大学英语四级考试强化训练系列丛书

大学英语四级考试
阅读、完形填空强化训练

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内 容 提 要

《大学英语四级考试阅读、完形填空强化训练》是《大学英语四级考试强化训练系列丛书》之一。本书是根据教育部新颁布的《大学英语教学大纲》读、写要求为依据，参照大学英语四级考试大纲而编写的。本书分两大部分：第一部分为大学英语四级考试阅读强化训练指南；第二部分为大学英语四级完形填空强化训练指南。第一部分别介绍了阅读理解概述、阅读理解技能详解、简答题概述、阅读理解习题测试、简答题习题测试。第二部分内容为概述、例题详解、测试练习（包括多项选择填空练习和无选择填空练习）。本书同时给出了习题参考答案，以便学生和自学者自己评定掌握情况。本书选材合理、真实、广泛、练习针对性强，训练量大，并结合近年来考试大纲要求设计的新题型进行编写。本书可供教师和学生按实际需要有选择地使用，也可供学生课外自学使用。本书对其他有志于进一步提高英语读、写技能的英语自学者也有所裨益。

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前　言

本丛书是根据教育部新颁发的《大学英语教学大纲》，即“新大纲”，结合《大学英语考试大纲》，鉴于广大学生的迫切需求，经反复酝酿，多次征求学生意见，几易其稿，而编写的一套系列丛书。

本丛书共分四册，即《大学英语四级考试听力强化训练》，《大学英语四级考试词汇、语法结构强化训练》，《大学英语四级考试阅读、完形填空强化训练》，《大学英语四级考试写作、翻译强化训练》。各册自成体系，又相互配合，形成整体，以贯彻新大纲的要求，使学生能通过使用本丛书进行训练之后，真正达到“具有较强的阅读能力和一定的听，说，写，译能力。”

本丛书不同于以往的各种四级考试的练习册。重点在于帮助学生提高语言基本素质，为考试以及今后深造打下扎实的语言基础；所使用的语言浅显，易懂，对各种语言现象和语法要点阐述清楚明白，使学生读后真正能够弄懂哪些是对的，哪些是错的；强调基本功训练和语言应用能力的提高，从而使学生能够提高应试能力和获得高分成为可能。

本丛书可作为非英语专业大专学生的复习资料，也可作为考前辅导班的教材，平时可用作非英语专业大学生学习英语的辅助读物。

本丛书由徐钟，翁慰宝任主编，分别由宋勤（听力）、万思东（词汇）、须文瑜（语法结构）、李晓虹（阅读）、孟臻（完形填空）、沈澄（作文）和翁慰宝（翻译）撰写。

编委会对本丛书的设计与编写自始至终均十分关注，提出了许多宝贵的意见。在编写的过程中承蒙上海大学各有关单位的大力支持与帮助，在此谨以致谢。

由于时间仓促，编者水平有限，不妥之处在所难免，希望广大读者批评指正。

编　者

1999 年 8 月

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第一部分　阅读理解

第一章　阅读理解概述

阅读是人们获取最新知识和信息、开阔视野的重要手段。在大学英语四级考试中，阅读理解占很大比例。这一部分旨在测试学生在限定的时间内对阅读材料所阐述的观点、信息、逻辑关系和语言点等的理解判断能力。《大学英语教学大纲》规定学生的阅读速度应达到每分钟50～90个单词，因而培养大学生具有较强的阅读能力和快迅的阅读速度是英语教学的重要环节。当今的社会知识更新日新月异，科学技术迅猛发展，这就要求学生必须具备良好的阅读能力才能高效地获得信息、把握时代的脉搏。由此可见，更快、更多、更准确地阅读，对于学生来说是至关重要和十分必要的。

那么如何才能有效快速地进行阅读呢？

一、具备扎实的语言基本功

扎实的语言基本功是提高阅读能力的基石。首先，生词是学生阅读中遇到的一大障碍。在阅读过程中，学生们往往一碰到自己不认识的词就会马上去查词典。如果在考试中遇到生词该怎麼办呢？所以仅仅依靠词典不是唯一的手段。学生在平时的学习中应该熟记大纲要求掌握的词汇，并且要学会灵活运用一些方法，如根据上下文猜测词义，用重述法处理所碰到的生词，等等。其次，学生应该牢固掌握英语语法和惯用法。只有具备了良好的语法和惯用法知识，才能对阅读中所碰到的一些复杂句子或惯用法通过分析推测，迎刃而解。另外，学生须在平时的学习中对一些动词短语在不同上下文中的多种含义多加留意积累。例如，"turn down"这一动词短语在句子"He put forward some suggestions at the meeting, but we turned them down"中意为"拒绝"；而在句子"Would you please turn down the radio while I'm doing my homework"中则意为"(将音量)调低"。总之，具备良好的语言基本功是提高阅读能力的基础。

