CET 4

大学英语四级实考题热身与模拟题训练
——阅读·简答·翻译
（模拟试题三）

做题提示：

建议考生自我测试，自主做题，先不看答案，真实测试自己的成绩。测试结束后，请认真对照标准答案，并找出自己的失误与弱项，争取考前消灭所有问题。

▲本套试题中包括最新四级全真阅读·简答·翻译试题5套，涵盖全部阅读·简答·翻译题型，把握最新出题趋势。

▲本套试题中包括由权威专家精心选取的预测模拟阅读·简答·翻译试题5套，针对最新四级阅读·简答·翻译题考试出题方向，选材新颖，难度适当。

▲本套试题的编者均为国内著名大学英语教学权威，对大学四级考试进行过多年的跟踪研究，有着丰富的四级考试辅导经验。

▲本套试题适合热身应考，把握实考脉搏。

大学英语四级考试研究组

模拟试题三

Part I Reading Comprehension

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage:

Before the mid-nineteenth century, people in the United States ate most foods only in season. Drying, smoking, and salting could preserve meat for a short time, but the availability of fresh meat, like that of fresh milk, was very limited; there was no way to prevent spoilage. But in 1810 a French inventor named Nicolas Appert developed cooking-and-sealing process of canning. And in the 1850's, an American named Gail Borden developed a means of condensing and preserving milk, Canned goods and condensed milk became more common during the 1860's, but supplies remained low because cans had to be made by hand. By 1880's, however, inventors had fashioned stamping and soldering machines that mass-produced cans from tinplate. Suddenly all kinds of food could be preserved and bought at all times of the year.

Other trends and inventions had also helped make it possible for Americans to vary their daily diets. Growing urban populations created demand that encouraged fruit and vegetable farmers to raise more produce. Railroad refrigerator cars enabled growers and meat packers to ship perishables great distances and to preserve them for longer periods. Thus, by the 1890's, northern city dwellers could enjoy southern and western strawberries, grapes, and tomatoes, previously available for a month at most, for up to six months of the year. In addition, increased use of icebox enabled families to store perishables. An easy means of producing ice commercially had been invented in the 1870's and by 1900 the nation had more than two thousand commercial ice plants, most of which made home deliveries. The icebox became a fixture in most homes and remained so until the mechanized refrigerator replaced it in the 1920's and 1930's.

Almost everyone now had a more diversified diet. Some people continued to eat mainly foods that were heavy in starches or carbohydrates, and not everyone could afford meat. Nevertheless, many families could take advantage of previously unavailable fruits, vegetables, and dairy products to achieve more varied fare.

1. During the 1860's, canned food products were _____.
   A) unavailable in rural areas
   B) shipped in refrigerator cars
   C) available in limited quantities
   D) a staple part of the American diet
2. It can be inferred that railroad refrigerator cars came into use _____.
   A) before 1860
   B) before 1890
   C) after 1900
   D) after 1920
3. The author implies that in the 1920's and 1930's home deliveries of ice _____.
   A) decreased in number
   B) were on an irregular schedule
   C) increased in cost
   D) occurred only in the summer

4. Which of the following type of food preservation was NOT mentioned in the passage?

A) Drying. B) Canning. C) Cold storage. D) Chemical additives.

5. What does the passage mainly discuss?

A) Causes of food spoilage.

B) Commercial production of ice.

C) Invention that led to changes in the American diet.

D) Population movements in the nineteenth century.

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage:

Large animals that inhabit the desert have evolved a number of adaptations for reducing the effects of extreme heat. One adaptation is to be light in color, and to reflect rather than absorb the Sun's rays. Desert mammals also depart from the normal line mammalian practice of maintaining a constant body temperature. Instead of trying to keep down the body temperature deep inside the body, which would involve the expenditure of water and energy, desert mammals allow their temperatures to rise to what would normally be fever height, and temperatures as high as 46 degrees Celsius have been measured in Grant's gazelles. The overheated body then cools down during the cold desert night, and indeed the temperature may fall unusually low by dawn, as low as 34 degrees Celsius in the camel. This is an advantage since the heat of the first few hours of daylight is absorbed in warming up the body, and an excessive buildup of heat does not begin until well into the day.

