A Brief Course of English Reading

英语阅读简明教程

王君华　主编

英语阅读简明教程

王君华　主编

主　　编：王君华

副主编：戴　琳　张贺玲

编　　者：王君华　戴　琳　姚建利　董玲玲　张贺玲

　　　　　张　洁　杨云桃　任　霞　何　珊

前　　言

在大学英语四、六级考试等所有的英语标准化考试中,阅读理解部分所占分值最大,因而该部分解题准确率的高低是直接决定英语考试能否通过的关键所在。

中国有句古语:"读书破万卷,下笔如有神。"由此可见多多阅读的重要性。在长期的教学和试题研究中,我们发现考生们面临的问题主要有:词汇量不足,缺乏阅读文章的技能,知识面有限,解题思路不明等。而阅读能力的提高不是一朝一夕的事,更不是随意翻阅就能解决的问题。提高速度与准确度既需要大量阅读,也需要讲究方法和技巧。因此,我们结合多年的教学经验和学生学习中普遍存在的问题编写了此书,以帮助广大学生更有效地提高自身英语水平。本书的特点如下:

1. 布局合理

本书布局精巧,不仅对语篇层次做了分析,对词句含义、句际关系、书写格式等做了详细说明,而且对影响阅读理解的因素和如何预测阅读内容以及各种常见题型做了阐述,读者可以从中掌握英语阅读理解的基本理论和技巧。

2. 针对性强

本书紧紧围绕《全国大学英语四、六级考试大纲》、《高等学校英语应用能力测试大纲》和《专升本英语考试大纲》而编写。对学生做阅读理解时经常出现的问题指出了解决途径,力求做到详细得当,有的放矢。

3. 实践性强

本书从阅读导航开始,循序渐进,由浅入深列举了大量的实例,提供了丰富的配套练习,能够使学生加深对文章及阅读技巧的体会。大量的历年真题训练使读者身临其境,详细的解析会使读者茅塞顿开。

4. 知识性强

本书题材新颖,选材广泛,体裁多样。选材涉及到有关政治、文化、社会生活、风俗习惯等方面,体现出较强的知识性、科学性、趣味性和时代性,读者既可以从中学到很多知识,也可以迅速提高阅读技能,可以说是受益无穷。

  本书是备战大学英语四、六级考试、专升本英语考试、高等学校英语应用能力考试等应试者的良师益友,也是广大英语爱好者的首选参考书目。

  由于编者水平和经验有限,书中不尽如人意之处在所难免,希望外语界同仁和广大读者批评指正。

<div align="right">

编者

2007 年 2 月

</div>

目　　录

第一章 阅读导航

第一节 语篇层次分析

阅读是各种英语考试中分量很重的一个部分。英语考试的阅读材料一般是字数在 250—300 词左右的结构完整、信息浓缩的语篇,要读懂文章应从语篇开始。英语阅读教学必须重视高级阅读技能的训练,从而把阅读理解从句子水平提高到语篇水平,这样才能避免在阅读中见树不见林的现象,才能真正理解文章的意思。这里指的语篇水平上的阅读理解包括在宏观上理解文章的脉络、上下文的逻辑关系、跟上作者思路的展开、掌握文章的主题思想、通过概括得出结论以及了解作者的观点和态度等等。语篇阅读能力可大致包括以下几方面:

1. 掌握文章的主题思想。学生只有读懂全文,才能有把握回答此类问题。

2. 理解作者的态度。理解作者赞成什么、反对什么,是更深层次的阅读理解。

3. 推测词义。阅读中偶尔遇到生词是正常的,根据上下文推测词义也是阅读能力的一部分。

4. 归纳概括。考核学生在理解全文的基础上理解上下文的逻辑关系的能力。阅读过程中不但要理解字母的意义,而且要善于进行分析判断,归纳综合,掌握作者思路的开展。这种文章要求学生能把握文章的总体,并真正理解主题和中心句,要求能较好地运用概念、判断、归纳、推理等逻辑思维方法,题目难度较大,属于高层次题,其中多数考察短文的主题(subject)、中心思想(main idea)、标题(title)或作者的写作目的(purpose)等。

