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专家点拨：
如何正确备考雅思阅读

**How to
Read It Right
for IELTS**

Jack Robinson

北京语言大学出版社

Expert's Advice: How to Read It Right for IELTS

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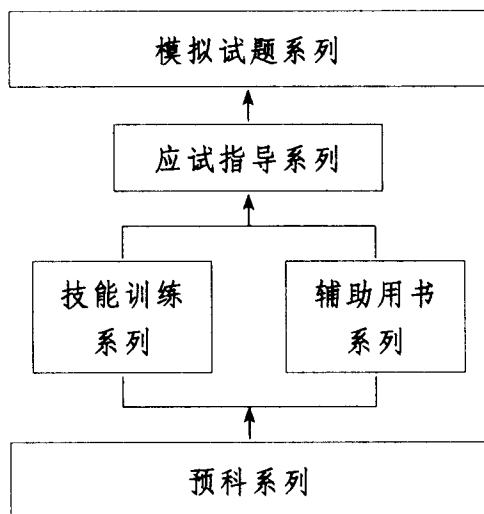
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致雅思考生

自 1992 年北京语言大学出版社出版了中国第一本雅思辅导教材迄今已有十多个年头了。为了适应雅思考生急剧增长的形势,十余年来北语社雅思精品迭出。如今北语社雅思图书已达几十种,分为 5 大系列,形成了相当的规模;品种齐全,适合不同英语基础、不同需求的雅思考生。“北语雅思”已经成为雅思界的知名品牌和首选图书,被专家和考生誉为雅思图书之精品。

北语雅思方阵



北语雅思四大特点:

1. 名家编写——北语社的雅思图书多由中外知名雅思培训专家、雅思考官和长期从事英语教学工作的专家编写;
2. 真材实料——北语社的雅思图书从内容、材料的选取,到练习、试题的设计,都经过精心甄选、反复试用,保证了训练的针对性和学习的有效性;
3. 品种齐全——北语社的雅思图书分为五大书系,可以满足不同起点、不同需求的考生;

4. 质量优秀——北语社雅思图书的编写、编校, 音带的制作、出版质量上乘, 受到广大读者的好评。

为了便于考生选用我社的雅思图书, 下面对北语社雅思用书各系列的主要功能及适用对象作一个简要的说明。

北语社雅思用书功能及适用对象

	系列	功能	适用对象
1	模拟试题	模拟测试, 实战演练	1. 想了解自己目前水平以及哪些方面存在差距的考生 2. 已经掌握各项语言技能及应试技巧, 需要进行考前实战演练的考生
2	应试指导	剖析题型, 点拨技巧, 分析错误, 提供指导	经过一定的语言技能训练, 但由于缺乏正确有效的指导, 训练效果不够理想的考生
3	辅助用书	(词汇 + 语法 + 语音 + 表达 + 心理) × 辅导	1. 词汇、语法、语音、表达等方面比较薄弱的考生 2. 由于雅思考试造成的心理压力影响语言技能正常发挥的考生
4	技能训练	分题型、分技能系统训练, 重点难点各个突破	处于雅思备考初级阶段, 英语听、说、读、写四项语言技能缺乏系统训练的考生
5	预科系列	提高英语基础, 为备考雅思做好准备(雅思入门书)	听、说、读、写能力与雅思考试基本要求存在一定差距的高中生、大学低年级学生等

希望考生根据自己的特点和实际情况选择适合自己的雅思用书。相信“北语雅思”定能成为广大雅思考生的良师好友, 帮助考生加快走向成功的步伐!

北京语言大学出版社

出版说明

近两年来,雅思考试已在中国全面推广,雅思考生人数不断增长。与其他国外英语考试相比,雅思考试不仅题量大,而且题型多样化,试题难度大,许多考生做了大量的练习和模拟试题,但成绩仍不理想。原因往往在于缺乏正确的指导,训练不够得法。要提高语言技能,特别是提高应对雅思考试的语言技能,大量的训练是必要的,但这种训练必须得法,必须遵循特定的规律,才能提高训练效率。

