that there is necessarily more morality in Great Britain than in Australia. The concern has been that the embryo bank might be exploited by the unscrupulous, or that conception might precede birth by nine or even ninety years rather than by nine months. As happened some years ago with heart transplants, and as will doubtless happen again, the present situation as far as embryo banks are concerned appears to be that "the technology has outrun the morality".

1. The paragraph preceding this extract probably dealt with

A. the intended recipient

B. embryo banks

- C. Dr. Trounson
- D. Steptoe and Edwards
- 2. The passage implies that the first "test-tube" fertilization
 - A. occurred in the United States
 - B. took place in Australia
 - C. was carried out by Dr. Trounson
 - D. was carried out by Steptoe and Edward
- 3. It can be inferred from the passage that Dr. Trounson works in
 - A. Australia
 - B. South Africa
 - C. The United States
 - D. England
- 4. Which of the following cannot be inferred from the passage ?
 - A. The intended recipient of a fertilized egg from the embryo bank is the original producer of the egg.
 - B. There are at least two types of moral issue associated with embryo banks.
 - C. New moral attitudes develop more quickly than new technology.
 - D. There are similarities in the moral dilemmas surrounding heart transplants and embryo banks.
- 5. Where did this passage most probably appear?
 - A. In a specialized periodical for doctors.
 - B. On the front page of a daily newspaper.
 - C. In a weekly news magazine with a general readership.
 - D. In a specialized periodical for moral philosophers.

题解:

- 1. B. 推理题。此题要求根据本文信息推测出前文内容。本文一 开始就讲到 Dr. Trounson 建立了胚胎库,这比试管授精技术 前进了一步,故 B 选项最有可能是前文内容。
- 2. D. 细节判断题。此题问及首次试管授精的情况。文章第二段第一句话 "The pioneers of successful 'test-tube' birth, Steptoe and Edwards"通过 pioneers 一词,我们知道 steptoe 与 Edwards 最早进行了"test-tube" fertilization,故应选 D。
- 3. A. 逻辑推理题。此题要求根据文中信息推测出 Dr. Trounson 工作地点。根据文章第一段得知 Dr. Trounson 最早建立了胚胎库;又从文章第二段第一句话可知 Steptoe 和 Edwards 最早有了胚胎储备的想法,但由于引起争议而撤回了这个计划;紧接着说当然建立胚胎库在两个国家都会引起道德上的争议,尽管这不意味着英国人比澳大利亚人更讲求道义,言下之义澳大利亚建成了胚胎库而英国没有。故可推知 Dr. Trounson应在澳大利亚建成了胚胎库,选 A。
- 4. C. 此题要求找出从原文信息无法推出的选项。文章最后一句话"the technology has outrun the morality",这里的 outrun 是"超出……的范围"的意思,而非"develop more quickly than",故选项 C 明显是对这句话的错误理解,应选 C。
- 5. C. 此题要求根据文章内容推测出文章出处。这是一篇科普性文章,介绍了"胚胎库"的发展及其引起的争议,而非专著或爆炸性新闻,故最有可能刊登于一般读者群的杂志中。答案应选 C。

Example 2

There are two great mysteries about the beach. One is why

human beings flock there by thousands, only to prostrate (俯卧) themselves in dense packs of glistening flesh. The other is why the sand goes there. Strange as it seems, oceanographers have never really understood why sand piles up on the shore. Now Douglas Inman and Daniel Conley think they have solved the Puzzle.

The puzzle had to do with waves. Though it might seem intuitive that waves carry water to shore, and sand along with it, it's not that simple. The crest (液尖) of a passing wave lifts a given bit of water upward and landward, but the ensuing trough (波谷) pushes the water back down and out to sea. Near the bottom, where the sand is, the water was always assumed to just slide back and forth—and the sand with it. "If you take a very aloof look at a beach," says Inman, "you'll realize that if the two motions move sand back and forth the same amount, then all the sand should end up in deep water."