5. 预测能力。读者要善于运用原有的知识来加深阅读理解能力,不但要运用语言知识,而且还要依靠语言外的相关知识。

语篇在形式上表现为有衔接,即词与词之间、句与句之间要有衔接,这种衔接关系通常由词汇手段(如指代、替代关系)和语法手段来实现。内容上语

篇表现为连贯性,即所读材料应当自成一体,上下文之间,细节与主题之间应具有逻辑关系,因此考生只有具备了语篇意识,才能理解出词与词、句与句、段与段之间的衔接与连贯,抓住文章中心思想,理清文章脉络。

第二节　词汇和短语含义

词汇是英语考试中很重要的部分,是各项测试的基础。在阅读部分的测试中,对词汇语义的考查一般都以推断题的形式出现。该类型考题主要考查学生在语篇水平上正确理解词、短语或句子的能力。出题对象一般为文中的关键词,如生词、多义词、复合词等。要做好这类题,考生要切记:在完整的语篇中,单词和词组的意义总是会受特定的背景、上下文所限制的,因此大家可以根据上下文,并利用所掌握的语法、词汇和构词法等知识确定它们的意义。学生在选择时应当依据上下文确定其含义,切忌断章取义或望文生义。我们可以利用构词法知识、一般同位语、同位语从句、定语从句、破折号和主从复合句前后的关系等在文章中的作用来帮助猜测一些词的含义(详解见第三章)。

第三节　句 际 关 系

英语文章都是有一定章法的,我们在阅读一篇文章时,要按照文章的篇章结构和延伸脉络去阅读,以便使你的阅读速度快,理解深,收益大,提高选定项的准确率切忌盲目地看一句算一句,看到哪儿算哪儿。以下我们将从几个方面来说明句与句之间的联系。

一、主题句

文章开篇第一句常常是全篇的主题句。我们要充分利用这一特点,抓住主题句,提纲挈领,开一个好头。因此,开头一句或第一段很重要,往往是文章的中心句或中心思想。例如:

The appeal of advertising to buying motives can have both negative and positive effects. Consumers may be convinced to buy a product of poor quality or high price because of an advertisement.

Question：Advertising can persuade the consumers to buy worthless products by _____ .

A）maintaining a balance between quality and price

B）convincing him of their low price

C）appealing to his buying motives

D）stressing their high quality

Answer：C；开篇第一句话就开门见山地点题。

二、段落句

最后一句或最后一段很重要，往往是全篇文章的结论、结果、要求、产生的影响或后果、或全篇文章的概括。例如：

When the roles of teacher and learner are seen for what they are, and when both teacher and learner fulfill them appropriately, then much of the pressure and feeling of failure for both will be eliminated. Learning to read will be made easier when teachers create an environment where children are given the opportunity to solve the problem of learning to read by reading.

Question：According to the passage, learning to read will no longer be a difficult task when _____.

A）children become highly motivated

B）teacher's and learner's roles are interchangeable

C）teaching helps children in their search for knowledge

D）reading enriches children's experience

Answer：A；根据短文最后一句话，当老师创造环境让孩子们能有机会通过阅读解决阅读学习的问题时，阅读学习就更容易了。可知 A 为正确答案。

三、启程转接句

文章的句与句、段与段之间都有一个衔接过渡问题。这种过渡有时是用连接词来完成的。

（一）表示文章转折 but, though, however, although, on the other hand, nevertheless, yet, on the contrary, still, instead。例如：

Cyberspace, data superhighways, multimedia — for those who have seen the future, the linking of computers, televisions and telephones will change our lives for ever. **Yet** for all the talks of forthcoming technological utopia, little attention has been given to the implications of these developments for the poor countries.

