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清华大学英语系 郑晓暉 主编
孔宪偉 审订



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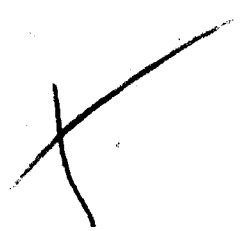
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前 言

本书是根据教育部最新颁发的高等学校本科用《大学英语教学大纲（修订本）》以及全国大学英语四、六级考试大纲编写的最新四级阅读与翻译。

与原用大纲相比，新大纲在目标、要求等各方面都作了较大的调整。其一是对文理科、理工科不再分别制定大纲；其二是明确提出了“培养学生用英语交流信息”的更高目标；三是把四级定为全国各类高等学校均应达到的基本要求；四是将听、说、写、译四项技能列入学生语言应用能力中的同一层次，与阅读技能并列，并对听、读等各项技能和词汇量的要求都有了较大幅度的提高。这些修订，体现了面向二十一世纪和进行综合素质教育的要求。

为了帮助广大学生及时了解新大纲的这些变化和迅速适应新大纲提出的各项能力要求，从而顺利地通过新形势下的四级考试，我们组织清华大学英语系的部分老师推出了这本**紧靠新大纲、完全按照修订要求编写**的考前强化训练型参考书。

毋庸讳言，目前市场上此类参考书籍非常之多，有时简直让人无从选择。但是，我们仍对这本《最新大学英语四级阅读与翻译》充满了信心，这是因为：

一、本书从内容到形式完全按照新大纲组织，在题型及问题设计完全依据考试题型，极具针对性和指导性。

二、本书选材新颖、体裁多样、涉及面广、语言生动，融知识性、趣味性、可读性为一体，让读者在轻松的阅读中领会考点要领，并契合了新大纲培养学生综合素质的要求。

三、本书不但能直接帮助和指导应试者顺利通过四级考试，同时也可对各类英语考试（如托福、研究生入学考试等）的考生提供参考和帮助。

四、本书编者是清华大学英语系专业人员，多年从事大学英语教研工作，对指导四、六级考试具有丰富经验和独到心得。

本书由北京大学英语系孔宪倬老师审订，在此向她表示感谢。同时一并感谢为本书出版提供帮助的老师 and 朋友。

与本书同时推出的“21 世纪大学英语学习丛书”还包括《最新大学英语四级模拟试题详解》、《最新大学英语四级听力强化训练》、《最新大学英语四级完形填空与简答》、《最新大学英语六级模拟试题详解》、《最新大学英语六级听力强化训练》、《最新大学英语六级阅读与翻译》、《最新大学英语六级改错与简答》、《最新大学英语词汇考点例解精要》等书，请读者参考。

我们相信，本书的出版会给广大高校学生以及广大立志通过全国大学英语四级考试的考生提供一条更加有效、更加简单的捷径。同时为广大英语爱好者提供帮助。

编 者

2000.2 于清华园

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Test 1

Part I Reading Comprehension

Directions: *There are four passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are 4 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 ~ 5 are based on the following passage

By far the most common snake in Britain is the adder. In Scotland, in fact, there are no other snakes at all. The adder is also the only British snake with a poisonous bite. It can be found almost anywhere, but prefers sunny hillsides and rough open country, including high ground. In Ireland there are no snakes at all.

Most people regard snakebites as a fatal misfortune, but not all bites are serious, and very few are fatal. 21. Sometimes attempts at emergency treatment turn out to be more dangerous than the bite itself, with amateurs heroically, but mistakenly, trying do - it - yourself surgery and other unnecessary measures.

All snakes have small teeth, so it follows that all snakes can bite, but only the bite of the adder presents any danger. British snakes are shy animals and are far more frightened of you than you could possibly be of them. The adder will attack only if it feels threatened, as can happen if you take it by surprise and step on it accidentally, or if you try to catch it or pick it up, which it dislikes intensely. If it hears you coming, it will normally get out of the way as quickly as it can, but adders cannot move very rapidly and may attack before moving if you are very close.

The effect of a bite varies considerably. It depends upon several things, one of which is the body-weight of the person bitten. The bigger the person, the less harmful the bite is likely to be, which is why children suffer far more seriously from snakebites than adults. A healthy person will also have better resistance against the poison.

