

大学

英语四级

english

阅读综合训练

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大学英语四级 阅读综合训练

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本书根据全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会 1995 及 1996 年公布的新题型而编写。根据新题型的要求, 全书主要内容包括: 阅读理解应试技巧、英译汉应试技巧及简短回答应试技巧三大部分。每部分还配有精心设计的练习, 旨在帮助学生做到理论与实践相结合。全书的练习均附有答案, 便于学生自测。

本书既可作为补习教材, 又可作为自学用书。其特点是: 重点突出, 针对性强, 信息量大, 有重点讲解, 难点分析, 能够帮助考生有的放矢地提高自己的应试能力。

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前言

本书是根据《大学英语教学大纲》和全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会发布的《关于全国大学英语四级考试采用新题型的通知》的精神而编写的。阅读理解部分概述了四级考试的全部考试类型及阅读技能；翻译部分和简短回答部分阐述了相关的翻译理论和做简短回答题的方法；并对上述三种类型的试题进行分析、讲解及练习。

本书可作为大学本科、专科学生为参加全国大学英语四级考试进行强化训练之用，也可供相关人员自学或应试之用。

在编著本书的过程中，参阅了大量书籍，在此，笔者对各专著的作者表示诚挚的谢意。

由于我们水平有限，加上时间仓促，难免有不妥之处，恳请读者及同仁批评指正。

编 者

1997 年 6 月

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Part One

阅读理解综述

Unit I 阅读理解概述

在大学英语四级考试中，阅读理解是一个极其重要的项目。与其它考试项目相比，阅读理解所占篇幅最长，分数比例也最大。因此，大学英语四级考试的成败，在很大程度上取决于阅读理解成绩的高低。《大学英语教学大纲》具体规定了大学生经过大学英语基础阶段学习在阅读方面要达到的基本要求。这就是：掌握基本阅读技能，能顺利阅读并正确理解语言中等难度的一般题材文章和科技读物，阅读速度达到每分钟 50 词；阅读难度略低，生词不超过总词数 3% 的材料时，阅读速度达到每分钟 80 词；阅读理解的准确率以 70%

为合格。对于大部分考生来说，阅读部分是最为棘手的。要想突破阅读难关，首先应全面了解该部分的特点、规律及命题趋势，这是获取高分的重要条件。

阅读部分共分四篇文章。每篇文章后附四至六道选择题，要求考生在35分钟内阅读完，并根据短文内容从每题四个选择项中选出一个最佳答案。平均每篇文章306个词，最长的文章超过386个词，最短的文章有131个词。从近两年的考题上看，文章篇幅长短不齐的情况普遍减少，篇幅略呈加长趋势，每篇文章都有335个词左右。抽样统计表明：1989年元月阅读部分测词为1844个，1992年12月为2219个，1996年元月为2447个。根据这种情况，考生阅读速度应达到每分钟70个词，这也是大学英语教学大纲规定的基本要求。

阅读部分内容丰富，题材广泛，绝大多数题材都是围绕大学生活这一主题的。其中以自然科学、文化教育、社会心理行为方面的文章居多。很多材料都反映了当今社会各种新的社会现象和新的科技发展状况。如1990年6月试题第一篇文章涉及语言转换装置，1991年元月试题第三篇涉及电子计算机，1991年6月试题第三篇涉及Jarvil-7人造心脏，1992年元月试题第三篇涉及美国的移民问题。尽管阅读部分内容繁杂，包罗万象，但并未涉及任何强人所难的专业知识。该部分试题考察的主要是考生综合的语篇理解能力，主要包括：

- (1) 掌握所读材料的主旨和大意。
- (2) 了解说明主旨和大意的事实和细节。
- (3) 既能理解字面意思，也能根据所读材料进行一定的

判断和推论。

(4) 既能理解个别句子的意思, 也能理解上下文的逻辑关系。

该部分试题既要求准确, 也要求速度。

Unit II 阅读理解样题剖析

一、样题

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 centre.*

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following passage:

There is a popular belief among parents that schools are no longer interested in spelling. No school I have taught in has ever ignored spelling or considered it unimportant as basic skill. There are, however, vastly different ideas about how to teach it, or how much priority must be given over general language development and writing ability. The problem is, how to encourage a child to express himself freely and confidently in

writing without holding him back with the complexities of spelling.