二、扩大知识面

在考试中，阅读理解部分的文章内容并不是专业性很强的文章，但这些文章它的内容广泛，涉及政治、经济、历史、科技等方面。如果考生平时已进行过大量的阅读实践，拥有较宽的知识面，就有利于提高阅读理解力，在考试中就会占有很大的优势。

三、掌握有效的阅读方法

1. 意群阅读法

意群阅读法就是指在阅读过程中以意群为单位进行阅读。许多学生在阅读时常习惯于一字一字地默读，或用手指指着字逐字逐字地读，其实这不是好的阅读方法。在日常阅读训

练中，应该逐步培养意群阅读法，一则能提高阅读速度；二则意群是由几个词构成，包括关键词和非关键词，这样学生能在阅读中快速地辨认出关键词，从而准确地获取信息，增强阅读理解力。例如，The development of the English language/falls into three reasonable distinct periods . Old English/lasted from about A.D. 450, when the first Germanic tribes/began to settle in England/, until about 1100. Middle English extended from about 1100/to about 1475. And Modern English/began about 1475. and has lasted to the present time.

2. 略读法

略读是指通过快速浏览全文从而了解文章的大意和中心思想的阅读方法。在略读中要集中注意力"一目十行"地扫描，抓住文章中反复出现的一些关键词，对那些不重要的细节或生词可略过不读。在快速浏览文章时，要注意文章的首尾段。一般说来，文章的开头点明主题或提出作者的观点；而结尾则是对全文内容的概括和总结。另外，要注意每段的主题句，即表达段落大意的句子。每段的主题句联合起来就构成了文章的主要思想。

3. 查阅法

查阅法是指在短时间内快速地找到所需要的具体信息的阅读方法。这种方法通常要求学生用眼睛快速搜寻，把注意力放在与所需信息相关的词语上，从而有的放矢地获取信息。查阅有关信息要注意掌握了解阅读材料的结构或顺序，只有弄清其排列顺序才能准确、高效地找到需要的答案。查阅法和略读法都强调一个快字，然而要注意它们之间也有很大的区别：前者旨在查找一些特定的具体信息，而后者则是为了了解文章的中心思想。

四、阅读理解解题步骤及方法

1. 阅读理解解题步骤

Step 1：快速浏览全文，了解文章大意或中心思想；

Step 2：仅看文后提出的问题题干，掌握问题类型；

Step 3：根据问题的内容有的放矢地查阅所需的有关信息；

Step 4：就文章中与问题内容相关的部分结合所给的多项答案，通过理解分析合理作出选择；

Step 5：再略读一遍文章，核实已选择的答案。

一般说来，问题的先后顺序与文章内容的先后顺序一致，因此做题时应按考题顺序逐题解答，如果遇到比较难以很快作出判断的题目，最好放在最后花一点时间去解决。

2. 解题方法

在解题过程中，学生应注意运用以下几种方法：

(1) 归纳法　通过浏览全文，留意文章的首尾段、每段的主题句和一些反复出现的关键词，以此来归纳总结出整篇文章的主题或中心思想。

(2) 对应法　对照问题在文章中找出相对应的语句，通过已掌握的语法或惯用法知识进行分析判断，选择出意义相同或相近的答案。

(3) 排除法　根据文章中提供的信息和自己对文章的理解逐一排除无关或语义含糊不清的选择答案。

(4) 推测法　根据文章的内容、上下文的逻辑关系和一些关键词进行推理，选出最佳答案。

总之，学生在做题时一定要根据文章的具体内容和问题的要求灵活选用不同的方法作出正确的判断。

五、阅读理解题型

在阅读理解部分中，一般的题型是每篇文章后面有五道多项选择题。本书又增加一种新题型简答题，即在文章后布置问题，要求学生根据自己对文章的理解，简明扼要地回答所提出的问题。这种题型的目的在于检测学生阅读理解的准确性和概括能力。

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第二章　阅读理解技能详解

在第一章中我们介绍了几种有效的阅读方法。然而在考试时，学生阅读能力的好坏实际上主要反映在做多项选择题的准确性上。要想提高做题的准确度，仅有正确的阅读方法是不够的，还应该掌握以下几种阅读技能。

一、确定中心思想

确定中心思想是指以最快的速度浏览文章后，了解文章的大意或概括总结出文章的中心思想。

确定中心思想的典型提问有：

(1) The passage is mainly concerned with _____.