Very few people actually die from snakebites in Britain. And though these bites can make some people very ill, there are probably just as many cases of bites having little or no effect, as there are of serious illness.

1. Adders are most likely to be found _____.
A) on uncultivated land throughout Britain
B) in Scotland and nowhere else
C) in wilder parts of Scotland and Ireland x
D) in shady fields in England
2. If you come across someone who is accidentally bitten by an adder, you should _____.
A) try to pick the adder up
B) operate as soon as possible
C) not take up any treatment
D) not worry about the victim
3. We are told that adders are _____.

- A) happy to meet a human being
 - B) not afraid of human beings
 - C) easy to attack human beings
 - D) unlikely to bite except in self - defense
4. If an adder hears someone approaching, it will usually _____.
- A) make attempt to attack him
 - B) move quickly away
 - C) wait to see him
 - D) move out of his path as soon as possible
5. According to this passage, in Britain, _____.
- A) no people die from snakebites
 - B) snakebites always bring about serious illness
 - C) bites do no harm at all
 - D) the effects of bites are different

Questions 6 ~ 10 are based on the following passage

The problem of the American robin (画眉鸟) is an example of the hidden dangers involved in the use of the insecticides. Elm trees in the United States, like those in Europe are being attacked by Dutch elm disease. This fungal is spread by the elm bark beetle.

American scientists have attacked the disease by attacking the carrier. They have treated the trees with a chemical which kills the beetles. But the substance they use sticks to the leaves of the trees. These leaves are a basic food of a certain type of earthworm which is itself not affected by the insecticide. The worms can store up huge quantities of this poison in their systems. The robin eats these worms and is thus being poisoned by its normal food. The bird is already in danger of dying out in some areas.

It is sometimes difficult to foresee side effects like these, which is why many people object to the use of chemical sprays. 22. They fear that man may be poisoning himself in the same way as he has poisoned the American robin and other higher organisms at the top of food chains.

6. The carrier of Dutch elm disease is _____.
- A) the American robin
 - B) the insecticides
 - C) elm trees
 - D) elm bark beetle
7. Dutch elm disease attacks elm trees not only in the United States but also in _____.
- A) New Zealand
 - B) Japan
 - C) The Dutch East Indies
 - D) France
8. The robin dies basically out of _____.
- A) the earthworms
 - B) the leaves
 - C) the elm bark beetles
 - D) the chemical to kill the carrier of Dutch elm disease
9. Why many people object to the use of chemical sprays?
- A) Because they don't want to kill birds.
 - B) Because they like elm trees.
 - C) Because they have more useful methods.
 - D) Because they are afraid of being hurt at last by the chemicals.
10. The main idea of the passage is that _____.
- A) elm trees must be protected against beetles
 - B) American scientists have succeeded in treating Dutch elm disease

- C) the side effects of insecticides may be serious and hard to predict.
- D) the robin is near extinction in some parts of the world

Questions 11 ~ 15 are based on the following passage

When British voters go to the polls during General Elections to decide who will govern them, they usually have a choice of at least three candidates who will each represent one of the three main political parties in Britain today.

The Labor Party is the party of the left, the Tory or Conservative Party represents the right and between the two, with policies and opinions of its own, is the smaller Liberal Party.

Britain is divided into over 600 political units known as "constituencies", each with its own candidates who stand for Parliament hoping to be elected (or re-elected) with large majorities. The cities and large towns are themselves divided into constituencies and they also choose the Members of Parliament (MPs) who will represent their views in the Houses of Parliament at Westminster. 23. Here, in the "House", the government of the day led by its Prime Minister and his Cabinet — a team of specially selected ministers — carries out its duties of governing the country. Various proposals are put forward for debate and discussion and these may, eventually, become part of the law of the land. The government in office has to face the criticism of the other parties which are in opposition. This is the sort of democratic process that the majority of British people seem to favor Her Majesty's Opposition, and thus a certain balance of power is maintained. Decisions are made by a majority vote and this, of course, is where the other parties, the Liberals, the National and Regional parties (such as the Scottish or Welsh National Party) and other independent par-

ties can exercise their influence. Some issues may be decided on a mere handful of votes.

