

大学英语四级考试分类测试丛书

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大学英语 四级考试 分类测试

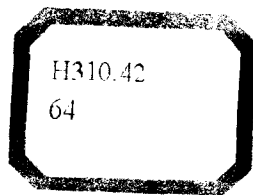
阅读理解与翻译

COLLEGE
ENGLISH
TEST

主编 王 焱 田兴斌 刘连增
主审 门顺德



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阅读理解与翻译

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前 言

对于在读大学生来说，英语四六级考试成绩的重要意义是不言而喻的。无论是从投入的精力，还是从重视的程度来说，都是其他科目无法比拟的；然而，更重要的是，在未来的激烈市场竞争中，英语能力将起着举足轻重的作用。正是出于这方面的考虑，我们从强化训练、提高应试能力出发，以帮助考生顺利过级为目的，编写出这套《大学英语四级考试分类测试丛书》。丛书共5册，具体为：

- 听力理解
- 词汇结构
- ◎ 阅读理解与翻译
- 完形填空与简答
- 写 作

丛书是根据“大学英语教学大纲（修订版）”、“大学英语四级考试大纲”的要求精心编写的，以各类测试题为主，考生可根据自身的实际情况，有选择地进行某方面的强化训练，最终达到提高综合能力之目的。

本书为《阅读理解与翻译》分册，全书的主要内容及特点是：

① 应试指导精练。简明扼要地阐述了阅读理解和英汉翻译的命题特点、题型、解题思路、评分标准、基本技巧等，旨在宏观上予以指导。

② 内容新颖，题材广泛。全书共有阅读材料 100 篇，均取材于英美报刊、杂志，涉及日常生活、文化教育、科学技术等方面内容，生动有趣、可读性强。

③ 训练强度高。共有阅读理解试题 500 道，英汉翻译试题 400 多道，试题形式与真题一致，程度与真题相当，十分适于考试前的强化训练。所有试题均给出参考答案或标准译文。

参加本书编写的还有田悦、吴靓、周琦、姚小岚、赵雪梅、胡岩、张秋菊、黄立安等。

由于作者水平有限，加之时间仓促，书中错误、疏漏之处在所难免，敬请广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2002 年 6 月

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第 1 部分

阅读理解

1.1 概 述

大学英语四级考试阅读理解部分共有 20 道题,考试时间为 35 分钟,要求考生阅读若干篇短文,总阅读量在 1000 至 1200 词之间。每篇短文后有若干个问题。考生根据文章内容,从每题的 4 个选项中选出一个最佳答案。短文题材包括人物传记、社会文化、日常知识和科普常识等。文体多为叙述文、说明文和议论文。短文的语言难度中等,一般不超过教学大纲规定的词汇和习语量。文章中出现的超出大纲范围的词汇,如无法猜测而又影响理解,则用汉语注明词义。阅读理解题主要测试考生的下述能力:

- ① 掌握所读材料的主旨大意;
- ② 了解说明主旨大意的事实和细节;
- ③ 既能理解字面的意思,也能根据所读材料进行一定的判断和推理;
- ④ 既能理解个别句子的意思,也能理解上下文的逻辑关系。

阅读理解的目的是测试学生通过阅读获取信息的能力,既要求准确,也要求有一定的速度。

1.2 答题步骤

第一步,略读短文,迅速了解文章的内容及主旨大意,把握文章基调。

第二步,看考题,读每个问题的题干,明确考题要求。

第三步,根据提问查读或细读文章,抓住有关信息,边读边做题。答题时应按考题顺序逐个做下去。遇到难题,最后对付。

第四步,解答难题。难题往往是一些推理判断题。问题所涉及的不是某个词语、句子或段落,而是某几段或整篇文章。解题时,考生需再次阅读文章,利用直接或间接语言线索,通过推理归纳做出正确选择。

1.3 考题类型及应试技巧

阅读理解测试中常见的考题类型有以下几种。

1.3.1 主旨大意题

这类考题的常见提问方式有:

- ① The main idea of this selection may be best expressed as _____.
- ② The best title for this passage might be _____.
- ③ This passage is mainly about _____.
- ④ The main idea of this article is _____.
- ⑤ The author's purpose of writing this passage is to _____.
- ⑥ In this passage the author discusses primarily _____.
- ⑦ This passage illustrates _____.
- ⑧ Which of the following best states the theme of the passage?

