

阅读时代丛书

# 考研英语 阅读时代

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# 考研英语 阅读时代

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## 内 容 提 要

本书以全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试的阅读理解大纲为基础,分为30个单元。每单元围绕一个话题选材,涵盖人文科学、自然科学、科学技术以及当代国际和社会问题等。读者在阅读此书的过程中,不仅可以熟悉考研英语阅读常见的题材,了解人们在这些问题上的各种见解,而且可以系统积累相关词汇,从知识层面和技术层面为考研做好准备。每单元分为3个部分。第一部分为5篇阅读文章,前4篇文章阅读完毕后各有5道选择题,与全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试的阅读理解题型一致;第五篇文章阅读完毕后需对文章中的五段划线句子进行翻译,与全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试的翻译题型一致。第二部分为注释与详解。除了对每篇文章中出现的长、难句作出语法和词汇注释外,对每道题目首先给出正确答案,然后进行详细的解释。第三部分对5篇阅读文章给出统一的标准答案。

本书适合参加研究生入学考试的人士阅读,还可作为英语爱好者的学习用书。

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# 前 言

全国硕士研究生入学统一考试是国家选拔硕士研究生的主要途径,在教育类大规模、社会化全国统一考试项目中,就考试水准和层次来说,目前是我国最高水平的一种标准化考试。我国招收硕士研究生始于1951年。1955年教育部和高教部颁布了全国高等师范院校研究生选拔和考试办法,首次对如何组织命题队伍,如何组织评卷作出了明确规定。1966年开始,研究生招生考试暂停,1977年恢复。1980年是我国研究生教育具有里程碑意义的一年,政治理论课和外国语开始实行全国统一考试,“中华人民共和国学位条例”正式颁布,这标志着我国研究生教育进入规范化和制度化的新阶段。

全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试从测量学的角度来说,应是“常模参照”考试,即选拔性考试:命题工作需坚持既有利于为国家选拔高层次人才,又有利于高等学校教学的原则,强调在考查知识的基础上重点考查考生的分析问题和解决实际问题的能力,并且要采用科学的办法,保持考试水平的稳定。本书选择全国硕士研究生入学英语阅读作为突破口,冲刺全国硕士研究生入学英语考试,主要原因是无论从考分所占的比例还是从花费的时间看,阅读理解在研究生入学英语考试中都算得上是一出“重头戏”,历来受到学习者的重视。但是光重视未必就能保证结果理想,事倍功半的现象并不少见,原因在于对阅读的实质认识不足,学习和解题的方法不当。阅读理解题主要考查考生对英语词汇、短语、句型等习惯表达方式,尤其是对出现在篇章中的语言知识和语言技能的掌握情况,从另一方面说,它也包含了对英语国家和世界其他国家的政治、经济、文化、历史和社会等背景及科技发展动态、热门话题乃至西方人思维、交流方式等非语言性知识和学习能力方面的考查。因此可以说,阅读理解题是一个综合性很强的能力测试题。

纵观历年的试题可以看出,全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试的阅读理解短文均取材于英国、美国为主的原版报纸、杂志或书籍,其内容包罗万象,有人文科学的,有普及性质的自然科学和科技方面的,也有反映当代国际和社会问题的,绝大多数短文为议论、评论性的、报道性的、分析论证类的文章,很少有纯抒发情感、描写风景等的文学篇章。这种命题方式与研究生攻

读期间将面对大量的概括性强、抽象思维为主的材料有关。所以，考生如果平时涉猎面广、又能注意积累知识，在阅读时就理解得快，难度就会降低，所用的时间缩短，考试成功的可能性就会大大提高。