(2) The main idea of the passage is _____.

(3) The passage mainly talks about _____.

(4) The best title for the passage is _____.

(5) The title that best expresses the main idea is _____.

(6) The author mainly discusses _____.

(7) The main idea of the passage may be best expressed as _____.

(8) What is the topic of the passage _____?

(9) Which of the following is the best title for the passage _____?

(10) Which of the following best summarizes the passage _____?

在略读时，应注意：

(1) 强调快速，切忌一字不漏地慢慢用手指指着读或逐字默读。应根据意群一目十行地浏览，抓住关键词，对不重要的细节或词可以略过不读。

(2) 细读文章的首尾段，因为文章的开头点明主旨或提出作者的观点，而结尾一段则总结或重述文章的主要内容。例如：

So long as the bulk of the population remains on the land as subsistence (自耕自给) farmers, a modern industrial society cannot develop. The farmers do not produce enough extra food to feed the workers needed in nonagricultural pursuits. Nor can workers be released from the farms to the factories while so many are needed for traditional methods of cultivation. And farmers who are not producing anything for the market cannot go to the market as purchasers themselves. Local demand for consumer goods does not expand. There is thus no stimulus to local industrial production. Agriculture must, therefore, yield workers and savings to the new industrialized, urbanized sectors if a modern economy is to be achieved.

Question: What is the main idea of the selection?

A. A modern economy can be achieved in cities.

B. Traditional farming methods are still used.

C. The development of an urban economy depends on the modernization of agriculture.

D. A subsistence economy is a main factor to stimulate local industrial production.

正确答案为 C。因为文章一开头就阐明了中心意思,即地球上只要大部分人仍是自耕自给的农民,现代化的工业社会就发展不起来。文章的结尾又进一步加强此论点:要想达到现代化的经济,农业必须实现现代化。而 A 显然与文章内容不相符合。虽然在文章中提到了 B 的内容,但它仅是阐述中心思想的论据之一,不符合题意。D 的意思是自耕自给的经济是刺激当地工业生产的主要因素,这明显是错误的。

(3) 找出主题句。主题句亦称主旨句,是对段落内容的概括总结,即段落大意之所在。主题句的位置一般放在每段的首尾处,有时也放在中间。每一段的主题句综合起来就是整篇文章的中心思想。例如:

People who keep their word become the most important members of an organization. People come to rely on and trust that person. They can be counted on. You need to be that person in your organization.

Whenever you make a promise, be sure to keep it. When you keep your promises, no matter how much efforts it takes, you will be rewarded.

Whenever you say no, stand behind that as well. In a way, a no is also a promise. A good, clean no can be very important in building trust. People feel safest when they know what is expected, what they can and cannot do.

Agreements are also important. Whenever you enter an agreement, live by it. Even if after making the agreement you are not too happy with the deal, you still live by it. In the long run, your integrity will pay off.

This all boils down to an issue of integrity. You need to have the integrity to make your word gold. Integrity comes from your very core. When you keep your word, confidence resonates(反响) from your very being. People respond.

Question: Which of the following is the best title for the selection?

A. Make Your Word Gold

B. The Importance of Making Agreements

C. A No Is A Promise

D. The Advantages of Building Trust

正确答案为 A。因为每一段的开头第一句话为主题句,把它们综合起来就是文章的主要意思:做到金口玉言。B 和 C 在文章中都提到了,前者是第四段的主题句,后者是第三段的内容,都不能全面地概括整篇文章的大意。很明显文章当中没有谈及 D 的内容。

(4) 在有些文章中,其中心思想并非直接由主题句阐述而是间接地被暗示出来,因此要根据文章中的一些重要细节或关键词归纳总结出主题。例如:

To us it seems so natural to put up an umbrella to keep the water off when it rains. But actually the umbrella was not invented as protection against rain. Its first use was as a shade against the sun.

Nobody knows who first invented it, but the umbrella was used in very ancient times. We know that the umbrella was used in ancient Egypt and Babylon as a sunshade. And there was a strange thing concerned with its use: it became a symbol of honour authority. In the Far East in ancient times, the

umbrella was allowed to be used only by royalty or by those in high office. In Europe, the Greeks were the first to use the umbrella as a sunshade. But it is believed that the first persons in Europe to use the umbrella as protection against rain were the ancient Romans.

During the Middle Ages, the use of the umbrella practically disappeared. Then it appeared again in Italy in the late sixteenth century. By 1680, the umbrella appeared in France and later on in England.