⑨ The major point discussed in the passage is _____.

⑩ This first paragraph is mainly about _____.

这类考题要求考生明确短文讨论的主题是什么,根据短文归纳中心思想或段落大意。解这类考题应掌握以下 3 种技巧:

(1) 对重要的复合句,要善于找出表达句子主旨思想的部分

例: Although Delaware is the second smallest State in the United States, it has a large proportion of wealth because of its natural assets and its strategic location.

这个句子很长。作者通过该句想表达的中心思想是什么? 下面的 4 个短句,哪一个最能概括句子的中心思想?

A) Delaware is small.

B) Delaware has much wealth.

C) Delaware has assets.

D) Delaware has a strategic location.

很显然,答案应是 B 项。因为“... it has a large proportion of wealth”是句子的中心思想,而其他 3 个短句虽是事实,与主题有关,但不是中心思想。

(2) 通过主题句或关键词来确定主旨思想

在英语段落中,作者常用主题句的形式来表达段落的中心思想。主题句是在段落中概括说明段落主旨的句子,它通常位于段落的开头。这是因为以主题句开头的段落对作者来说最容易突出中心思想,对读者来说最容易把握作者的思路。但也有一些段落,其主题句不是位于段首而是在段落的中间或最后,甚至有些段落没有明显的主题句,作者用一种间接的方式表达了段落的中心思想。这时考生应在段落中寻找关键词或词组。然后用这些关键词或词组概括和归纳出段落的中心思想。

例: The first invention of mankind was the wheel. Although no wheel forms are found in nature, undoubtedly the earliest “wheels” were smooth logs which were used for moving weights

over the earth's surface. No one recorded who he was or when it happened, but when the "first inventor" placed a wheel on an axle, mankind began to roll from one place to another. Records of this type of wheel have been found among Egyptian relics dating back to 2000 B.C. and earlier Chinese civilizations are credited with independent invention of the same mechanism. The wheel so fascinated the mind of man that he has spent centuries building machines around it; yet in over 4,000 years he has not changed its basic design. All about us we see the spinning shafts, gears, fly-wheels, pulleys, and rotors which are the descendents of the first wheel. The roaring propeller of an aircraft engine, the whirling wheel of a giant steam turbine; and the hairspring of a tiny watch are examples of the rotary motion which characterizes our mechanical world. It is hard to conceive of continuous motion without the wheel.

Question: Select the statement which best expresses the main idea of the paragraph.

- A) The wheel is used today in industry and transportation.
- B) One of mankind's first inventions, the wheel, has remained important for 4,000 years.
- C) Man has changed the basic design of the wheel to meet the needs of his industrial society.
- D) Although we don't know exactly who invented the wheel, it is evident that the Egyptians and Chinese used it about 4,000 years ago.

答案为 B 项。主题句在段落之中(第 5 句)。

总之,识别和理解主题句,可迅速准确地抓住短文的中心思想,从而把握住全篇的主要内容。

(3)在确定文章的主旨思想时,选项的内容既不能太具体也不能

太笼统

在选择和确定主旨思想时,题中给出的 4 个选项有时都是事实,要选出最能概括文章主旨思想的一项作为正确答案。在这方面考生容易犯以下两种错误:一是把主题的一部分看成是文章的“主旨思想”,这样选择的“主旨思想”太具体,不能准确地概括出整篇文章或段落的主旨思想;二是在表达作者的主旨思想时,词语概括的范围太大、太笼统,超出了作者的本意。

例: When the weather is clear, pilots use their eyes to keep the airplane flying straight and level. In low visibility situations, however, the eye and other orientation senses, such as our sense of balance, are not only useless, they may be totally misleading. The only safe way to fly an airplane in low visibility conditions is to use instruments which indicate the attitude of the airplane.