So for beaches to exist, the crest's onshore flow must somehow move enough sand up the beach to counter the seaward tug of both the trough and gravity. The pressure changes in the sand bed, Inman and Conley think, are the key to beach creation. They found that sand doesn't just slide back and forth with each passing wave. Under a trough, it does slide seaward, in a thin layer just above the bottom. But under a crest its movement is often more elaborate. The higher pressure under a crest-higher because the water is piled higher-forces water into the porous (多孔的) sand. This creates strong whirlpools just above the sand, which help loosen it. As the crest passes overhead, the sand first rushes across the bottom; then it abruptly turns violent lifting off the bottom in large, boiling bunches. Finally, just after the crest passes, the sand explodes up

into the great water column. The boiling and rushing move more sand than the backsliding under a trough, so there's a net movement of sand toward the shore. 1. The primary purpose of this passage is to _____. A. present a recent research into a puzzle B. explain the reason human beings enjoy gathering around the beach C. propose a new explanation of a common phenomenon D. refute a misconception 2. The author implies that . . A. people take it for granted that waves carry sand to form the beach B. no one has ever made any effort to solve the puzzle C. both Inman and Conley are overconfident of their success in the work D. understanding why the sand is piled helps greatly enjoy the beach According to Inman and Conley, all of the following are careless understanding of beach creation except that A. a trough pushes the water out to sea B. the crest of a passing wave simply carries water upward and landward C. near the bottom of the wave, the water just slides back and forth D. both the trough and the crest moved sand back and forth

step how beach is created?

A. Water is forced into sand by the high pressure under a crest.

4. According to the two scientists, which of the following is not a

- B. Strong whirlpools make the sand loose.
- C. The sand is sent into the air with the huge water column.
- D. More sand is pushed back out to the sea.
- 5. This passage most probably appears in _____
 - A. a popular magazine that touches about various social phenomena
 - B. a scientific journal that mainly introduces the latest developments of science
 - C. a popular magazine that entertains the readers with new ideas
 - E. an introduction to a book specialized in the study of the ocean

题解:

- 1. C. 主旨大意题。此题问及文章作者的写作意图。文章一开始就提到海洋学家没有真正理解为什么沙子能在海岸堆积下来形成沙滩,接着指出 Douglas Inman 和 Daniel Conley 认为他们已经解决了这个疑惑。第二、三两段就是这两人解释海浪如何使沙粒沉积并形成沙滩的原理及过程。因此全文是对某一常见现象提出的新解释,故选 C。
- 2. A. 细节含义理解题。文章第二段第一句话中 "···it might seem intuitive that····" 与选项 A "people take it for granted that···" 表达了同样的含义, 故选 A。
- 3. B. 细节判断题。首先要注意题干中的 "careless" 和 "except", 这相当于双重否定的作用,要求选出关于沙滩形成的正确选项。选项 A 不准确,因为根据第二段第三句话 "the ensuing trough pushes the water back down and out to sea"的含义:继而来之的波谷不仅将水向海里推,而且还向上推,故排除 A。选项 C 也不正确,根据文中表述"…the water was always assumed to just slide back and forth"中的过去时态及 assumed 词

义可知, C 选项内容是人们过去普遍认为的观点, 而非 Inman 和 Conley 现在的观点。又通过文章内容可知 trough 使沙子向海中运动, crest 使沙子向岸边运动, 故 D 选项叙述也明显错误, 应选 B。

- 4. D. 细节题。该题要求找出不符合沙滩形成过程的选项。根据 文章最后一句话可知浪尖下推向海岸的沙子多于波谷下推向 海里的沙子才可能使沙子最终向海岸运动形成沙滩。选项 D 的叙述是错误的,语义正相反,应选 D。
- 5. C. 该题要求推测文章出处。本文是对沙滩形成这一自然现象的新解释,属于科普性文章,故选 C。

Ⅱ. 总结指导

通过前面两篇科普类文章阅读理解题的分析,你一定对此类 文章及其出题模式有所了解了。但同时也会有一系列的问题,比 如说,如何克服阅读考试中的生词问题?针对各类题型如主旨大 意题、细节判断题、深层含义题、作者语气题等等,如何着手去 解?有什么切实有效又快速的窍门吗?在这一部分,我们将集中 解决如下问题。

