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ENGLISH

新编大学英语四级考试

高分突破

(阅读 · 翻译 · 简答)

- 策划 大学英语四级考试命题研究组
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内 容 简 介

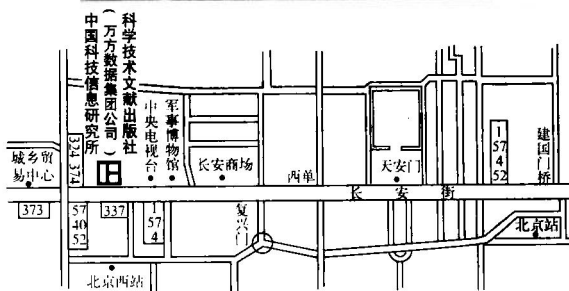
《新编大学英语四级考试高分突破》在第一版及其修订版的基础上精编而成。内容精练、选材准确、针对性强,具有很高的指导性,确实能够帮助读者顺利通过大学英语四级考试。

本书为阅读·翻译·简答分册,包括阅读、翻译、简答及完形填空四部分。通过 18 个单元的专项仿真练习及详细透彻的解题分析,使读者掌握应试技巧,以优异成绩通过四级考试。

本书由北京大学英语系著名英语教学专家孙亦丽教授最终审定。

我们所有的努力都是为了使您增长知识和才干

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出版说明

由我社出版的大学英语辅导教材系列书自出版以来得到了广大读者的认可,特别在大学生中几乎是无人不知、无人不晓。许多读者来电来函对我们表示支持和鼓励,同时也提出了许多宝贵意见和建议。为此,我们对广大读者表示深深的谢意,并将全力做好本系列书今后的出版工作。

为确保本系列书的生命力,满足广大读者的最新需求,以及遏制不法分子的盗版行为,我们将不断增加新品种、新版本、新内容。

我社本次推出的新编大学英语系列,是在第一版及其修订版的基础上精雕细琢而成。其选材更新、针对性更强。

新的系列书特邀我国著名英语教学专家、北京大学英语系孙亦丽教授担任主编。孙教授治学严谨,对本书全文逐字逐句地进行了审阅,在此我们向她表示衷心的感谢!

我们坚信:本系列书不仅能够直接帮助你通过四、六级考试,也可使你的英语水平有大幅度提高。

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Riddle

How many great people have
been born in America?

UNIT ONE

Section A Reading Comprehension

Directions: *There are 4 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 center.*

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage:

Accidents are caused; they don't just happen. The reason may be easy to see: an overloaded tray, a shelf out of reach, a patch of ice on the road. 21. But more often than not there is a chain of events leading up to the misfortune — frustration, tiredness or just bad temper — that show what the accident really is, a sort of attack on oneself.

Road accidents, for example, happen frequently after a family quarrel and we all know people who are accident-prone, so often at odds with (和……争执) themselves and the world that they seem to cause accidents for themselves and other.

22. By definition, an accident is something you cannot predict or avoid, and the idea which used to be current, that the majority of road accidents are caused by a minority of criminally careless drivers, is not supported by insurance statistics. These show that most accidents involve ordinary motorists in a moment of carelessness or thoughtlessness.

It is not always clear, either, what sort of conditions make people more likely to have an accident. For instance, the law requires all factories to take safety precautions and most companies have safety committees to make sure the regulations are observed, but still, every day in Britain, some fifty thousand men and women are absent from work due to an accident. These accidents are largely the result of human error or misjudgment—noise and fatigue, boredom or worry are possible factors which contribute to this. Doctors who work in factories have found that those who drink too much, usually people who have a high anxiety level, run three times the normal risk of accidents at work.

1. This passage might be taken from _____.

- A. a manual of a new machine
- B. a popular magazine
- C. a science fiction
- D. a psychological research paper

2. The passage suggests that _____.

- A. accidents are usually caused by psychological factors
- B. doctors run three times the normal risk of accidents in factories
- C. accidents mostly result from bad weather
- D. about 40 000 people lose their lives at work in Britain every day

3. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a factor of accidents in this passage?

- A. Tiredness.
- B. Mood.

C. Carelessness. D. Weather.

4. "Accident-prone" here (in paragraph 2) means ____.

- A. injured in accidents
- B. responsible for road accidents
- C. likely to die in accidents
- D. liable to have accidents

5. What do you think would be the best title for the passage?

- A. How Accidents Are Caused.
- B. Accidents and Anxiety.
- C. How to Prevent Accidents on Roads and in Factories.
- D. Human Factors in Accidents.

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage:

What's a drug? Most people probably think there's a perfectly simple answer to this question. 23. In fact, If one conducts a quick survey on any street corner, one finds that, according to the vast majority of people, there are two groups of drugs: those prescribed by doctors, and those which people take for non-medical use. As medicine and the medical profession are generally respected, there aren't any objections to the use of prescribed drugs. What most people don't realize is that although prescribed drugs are usually beneficial, they can also present a serious problem. There weren't many people addicted to tranquilizers (镇定剂) before doctors began to prescribe them: now there are literally millions who depend on them.

