

大学英语四级实考题热身与模拟题训练

—— 阅读 · 简答 · 翻译

(模拟试题四)



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

模拟试题四

Part I Reading Comprehension

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage:

There are three factors that will have important *bearings* (关系) on the prospects in the year 2000. First, of course, it is plain that in the year 2000 everyone will have at his elbow several times more mechanical energy than he has today.

Second, there will be advances in biological knowledge as far-reaching as those that have been made in physics. We are only beginning to learn that we can control our biological environment and our physical one. Potential starvation has been mentioned twice: by Malchus about 1800 and by Crookes about 1900. It was prevented the first time by taking agriculture to America and the second time by using the new fertilizers. In the year 2000, starvation will be headed off by the control of the diseases and the *heredity* (遗传) of plants and animals by shaping our own biological environment.

And third, I come back to the haunting theme of automation. The most common species in the factory today is the man who works or minds a simple machine as the operator. By the year 2000, he will be as extinct as the *handloom* (手织机) weaver. The repetitive tasks of industry will be taken over by the machines, as the heavy tasks were taken over long ago. Today we still distinguish, even among repetitive jobs, between the skilled and the unskilled, but in the year 2000 all repetition will be unskilled. We simply waste our time if we oppose this change; it is as inevitable as the year 2000 itself.

1. The article was written to _____.
 - A) warn us of the danger of being faced with starvation in the near future
 - B) present facts about life in the near future
 - C) oppose biological advances
 - D) present the negative effects of increased automation
2. People in the year 2000 will _____.
 - A) have more machines at their disposal
 - B) starve as a result of population explosion
 - C) have to engage in more physical labour
 - D) have fewer machines at their disposal
3. Advances in biological knowledge have _____.
 - A) kept pace with advances in physics
 - B) been responsible for the invention of new machines
 - C) surpassed those in physics
 - D) lagged behind those in physics
4. In the year 2000, starvation will be prevented by _____.

- A) use of new fertilizers
 - B) American agriculture
 - C) control of diseases and the heredity of plants and animals
 - D) more extensive use of machines
5. What does automation mean in the year 2000?
- A) There will be no repetitive jobs.
 - B) Automation will come inevitably.
 - C) Automation will threaten the human race.
 - D) Handloom weaver will be extinct.

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage:

The ancient Egyptians are believed to have used a system of surveying the land that was developed through observation of the stars and the changing of the seasons. By watching the movements of stars and attempting to set a standard that would roughly comply to that which they had observed, the Egyptians were able to construct massive monuments of surprisingly accurate proportions. The Great Pyramids of Ghiza are but one example of this application of standards derived from astronomical observations. Unfortunately, many records of that time have disappeared over the ages, so it is difficult for us to know exactly how they made their measurements. It is, nevertheless, obvious that by relying on the standards that they observed in nature, the Egyptians were able to build long-lasting quality architectural monuments.

The same principle of developing standards through careful observation is essential for modern engineers. For example, to determine the standard load a steel beam can support, it is necessary to identify the composition of the metal in the beam. Such observations are only possible with the aid of microscopic measuring devices. Once a standard has been established for the composition of the beam, further experimentation is performed to find the maximum stress the beam can withstand. Again, such tests are only possible through the development of machinery that can deliver measurable quantities of force. Skyscrapers and large bridges, just like the pyramids of ancient Egypt, can only be built after elaborate sets of standards have been developed.

6. What can we infer from this passage?
- A) The ancient societies were uncivilized compared to modern ones.
 - B) Engineers should pay more attention to history.
 - C) The Egyptian civilization is better than the modern one.
 - D) The Egyptians carefully utilized their observations.
7. According to this passage, the standardized measurements were first used _____.
- A) when the steel beam was developed
 - B) when the Egyptians built the pyramids
 - C) when scientists wanted to make specific observation
 - D) when engineers designed microscopic measuring devices
8. Which of the following is true according to this passage?

- A) Technology will always increase.
 - B) Buildings will be built taller.
 - C) Accurate standards will remain important.
 - D) Scientists and engineers will be more important.
9. Which is a result of more accurate standards?
- A) Larger and more complicated engineering projects.
 - B) Less use of nature.
 - C) Less ability to work with traditional materials.
 - D) Simpler tools for designing large projects.
10. According to the passage, which is not used for determining the load of a steel beam?
- A) Microscopic measuring devices.
 - B) Machines that create large amounts of stress.
 - C) Machines that can measure force.
 - D) Analysis of the weight of the beam.