为了向考生提供正确、有效的指导,我社又推出了一个新的系列:“专家点拨”。本系列共含两册:《如何正确备考雅思听力》和《如何正确备考雅思阅读》。

本书是该系列中的一本。作者 Jack Robinson 先生(英籍)从一位英语教学专家的视角分析雅思阅读考试要求,讲解雅思阅读技能,介绍雅思阅读应试技巧,并指出中国考生的常见错误和克服这些错误的方法。本书对考生如何提高英语阅读能力、如何备考的建议以及提出的参考书目和网站对考生都极有帮助。

Jack Robinson 先生在中国高校从事英语教学多年,具有丰富的第二语言教学工作经验,非常了解中国考生在英语学习中的特点和弱点。相信他深入浅出的讲解、具有针对性的分析和建议、精心设计的模拟试题一定能够帮助广大雅思考生正确有效地备考雅思,并在考试中取得理想的成绩。

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Cambridge ESOL (formerly UCLES), University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations

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Preface

Who the book is for

Expert's Advice: How to Read It Right for IELTS is for Chinese students who are preparing for the IELTS test and are studying to gain sufficient proficiency in reading to study, train and live successfully in an English-speaking environment.

The book may also be useful for candidates taking BEC, CET-6, PETS5 and TOEFL.

The reading strategies, and the advice on how to avoid mistakes, may indeed be useful for all students of English at lower intermediate level or above.

What the book contains

This book shows you what you have to do in the IELTS Reading test.

- First, the various types of question in the Reading test are described.
- Secondly, the book shows you how to tackle each of the different kinds of question.

The book gives you simple, practical advice about general reading skills and reading strategies and includes sample tests with answer keys so that you can practise. *The sample tests are not real IELTS material and are for practice only.* If you study the book carefully and practise as advised, you should improve your English and develop more accuracy and confidence in reading. Thus you will get the best score you are able to. Neither the author nor the publishers, however, give any guarantee to any person about their score in the IELTS test.

To do as well as you can in IELTS Reading, you have to plan your learning strategy carefully. This book shows you how. This is a book of learning strategies, reference materials and sample practice tests focused on reading skills. The following chapters provide a description of the instructions and questions in the IELTS Reading tests and the key factors involved in answering correctly. It is essential to understand all these thoroughly and respond appropriately when you do the tests. You should study these sections carefully to identify the areas where you need to improve.

The score you need to achieve a particular band may vary slightly between tests. The reason is that, although the tests are basically the same standard, it is impossi-

ble to produce the large number of versions of the test that are required at precisely the same level of difficulty every time. Therefore what you need to achieve to get any particular score can vary by one or two marks. Even so, the way to maximize your score is to learn the right way to read and get plenty of practice.

This book will help you be adequately prepared for the IELTS Reading test. But it is not a complete English reading course. Refer to the bibliography (booklist) and webliography (website list) for lists of textbooks and reference books currently available in China and websites where you will find further help with reading.

How to use the book

Expert's Advice: How to Read It Right for IELTS has been written to help candidates, and those who are thinking about taking IELTS, prepare effectively for the Reading part of the examination. You should read this preface first and work through the rest of the book in the order in which it is written (unless your teacher tells you otherwise).

You should then read the *Introduction to the IELTS Test*—what it contains, how it is organised, what kinds of questions there are, etc. You should read this in conjunction with the *IELTS Handbook*. You can download a copy free of charge from www.ielts.org/handbook.htm.

Then go on to study the *test-taking strategies*—advice to help you complete the test in the time allowed and answer in ways that will enable you to obtain the highest mark of which you are capable. The strategies include how to answer different kinds of questions, reading various types of texts and completing sentences correctly. *Particular attention is given to aspects of reading English that cause problems for Chinese students*. There is also advice on study strategies.

You can use this book as a textbook on an English language course with a teacher, or individually as an independent-study book. The book is written in British English. For American or other varieties of English, refer to one of the reference books you will find listed in Chapter 5. Both British and American English spellings are accepted for the IELTS Reading test.

This book gives you a clear idea of what the Reading test is like, based on the information published by University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (formerly UCLES), who have given permission for this to be done. There are candidates who take the test before they are ready. It is important to receive sufficient instruction in the particular skills of reading English before attempting a test like IELTS. You also need to know about the different types of question you may meet in the test and

understand how to answer them. Without sensible preparation you are likely to get a disappointing score and waste your time and your money.

Although this book focuses on reading, it will also give you valuable help with writing and speaking, because of the study skills you will learn and the vocabulary and cultural background you will acquire if you prepare sensibly. Therefore imagine you are on an academic or professional training course being given in English and reading the course material or background information.