语言是人类思维的基础，人抽象思维的能力与阅读息息相关。语言学家认为，阅读过程是一个思维的过程，在这个过程中，我们调动原先有的知识来同新信息进行比较、分析等处理，然后把他们同有关的信息系统储藏起来以备后用。心理学家认为，阅读是一个解码的过程，作者用字符编码，包含他的思想，读者通过阅读解开这些编码，获得他们传递的信息。不管怎么说，阅读理解决不是简单地把英语词汇转换成相应的汉语词汇，它需要读者的积极参与，活跃的思维，把输入的信息融会贯通，全面理解，在答题时才能作出正确判断。

本书以全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试的阅读理解大纲为基础，分为30个单元。每单元围绕一个话题选材，涵盖人文科学、自然科学、科学技术以及当代国际和社会问题等。读者在阅读此书的过程中，不仅可以熟悉考研阅读常见的题材，了解人们在这些问题上的各种见解，而且可以系统积累相关词汇，从知识层面和技术层面为考研做好准备。每单元分为3个部分。第一部分为5篇阅读文章，前4篇文章阅读完毕后各有5道选择题，与全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试的阅读理解题型一致；第五篇文章阅读完毕后需对文章中的五段划线句子进行翻译，与全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试的翻译题型一致。第二部分为注释与详解。除了对每篇文章中出现的长、难句作出语法和词汇注释外，对每道题目首先给出正确答案，然后进行详细的解释。第三部分对5篇阅读文章给出统一的标准答案。

本书的作者，具有丰富的研究生英语教学经验，参加了多年全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试的阅卷工作，除具有扎实的理论基础之外，还能够深刻地了解考生的所思及所需。所以本书可以算是考生考前的必备复习指南。

本书在内容上全面精致，形式上创新简洁，使考生在阅读方面能达到质的飞跃。在21世纪的今天，阅读本书还有增加文化资本、增强竞争实力、调节精神世界、释放压力和融洽社会关系等多种功能。借用海德格尔所说的一句话：阅读，使人诗意地栖息在大地上。没有任何方式，可以替代阅读带给人们的世界。愿本书伴随你踏上考研的成功之旅。

编者

2007年8月

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# Part I

## 考研英语阅读理解的方法 和解题技巧



## 一、考研英语阅读理解的测试要求及命题原则

### 大纲要求及标准

在研究生入学考试中，阅读理解主要测试考生对阅读的书面材料的理解程度，它是试卷的第二部分，由 A、B、C 三节组成，考查考生理解书面英语的能力。共 30 小题，每小题 2 分，共 60 分。

A 节 (20 题)：主要考查考生理解主旨要义、具体信息、概念性含义，进行有关的判断、推理和引申，根据上下文推测生词的词义等能力。要求考生根据所提供的 4 篇 (总长度约为 1600 词) 文章的内容，从每题所给出的 4 个选项中选出最佳答案。考生在答题卡 1 上作答。

B 节 (5 题)：主要考查考生对诸如连贯性、一致性等语段特征以及文章结构的理解。本部分有 3 种备选题型。每次考试从这 3 种备选题型中选择一种进行考查。考生在答题卡 1 上作答。

备选题型有：

(1) 本部分的内容是一篇总长度为 500~600 词的文章，其中有 5 段空白，文章后有 6~7 段文字，要求考生根据文章内容从这 6~7 段文字中选择能分别放进文章中 5 个空白处的 5 段。

(2) 在一篇长度约 500~600 词的文章中，各段落的原有顺序已被打乱。要求考生根据文章内容和结构将所列段落 (7~8 个) 重新排序，其中有 2~3 个段落在文章中的位置已给出。

(3) 在一篇长度 500 词的文章前或后有 6~7 段文字或 6~7 个概括句或小标题。这些文字或标题分别是对文章中某一部分的概括或举例。要求考生根据文章内容，从这 6~7 个选项中选出最恰当的 5 段文字或 5 个标题填入文章的空白处。

C 节 (5 题)：主要考查考生根据上下文准确理解概念或复杂结构并运用汉语予以正确表达的能力。要求考生阅读一篇约 400 词的文章，并将其中 5 个划线部分 (约 150 词) 翻译成汉语，要求译文准确、完整、通顺。考生在答题卡 2 上作答。