The acceptance of the use of drugs for non-medical reasons is largely a matter of culture. For example, some eastern people view the use of alcohol with horror, mainly as a result of religious upbringing. However, these same people freely use marijuana (大麻) and similar drugs without a second thought, while this, in turn, isn't accepted in a western culture which accepts alcohol. In most western societies, the

tea-or-coffee is now a part of life, and huge quantities of these drinks are consumed daily. But these are also a form of drug, since there are stimulating substances contained in both.

A few years ago a drug was defined as any substance which, by its chemical nature, alters the structure or function of the living organism. This definition includes foods, vitamins, air pollutants, and many materials normally present in the body. There's proof now that tobacco in the form of cigarettes is linked with lung cancer. And third's also a definite link between butter, which raises the cholesterol (胆固醇) level of the blood, and heart disease — which is the principal health problem in developed countries.

So there aren't any simple definitions for "drug", and these definitions change from culture to culture. However, if we accept the one just given, we can all describe ourselves as "drug-users."

6. Medical drugs are trusted because _____.

- A. they cause no harm to people's health
- B. they are curative
- C. they are beneficial
- ☒ D. medicines and the medical profession are respected

7. Non-medical drugs are _____.

- A. accepted by Western people
- B. harmful to people's health
- ☒ C. either accepted or rejected according to people's culture
- D. rejected by Eastern people

8. According to the definition given in the passage _____.

- A. butter-eaters are drug-users
- B. we are all drug-users
- C. cigarette-smokers are drug-users
- D. marijuana-takers are drug-users

9. Tea and coffee are considered as drugs because _____.

- A. they contain stimulating substances
- B. they cause health problems
- C. they are accepted by many people
- D. quite a lot of people get addicted to them

10. The author's tone is _____.

- A. ironical
- B. sarcastically humorous
- C. serious but objective
- D. worried

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage:

British and American scientists, drilling into the floor of the South Atlantic, have found the last piece of a great continental jigsaw puzzle(拼板玩具), it was announced Thursday. It is the final piece of evidence that South America and Africa were once part of the vast supercontinent, Gondwanaland, along with Australia, New Zealand, and Antarctica.

The scientists found a finger-shaped extension of the Falkland Plateau(高原), under two miles of water, reaching 750 miles eastward from the Falkand Islands to a point 1 600 miles from the South American mainland.

24. Rocks dug up from the submerged continent, by scientists from Columbia University and the University of Birmingham who were aboard a research ship, are believed to be more than 600 million years old — the oldest ever brought up from the bottoms of any ocean.

"It completes the puzzle." Said a scientist from Columbia. "All the other points along the Atlantic contours(轮廓) of the two continents had been proven by various scientific means to have been joined long ago. Now, with deep-sea drilling, we've identified a large area of

submerged continent, and the last piece is in place.”

11. What is the main idea of the first paragraph?

- A. The jigsaw puzzle was announced on Thursday.
- B. The British and American scientists drilled into the South Atlantic.
- C. Gondwanaland was once a supercontinent including Australia.
- D. Missing piece of the continental puzzle has been found.

✓ 12. The length of the plateau extension is _____.

- A. two miles
- B. 1600 miles
- C. not mentioned directly
- ✓ D. 750 miles

13. _____ more than 600 million years old.

- ✓ A. Rocks dug up are
- B. The research ship is
- C. The plateau is
- D. The South American mainland

14. According to the passage, _____.

- A. scientists have proven the two continents were once joined
- B. the puzzle was completed long ago
- C. the Gondwanaland has a long contour
- ✓ D. the contours had been proven by scientific means

15. Where was the last piece of the supercontinent found?

- A. In Africa.
- B. In South America.
- ✓ C. Under the South Atlantic.
- D. In Gondwanaland.

Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage:

25. With an increasing number of lives being taken each year,

there is a call to control the gun, to restrict its use and the ease with it may be purchased in many parts of the country, or to be rid of it altogether. However, there are also many Americans who, despite the shocking death rate, feel that we have the right to own firearms.

Opponents (反对者) of strict gun controls argue that the right to own firearms is guaranteed by the U. S. A Constitution. The claim is made that, without firearms, we would be more vulnerable (易受攻击的) than ever to criminal violence. Moreover, they claim, we would be unable to defend ourselves if subversive (颠覆的) elements, that would be dictator, or some foreign intruder attempted to take hold of the country. The privately owned gun helped us to win our freedom in the first place, they say; it can help us preserve that freedom today.

26. Further, opponents of gun control tell us that gun-control laws don't work because the people who cause most of trouble — the criminals — simply don't bother to obey them. But the proponents of control reply by producing statistics to show that control laws have kept the crime rates down in other nations. Strictly enforced controls, they believe, can do the same thing here.

Basically, the anti-control people feel that to call for and make laws against the gun is to move in the wrong direction. They recognize that there is much violence in our society and know that something must be done about it. But they argue that when the gun is involved in violence, it is not, in itself, responsible for the trouble. A gun, after all, is an inanimate object that is incapable of acting on its own. The fault lies with the people who misuse it — the criminals, the mentally ill, the emotionally unstable, the intoxicated. It will do no good, then, to move against the gun. Violence will be reduced only if we restrict the people who pull the trigger.

16. Which of the following is the proposed reason for owning a gun?