Recommendations for teachers

It can be particularly helpful to introduce discussions on the areas covered in the test. Thus the students will begin to focus on the sort of information they will need to read and understand. Such preparation will also help the students get ready for their time in an English-speaking study or training environment and settle in when they get there.

Students might be encouraged to write an essay on the topic covered in a reading passage. In that way, they will come to appreciate better the sort of situations that are discussed in the passages they are going to read. They will begin to acquire the relevant vocabulary, and they will come up with questions that may need to be answered in class before a reading exercise begins. This is especially important where the way of life or education system of an English-speaking country is the subject. Ideally, students should build up their own portfolios (collections) of spoken and written material on the topic areas. The portfolios may be created as a class project, to make available as much material as possible in the classroom for the students to study for themselves. If the students are encouraged to organise their own displays, they may become motivated to search out useful materials by themselves and ensure that they remain in place.

前言

本书的适用对象

《专家点拨:如何正确备考雅思阅读》一书是为备考雅思并为在英语环境中成功地进行学习、培训和生活而努力提高阅读水平的中国学生而编写。

本书也适用于参加商业英语证书(BEC)、大学英语等级考试第六级(CET-6)、全国公共英语等级考试第五级(PETS5)以及托福等考试的考生。本书介绍的阅读策略以及如何避免出错的方法实际上也适用于英语水平处于中低级或中低级以上的学生。

本书的内容

本书介绍雅思阅读测试须知:

- 首先,描述阅读测试的不同任务;
- 其次,说明如何解答各类试题。

本书就阅读技能和阅读策略提出了简明而实用的建议,并配有模拟试题及答案。模拟试题并非雅思考试真题,仅供训练使用。如果考生认真学习本书,并按照要求进行训练,就能够提高英语水平,提高阅读的准确性和自信心,并且在考试中取得最佳成绩。

要想考好雅思阅读,就必须认真制定学习策略。本书详细介绍如何制定学习策略,并对雅思阅读测试的指令、各类试题以及正确答题的主要方法进行说明。重要的是考生要完全理解这些内容,并在考试时做出恰当的反应。考生应该认真地学习这些章节,确定自己哪些方面需要提高。

考生需要达到的某个段的分数在不同的考试可能会略有不同。这是因为尽管考试的标准基本一致,但每次考试试卷的难易程度不可能完全一样。因此,你需要达到某一段的成绩可能会相差一两分。即使如此,尽可能取得高分的方法还是学习掌握正确的阅读技巧和进行大量的实践。

本书将有助于考生充分地备考雅思阅读考试,但这并不是一门完整的阅读课程。请参考书中的参考书目及网站目录,找出中国现有的教材、参考书以及有助于你进一步提高阅读的网站。

如何试用本书

本书帮助雅思考生以及想考雅思的学生有效地备考雅思阅读。考生应该先阅读这个前言,然后再按顺序学习本书的每个章节。

本书的第1章对雅思考试做简要的介绍——考试内容、考试结构和试题类型等,考生可以结合《雅思手册》一起阅读该章。考生也可以从www.ielts.org/handbook.htm免费下载《雅思手册》。

然后,考生应学习本书提出的应试技巧,这些技巧帮助考生在规定的时间内使用正确的答题方法,取得最佳成绩。这些技巧包括:如何回答各种不同类型的问题、阅读不同类型的文章、正确完成句子等。考生应特别注意中国学生在阅读英语时容易出错的那些方面。本书还介绍了学习策略。

考生可以将此书当作英语教程的课本,跟着老师学习,或者当作自学用书。本书使用的是英式英语。至于美式英语或其他种类的英语,可以参考第5章的参考书目。在雅思考试的阅读部分,英式英语和美式英语的拼法均可使用。

本书根据剑桥大学 ESOL 考试委员会已出版的信息,对阅读考试进行了清晰的描述。有些考生考前准备不充分。而考前学习英语阅读技巧,做好充分的准备尤其重要。考生还需要了解可能会碰到的试题类型和答题技巧。不进行恰当的备考,最后的考分可能会令人失望,既浪费了时间又浪费了金钱。