Question：From the passage we know that the development of high technology

is in the interests of _____.

　　A）the rich countries

　　B）scientific development

　　C）the elite

　　D）the world economy

　　Answer：A；全文的中心论点为第一段的第二句，即"**Yet**"引导的转折句，"然而，尽管人们正在谈论即将到来的令人神往的科技王国，却很少有人意识到这些技术的发展对贫穷国家意味着什么。"从本文我们获悉，高科技的发展有利于富裕的国家。

　　（二）表示因果

　　常用的表示原因的信号词有：because，for，since，the reason is that，result from；

　　常用的表示结果的信号词有：so，thus，therefore，so that，accordingly，as a result，consequently，result in，lead to，eventually。例如：

　　Large-scale intensive meat and poultry production is a waste of food resources. This is because more protein has to be fed to animals in the form of vegetable matter than can ever be recovered in the form of meat.

　　Question：According to the author, in factory, vegetable food _____.

　　A）is easy for chickens to digest

　　B）is insufficient for the needs of poultry

　　C）is fully utilized in meat and egg production

　　D）is inefficiently converted into meat and eggs

　　Answer：C；第2段主题句中提出：集约化的肉禽生产造成了粮食资源的浪费。接下来谈到了原因，"This is because more protein has to be fed to animals in the form of vegetable matter than can ever be recovered in the form of meat."原因是，养殖家禽所需的蔬菜中的蛋白质远远多于人们从禽肉中得到的蛋白质，在家禽的消化及新陈代谢的过程中，很多食物资源被白白地浪费掉了。C选项"在肉类和蛋类的生产中没有得到充分的利用"指出了原因。

　　（三）表示总结 in fact，finally，in summary，to sum up，in conclusion，at last。例如：

　　Not content with its doubtful claim to produce cheap food for our own population, the factory farming industry also argues that "hungry nations are benefiting from advances made by the poultry industry". *In fact*, rather than helping the

fight against malnutrition in "hungry nations," the spread of factory farming has inevitably aggravated the problem.

Question: In this passage the author argues that _____.

A) efficiency must be raised in the poultry industry

B) raising poultry can provide more protein than growing grain

C) factory farming will do more harm than good to developing countries

D) hungry nations may benefit from the development of the poultry industry

Answer: C;此题考察第 1 段的最后一句,也是整篇文章的中心论点句,"**In fact**"引出全段的总结部分:事实上,工厂养殖业非但没有帮助"饥饿国家"解决营养不良的问题,反而使这个问题更为严重。因此,在本文中作者的论点:工厂养殖业对发展中国家弊大于利。

四、比喻、类比句

阅读理解的短文选材广泛。因此,有时为了文章的生动、鲜明、逼真,或为了含蓄表达某种内容,作者往往会使用各种修辞手法,如委婉、比喻、借代、夸张、矛盾、类比等。作者对有些内容不一定直接说。了解了这一点可以帮助我们在阅读短文时,不只看表面文字,而是透过表面文字看到作者或说话人真正要表达的意义。这也是英语考试中阅读理解部分向深度、难度发展的走向之一。比喻与类比句中经常使用"as, just as, like, sound like"这样的词语,因此,考生要警惕这样的词语,当它出现时要发挥想象力理解作者的意图。例如:

There is no denying that students should learn something about how computers work, **just as** we expect them at least to understand that the internal-combustion engine has something to do with burning fuel, expanding gases and pistons being driven. For people should have some basic ideas of how the things that they use to do what they do. Further, students might be helped by a course that considers the computers' impact on the society. But that is not the meaning by computer literacy, for computer literacy is not a form of literacy; it is a trade skill that should not be taught as a liberal art.

Learning how to use a computer and learning how to program one are two distinct activities. A case might be made that the competent citizens of tomorrow should free themselves from their fear of computers. But this is quite different from saying that all ought to know how to program one. Leave that to people who have

chosen programming as a career. While programming can be a lot of fun, and while our society needs some people who are experts at it, **the same is true of** auto repair and violin-making.