《考研英语阅读时代》主要针对阅读理解 A 节编撰和详解。阅读理解 A 节要求考生以每分钟 60 词的阅读速度读懂不同类型的文字材料 (生词量不超过所读材料总词汇量的 3%) 包括信函、报刊和杂志上的文章，还应能读懂与本人学习或工作有关的文献、技术说明和产品介绍等。考生要做到：

- (1) 理解主旨要义；
- (2) 理解文中的具体信息；
- (3) 理解文中的概念性含义；
- (4) 进行有关的判断、推理和引申；
- (5) 根据上下文推测生词的词义；
- (6) 理解文章的总体结构以及单句之间、段落之间的关系；
- (7) 理解作者的意图、观点或态度；区分论点和论据。

阅读材料的题材多以议论文和说明文为主，其内容主要涉及到广泛关注的社会生活

(尤其是西方国家)、经济生活、科普等。随着对考生英语知识综合运用能力要求的提高,对阅读短文的难度也越来越高,句子的长度和结构的复杂等方面的要求都趋于变高。对主旨题和推理题的考察比例也逐步提高。

## 二、考研英语阅读理解题的题型特征和解题技巧

考研英语是对考生综合语言运用能力的一种检验。它既可以检查考生的语言水平,又可以检查考生的阅读速度和理解能力,在整个试卷中起着举足轻重的作用。仅阅读理解A节就占40%的比重,可见阅读是考试成败的关键所在。

要掌握行之有效的解题方法,首先得了解考试题型,只有这样才能做到对症下药。阅读理解题型一般包括:主旨题、细节题、观点或态度题、语义题、推理题。

### (一) 主旨题

阅读的首要任务就是要理解文章的主旨大意。主旨题就是对文章中心思想、段落的核心思想/谈论的话题进行提问,主要是考察理解和概括归纳能力。一般采用的提问方式有:

1. The text intends to express the idea that \_\_\_\_\_. (2003)
2. The best title for the passage may be \_\_\_\_\_. (2002)
3. What is passage mainly about? (2001)
4. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage? (2000)
5. This passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_. (2000)
6. Which of the following is the best title for this text? (2007)

文章的中心大意有时可以从每段的主题句的综合中得到,有时也可以从首段的主题句中得到。段落的中心大意往往也来源于该段的主题句,而这些主题句又大多出现在段首,偶尔会出现在段末。如何断定首句是否主题句,可借助接下来的第二、三句来判断。因此,掌握这一规律,仔细阅读每段首句,将有利于获取文章的中心思想,有利于解决有关主旨题方面的问题,同时还有利于分清主体与细节的关系,有助于解决其他类型的问题。

解题方法: 1) 注意各段的段首句或主题句,忽视无关细节。

2) 注意选项特点,偏全或过细的选项都不可取。

### 【例】2005年试题 Text 1

The full import may take a while to sink in. The NT Rights of the Terminally III law has left physicians and citizens alike trying to deal with its moral and practical implications. Some have breathed sighs of relief, others, including churches, right to life groups and the Australian Medical Association, bitterly attacked the bill and the haste of its passage. But the tide is unlikely to turn back. In Australia — where an aging population, life extending technology and changing community attitudes have all played their part — other states are going to consider making a similar law to deal with euthanasia. In the US and Canada, where the right to die movement is gathering strength, observers are waiting for the dominoes to start falling.

21. From the second paragraph we learn that \_\_\_\_\_

A. the objection to euthanasia is diminishing in some countries.

- B. physicians and citizens have the same view on euthanasia.
- C. technological changes are chiefly responsible for the new law.
- D. it takes time to appreciate the significance of the laws passed.