If spelling becomes the only focal point of his teacher's interest, clearly a bright child will be likely to "play safe". He will tend to write only words within his spelling range, choosing to avoid adventurous language. That's why teachers encourage the early use of dictionaries and pay attention to content rather than technical ability.

I was once shocked to read on the bottom of a sensitive piece of writing about a personal experience: "This work is terrible! There are far too many spelling errors and your writing is illegible". It may have been a sharp criticism of the pupil's technical abilities in writing, but it was also a sad reflection on the teacher who had omitted to read the essay, which contained some beautiful expressions of the child's deep feelings.

The teacher was not wrong to draw attention to errors, but if his priorities had centred on the child's ideas, an expression of his disappointment with the presentation would have given the pupil more motivation to seek improvement.

21. Teachers are different in opinions about _____.

- A) the difference in teaching spelling
- B) the role of spelling in general language development
- C) the complexities of the basic skills
- D) the necessities of teaching spelling

22. The expression "play safe" probably means _____.

- A) to write carefully
 - B) to do as the teachers say
 - C) to use dictionaries frequently
 - D) to avoid using words one is not sure of
23. Teachers encourage the use of dictionaries so that _____.
- A) students will be able to express their ideas more freely
 - B) teachers will have less trouble in correcting mistakes
 - C) students will have more confidence in writing
 - D) students will learn to be independent of teachers
24. The writer seems to think that the teacher's judgment on that sensitive piece of writing is _____.
- A) reasonable
 - B) foolish
 - C) unfair
 - D) careless
25. The major point discussed in the passage is _____.
- A) the importance of developing writing skills
 - B) the complexities of spelling
 - C) the correct way of marking compositions
 - D) the relationship between spelling and the content of a composition

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage:

A breakthrough in the provision of energy from the sun for the European Economic Community (EEC) could be brought forward by up to two decades, if a modest increase could be provided in the EEC's research in this field, according

to the senior EEC scientists engaged in experiments in solar energy at EEC's scientific laboratories in Ispra, near Milan.

The senior West German scientist in charge of the Community's solar energy programme, Mr. Joachim Gretz, told journalists that at present levels of research spending it was most unlikely that solar energy would provide as much as three per cent of the Community's requirements even after the year 2,000. But he said that with a modest increase in the present sums, devoted by the EEC to this work it was possible that the breakthrough could be achieved by the end of the next decade.

Mr. Gretz calculates that if solar energy only provided three percent of the EEC's needs, this could still produce a saving of about a billion pounds in the present bill for imported energy each year. And he believes that with the possibility of utilizing more advanced technology in this field it might be possible to satisfy a much bigger share of the Community's future energy needs.

At present the EEC spends, about \$ 2. 6 millions a year on solar research at Ispra, one of the EEC's official joint research centres, and another \$ 3 millions a year in indirect research with universities and other independent bodies.

26. The phrase "be brought forward" in the first paragraph most probably means _____.
A) be expected B) be completed
C) be advanced D) be introduced

27. Some scientists believe that a breakthrough in the use of solar energy depends on _____.
A) scientific funding
B) further experiments
C) advanced technology
D) well-equipped laboratories
28. According to Mr. Gretz, the present sum of money will enable the scientists to provide _____.
A) a little more than 3% of the EEC's needs after the year 2,000
B) 3% of the EEC's needs before the year 2,000
C) less than 3% of the EEC's needs before the year 2,000
D) only 3% of the EEC's needs even after the year 2,000
29. Which of the following is NOT true according to the passage?
A) The EEC spends one billion pounds on imported energy each year.
B) At the present level of spending, it is difficult to make any significant progress in the provision of energy from the sun.
C) The desired breakthrough could be obtained by the end of the next decade if investment were increased.
D) The total yearly spending of the EEC on solar energy research amounted to almost 6 million dollars.
30. The application of advanced technology to research in solar

energy _____.

- A) would lead to a big increase in research funding
- B) would make it unnecessary to import oil
- C) would make it possible to meet the future energy needs of the EEC
- D) would provide a much greater proportion of the Community's future energy needs

Questions 31 to 34 are based on the following passage:

With the prospect of coal and petroleum supplies being depleted (耗尽) and with air pollution becoming an increasing concern, the major countries of the world are seeking alternate sources of energy. If a means to obtain energy from water, especially from the ocean, can be effected economically, it would furnish a never-ending supply of energy, since 70% of the earth's surface is ocean and another 10% is fresh water in rivers and lakes.