(一) 如何利用构词法猜测词义

科普文章中的词汇构词法特点非常突出,有些词乍一看起来 会令人感到挺陌生挺复杂,但分析一下其词根或词缀,你会很容 易地知道它们的含义,如下面两词:

homosexual-homo(同) +sex(性)+ual(形容词后缀)

heterosexal-hetero(异) +sex(性)+ual(形容词后缀) 通过构词分析得到两词的含义分别为"同性恋的"和"异性恋的"。 又如,

(使有勇气,鼓励)(使有…)(勇气)(除去)(使失去勇气,使灰心)

由此可见,通过掌握词汇的构词规律和一定数量的词根、词缀及它们的含义,可以由已知推出未知,在扩大词汇量方面达到事半功倍的效果。下面提供一些常见的词根词缀及其含义,希望考生们能牢牢记住,并能举一反三。

mini- 小

miniskirt (超短裙)

pro- 向前, 在前

procedure (pro- 向前, ced- 行, -ure 名词后缀; 进行的过程→过程, 步骤, 手续)

prospect (pro-向前, spect 看; 向前看)

cid, cis 切,杀

suicide (sui 自己, cide 杀; 自杀)

incise (in- 人, cise 切; 切开,雕刻)

intro- 向内, 入内

introspect (intro- 向内, spect 看; 内省, 反省)

introvert (intro- 向内, vert 转; 内向)

introflection (intro- 向内, flect 弯曲, -ion 名词后缀; 向内弯曲)

sist 站立

resist (re-相反,反对,sist站立;反抗,抵抗)

consist (con- 共同, 一起, sist 站立;立在一起→由……组成)

insist (in-加强意义, sist 站立;坚立不移→坚持主张, 坚持)

fus 灌,流,倾泻

transfuse (trans- 越过, 转移, fuse 流; 转流过去→移注, 给……输血)

diffuse (dif-分开,散开,fuse流;分开流,到处流→散布,扩散)

interfuse (inter-中间, fuse 流;流入其中→混合,融合,使渗入)

perfuse (per- 贯穿, 全, fuse 流; 泼洒, 使充满)

scribe, script 写

inscribe (in- 入,scribe 写;写入名单中,编入名册,刻写) postscript (post- 后, script 写; 书后的附录, 跋) struct 建造 construct (con- 加强意义, struct 建造; 建设, 建造) destruction (de- 非,相反, struct 建造, -ion 名词后缀;破坏,毁坏) obstruct (ob- agaist, struct 建造;设置障碍,阻碍) un, uni 一, 单一 uniform (uni 一, form 形式, 式样; 一样的, 相同的, 制服) unique (un, 一-ique 形容词后缀; 唯一的, 独一无二的) astro, aster 星 astrology (astro 星, logy 研究, 学; 占星术) astronaut (astro 星, naut 船; 航行者→宇航员) asteroid (aster 星, oid 似……的; 似星的, 星状的) duc, duct 引导 abduct (ab- 离, 去, duct 引导; 引去→诱拐, 劫持) ventiduct (venti 风, duct 引导; 引导风的管道→通风管) ven 来 invervene (inter- 之间, 中间, ven 来; 来到其间→干预, 干涉, 介入) prevent (pre-前,先,ven来;先来→预防,防止) dia 贯通,对穿,二者之间 dialogue (dia 二者之间, log 言,说;对话) diathermal (dia 贯穿, therm 热, -al 形容词词缀; 透热的) tact 触,接触 tactile (触觉的, 有触觉的) intact (in- 否定前缀, tact 触; 未动过的) tract 拉,抽,引 attract (at-表示 to, tract 引; 吸引) contract (con- 共同, 一起, tract 拉; 把二者拉在一起→订约, 缔结) abstract(abs- 离开,去,出,tract 抽,拉;抽去,抽出→抽象,提取,摘要) extract (ex- 出, tract 抽, 取; 抽出, 拔出, 取出) auto 自己, 自动