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage:

I first became aware of the unemployment problem in 1928. At that time I had just come back from Burma, where unemployment was only a word, and I had gone to Burma when I was still a boy and the post-war boom was not quite over. When I first saw unemployed men at close quarters, the thing that horrified and amazed me was to find that many of them were ashamed of being unemployed. I was very ignorant, but not so ignorant as to imagine that when the loss of foreign markets pushes two million men out of work, those two million are to blame. But at that time nobody cared to admit that unemployment was inevitable, because this meant admitting that it would probably continue. The middle classes were still talking about "lazy idle loafers on the dole (接受救济的二流子)" and saying that "these men could all find work if they wanted to," and naturally these opinions affected the working class themselves. I remember the shock of astonishment it gave me, when I first met with tramps and beggars, to find that a fair proportion, perhaps a quarter, of these beings whom I had been taught to regard as cynical parasites (寄生虫), were decent (正派的) young miners and cotton workers gazing at their destiny with the same sort of dumb amazement as an animal in a trap. They simply could not understand what was happening to them. They had been brought up to work, but it seemed as if they were never going to have the chance of working again. In their circumstance it was inevitable, at first, that they should be filled with a feeling of personal degradation. That was the attitude towards unemployment in those days, it was a disaster which happened to you as an individual and for which you were to blame.

11. The author did not learn of the unemployment problem until 1928 because _____.
- A) he had spent his childhood in Burma
 - B) people in Burma hardly talked about unemployment
 - C) the English economy had only collapsed while he returned from abroad
 - D) England had been enjoying economic prosperity while he was in Burma
12. Many of the unemployed felt ashamed of their condition because _____.

- A) they imagined they were to blame for being out of work
 - B) nobody wanted to admit that unemployment was inevitable
 - C) they had to admit that unemployment would probably continue
 - D) they felt the middle classes were right to say they could find work if they wanted to
13. About a quarter of the tramps and beggars the author met were _____.
- A) cynical parasites
 - B) once quite good at mining and making cotton
 - C) like animals in trap
 - D) young workers bewildered by what had happened to them
14. The reason why their unemployment so confused the young miners and cotton workers is that _____.
- A) they had been brought up on the assumption that they had work to do
 - B) they had not previously realized how degrading it would feel to be out of work
 - C) they were definitely not going to be able to work again
 - D) they did not expect to be the objects of middle-class criticism
15. In the passage as a whole, the author's attitude to unemployment is _____.
- A) that it was a disaster for which the individuals were to blame
 - B) the shock that it should have so degrading an effect on decent people
 - C) the astonishment that the unemployed cannot understand what had happened to them
 - D) the amazement that the loss of overseas trade can have such severe effects on the mining and cotton industries.

Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage:

Chemistry did not emerge as a science until after the scientific revolution in the 17th century and then only rather slowly and laboriously. But chemical knowledge is as old as history, being almost entirely concerned with the practical arts of living. Cooking is essentially a chemical process; so is the melting of metals and the administration of drugs and potions. This basic chemical knowledge, which was applied in most cases as a rule of thumb, was nevertheless dependent on previous experiment. It also served to stimulate a fundamental curiosity about the processes themselves. New information was always being gained as *artisans* (工匠) improved techniques to gain better results.

The development of a scientific approach to chemistry was, however, *hampered* by several factors. The most serious problem was the vast range of material available and the consequent difficulty of organizing it into some system. In addition, there were social and intellectual difficulties. Chemistry is nothing if not practical; those who practice it must use their hands, they must have a certain practical gift. Yet in many ancient civilizations, practical tasks were primarily the province of a slave population. The thinker or philosopher stood apart from this earthy world, where the practical arts appeared to lack any intellectual content or interest.

The final problem for early chemical science was the element of secrecy. Experts in specific trades had developed their own techniques and guarded their knowledge to prevent

others from stealing their livelihood. Another factor that contributed to secrecy was the profound nature of the knowledge of *alchemists* (炼丹术士), who were trying to transform base metals into gold or were concerned with the hunt for therapy that would give the blessing of eternal life. In one sense, the second of these was the more serious obstacle because the records of the chemical processes that early alchemists had discovered were often written down in symbolic language intelligible to very few or in symbols that were purposely obscure.