From the beginning of time man has used water power as a source of work energy—but these are fresh water sources and are landlocked. The seas have contributed little or nothing in the way of power.

The use of temperature variation between currents is one area of exploration. Ocean water is heated by the sun near the equator and are drawn by the rotation of the earth toward the poles, where it cools and drops toward the equator. The differential between the two currents is 35 degrees to 45 degrees

Farenheit and to use it the scientists must find the places where they run near land and are not too far away from each other. One area that meets these requirements is the Caribbean Sea.

In the United States the National Space Administration and the Energy Research and Development Administration have been working on another kind of thermal sea energy proposal. One plan would somewhat resemble the operation of a refrigerator on a vast scale. Warm water would be the heat source, cold water the heat sink. A component such as freon (氟利昂) would be liquid at a cold temperature and turn to gas as it is warmed.

Oceans also offer wave power, tides and the chemical propensities (习性) of salt water as potential sources of energy. All these uses are theoretically possible.

Britain's Department of Energy is interested in wave power, using a string of "tear drop" devices that depends on very active wave areas and 100 foot depths. In addition to this, the British are working on a method that the Japanese have already put into practical use on a small scale for powering their navigational buoys. This method is called an oscillating (摇摆的) water column and rides the waves with a series of cylinders having one-way air-valves. Wave movement produces air under pressure that has only one escape route—to a turbine that powers a generator.

31. The use of water power is _____.

- A) a new concept
 - B) less expensive than petroleum products
 - C) now being used more from the ocean than from rivers and lakes
 - D) being developed to supplement other sources of energy
32. In the matter of developing energy from ocean water, Britain is _____.
- A) working on a method that the Japanese have already put into practice
 - B) the most advanced country in the world
 - C) following the lead of the United States National Space Administration and Energy Research and Development Administration
 - D) consolidating their work with the North Sea drilling operations already going on
33. Getting energy from the ocean is important to _____.
- A) Russia because of its limited water resources on land
 - B) America because of its great consumption of energy
 - C) Asia because most of the Asian countries lack other sources of energy
 - D) South America because a large percentage of the population is very poor
34. The development of water power from the ocean is important to the USA and Russia because _____.
- A) there is a severe shortage of coal
 - B) it is the cheapest method of producing energy

- C) petroleum supplies are being steadily depleted
- D) the procedures for obtaining energy from ocean water are simpler than methods now being used for petroleum

Questions 35 to 40 are based on the following passage:

Resources can be said to be scarce in both an absolute and in a relative sense; the surface of the Earth is finite, imposing absolute scarcity; but the scarcity that concerns economists is the relative scarcity of resources in different uses. Materials used for one purpose cannot at the same time be used for other purposes; if the quantity of an input is limited, the increased use of it in one manufacturing process must cause it to become less available for other uses.

The cost of a product in terms of money may not measure its true cost to society. The true cost of, say, the construction of a supersonic jet is the value of the schools and refrigerators that will never be built as a result. Every act of production uses up some of the society's available resources; it means the foregoing of an opportunity to produce something else. In deciding how to use resources most effectively to satisfy the wants of the community, this opportunity cost must ultimately be taken into account.

In a market economy the price of a good and the quantity supplied depends on the cost of making it, and that cost, ultimately, is the cost of not making other goods. The market

mechanism enforces this relationship. The cost of, say, a pair of shoes is the price of the leather, the labor, the fuel, and other elements used up in producing them. But the price of these inputs, in turn, depends on what they can produce elsewhere—if the leather can be used to produce handbags that are valued highly by consumers, the price of leather will be bid up (哄抬) correspondingly.

35. What does this passage mainly discuss?
- A) The scarcity of manufactured goods.
 - B) The value of scarce materials.
 - C) The manufacturing of scarce goods.
 - D) The cost of producing goods.
36. According to the passage, what are the opportunity costs of an item?
- A) The amount of time and money spent in producing it.
 - B) The opportunities a person has to buy it.
 - C) The value of what could have been produced instead.
 - D) The value of the resources used in its production.
37. According to the passage, what is the relationship between production and resources?
- A) Available resources stimulate production.
 - B) Resources are totally independent of production.
 - C) Production increased as resources increase.
 - D) Production lessens the amount of available resources.
38. What determines the price of a good in a market economy?