Another strategy of large desert animals is to tolerate the loss of body water to a point that would be fatal for non-adapted animals. The camel can lose up to 30 percent of its body weight as water without harm to itself, whereas human beings die after losing only 12 to 13 percent of their body weight. An equally important adaptation is the ability to *replenish* (补充) this water loss at one drink. Desert animals can drink prodigious volumes in a short time, and camels have been known to imbibe over 1 200 liters in a few minutes. A very *dehydrated* (脱水) person, on the other hand, cannot drink enough water to rehydrate at one session, because a too rapid *dilution* (稀释) of the body fluids causes death from water intoxication. The tolerance of water loss is of obvious advantage in the desert, as animals do not have to remain near a water hole but can obtain food from grazing spares and far-flung pastures. Desert-adapted mammals have the further ability to feed normally when extremely dehydrated; it is a common experience in people that appetite is lost even under conditions of moderate thirst.

6. What is the main topic of the passage?

A) Weather variations in the desert.

B) Adaptations of desert animals.

C) Diseases of desert animals.

D) Human use of desert animals.

7. The underlined word "tolerate" in paragraph two is closest in meaning to _____.

A) endure B) replace C) compensate D) reduce

8. What causes water intoxication?

A) Drinking too much water very quickly.

B) Drinking polluted water.

C) Bacteria in water.

D) Lack of water.

9. Why does the author mention humans in the second paragraph?

A) To show how they use camels.

B) To contrast them to desert mammals.

C) To give instructions about desert survival.

D) To show how they have adapted to desert life.

10. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an adaptation of large desert animals?

A) Variation in body temperatures. B) Eating while dehydrated.

C) Drinking water quickly. D) Being active at night.

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage:

In 1960—1961, Chad harvested 98 000 tons of cottonseed for the first time in its history, and put out the flag a little too soon. The efforts of the authorities to get the peasants "back" to work, as they had *slacked off* (怠惰) a great deal the previous year during Independence celebrations, largely contributed to it. Also, rains were well spaced, and continued through the whole month of October. If the 1961—1962 total is back to the region of 45 000 tons, it is mostly because efforts slackened again and sowing was started too late.

The average date of sowing is about July 1. If this date is simply moved up fifteen or twenty days, 30 000 to 60 000 tons of cotton are gained, depending on the year. The peasant in Chad sows his *millet* (黍) first, and it is hard to criticize this instinctive priority accorded to his "daily bread". An essential reason for his lateness with sowing cotton is that at the time when he should leave to prepare the fields he has just barely sold the cotton of the previous season. The work required to sow, in great heat, is psychologically far more difficult if one's pockets are full of money. The date of cotton sales should therefore be moved forward as much as possible, and purchases of equipment and draught animals encouraged.

Peasants should also be encouraged to save money, to tide them over the difficult period between harvests. If necessary they should be forced to do so, by having the payments for cotton given to them in instalments. The last payment would be made after proof that the peasant has planted before the deadline, the date being advanced to the end of June. Those who have done so would receive a bonus, whereas the last planters would not receive their last payment until later.

Only the first steps are hard, because once work has started the peasants continue willingly on their way. Educational campaigns among the peasants will play an essential role in this basic advance, early sowing, on which all the others depend. It is not a matter of disciplining the peasants. Each peasant will remain master of his fields. One could, however, suggest the need for the time being of benevolent but firm rule, which, as long as

is cannot be realized "by the people", should at least be "for the people".

11. 1960—1961 was a good year for cotton in Chad because _____.
    A) everybody worked harder as soon as Independence came
    B) of government encouragement
    C) of the Independence celebrations the previous year
    D) of favourable rains and government encouragement
12. The peasants in Chad tend to sow their cotton later because _____.
    A) they usually sow their millet first
    B) they think millet is more important than a cash crop
    C) with money in their pockets and millet to be sown the cash crop seems unimportant
    D) they have enough money already
13. The writer thinks the date of cotton sales should be moved forward in order _____.
    A) to help the peasants during the difficult time between harvests
    B) to encourage the peasants to save money
    C) to make it less likely that the peasants still have large sums of money by the time the cotton should be sown
    D) that equipment and draught animals may be bought
14. In order to help themselves during the difficult time between harvests the peasants should _____.
    A) be strongly encouraged to save money
    B) be paid in instalments
    C) plant their cotton earlier
    D) plant their millet later
15. All the advances the writer hopes for depend mainly on _____.
    A) the early sowing of cotton
    B) educational campaigns
    C) firm rule
    D) the peasants controlling their own fields

Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage:

Though considerable progress has been achieved in the field of water supply during the past decade, vast areas of the country still suffer from an acute shortage of drinkable water. This applies particularly to many regions of the Northern Province and of the coastal plain. At the same time, the central part of the country, in particular its major towns, is adequately supplied with fresh water. Thus, for example, Nairobi, the capital, with 250 000 inhabitants, uses high-quality water which is conveyed to the city from the surrounding mountains. It is believed that the present sources of water supply to Nairobi will suffice at least thirty years. It may be noted that, in certain important cases, mountain water is transported to the sites of consumption over considerable distances. Mombasa, for instance, gets its water from springs located near Tsavo, 140 miles away.

The problem of supplying water to remote police posts and administrative centres is particularly difficult. Thus, for example, Kilifi, an important administrative centre and a holiday resort on the Indian Ocean, obtains its water from a very salt spring, located 5 miles

west of the town. As long as the large scale development schemes are not started, it would not be justifiable, for either technical or economic reasons, to bring water from one of the two big rivers, the Tana or the Galana, discharging into the Indian Ocean.

With a few exceptions, the *arid* (干旱的) and semi-arid regions of Kenya are inhabited by nomadic trades and *devoid of* (没有) any urban centres or industrial undertakings. The scarce water supplies used for domestic purposes and for cattle come from shallow dug-wells and from bore holes. The ground water in the coastal belt and in the Northern Province is usually so salty that probably less than 50 per cent of it may be considered suitable for human consumption and not more than 75 per cent suitable for animals. Because of the unreliability of rainfall in these regions and the geological conditions, the existing low surface dams do not play a significant part in providing additional water, and deep borings have so far been a failure.

A particular case is the problem of providing fresh water for the Magadi soda company, located at Lake Magadi, some 75 miles south-west of Nairobi. The company has built a pipeline which supplies the plant with water flowing by gravity from the hills in the west over a distance of about 80 miles. As a precautionary measure, the plant also has a spare pipeline, linked to wells and springs which are located some 20 miles to the east.

16. We may infer from the text that after thirty years the sources of water supplying Nairobi _____.
   A) will have dried up
   B) will be unable to cope with the rapidly growing population of the city
   C) may not be sufficient to satisfy the need of the city
   D) will no longer be drinkable
17. Mombasa and the Lake Magadi plant have similar problems because _____.
   A) they are both very short of fresh water
   B) they are both very short of drinkable water
   C) they are both in Kenya
   D) they both depend on water brought from considerable distances
18. Kilifi does not get its water from the Tana and Galana rivers because _____.
   A) it has not yet developed to a stage where it would be worthwhile to spend the money necessary to solve the practical problems involved
   B) it already has a satisfactory supply from the spring five miles west of the town
   C) it is not sufficiently important either as an administrative centre or as a holiday resort
   D) they flow into the Indian Ocean
19. Attempts to solve the water supply problems of the coastal belt and the Northern Province have not been successful so far because _____.
   A) the ground water is usually very salty
   B) deep borings have failed
   C) of geological conditions and the unreliability of the rainfall
   D) of the failure of the low-surface dams

20. Kenya's most acute problems lie in supplying water to _____.

A) Kilifi and Magadi

B) Mombasa and Nairobi

C) all the regions of the Northern Province and the coastal plain

D) remote police posts and administrative centres, and the arid and semi-arid regions

