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2018

历年考研英语 真题名家详解

主编 / 郭庆民 主审 / 张锦芯

- ✓ 权威名家精讲，反复研读历年真题，洞悉命题规律和趋势
- ✓ 遍览15年全真试题，套题形式，方便模拟
- ✓ 配套全文翻译，精心剖析难点、重点、盲点，分析选题体裁、题材，帮助考生掌握命题思路



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历年考研英语

真题名家详解

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前言



2017 年考题与 2016 年总体上难度相当，甚至可以说，它在完形填空、Part B 和 Part C（翻译）部分较去年更容易一些，写作部分也涉及一个老生常谈的话题——读书与不读书的问题，每一名考生都不会无内容可写，因此各自的得分取决于用词水平。实际上，从 2015 年考题开始，考研整体难度比以往明显下降，这一方面是考生人数增加造成的，另一方面是为了淡化公共课考试的分量，增强专业课考试在选拔学生上的决定作用。应该指出的是，当考题的命题角度不难时，拥有充足的词汇量和扎实的语法基本功是获得高分的关键。

2017 年考题各部分与往年相比有以下不同之处：

一、阅读理解 Part A 部分 Text 1 涉及机场安检，谈的是排长队进行机场安检给乘客带来的不便，文章最后评价了一种改进安检效率的措施。这一话题在历年考研题中从来没有涉及过，但是考虑到今天各类恐怖活动的存在，机场安检早已是一个社会热点问题。

二、阅读理解 Text 2 涉及科学与文化的冲突，而且涉及的是美国夏威夷文化。无论是天文学还是夏威夷古代文化，都是迄今为止考研没有涉猎过的题材。相应地，有一些生僻词汇出现，诸如 monarch（君主），observatory（天文台），cosmos（宇宙），renaissance（复兴），disassemble（拆装），primal（原初的，原始的），ancestral（祖先的），archaeological（考古的）等。还好，因为对于科学与文化这个话题考生并不陌生，因此读这篇文章不会有太大障碍。

三、阅读理解 Part B 今年考的是排序，这是经常被考到的形式。令考生始料未及的是，这篇文章是关于英国小说家狄更斯的生平，来自一个文学网站。涉及文学内容的文章在历年很少被考到。但是既然是生平，那各段落肯定是按时序排列，因此这道题很容易，考生甚至不需要认真阅读各段也能把顺序排好。

四、翻译部分几乎没有偏词，句子结构也不复杂，几乎不需要对上下文进行仔细研读就能着手翻译。只要你词汇量充足，基础语法好，近三年的翻译甚至可以得满分。

五、虽然在 2017 年考题中涉及美国社会的文章仍然占据大多数，比如完形填空、阅读理解 Part A 部分 Text 1、Text 2 和 Text 4 均涉及美国，但涉及英国社会的内容也不少，比如阅读理解 Part A 部分 Text 3、Part B 和 Part C 的文章都涉及英国。这提醒考生，在复习过程中，除了重点关注美国社会外，也要加强对英国和欧洲社会的了解。

反复研读历年真题并从中洞悉命题规律和趋势，是备考英语的最佳途径之一。为帮助考生充分体会历年考题的命题思路，对自己面临的任务和需要解决的问题获得清醒的认识，提高应试能力，我们特别编写了这本《历年考研英语真题名家详解》，对过去 15 年真题做出最权威的解读。

对真题的研究应该贯穿备考的整个过程，这是因为，市面上各种模拟试题集大都不能

如实反映真题的命题思路，它们或者在选文方面与真题大相径庭，或者在命题思路不能有效地把握真题的精髓。而且，大部分对真题所做的详解在思路存在问题。比如，在对阅读理解部分进行讲解时，大多数人认为，如果某个题的提问指向文章中某个句子或两个句子，他们就称之为“细节题”。实际上，很多所谓的“细节题”并非考查学生理解文章个别“细节”的能力，因为这些“细节”涉及它所在段落的重要信息或作者的观点。例如，如果提问指向的句子是本段第一句、最后一句或本段中的某个转折句，那么这个句子很可能表达的是本段的中心思想或作者在本段的主要观点或意图。可见，表面上的“细节题”实际上是涉及本段重要信息和作者观点的题，仅靠读懂个别句子来答题可能会出现偏差。