本题答案为 D。这是一道对段落中心思想提问。根据段首句，就可以看到其主题大意：需要花一定时间来了解答案的全部含义。A 和 C 是文中没有提及的；B 又与第三句话相矛盾。

## (二) 观点或态度题

任何一篇文章都或多或少地反映作者的态度或观点，可以是乐观的 (optimistic) 或悲观的 (pessimistic)、积极的 (positive) 或消极的 (negative)、主观的 (subjective) 或客观的 (objective)、批评的 (critical) 或赞扬的 (complimentary)，也可以是中立的 (neutral)、同情的 (sympathetic)、公平的 (impartial)、无偏见的 (unbiased)、幽默的 (humorous)、相反的 (opposite) 等。这些观点或态度有时会在文章中直接表示出来，有时却隐藏在字里行间，难以觉察；有时前面谈及某一观点，后面却通过转折引出另一个观点，而这也正是作者所持有的观点。因此在应对这类题目时，一定要注意结合全文中心思想，仔细琢磨字里行间的话外音。一般采取的提问方式有：

1. What is the author's attitude towards euthanasia? (2005)
2. How does the author feel about the present situation? (2005)
3. To which of the following is the author likely to agree? (2004)
4. What does the author think of intellect? (2004)
5. The author's attitude towards Richard Lamm's remark is one of \_\_\_\_\_. (2003)

解题方法：注意全文大意，琢磨带感情色彩的词汇，不受局部态度影响。

### 【例】2005 年试题 Text 2

Much of the language used to describe monetary policy, such as "steering the economy to a soft landing" or "a touch on the brakes", makes it sound like a precise science. Nothing could be further to the truth. The link between interest rates and inflation is uncertain. And there are long, variable lags before policy changes have any effect on the economy. Hence the analogy that likens the conduct of monetary policy to driving a car with a blackened windscreen, a cracked rear view mirror and a faulty steering wheel.

Given all these disadvantages, central bankers seem to have had much to boast about of late. Average inflation in the big seven industrial economies fell to a mere 2.2% last year, close to its lowest level in 30 years, before rising slightly to 2.5% this July. This is a long way below the double digit rates which many countries experienced in the 1970s and early 1980s.

It is also less than most forecasters had predicated. In late 1994 the panel of economists which The Economist polls each month said that America's inflation rate would average 3.5% in 1995. In fact, it fell to 2.6% in August, and expected to average only about 3% for the years as a whole. In Britain and Japan inflation is running half a percentage point below the rate predicted at the end of last year. This is no flash in the pan; over the

past couple of years, inflation has been consistently lower than expected in Britain and America.

Economists have been particularly surprised by favorable inflation figures in Britain and the United States, since conventional measures suggest that both economies, and especially American's, have little productive slack. America's capacity utilization, for example, hit historically high levels earlier this year, and its jobless rate (5.6% in August) has fallen below most estimates of the natural rate of unemployment — the rate below which inflation has taken off in the past.

Why has inflation proved so mild? The most thrilling explanation is, unfortunately, a little defective. Some economists argue that powerful structural changes in the world have up ended the old economic models that were based upon the historical link between growth and inflation.

30. How does the author feel about the present situation?

A. Tolerant. B. Indifferent. C. Disappointed. D. Surprised.

本题答案为 D。意为：感到惊讶。从第四段第一句话中的动词“surprised”就可得知作者对当前的形势感到惊讶。

### (三) 细节题

所谓细节就是用来对文章主题思想进行说明、解释、分析、例证等的具体内容，通常是以解释、举例、定义、对比、比喻、列举数据等形式出现。细节题主要检测对这些具体事实理解程度，是通过题干加选项对文章中一或两句的局部以不同的表达方式进行提问。常见的表现方式有：同义词、反义词、不同的词组、不同语态或不同的句型，如双重否定变为肯定。有时细节题也涉及一些简单的推理和计算。值得注意的是在阅读中一定要关注 what、who、where、how、why，而在看选项时要注意看与原文的差异，力求精确。不要被那些过于“肯定”、“绝对”、“抽象”、“具体”等给迷惑。