11. According to this passage, when British voters go to the polls they usually have a choice of at least _____.

- A) nine candidates for each political party
- B) three candidates for each political party
- C) one candidate, for all three political parties
- D) three candidates, one for each important party

12. According to this passage, the Liberal Party can be described as _____.

- A) the only party with its own policies
- B) a small party with no central policy
- C) the only small party with independent views
- D) the party of the center

13. A constituency is _____.

- A) a political area found only in the larger towns
- B) a county area
- C) a place where the General Elections are held
- D) an area represented by an MP in Parliament

14. The Cabinet is _____.

- A) any group of MPs with special responsibility
- B) the Prime Minister's private office
- C) a specially chosen team of ministers from all three political parties
- D) a ministerial group assisting the Prime Minister

15. Which of the following statements is true?

- A) Proposals put forward by the Cabinet are laws.
- B) There are only three parties in Britain.
- C) People don't like the criticism by the other parties.

D) A majority vote is a sort of democratic process.

Questions 16 ~ 20 are based on the following passage

Art is considered by many people to be little more than a decorative means of giving pleasure. This is not always the case, however; at times, art may be seen to have a purely functional side as well. Such could be said of the sandpaintings of the Navaho (那伐鹤人) Indians of the American Southwest; these have a medicinal as well as an artistic purpose.

24. According to Navaho traditions, one who suffers from either a mental or a physical illness has in some way disturbed or come in contact with the supernatural – perhaps a certain animal, a ghost, or the dead. To counteract this evil contact, the ill person or one of his relatives will employ a medicine man called a “singer” to perform a healing ceremony which will attract a powerful supernatural being. During the ceremony, which may last from 2 to 9 days, the “singer” will produce a sandpainting on the floor of the Navaho Hogan. On the last day of the ceremony, the patient will sit on this sandpainting and the “singer” will rub the ailing parts of the patient’s body with sand from a specific figure in the sandpainting. In this way the patient absorbs the power of that particular supernatural being and becomes strong like it. After the ceremony, the sandpainting is then destroyed and disposed of so its power will not harm anyone.

The art of sandpainting is handed down from old “singers” to their students. The materials used are easily found in the areas the Navaho inhabit: brown, red, yellow, and white sandstone, which is pulverized by being crushed between 2 stones much as corn is ground into flour. The “singer” holds a small amount of this sand in his hand and lets it flow be-

tween his thumb and forefingers onto a clean, flat surface on the floor. 25. With a steady hand and great patience, he is thus able to create designs of stylized people, snakes and other creatures that have power in the Navaho belief system. The traditional Navaho does not allow reproduction of sand-paintings, since he believes the supernatural powers that taught him the craft have forbidden this; however, such reproductions can in fact be purchased today in tourist shops in Arizona and New Mexico. They are done by either Navaho Indians or by other people who wish to preserve this craft.

16. A good title for this article might be _____.

- A) "Medicine"
- B) "Sandpainting"
- C) "The Navaho Indian"
- D) "Modern Art"

17. The purpose of healing ceremony is _____.

- A) to attract supernatural powers
- B) to please supernatural powers
- C) to create a sandpainting
- D) to frighten supernatural powers

18. The "singer" rubs sand on the patient because _____.

- A) it decorates the patient
- B) it has medical value
- C) the patient receives strength from the sand
- D) none of the above

19. What is used to produce a sandpainting?

- A) Paint.
- B) Flour.
- C) Beach sand.

☒ Crushed sandstone.

20. The writer probably feels that most art today _____.

- A) is purely decorative
- B) is purely functional
- ☒ C) is both decorative and functional
- D) is useless

Part II Translation

Directions: *In this part, there are 5 items which you should translate into Chinese. Each item consists of one or two sentences. These sentences are all taken from the Reading Passages you have just read. You are allowed 15 minutes to do the translation. Remember to refer back to the passage, so as to identify their meaning in the content.*

21. (Passage 1, Para 2)

Sometimes attempts at emergency treatment turn out to be more dangerous than the bite itself, with amateurs heroically, but mistakenly, trying do - it - yourself surgery and other unnecessary measures.

22. (Passage 2, Para 3)

They fear that man may be poisoning himself in the same way as he has poisoned the American robin and other higher organisms at the top of food chains.

23. (Passage 3, Para 3)