By the eighteenth century, the umbrella was used against rain throughout Europe. Umbrellas have not changed much in style during all this time, though they have become much lighter in weight. It was not until the twentieth century that women's umbrellas began to be made in a whole variety of colours.

Question: The title that best expresses the main idea is _____.

A. The Use of Umbrellas

B. The History of Umbrellas

C. The Variety of Umbrellas

D. Umbrella—A Symbol of Authority

正确答案为 B。因为文章的中心思想在这里没有明确阐述出来，但我们可以根据时间顺序综观全文概括出文章的大意是在讲述伞的历史。A 和 D 均是文章中谈及的一个细节；文章中根本没有谈到 C 的内容。

二、查找特定信息

在阅读理解时，文章中心思想的确定以及文章主体的构成需要具体的信息或事实来阐述和证明。因此如何查找具体信息是阅读理解的重要技能之一。在阅读测试中，寻找具体细节需要快速、准确。要注意：①有的放矢地进行阅读，尽快找到所需信息，对与问题不相关的内容可略过不读。②有些问题的阐述不一定是文章的原话，因此要仔细推敲，根据所掌握的惯用语和语法知识选择意义最相近的答案。

常见寻找特定信息的问题有以下几种：

1. 涉及 6 种含 wh-的词(即 who、what、when、where、why 和 how)的问题

在阅读时要多加注意涉及上述问题的内容，可适当地划线作记号。

这类问题的典型提问有：

(1) According to the passage, who(what, when…)_____?

(2) What do we know about _____?

(3) In what way _____?

(4) Why is(are)_____?

例如：Today every major anthology(诗集；诗文)of ninteenth-century poetry includes examples of the work which Christina Rossetti produced during her long literary career. Born in 1830, she began composing verse at the age of eleven and continued to write for the remaining fifty-three years of her life. Her brother Dante Gabriel Rossetti, himself a poet and painter, soon recognized her genius and urged her to publish her poems. By the time of her death in 1894, Christina had written more than eleven hundred poems and had published over nine hundred of them. Although this work has earned her recognition as the greatest woman poet of the Victorian Age, there is still no authoritative edition of her

poetry.

Question: According to the passage, when did Christina Rossetti begin writing poetry?

A. Only after her brother urged her to do so.

B. When she was fifty-three years old.

C. When her genius was recognized.

D. When she was very young.

正确答案为 D。因为根据题目的要求所要查找的信息是何时开始写诗，文章的第二句"she began composing verse at the age of eleven"中的"composing verse"means "writing poetry"正合题意，所以写诗的时间是 11 岁，四个选择中只有 D 符合。

注：做题时，只需根据问题所要的特定信息有的放矢地查找，其他的细节可略过不读。

2. 涉及与时间，年龄等与数字有关的具体问题

涉及此类问题时，要注意不能想当然地下结论，需要通过一些简单的计算方可确定正确答案。

涉及这类问题的题型有：

(1) How many(much)_____ in the article?

(2) In what year _____?

(3) How old is(was)_____?

例如：William Faulkner of Oxford was not a native of Oxford; nor was he born with the name Faulkner. He was born in New Albany, Mississippi, on September 25, 1897, and the family spelled the name Falkner. He published his first book when he was twenty-seven. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature when he was fifty-three. He was generally acknowledged as the major American writer of his time when he died on July 6, 1962. Faulkner or Falkner, he spent almost the whole of his life in the Mississippi town which millions who read his works know not as Oxford but as Jefferson. Even to the people of Oxford, Faulkner was a kind of legend in his own life time. There was, for example, the mystery who put the "u" in William's last name. For many years the commonly accepted story was that it was a careless printer, in setting type for The Marble Faun(1924). Faulkner biographer Carvel Collins demonstrates that the writer himself added it, and, at least occasionally, as early as 1918.

Question: How old was Faulkner at the time of his death?

A. Twenty-seven.

B. Fifty-three.

C. Sixty-two.

D. Sixty-four.

正确答案为 D。文章中明确告诉了 Faulkner 生于 1897 年 9 月 25 日，死于 1962 年 7 月 6 日，两个年代相减后的数字与 D 相符。

3. 判断文章所叙述事情的正确与否的问题

如果问题要求选择哪个陈述是正确的，就应有的放矢地寻找文中与问题相关的具体细节，通过上下文的逻辑关系和已掌握的语法及惯用法等知识采取对号入座法正确作出判断，选出答案。如果问题要求选择哪个不正确，则要根据问题内容在文章中找到正确的阐述细节，通过排除法辨认出正确的表述，剩余的一个就是不正确的。

涉及这类问题的题型有：

(1) Which of the following statements is (not) true?