Question: What's the main idea of the paragraph?

- A) In bad weather, the senses can be misleading.
- B) Flying an airplane can be very difficult.
- C) When visibility is low, the only safe way to fly an airplane is by using flight instruments.
- D) When the weather is clear, pilots use their eyes to keep the airplane flying straight and level.

4 个选项中, A 项和 D 项内容太具体,不能概括段落的主旨思想。B 项内容又太笼统,超出了作者的原意。只有 C 项准确地概括出段落的主旨思想。

1.3.2 事实细节题

这类考题常见提问方式有:

- ① From the passage we know that _____.
- ② In the passage, the author states that _____.
- ③ The writer mentions all of the items listed below except

④ Which of the following statements is correct according to the reading passage?

⑤ Which of the following statements is NOT true?

⑥ Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the third paragraph?

这类考题要求考生确认短文叙述的事实细节或判断考题陈述的事实或观点的真伪。这类考题往往是针对短文中某一词语、句子、段落、数据或某事的具体情节而提问的。大多数情况下这类题能从短文找到现成答案,或只需稍稍绕个圈子就可以得出正确答案。

掌握重要事实和细节的一种常用方法就是找出主旨大意并回答有关的问题。这些问题通常是 who, what, where, when, why 和 how 类型的。它们能帮助学生掌握那些说明主旨大意的事实和细节。因此考生应善于从句子、段落和文章中找出回答这些问题的答案。

例: As he was walking his dog early Tuesday morning, Sam Witherspoon discovered a leaking fire hydrant at the corner of Spring and Main streets.

这个句子分别包含了 who, what, where, when, why 和 how 的信息。

Who: Sam Witherspoon

What: discovered a leaking fire hydrant

Where: at the corner of Spring and Main streets

When: early Tuesday morning

Why or How: as he was walking his dog

另一种常用的方法是辨认细节,分析细节之间的关系。一个段落或一篇短文往往会包含一项或多项事实以及若干事实细节。考生应能从一些相互有密切联系的细节中,确定出一项单独的细节并就该细节做出正确选择。

例: An \$ 11.5 million lawsuit has been brought against three companies involved designing and installing materials for the Metropolis City Hall. The roof of the six-year-old building has been leaking badly.

这个句子包含了以下 4 个事实细节:

① The lawsuit is for _____.

- A) \$ 9.5 million B) \$ 3.8 million
C) \$ 11.5 million D) \$ 13.5 million

② The roof of the building is _____.

- A) collapsing B) sagging C) flaking D) leaking

③ The building is _____ years old.

- A) four B) three C) two D) six

④ How many companies are named in the suit?

- A) Two. B) Three. C) Four. D) Five.

答案: ① C ② D ③ D ④ B

1.3.3 作者意图和态度题

这类考题的常见提问方式有:

① What is the author's attitude towards science?

② In the passage the author's attitude towards "mixed-ability teaching" is _____.

③ The writer seems to think that _____.

④ The writer of this passage is trying to present a point of view in _____.

⑤ The author wants to appeal to _____.

⑥ The author's style is _____.

⑦ This author's tone would be best described as _____.