解题方法：仔细读题，确定位置，琢磨原句，对比选项。

一般采取的提问方式有：

1. How did Redmon find his job? (2004)
2. Which of the following can be a disadvantage of search agents? (2004)
3. Which of the following is true according to the text? (2004)

### 【例】2004 年试题 Text 1

Hunting for a job late last year, lawyer Gant Redmon stumbled across CareerBuilder, a job database on the Internet. He searched it with no success but was attracted by the site's "personal search agent". It's an interactive feature that lets visitors key in job criteria such as location, title, and salary, then E-mails them when a matching position is posted in the database. Redmon chose the keywords legal, intellectual property, and Washington, D. C. Three weeks later, he got his first notification of an opening. "I struck gold," says Redmon, who e-mailed his resume to the employer and won a position as in-house counsel for a company.

41. How did Redmon find his job?

- A. By searching openings in a job database.
- B. By posting a matching position in a database.
- C. By using a special service of a database.
- D. By e-mailing his resume to a database.

本题答案为 C。问题是: Redmon 是怎样找到工作的? 分析 4 个选项可发现, A “通过在工作数据库里找空缺位置”说法太笼统。B “通过往数据库里一个相应岗位发邮件”, 但这件事不是 Redmon 做的。C “通过数据库的一项特殊服务”, 正好与原文一致, 故为答案。D “通过把简历寄到数据库”, 实际上简历是寄给老板了。此题就是检测是否理解了对 “personal search agent” 的功能特点的解释。

#### (四) 语义题

语义题是考查某个词或句子在一定场合的意思。所考查词汇通常涉及对超纲词含义的推断、熟词偏意或熟词场合意。此类题目不是考词汇量的大小, 而是考查是否读懂上下文, 并结合上下文或构词法推测词义的能力。因此, 对付语义题的方法是: 读懂原文、注意被考词或句子的相邻句子、利用构词法。同时还要注意选项, 因为选项可能会利用同义词或词组、反义词或词组, 也可能利用同义或反义的句子形式。

一般采取的提问方式有:

1. The expression “tip service” most probably means \_\_\_\_\_. (2004)
2. What does the author mean by “most people are literally having a ZZZ”? (2004)
3. By “Ellen Spro isn’t biting her nails just yet”, the author means \_\_\_\_\_. (2004)
4. When mentioning “the \$4 million to \$10 million range” the author is talking about \_\_\_\_\_. (2004)
5. The phrase “making the biggest splash” most probably means \_\_\_\_\_. (2003)
6. The word “arbiters” most probably refers to those \_\_\_\_\_. (2003)

#### 【例】2005 年试题 Text2

Fortunately, the White House is starting to pay attention. But it’s obvious that a majority of the president’s advisers still don’t take global warming seriously. Instead of a plan of action, they continue to press for more research — a classic case of “paralysis by analysis”.

28. What does the author mean by “paralysis by analysis”? (Last line, Paragraph 4)
- A. Endless studies kill action.
  - B. Careful investigation reveals truth.
  - C. Prudent planning hinders.
  - D. Extensive research helps decision-making.

本题答案为 A。从最后一句话中 “instead of a plan of action” 可以看出没有采取行动的原因是无止境地寻求研究证据。

#### (五) 推理题

推理题主要是考查能否理解那些没有直接在文章中表达出来的写作意图、引申含义、

寓意、观点、上下文等。推理题是阅读理解中的一个难点，要求深刻理解全文，依据原文中的关键词、短语、结构、句子、几个段落或全文，运用归纳、逻辑推理的思维方式，并结合自己的知识进行推论，切不可脱离文章信息凭空推断。