(2) Which of the following statements is (not) mentioned?

(3) All of the following statements are true except _____.

(4) Which of the following statements is (not) listed as _____?

(5) The author doesn't tell us _____.

(6) The author mentions all of the following statements except _____.

例如：There are many reasons for the tidal action which is a very complicated phenomenon involving many factors all of which must be considered to predict tide in any one place at any time. The alternate rise and fall of the surface of the seas and the ocean is mainly caused by the attractive force of the moon alone. When the attraction is great, the tide is high; and conversely when the attraction is minimal, the tide is low. Between the high tide and the low tide is a period of a little over six hours, being called during its rise a flood tide, and during its fall an ebb(退潮) tide.

The sun also exerts its effect on the tide, being a little less than half as much as the moon, although its mass is so much greater. When the moon and the sun are horizontal, the highest high tide occurs and when they are vertical the lowest low tide takes place.

The wind also plays an important part in the modification of the normal rise and fall of the tide. Thus these factors affect each other, either detracting or adding to the attractive forces to add or subtract from the weight of the tide. But the tides still move inexorably(坚决不变的) on, rising twice a day, getting a little later each day and posing(提出，引起) a problem of correctly predicting their heights and lows.

Question: The author mentions all the factors affecting the tide except _____.

A. the sun

B. the depth of the ocean

C. the moon

D. the winds

正确答案为 B。因为文章在开头就点明了主题，即影响潮汐的因素有很多。接着分别在第一段的第二句、第二段和第三段的第一句描述了 the sun, the moon and the wind 对潮汐的影响。所以根据问题的要求排除掉 A, C 和 D, 只有 B 是正确选择。

4. 涉及与主题有关的具体事实或细节的填空选择题

涉及这类问题的题型有：

(1) The real reason is that _____.

(2) The author states that _____.

(3) Mr. X wishes/expects that _____.

例如：The Stone Age was a period of history which began in approximately 2 million B. C. and lasted until 3 000B. C. Its name was derived from the stone tools and weapons that modern scientists found. This period was divided into the Paleolithic, Mesolithic, and Neolithic Ages. During the first period, (2 million to 8 000 B. C.) the fist hatchet(斧头) and use of fire for heating and cooking were developed. As a result of the Ice Age, which evolved about one million years into the Paleolithic Age,

people were forced to seek shelter in Caves, wear clothing, and develop new tools.

During the Mesolithic Age(8 000 to 6 000 B.C.) people made crude pottery(陶瓷) and the first fish hooks, took dogs hunting and developed a bow and arrow, which was used until the fourteenth century A.D.

The Neolithic Age(6 000 to 3 000 B.C) saw humankind domesticating sheep, goats, pigs and cattle, being less nomadic than in previous eras, establishing permanent settlements and creating governments.

Question: The author states that the Stone Age was so named because _____.

A. there were a lot of stones

B. people lived in stone! caves

C. there was no grassland

D. the tools and weapons were made of stone

正确答案为 D。因为问题所要的具体信息是石器时代的名称由来，据此信息可以很快找到文章第一段的第二句作了明确的表述："Its name was derived from the stone tools and weapons …"，这里的 "derive from" means "come/obtain from"，所以按照对应法只有 D 是正确的。

三、辨认重要事实和作者的观点

在阅读理解过程中，把事实和作者的观点相混淆常常会造成理解上的错误。因此，只有正确理解这两者的区别才能有效地提高阅读理解力。这里通过以下表格中的对比可以直观地看出两者之间的关系。

	事实	作者的观点
概念	指通过观察或实践获得的真理或真实情况	指一个人对某件事的看法、感受和判断
特性	具有客观性	具有主观性
阐述方式	直截了当地叙述或陈述事实	(1) 直接地阐述观点 (2) 通过对某事的描写间接阐明作者的观点 (3) 通过所举出的事例概括出作者的观点
阐述时使用词汇的特点	(1) 用词正式、准确，不带感情色彩。如，studies show/indicate that …, etc. (2) 提供准确的数字或确切的年代。如：in 1980s; as a child; when I was young …, etc.	(1) 表示看法时多用动词。如，think, believe, (dis)agree, (dis-)approve, argue, etc. (2) 表示感情色彩的形容词。如：interesting, boring, important, feasible, helpful, valuable, critical, advisable, useful, etc.

涉及这类问题的典型提问有：

(1) According to the author, what _____?

(2) The author is of the opinion that _____.

(3) In the author's opinion/eyes, _____.

(4) The author argues that _____.

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