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autobiography (auto 自我, bio 生命, graph 写, 文字, -y 后缀; 自传)
automobile (auto 自动, mobile 可动的; 自动车→汽车)
mon-, mono-单一, 独
monoxide (一氧化碳)
monarch (mon- 独, arch 最高等级, 主要; 独裁者)
sym-, syn-, syl-, sys- 共同
sympathy (sym 共同, pathy 情感; 同感, 同情)
synchronous (syn 共同, chron 时间, -ous 形容词后缀; 同步的)
contra-, counter-反对,相反
contraversy (contra 反对, vers 转, -y 后缀; 争议)
contraclockwise (contra 相反,-wise 表方向,位置;逆时针方向)
counteraction (反作用)
micro- 微小
microscope (显微镜)
microorganism (微生物)
macro- 宏大
macrochange (大变动)
anti- 反对,相反,防止,抗
antiageing (防衰老的)
 antibody (抗体)
 graph 写,记录
 graphics (制图学)
 micrograph (micro- 微, graph 写, 画; 微观图)
 oceanographer (海洋学家)
 hemi- 半
 hemisphere (半球)
 hemicycle (半圆形)
 homo- 同
 homothermic (homo 同, therm 温度,-ic 形容词后缀; 同温的)
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homopolar (同极的)

hetero- 异

heteromorphic (hetero 异, morph 形状, -ic 形容词后缀; 异形的)

hyper-超过,过多

hypercriticism (过分批评)

hyperactive (活动过度的)

hypo- 下, 低, 少

hypothalamus (下丘脑)

hypotension (低血压)

hypothermia (hypo 过低, therm 温度, -ia 形容词后缀; 体温过低)

com-, con-

1. 共同

comtemporary (同时代的)

concolourous (同色的)

2. 加强或引申意义

confirm (使坚定)

condense (凝结,缩短)

commemorate(纪念)

了解了上述词根和词缀的用法,你能猜出下列词汇的含义吗?

prologue (log 言,说)

patricide (patri- 父亲的)

infuse (in- 入, 内)

persist(per- 贯穿)

convene

manuscript (manu 手) diameter

contact (con- 加强意义)

autocriticism

monocycle

contradict (dict 言,说)

macroeconomics

antiwar

(二) 主旨大意题解题技巧

这类题型主要考查学生对篇章的把握能力和归纳概括能力, 分清文章内容的主次关系,抓住要点。该题型的问题主要围绕着 main idea, topic, subject 或 title 等。主要问法如下:

The best title for this passage would be _____.

Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the passage?

The passage is mainly concerned with ____.

The passage deals primarily with ____.

What's the main topic of the passage?

Which of the following can best sum up the passage?

解这类题最基本的方法就是归纳出各段的大意,再总结出全文主旨。但也有一些快捷的方法往往很奏效,比如抓住文章首尾句、各段的首尾句及这些句中的关键词语甚至衔接语,因为这些句子的位置可能是全文或段落的中心句、主题句常出现的地方,或者是文章首尾呼应的写作方式的再现处,也可能是文章逻辑关系、语义关系衔接得以显示的地方。这些地方最有利于读者迅速把握作者的思路及文章的主旨。

如本部分中"I. 阅读理解练习及习题详解"中 Passage 6 的第 1 题,通过文章两段首句(即各段的中心句)"The difference between …" "The … similarity of …"便可归纳出这篇文章标题应为 A. the Properties of Gases and Liquids。而 Model Test 2 的 Part I 中 Passage 1 第 1 题则可充分利用文章首尾句的呼应关系,从首句"The secrets of sleep were a mystery for centuries …"和尾句"Only in the last few years have experts come up with theories …",很快推知文章的内容是 the secrets of sleep 如何从 mystery 到 theories 的研究过程,因此选 A. research on the secrets of sleep。再举一个例子。从本部分"I. 阅读理解练习及习题详解"中 passage 2 的各段首句中可以迅速捕捉到各段内容间的衔接关系,从而把握作者的思路并找到第 1 题文章主旨题的答案,文章以问题开头"Does homosexuality have a biological cause?",第二段开头为"LeVay chose to focus on …",第三段开头为"Still,neurobiolo-