GUIDE
TO COLLEGE ENGLISH TEST
Band Four

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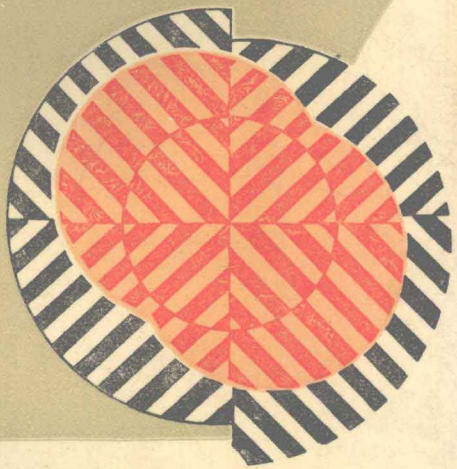

高等学校教学参考书

大学英语

四级考试指导

中国矿业大学出版社

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内容提要

本书是根据《大学英语教学大纲》和《大学英语四级考试大纲》的要求，为准备通过国家英语四级统考的大学本科生编写的。全书共编试题21套，其中“阅读理解试题”、“词语用法和语法结构试题”、“完形填空试题”和“摸拟试题(听力部分除外)”各5套；“指导性写作试题”1套，共20例。全书选编短文153篇，题材广泛、内容丰富、语言规范、生动活泼。书后附有答案和范文。对提高阅读和写作能力颇有裨益。

本书主要供参加大学英语四级考试的本科生和自学者使用，也可作为高校英语教师的参考书。

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大学英语四级考试指导

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前　言

《大学英语四级考试指导》一书是根据《大学英语教学大纲(高等学校理工科本科用)》和《大学英语四级考试大纲》要求，针对理工科大学本科生的特点及学习英语的困难而编写的。本书既能帮助大学本科生全面而具体地衡量自己掌握的英语水平，又能使他们通过大量的练习，稳步提高应试能力，特别是提高阅读和写作的能力。

全书共编写试题21套，包括典型试题近2,000个。其中"阅读理解试题"、"词语用法和语法结构试题"和"完形填空试题"各5套，每套100题；"指导性写作试题"1套；"模拟试题(听力部分除外)5套。

全书共编选短小精悍的文章153篇；其中阅读理解部分123篇，完形填空部分30篇。这些文章均选自近年来出版的英美书刊等资料，题材广泛，内容丰富，语言规范，生动活泼。文章按由易到难编排，各种题目旨在训练本科生推理、判断和概括的能力及掌握获取信息的方法。

全书共用词汇、词组约5,000个。在词语用法上强调了词义、各种词的搭配和短语动词。本书中的不少词汇是近年来在各种考试中多次出现过的，这些积极词汇对本科生提高运用词汇的能力大有帮助。本书的语法结构侧重于英语的基本知识和动词的各种变化，尽量突出重点，使试题既有代表性，又保持语法的系统性和科学性。完形填空的设计既考虑到各种词汇的用法，又考虑到各种语法现象。这将有利于培养本科生的语感和提高他们在篇章水平的形连和意连方面的能力。

本书的指导性写作试题是参照《考试大纲》的要求，并根据本

科生的实际水平和需要而安排、设计的。主要采取给出段首句要求续写的形式，共有20例，全部附有范文。本科生通过接触大量实例和范文，可以有步骤地进行写作训练，并培养自己初步的英语写作能力。

本书主要供大学本科生和自学者使用，也可作为英语教师的参考书。此外，对于准备参加EPT、TOEFL等国内外英语测试的读者也颇有裨益。为了方便读者自学和提高，书后附有全部试题的参考答案。

在编写过程中，承蒙美籍专家Ms Renee Brinker及外语系崔春子等同志的大力支持，在此表示衷心的感谢。

由于编者水平有限，书中错误和不妥之处一定不少，敬请广大读者批评指正。

编者

1990年1月

于中国矿业大学

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Test 1 Reading Comprehension (I)

Directions : There are 20 passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions. For each question there are four suggested answers marked A, B, C and D. You should choose the ONE best answer and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

1

Decades before the American Revolution of 1776, Jesse Fish, a native New Yorker, retreated to an island off St. Augustine, Florida, to escape an unpleasant family situation. In time he became Florida's first orange rich merchant and his oranges were in great demand in London throughout the 1770's. The English found them juicy and sweet and preferred them to other varieties, even though they had thin skins and were hard to peel.

There would probably have been other successful commercial growers before Fish if Florida had not been under Spanish rule for some two hundred years. Columbus first brought seeds for orange trees to the New World and planted them in the Antilles. But it was most likely that Ponce de Leo'n introduced oranges to the North American continent when he discovered Florida in 1513. For a time, each Spanish sailor on a ship bound for America was required by law to carry one hundred seeds with them. Later because seeds tended to dry out, all Spanish ships were required to carry young orange trees. The Spaniards planted orange trees only for medicinal purposes, however. They saw no need

to start commercial groves because oranges were so abundant in Spain.