尽管此书主要是针对阅读,但如果你的备考方法恰当,你所学到的学习技巧、扩大了词汇量、了解到的文化背景等对于提高写作和口语水平也大有裨益。

写给教师的建议

就试题所涉及的主题进行讨论非常有用。这样,学生就会把重点放在他们

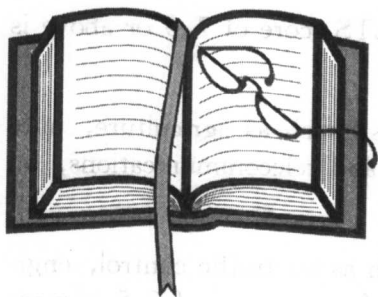
所需要阅读理解的内容上。做这样的准备还有助于学生在英语为母语的环境中的学习或培训,使他们一到那儿就能适应环境。

可以先鼓励学生就阅读材料中的某个题目进行写作。这样,他们就可以更好地理解将要阅读的文章中谈论的情景。他们会开始学习相关的词汇,并在做阅读练习前,在课堂上就不懂的问题提问。如果讨论的话题是英语为母语国家的生活方式或教育体系,这种学习就更重要了。最好学生能自己积累相关话题的口语和书面材料。可以将收集材料定为班级的项目,让学生们提供尽可能多的资料,以便他们在课堂上学习。假如鼓励学生展示他们收集的资料,他们会积极地寻找有用的材料,并把这些资料整理得很好。

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION TO THE IELTS READING TEST

What Is IELTS?

IELTS stands for *International English Language Testing System*. It is jointly owned by University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations (formerly UCLES), the British Council and IDP Education Australia.

- IELTS is a test for people who must demonstrate English language proficiency to gain entry to universities or training programmes in English-speaking countries.
- IELTS is also useful for immigration to Australia, Canada and New Zealand.
- IELTS is useful for entry to some professions in the UK and Australia, too.

Available in 106 countries, IELTS is the most widely recognised assessment of English language proficiency for overseas candidates wishing to study or train in tertiary institutions in the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and within Europe. IELTS is also accepted by an increasing number of universities in the United States. IELTS is gaining swiftly in popularity in China and tests are given at an ever-increasing number of centres, currently 24, all of them well-known universities.

IELTS tests the four main areas of language proficiency: Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking. Candidates do not pass or fail IELTS. Within two to three weeks of sitting the test, they receive a certificate recording their results in the form of 'band scores' on a level of 1 to 9 (near native speaker level). The band scores are also sent to the learning institution to which the candidate has applied. As a broad guide, you can assume that:

- for linguistically demanding *academic* courses, such as medicine, law, linguistics

tics, journalism and library studies, an overall IELTS score of 7.5 or above is generally required;

- for linguistically less demanding *academic* courses, such as agriculture, pure mathematics, technology, computer-based work and telecommunications, an overall score of 7.0 or above is usually needed;
- for linguistically demanding *training* courses, such as air traffic control, engineering, pure and applied sciences and industrial safety, a score of 6.5 or more is generally acceptable;
- for linguistically less demanding *training* courses, such as animal husbandry, catering or fire services, a score of 6.0 or above is usually acceptable.

Obtaining these scores is, of course, no guarantee of admission. The relevant department or faculty determines whether the candidate's band scores are of an acceptable level for admission.

The Reading Test consists of three sections totalling 2,000-2,750 words. The Test is different for Academic and General Training candidates. The band scores for both are reported in half bands. There are 40 questions in the Test. Scores are calculated on the basis of one point per question. (Some questions require two answers to get the point.) The band scores represent the following levels of competence in English.

Band 9 Fully operational command of the language, appropriate, accurate, fluent, with complete understanding

Band 8 Fully operational command of the language with only occasional unsystematic inaccuracies and inappropriacies. Misunderstandings may occur in unfamiliar situations. Handles complex detailed argumentation well.

Band 7 Has operational command of the language, though with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings in some situations. Generally handles complex language well and understands detailed reasoning.

Band 6 Has generally effective command of the language despite some inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings. Can use and understand fairly complex language, particularly in familiar situations.

Band 5 Has partial command of the language, coping with overall meaning in most situations, though is likely to make many mistakes. Should be able to handle basic communication in one's own field.

Band 4 Basic competence is limited to familiar situations. Has frequent problems in understanding and expression. Is not able to use complex language.