这类考题是针对短文作者的意图和态度出的,要求考生读短文后能对作者的意图、态度、观点及文章的风格和语气作出正确判断。

在推测作者的意图和态度时,一定要站在作者的立场上观察和分析问题,而不能按照自己的观点和态度进行判断。另外还要注意把文章中所叙述的事实与作者的观点态度区分开来。

例: Names of dogs end up in 176th place in the list of things that amaze and fascinate me. They run from such plain and simple names as Spot, Sport, Rex, Brownie, and Rover all the way to such fancy names as Prince Rudolph Hertenberg Gratzheim of Daradorf. Others include Darling Mist o' Love II of Heather-Light-Hollywood. All these names and others like them were thought up by adults, all of whom in every other way, I am told, have made a normal adjustment to life. In addition to the plain and fancy names, there are the sarcastic and the cute. Sarcastic names are given by people who do not like dogs very much. The most popular ones during the war were Mussolini, Tojo, and Adolf. The cute people call their dogs Bubbles, Sparkles, Twinkles, Lovums, and Sweetums.

① The author's attitude toward his topic is a blend of _____.

- A) shock and disappointment
- B) boredom and fascination
- C) amazement and respect
- D) apprehension and envy

② The overall tone of the paragraph is _____.

- A) sadly pathetic
- B) obviously serious
- C) offensively scornful
- D) lightly humorous

答案: ① B ② D

1.3.4 词汇题

这类题固然要求考生要有较大的词汇量,但重点在于考查考生

根据上下文推测文中生词词义的能力。这类考题的常见提问方式有：

- ① The word "... "in the passage means...
- ② Which of the following pairs is synonyms?
- ③ The word "... "is supposed to make one think...

这种题型有以下几种解题技巧：

(1) 释义

指生词的词义在其后面的一个短语或句子中得到解释。例如：

- ① He takes a special interest in *botany*— the study of plants.

例①中“the study of plants”已把生词“botany”解释得很清楚了。

- ② A bird *sanctuary* is a place where birds can breed and take refuge from hunters.

从例②全句的信息中可以判断出：*sanctuary* 是一个“地方”，鸟在那里受不到危害，这些信息对理解来说是足够的。

(2) 重述

重述即在某个篇章中作者对前面一句话作一重新或补充的陈述，这种重新的陈述中往往包含前面句子中某个生词的词义。例如：

- ① He is very *fastidious*. It is extremely hard to please satisfy him.

- ② We can't put up with the chairman's *arbitrariness*. He often makes decisions without consulting other members of the committee.

- ③ Carbon monoxide is a *noxious gas*, it is almost fatal. People exposed to it too long will die without immediate medical help.

例①和例②中斜体部分的单词的意思分别从后面的重述中可以清楚地看出来：*fastidious* 意为“挑剔”，*arbitrariness* 意为“武断”。例③中的两个单词(有毒气体)，即使读者一个都不认识，从随后的陈

述中还是能判断出它们的意思,即“对人特别有害的”或“甚至会危及生命的”。这种意思虽然和单词的原义不完全相同,但对理解本句的内容来说,已经足够了。

(3) 相关信息

有时候,读者可以从上下文的有关信息中获得某个单词意思的线索或暗示。试通过下面两例中的相关信息判断斜体部分单词或短语的意思。例如:

① Tom's father often gets angry at his laziness. But this time he *flew into a rage* when he was told about Tom's misbehaviors at school.

② Whenever John is taking maths exams, he becomes so nervous that his hands tremble as if they had a life of their own and even he isn't able to hold his pen. He really has a *Phobia* about taking maths tests.

(4) 举例

有时,运用上下文所举的例子,读者也能够悟出某个单词的词义。例如:

① His hobby is reading *periodicals*, such as *Time Magazine*, *Newsweek*, *Reader's Digest*, etc.

即使不知道“periodical”这个词,也可由其后的“such as ...”悟出其含义。

② She is held in high esteem for her outstanding research on cataract and other diseases of the eye.

此句虽没有告诉读者 cataract 的准确意义,但读者可以看出 cataract 是一种眼病。

(5) 对照

读者也可以利用语句中所使用的对比表达法得到某个单词词义的线索。例如:

① Eliza's roommates were all discussing noisily about the lat-