1. The main topic of the passage is _____.
   A. the role of Florida in the American Revolution
   B. the discovery of Florida by Ponce de Leo'n in 1513
   C. the history of the cultivation of oranges in Florida
   D. the popularity of Florida oranges in London in the 1770's
2. Jesse Fish came from _____.
   A. London
   B. the Antilles
   C. St. Augustine
   D. New York
3. Jesse Fish went to Florida to _____.
   A. grow oranges commercially
   B. buy an island off St. Augustine
   C. get away from his family
   D. work for the British government
4. Londoners liked the oranges grown by Jesse Fish because they _____.
   A. had a lot of juice
   B. were not sweet
   C. were not hard to peel
   D. had thin skins
5. According to the passage, Spanish vessels began to bring orange tree seedlings to North America when _____.
   A. the United States agricultural laws were revised
   B. ambitious sailors began to smuggle seeds
   C. doctors reported a lack of medical supplies
   D. authorities realized that seeds did not travel well

2

In recent years television has become the most popular form of en-

tertainment. It does not look as if it will be less popular in the world of the future. In fact it looks as if television will become more popular than ever. New systems of television have been made possible by the discovery of the laser. A laser is a beam of light that has many strange qualities. By using a laser it is possible to throw very large and very clear television pictures on to a screen. These may be as large as three metres by three metres. Many people could watch this kind of television together.

Laser beams have also made very thin television sets possible. These sets can be hung on the wall of a room like a large picture. Another development in the future will be three dimensional television; the picture will look more "real".

In the near future you will be able to buy your favourite television programmes already recorded on tapes. They will be like the tapes that are used in recorders today. You will also be able to record television programmes and play them back later. The laser beam will make this possible.

6. In the future world _____.
   A. with the development of laser, television will be useless
   B. television will be greatly improved by using laser
   C. neither television nor laser is useful
   D. television seems to be less important in human life
7. The picture sent by a laser on a screen may be _____.
   A. three times as large as those now
   B. as large as nine square meters
   C. as large as six meters
   D. six times as large as those now

8. Laser beams can _____.

A. hang TV sets on the wall

B. make the wall of a room very thin

C. make the wall of a room like a picture

D. make TV sets thinner than those used at present

9. The picture on a three- dimensional television screen will be _____.

A. clearer　　B. dimmer

C. more living　　D. more harmful

10. In the near future the laser beam will help you _____.

A. to record TV programmes and play them back again

B. to select TV set

C. to watch TV

D. to buy tapes

3

Every animal is a living radiator—heat formed in its cells is given off through its skin. Warm-blooded animals maintain a steady temperature by constantly replacing lost surface heat; smaller animals, which have more skin for every ounce of body weight, must produce heat faster than bigger ones. Because smaller animals burn fuel faster, scientists say they live faster.

The speed at which an animal lives is determined by measuring the rate at which it uses oxygen. A chicken, for example, uses one-half cubic centimeter of oxygen every hour for each gram it weighs. The tiny shrew uses four cubic centimeters of oxygen every hour for each gram it weighs. Because it uses oxygen eight times as fast, it is said that the mouselike shrew is living eight times as fast as the chicken. The smallest

of the warm-blooded creatures, the humming-bird, lives a hundred times as fast as an elephant.

There is a limit to how small a warm-blooded animal can be. A mammal or bird that weighed only two and a half grams would starve to death. It would burn up its blood too rapidly and would not be able to eat fast enough to supply more fuel.

11. The passage says that every animal is a living radiator because it _____.

A. produces heat in its body cells

B. burns fuel to produce heat

C. gives off heat through its skin

D. requires oxygen to produce heat

12. Small animals are said to live faster than big ones because they _____.

A. have more skin for every ounce of body weight

B. replace lost heat faster

C. burn fuel faster

D. maintain a higher body temperature

13. The amount of oxygen an animal uses depends on _____.

A. its body weight

B. the food it eats

C. its general size and shape

D. the length of time it lives

14. An animal weighing less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ grams would starve as it would not be able to _____.

A. get enough oxygen

B. maintain its body temperature

C. burn its food fast enough

D. eat fast enough to supply fuel

15. Implied but not stated :

A. There is no limit as to how large a warm-blooded animal can be.

B. The humming bird lives faster than any other warm-blooded creature.

C. Small animals have less skin for their body weight than large ones.

D. The humming bird is the smallest of the warm-blooded animals.

4

A computer is a machine designed to perform work mathematically and to store and select information that has been fed into it. It is run by either mechanical or electronic means. These machines can do a great deal of complicated work in a very short time. A large computer, for example, can add or subtract nine thousand times a second, multiply a thousand times a second, or divide five hundred times a second. Its percentage of error is about one in a billion digits. It has been estimated that human beings making calculations average about one mistake per two hundred digits.