模拟试题三参考答案与简释

Part I Reading Comprehension

1. C 文中第一段第三句话用 but 转折，阐述了由于依靠手工作业，罐装食品的产量依然很低，自然供应量就低。

2. B 第二段说到 19 世纪 90 年代北方的居民一年有六个月可以吃到南部和西部的新鲜水果和蔬菜，而这些水果和蔬菜都是通过冷冻车厢运送的，据此我们可以推断铁路使用冷冻车厢是在 1890 年之前。

3. A 第二段最后一句话讲到直到 20 世纪二三年代，用冰箱取代冰棒桶之前都是由厂家送冰上门。

4. D 文中谈到了食品储藏法包括烘干、烟薰、腌制、罐装、冷冻等方法，并没有提到使用化学添加剂来储藏食品。

5. C 文章主要论述的是对食品贮藏方法的改进给人们饮食生活带来的变化。

6. B 纵观全文可知，文章主要讲述了动物在沙漠里的适应性问题。

7. A replace 意为"代替"；compensate 意为"赔偿"；reduce 意为"减少"。只有 endure 才与题干中 tolerate 的词义相同，表"忍受"之意。

8. A 文中第二段讲到人类在缺水、体液稀释过快状况下如果饮水太急，就会引起中毒。

9. B 这篇短文主要讲述了像骆驼这样的动物在沙漠里形成的适应能力，作者提到人类是为了形成对比，以便把主题论述得更清楚。

10. D 在整篇文章中，没有任何地方提到过夜间保持活跃的内容。

11. D 1960—1961 年对于乍得地区来说是一个棉花丰收年，这主要有两个方面的原因，短文开头已清楚说明了这一点。第一，因为前一年庆祝国家独立的各种活动，使人们对生产怠惰了许多，现在政府作了相当的努力使农民生产投入到生产中；第二，降雨量分布得也很合理，而且持续到整个十月份。

12. C 根据文章第二段，乍得的农民最先急于播种黍，这毕竟是他们的食物保障，但人们不急于种棉花的根本原因在于本该着手准备种棉花时，农民刚好卖掉了上一季收获的棉花；口袋里有了钱，再要人们在炎热的天气里劳作，从心理上讲恐怕让人很难接受。四个选项中，只有 C)项最符合原文意思。

13. C 正因为在该播种棉花时，农民手里还拥有现金，从而影响了棉花的适时播种。作者认为要解决这一问题应该把棉花销售的日期提前，其目的是在该播种棉花时，农民手里已没有了大笔的现金，这样可以从反面刺激农民按时播种。作者甚至在下一段里提出了一些具体的实施办法。

14. A 为了帮助农民度过收获之间的困难时期，作者认为应鼓励农民存钱；必要时，甚至可以

强制执行。比如对农民售棉应得的款额实行分期支付方式。

15. B 实施措施起初阶段会很困难，但一旦展开，农民便会自觉自愿地继续照办。根据最后一段第二句话，对农民的宣传教育是必不可少的。选项 B)表达的正是此意。

16. C 文章开头说尽管过去的 10 年里，肯尼亚在供水方面取得了相当的成就；但大部分地区饮用水仍严重缺乏。首都内罗毕 25 万居民的用水来自于周围的大山。从目前的情况看，供水能满足居民 30 年的需求。由此可推断，30 年后，首都地区的供水将有可能无法满足其需求了。

17. D 从文章第一段末尾谈到的 Mombasa 和最后一段谈及的 Lake Magidi plant 的情况看，两者面临类似的问题，即依赖远距离的水源供应。Mombasa 的供水来自于 140 英里的泉水，而 Lake Magidi plant 则通过管道从 80 英里外的山上获取用水。

18. A Kilifi，位于印度洋上的一个重要行政机关及度假胜地，尽管面临着急需解决的供水问题，但只要大规模的发展项目不启动的话，不论是从技术方面还是从经济方面考虑，从 the Tana 或 the Galana 河取水都是无充分理由的。选项 A)所表达的正是原文的意思。

19. C 由于沿海地区及 Northern Province 地区的地下水含盐量高，大多不适宜人畜使用。试图解决这些地方供水的努力也告失败；比如，现存的低水位水坝对供水没起多大作用，钻的深井也未派上用场，其原因在于这些地区不稳定的降雨量及其地质状况。(见第三段)

20. D 肯尼亚很多地方都面临着用水困难，但从全文的描述来看，肯尼亚面临的最严峻的问题是向一些偏远的派出所、行政机关、干旱和半干旱地区供水。