Learning how to use a computer is not difficult, and it gets easier all the time as programs become more "user-friendly". Let us assume that in the future everyone is going to have to know how to use a computer to be a competent citizen. What does the phrase "**learning to use a computer**" mean? It **sounds like** "learning to drive a car", that is, **it sounds as if** there is a set of definite skills that, once acquired, enable one to use a computer.

In fact, "learning to use a computer" is **much more like** "learning to play a game", but learning the rules of one game may not help you play a second one, whose rules may not be the same. There is no such a thing as teaching someone how to use a computer. One can only teach people to use this or that program and generally that is easily accomplished.

这是一篇议论文,文章边议论,边举例说明。其论证主题为:在未来社会要成为一名合格公民,就必须具备一定的计算机运用能力,即学会使用某些计算机程序。随着计算机程序越来越便捷,学会使用它们就像学会一种游戏一样轻而易举。全篇开头就指出,学生们应该学习计算机是怎么运行的,正如我们指望他们至少应该懂得内燃机与燃烧燃料、气体膨胀与驱动活塞有关一样。如果学生不懂得作者用"**just as**"来打比方,就无法理解此句的含义。

Question 1:In the second paragraph "violin-making" is mentioned to show that _____.

A) programming a computer is as interesting as making a violin

B) our society needs experts in different fields

C) violin-making requires as much as skill as computer programming

D) people who can use a computer don't necessarily have to know computer programming

Answer:D;作者指出编程序可以是很有乐趣的,我们的社会也需要这方面专家,汽车修理和小提琴制造也是同样。作者用汽车修理和小提琴制作的例子,说明我们不必懂得如何修理汽车,只需知道如何使用小提琴,如何欣赏就行,以此说明,知道使用计算机的人不必了解编程。

Question 2:According to the author, the phrase "learning to use a computer" means learning _____.

A）a set of rules

B）the fundamentals of computer science

C）specific programs

D）general principles of programming

Answer：C；依据文章第三段 What does the phrase "**learning to use a computer**" mean? It **sounds like …, it sounds as if …** ，猛一看，考生很可能会选择 A，但是接着往下谈就会发现作者并不是这个意思。第四段开头，In fact，"learning to use a computer" is **much more like** "learning to play a game"，所以答案应在 In fact 以后文章小结的文字中找出。

五、复杂句

在各种考试中，一些长句、难句往往是考点，它们是考察学生的理解能力的重点。例如：

Perhaps, but don't count on it, say home-school advocates. Home-schoolers oppose the system because they have strong convictions that their approach to education — whether fueled by religious enthusiasm or the individual child's interests and natural pace — is best.

Question：Home-school advocates are of the opinion that _____.

A）things in public schools are not so bad as has often been said

B）their tolerance of public education will attract more kids to public schools

C）home schooling is superior and, therefore, they will not easily give in

D）their increased cooperation with public schools will bring about the improvement of public education

Answer：C；此段指出：家庭教育的倡导者深信自己的教育方式是最好的（best）—不论是出于对宗教的热衷还是出于对孩子个人兴趣的培养及自然成长过程的考虑。第二句是由主句和原因状语从句构成的复合句，原因状语从句中"that"引导同位语句，同位语句的主语是 approach，系表结构是 is best。

第四节 标 点 符 号

标点符号是一篇文章的重要组成部分。标点的运用反映着作者的思路、意念、推理等。

一、冒号

冒号后的部分常被用来说明冒号前的部分发生的原因,进一步阐述,加以强调,引起同位语成分、用于列举等。例如:

A good modern newspaper is an extraordinary piece of reading. *It is remarkable first for what it contains: the range of news from local crime to international politics, from sport to business to fashion to science, and the range of comments and special features as well, from editorial pages to feature articles and interviews to criticisms of books, art, theatre and music.* A newspaper is even more remarkable for the way one reads it: never completely, never straight through, but always by jumping from here to there, in and out, glancing at one piece, reading another article all the way through, reading just a few paragraphs of the next. A good modern newspaper offers a variety to attract many different readers, but far more than any reader is interested in. What brings this variety together in one place is its topicality, its immediate relation to what is happening in your world and your locality now. But immediacy and the speed of production that goes with it mean also that much of what appears in a newspaper has no more than transient value. *For all these reasons, no two people really read the same paper: what each person does is to put together out of the pages of that day's paper, his own selection and sequence, his own newspaper.* For all these reasons, reading newspapers efficiently, which means getting what you want from them without missing things you need but without wasting time, demands skill and self-awareness as you modify and apply the techniques of reading.

Question 1: A good modern newspaper is remarkable for all the following except its _____

A) wide range

B) uniform style

C) speed in reporting news

D) popularity

Answer: B;从第一部分斜体内容可以得知报纸的显著特点之一是它的范围广泛,冒号后的内容起到解释说明,可以排除 A。

Question 2: According to the passage, the reason why no two people really read the "same" newspaper is that _____.

A) people scan for the news they are interested in

B) different people prefer different newspapers

C) people are rarely interested in the same kind of news

D) people have different views about what a good newspaper is

Answer：A；此题的考点是第二个斜体部分冒号后的内容,找到命题与原题的对等项"same newspaper",冒号后便是其原因。

二、引号

引用他人的语言或对重点部分加以引用。

例1：learning how to use a computer is not that difficult, and it gets easier all the time as programs become more "user — friendly".

Question：Learning to use a computer is getting easier all the time because

＿＿＿＿＿＿.

A) programs are becoming less complicated

B) programs are designed to be convenient to users

C) programs are becoming easier and easier

D) programs are becoming readily available to computer users

Answer：B；"user-friendly"与 B 选项中的 be convenient 是对等项。

例2：President Coolidge's statement, "The business of America is business," still points to an important truth today that business institutions have more prestige in American society than any other kind of organizations, including the government. Why do business institutions possess this great prestige?

Question：The statement "The business of America is business," probably means ＿＿＿＿＿＿.

A) America is a great power in the world business

B) business is of primary concern to Americans

C) the business institutions in America are concerned with commerce

D) business problems are of great importance to American government

Answer：B；从文章的第一段所谈及的内容"The business of America is business,"这个论断中的两个"business"意义不同:前者意为"事物",后者意为"商业,生意"。

三、破折号

破折号用于对其前面的部分予以补充说明。例如：

Brazil has become one of the developing world's great successes in **reducing population growth** — but more **by accident** than by design. While countries such as India have made joint efforts to reduce birth rates, Brazil has had better result without really trying, says George Martine at Harvard.

Question：According to the passage, Brazil **has cut back** its population growth _____.

A) by chance

B) by careful family planning

C) by educating its citizens

D) by developing TV programmes

Answer：A；破折号后的内容说明是对前者的补充说明，注意 by chance 与原文中的 **by accident** 为对等项。

四、分号

分号起到了解释说明的作用。例如：

The Carnegie Foundation report says that many colleges have tried to be "all things to all people". In doing so, they have increasingly catered to a narrowly-minded careerism while failing to cultivate a global vision among their students. The current crisis, it contends, does not derive from a legitimate desire to put learning to productive ends. *The problem is that in too many academic fields, the work has no context*; *skills, rather than being means, have become ends*. Students are offered a variety of options and allowed to pick their way to a degree. In short, driven by careerism, "the nation's colleges and universities are more successful in providing credentials than in providing a quality education for their students."

Question：By saying that "*in too many academic fields, the work has no context*", the author means that the teaching in these areas _____.

A) ignores the actual situation

B) is not based on the right perspective

C) only focuses on an integrated core of common learning