The heart of an electronic computer lies in its vacuum tubes, or transistors. Its electronic circuits work a thousand times faster than the nerve cells in the human brain. A problem that might take a human being two years to solve can be solved by a computer in one minute, but in order to work properly, a computer must be given instruction—it

must be programed.

Computers can be designed for many specialized purposes—they can be used to prepare payrolls, guide airplane flights, direct traffic, even to play chess. Computers play an essential role in modern automation in many plants and factories throughout the world.

16. A computer is a machine designed to _____.
    A. perform work mathematically
    B. perform complicated calculations
    C. store and select information
    D. all of the above
17. The speed with which an electronic computer works depends on its _____.
    A. electronic circuits
    B. vacuum tubes, or transistors
    C. programer
    D. instructions
18. The passage says that computers play an essential role in _____.
    A. automation processes
    B. mathematical computations
    C. traffic control
    D. the development of mathematical theory
19. The use of computers for specialized purposes depends on the _____.
    A. design of the computer
    B. power used to operate the computer
    C. difficulty of the mathematical calculations involved

D. the ability of the programmer

20. The passage implies that human beings differ from computers in that human beings _____.

A. make fewer errors

B. do not have to be programed

C. work more quickly

D. understand their instructions

5

Gravity holds us so close to the Earth's surface that nobody can jump more than a few feet into the air without the force of gravity pulling him down. It takes a powerful engine to keep a plane up in the air. If you throw a ball upwards as hard as you can, you will notice that it travels in a curved path before it comes back to the ground. If the Earth had no gravity, the ball, instead of travelling in a curve, would move away in a straight line; in fact, it would never come back to the ground. If the Earth were to lose its pull of gravity, we should all fly off it as it spins round in space. The Earth has a strong pull, but modern rockets going out into space are able to escape from the gravity, because they travel so quickly. With the ball thrown into the air, the height reached by the ball depends upon how hard it is thrown. The greater the starting-speed, the higher the ball will go. If it could be thrown so that it travelled fast enough, the ball would escape into space and never come back. Nobody can throw a ball as fast as this, but powerful rocket engines can send spaceships away from the Earth at such a speed that the Earth's gravity is not able to pull them back. This is how we can now send rockets to the Moon.

21. Gravity holds us close to the Earth's surface, and as a result, _____.

A. we can lift ourselves no more than a few feet above the Earth

B. nobody can jump a few feet into the air

C. no one will be pulled down

D. any one of us can jump as high as expected

22. If there were no gravity, a ball thrown upwards would _____.

A. spin round in space B. fly off into space

C. fall in a curved path D. move towards the Earth

23. The ball thrown into the air would never come back to the ground _____.

A. without such a powerful horizontal push

B. if it were thrown upwards as hard as you can

C. should it travel in a curved path

D. were it not for gravity

24. The height the ball will reach depends on _____.

A. the escape velocity B. the limiting velocity

C. its starting velocity D. its travelling speed

25. What is it that makes it possible to put a spaceship into orbit?

A. The Earth's gravity. B. A strong pull.

C. A powerful engine. D. The powerful rocket engine.

6

Throughout history, people have been interested in knowing how language first began, but no one knows exactly where or how this happened. However, we do know a lot about languages, the languages of today and also the languages of earlier times. There are probably about three thousand languages in the world today. Chinese is the language

with the most speakers. English, Russian and Spanish are also spoken by many millions of people. On the other hand, some languages in the world have less than one hundred speakers.

There are several important families of languages in the world. For example, most of the languages of Europe are in one large family called Indo-European. The original language of this family was spoken about 4,500 years ago. Many of the present-day languages of Europe and India are modern forms of the language of 4,500 years ago.

Languages are always changing. The English of today is very different from the English of 500 years ago. In time, some even die out completely. About 1,000 years ago English was a little-known relative of German spoken on one of the borders of Europe.

26. The subject of this passage is about _____.
    A. language
    B. Indo-European
    C. speakers of different languages
    D. the English language
27. The main idea in the first paragraph is that _____.
    A. most people in the world speak Chinese
    B. there are thousands of languages in today's world
    C. man has much knowledge about languages
    D. some people know several languages
28. In today's world, there are about _____ languages.
    A. 3,000 B. 4,500
    C. 3,500 D. 5,000
29. Most European and Indian languages _____.
    A. are no longer spoken