一般采取的提问方式有：

1. The 4th paragraph suggests that \_\_\_\_\_. (2004)
2. What can we infer from the first three paragraphs? (2004)
3. Which of the following is true according to the text? (2004)
4. We can learn from the text that Americans have a history of \_\_\_\_\_. (2004)
5. It can be learned from Paragraph 4 that \_\_\_\_\_. (2003)
6. From the text we learn that Stephen Cooper is \_\_\_\_\_. (2003)
7. According to those who support merges, railways monopoly is unlikely because \_\_\_\_\_. (2003)
8. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that \_\_\_\_\_. (2003)
9. What is implied in the first sentence? (2003)

**【例】2005 年试题 Text 3**

Of all the components of a good night's sleep, dreams seem to be least within our control. In dreams, a window opens into a world where logic is suspended and dead people speak. A century ago, Freud formulated his revolutionary theory that dreams were the disguised shadows of our unconscious desires and fears; by the late 1970s, neurologists had switched to thinking of them as just "mental noise" — the random byproducts of the neural-repair work that goes on during sleep. Now researchers suspect that dreams are part of the mind's emotional thermostat, regulating moods while the brain is "off-line". And one leading authority says that these intensely powerful mental events can be not only harnessed but actually brought under conscious control, to help us sleep and feel better, "It's your dream," says Rosalind Cartwright, chair of psychology at Chicago's Medical Center. "If you don't like it, change it."

Evidence from brain imaging supports this view. The brain is as active during REM (rapid eye movement) sleep — when most vivid dreams occur — as it is when fully awake, says Dr. Eric Nofzinger at the University of Pittsburgh. But not all parts of the brain are equally involved; the limbic system (the "emotional brain") is especially active, while the prefrontal cortex (the center of intellect and reasoning) is relatively quiet. "We wake up from dreams happy or depressed, and those feelings can stay with us all day," says Stanford sleep researcher Dr. William Dement.

The link between dreams and emotions shows up among the patients in Cartwright's clinic. Most people seem to have more bad dreams early in the night, progressing toward happier ones before awakening, suggesting that they are working through negative feelings generated during the day. Because our conscious mind is occupied with daily life we don't always think about the emotional significance of the day's events — until, it appears, we



begin to dream.

And this process need not be left to the unconscious. Cartwright believes one can exercise conscious control over recurring bad dreams as soon as you wake, identify what is upsetting about the dream. Visualize how you would like it to end instead; the next time it occurs, try to wake up just enough to control its course. With much practice people can learn to, literally, do it in their sleep.

At the end of the day, there's probably little reason to pay attention to our dreams at all unless they keep us from sleeping or "we wake up in a panic," Cartwright says. Terrorism, economic uncertainties and general feelings of insecurity have increased people's anxiety. Those suffering from persistent nightmares should seek help from a therapist. For the rest of us, the brain has its ways of working through bad feelings. Sleep — or rather dream — on it and you'll feel better in the morning.

31. Researchers have come to believe that dreams \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. can be modified in their courses  
B. are susceptible to emotional changes  
C. reflect our innermost desires and fears  
D. are a random outcome of neural repairs
32. By referring to the limbic system, the author intends to show \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. its function in our dreams  
B. the mechanism of REM sleep  
C. the relation of dreams and emotions  
D. its difference from the prefrontal cortex
33. The negative feelings generated during the day tend to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. aggravate in our unconscious mind  
B. develop into happy dreams  
C. persist till the time we fall asleep  
D. show up in dreams early at night
34. Cartwright seems to suggest that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. waking up in time is essential to the ridding of bad dreams  
B. visualizing bad dreams helps bring them under control  
C. dreams should be left to their natural progression  
D. dreaming may not entirely belong to the unconscious
35. What advice might Cartwright give to those who sometimes have had dreams?  
A. Lead your life as usual.  
B. Seek professional help.  
C. Exercise conscious control.  
D. Avoid anxiety in the daytime.

该短文的第一段就突出了全文的主题，即梦是可以控制的。其关键词为：梦、睡眠、