16. How did knowledge about chemical processes increase before the 17th century?
- A) A special symbolic language was developed.
 - B) Philosophers devised theories about chemical properties.
 - C) Experts shared their discoveries with the public.
 - D) Experience led workers to revise their techniques.
17. What might the italicized word "hampered" in this passage mean?
- A) recognized B) solved C) found D) hindered
18. Which of the following statements can best explain why "the second of these was the more serious obstacle"?
- A) The symbolic language used was very inexact.
 - B) The records of the chemical processes were not based on experiments.
 - C) Chemical knowledge was limited to a small number of people.
 - D) Very few new discoveries were made by alchemists.
19. Which occupation does the author imply does not require any knowledge of chemical processes?
- A) Philosopher. B) Artist. C) Metal worker. D) Cook.
20. Which of the following tells us what this passage is mainly about?
- A) The scientific revolution in the 17th century.
 - B) The practical aspects of chemistry.
 - C) Reasons that chemistry developed slowly as a science.
 - D) Difficulties of organizing knowledge systematically.

Part II Translation from English into Chinese

1. (Para 2, Passage 1)

In the year 2000, starvation will be headed off by the control of the diseases and the *heredity* (遗传) of plants and animals by shaping our own biological environment.

2. (Para 1, Passage 2)

It is, nevertheless, obvious that by relying on the standards that they observed in *nature*, the Egyptians were able to build long-lasting quality architectural monuments.

3. (Para 1, Passage 3)

That was the attitude towards unemployment in those days: it was a disaster which happened to you as an individual and for which you were to blame.

4. (Para 1, Passage 4)

Chemistry did not emerge as science until after the scientific revolution in the 17th century and then only rather slowly and laboriously.

模拟试题四参考答案与简释

Part I Reading Comprehension

1. B 本文陈述了 2000 年与我们的生活有重要关系的三个因素。
2. A 原文第一自然段第二句:2000 年我们将拥有比现在多几倍的机械助力在肘边(at one's elbow),供我们使用。本题 A 选项中(at one's disposal)意为:由某人支配。
3. D 第二自然段第一句:人类在生物知识上的进步将如同在物理学中取得的进步一样深远,这说明人类目前在生物上的知识落后于在物理方面的知识。
4. C 见翻译。
5. B 全文最后一句:自动化将如同 2000 年本身一样不可避免地到来。
6. B 从 infer 一词我们可以看出此题是推断题,答案不能从原文字面上找,A 就不能选择。C 和 D 的信息不是文中内容,B 肯定是正确答案。阅读全文,仔细推敲第二段第一句话的意义,也不难找出答案。
7. B 答案在第一段第三句。
8. C 文章所提古埃及和现代,都是为了说明标准测量的重要性,由此可推断 C 为正确答案。
9. A 答案在文章最后一句。
10. D 细读第二段二、三、四、五句即可找到正确答案。
11. C 当英国战后繁荣还未结束时,他离开了英国,来到了缅甸,而在缅甸失业只是人们的话题而不是现实生活中的事,现在回到英国,情况却不同了。
12. D 中产阶级的人称他们为接受救济的二流子,并说这些人只要愿意,都能找到工作,这种观点也影响了这些人本身。
13. D 全文第七、八句:我记得第一次遇到这些流浪汉和乞丐所给我带来的震惊,因为我所接受的教育曾使我认为他们是寄生虫,然而他们中的相当一部分,也许是四分之一的人是年轻体面的矿工和棉纺工人,他们与困在陷阱中的动物一样以无言的震惊看着自己的命运,不明白到底什么事情发生在他们身上。
14. A 全文倒数第三句。
15. B 作者感到震惊的是失业给这些正派的人们带来了一种(生活质量)降低的效果。
16. D 第一段倒数第二三句说“(这种凭经验而获取的化学知识)对激励人们探索化学过程本身起到了有利的作用。能工巧匠们在不断改进技术以改善结果的同时也获取了新的信息。”D 为正确答案。
17. D
18. C 文章最后一句“早期炼金术发现的化学过程总是以只有少数人懂符号语言的形式记载下来。有的符号又被故意弄得模糊不清。”所以 C 为正确答案。
19. A 参见第二段最后一句。
20. C

Part II Translation from English into Chinese

1. 在 2000 年, 饥饿问题将由于对于动植物疾病和遗传的控制, 即形成我们控制下的生物环境而得以防止。
2. 尽管如此, 埃及人显然是凭借他们在自然中所观察到的标准而得以建造出不朽的建筑物的。
3. 那就是过去对待失业的态度: 失业是发生在“你”作为个体身上的灾难, 因为失业, “你”就该受到责备。
4. 直到 17 世纪的科学革命之后, 化学才作为一门科学出现, 而其后的发展也相当缓慢且举步维艰。