所以，本书在对阅读理解部分进行讲解时，特别注重对解题思路的剖析，经常会指出被提问到的句子在段落乃至全文中所起的作用，或者在解读词汇题时会教考生如何在上下文中寻找答题线索。

那么，认真研究真题究竟能告诉我们什么呢？

首先从**选文体裁**上来看。通过对过去 15 年考题的统计我们不难发现，历年考题的选文都是较新的报刊评论，大多数文章出自《卫报》《自然》《经济学人》《赫芬顿邮报》《基督教科学箴言报》《大西洋月刊》《华盛顿邮报》《纽约时报》《时代周刊》《华尔街日报》《商业周刊》等英美国主流报刊。每年的翻译部分是一个例外，文章多出自某本经典著作，今年节选自 David Graddol 所著《英语的未来》的前言。

其次从**选文题材**来看。多数文章涉及社会、经济、网络媒体、教育、生物医学、社会心理、法律、文化等方面的内容。另外，文章都比较新颖，尤其是最近几年来，考题中的文章几乎都是当年发表的或至少是上一年发表的——特别是当年 6 月前后发表的。这提醒考生，在备考时一定要读在话题上具有代表性的新文章，否则对新的热点问题不熟悉就会对备考不利。比如 2017 年考题涉及英国脱欧 (Text 3)，涉及为防止恐怖活动开展的安全 (Text 1)，涉及英语霸权地位的动摇 (Part C) 等新颖话题。

再次是**命题思路**。在做完形填空时必须训练自己利用上下文提供的线索把握词汇和词组的能力，不能把精力过多地投入所谓“固定搭配”和“同义词辨析”。在做阅读理解时必须学会把握文章的重要信息，这些重要信息包括作者的主要观点、态度、意图，也包括支持作者观点的主要论据。如果作者是在批评某个观点，一定要弄清楚被批评的观点是一个什么样的基本主张。做阅读理解时切记不要受到个别句子或个别生词的羁绊，应该学会利用上下文线索，通过能读懂的句子解读重要的疑难长句。在做翻译时一定要弄清楚被画线句子的主干语法结构，这样，即使个别词汇翻译不出来，句子的总体意思也不会被扭曲，而翻译错个别词汇丢掉的只是小分。作文部分基本涉及中国的社会热点问题，如 2017 年考题大作文涉及人们不再读书的问题，2016 年考题涉及家庭教育问题，2015 年涉及聚会时低头玩手机现象。审题并不难，关键的是必须要有表达思想的句式和词汇，一定要平时多积累一些用来评论社会热点问题的词汇和句式。

以上提到的这些能力，都是考生在做历年考题时应该加以认真体会和训练的。

最后是**词汇问题**。无论考题出的简单还是难，足够的词汇量是应试各个部分的关键，甚至可以毫不夸张地说，掌握了有效的词汇，就为考试的成功打下了坚实的基础。大纲词汇只是一个参考，不能盲目地背诵大纲词汇表，这是因为：第一，背诵词汇表比较枯燥，而且难以理解词的真正意思，要善于在阅读文章的过程中记忆词汇；第二，历年考题中有很多超纲词汇，这一部分词汇没有被大纲词汇表列出，只能靠大家在读文章时不断积累。

以上是对历年考题各个方面的概述。本书收录了 15 年的真题，我们不建议考生一口气把所有历年考题做完，而是每做两年的真题稍作停顿，做一做模拟试题，有一些积累之后再去做两年的真题，依此类推。与真题详解相配合，我们编写了《2018 年考研英语阅读 200 篇》（郭庆民主编）和《2018 年考研英语新教程》（郭庆民主编），考生可以根据自己的实际水平和偏好选择其一作为自己的主要学习对象。书的使用方式具体见各书“前言”和“使用说明”。

本书由中国人民大学外国语学院郭庆民担任主编，参加本书编写的都是多年从事一线英语教学和考研辅导的教师，对历年考题的命题特点和学生复习中所存在的问题都有深刻的认识。本书以其精确而严谨的解题思路多年来受到广大考生的欢迎。

限于水平，疏漏及失误在所难免，欢迎广大读者、英语界同仁批评指正。

编者



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2017^年

全国攻读硕士学位研究生

入学考试英语试题

● Section I Use of English

Directions:

Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark [A], [B], [C] or [D] on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Could a hug a day keep the doctor away? The answer may be a resounding “yes!”
1 helping you feel close and 2 to people you care about, it turns out that hugs can bring a 3 of health benefits to your body and mind. Believe it or not, a warm embrace might even help you 4 getting sick this winter.

In a recent study 5 over 400 health adults, researchers from Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania examined the effects of perceived social support and the receipt of hugs 6 the participants' susceptibility to developing the common cold after being 7 to the virus. People who perceived greater social support were less likely to come 8 with a cold, and the researchers 9 that the stress-reducing effects of hugging 10 about 32 percent of that beneficial effect. 11 among those who got a cold, the ones who felt greater social support and received more frequent hugs had less severe 12.

“Hugging protects people who are under stress from the 13 risk for colds that's usually 14 with stress,” notes Sheldon Cohen, a professor of psychology at Carnegie. Hugging “is a marker of intimacy and helps 15 the feeling that others are there to help 16 difficulty.”

Some experts 17 the stress-reducing, health-related benefits of hugging to the release of oxytocin, often called “the bonding hormone” 18 it promotes attachment in relationships, including that between mother and their newborn babies. Oxytocin is made primarily in the central lower part of the brain, and some of it is released into the bloodstream. But some of it 19 in the brain, where it 20 mood, behavior and physiology.

- | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
| 1. [A] Unlike | [B] Besides | [C] Despite | [D] Throughout |
| 2. [A] connected | [B] restricted | [C] equal | [D] inferior |
| 3. [A] choice | [B] view | [C] lesson | [D] host |

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 4. [A] recall | [B] forget | [C] avoid | [D] keep |
| 5. [A] collecting | [B] involving | [C] guiding | [D] affecting |
| 6. [A] of | [B] in | [C] at | [D] on |
| 7. [A] devoted | [B] exposed | [C] lost | [D] attracted |
| 8. [A] across | [B] along | [C] down | [D] out |
| 9. [A] calculated | [B] denied | [C] doubted | [D] imagined |
| 10. [A] served | [B] required | [C] restored | [D] explained |
| 11. [A] Even | [B] Still | [C] Rather | [D] Thus |
| 12. [A] defeats | [B] symptoms | [C] tests | [D] errors |
| 13. [A] minimized | [B] highlighted | [C] controlled | [D] increased |
| 14. [A] equipped | [B] associated | [C] presented | [D] compared |
| 15. [A] assess | [B] moderate | [C] generate | [D] record |
| 16. [A] in the face of | [B] in the form of | [C] in the way of | [D] in the name of |
| 17. [A] transfer | [B] commit | [C] attribute | [D] return |
| 18. [A] because | [B] unless | [C] though | [D] until |
| 19. [A] emerges | [B] vanishes | [C] remains | [D] decreases |
| 20. [A] experiences | [B] combines | [C] justifies | [D] influences |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions:

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing [A], [B], [C] or [D]. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (40 points)

Text 1

First two hours, now three hours—this is how far in advance authorities are recommending people show up to catch a domestic flight, at least at some major U. S. airports with increasingly massive security lines.

Americans are willing to tolerate time-consuming security procedures in return for increased safety. The crash of Egypt Air Flight 804, which terrorists may have downed over the Mediterranean Sea, provides another tragic reminder of why. But demanding too much of air travelers or providing too little security in return undermines public support for the process. And it should: Wasted time is a drag on Americans' economic and private lives, not to mention infuriating.

Last year, the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) found in a secret check that undercover investigators were able to sneak weapons—both fake and real—past airport security nearly every time they tried. Enhanced security measures since then, combined with a rise in airline travel due to the improving economy and low oil prices, have resulted in long waits at major airports such as Chicago's O'Hare International. It is

not yet clear how much more effective airline security has become—but the lines are obvious.

Part of the issue is that the government did not anticipate the steep increase in airline travel, so the TSA is now rushing to get new screeners on the line. Part of the issue is that airports have only so much room for screening lanes. Another factor may be that more people are trying to overpack their carry-on bags to avoid checked-baggage fees, though the airlines strongly dispute this.

There is one step the TSA could take that would not require remodeling airports or rushing to hire: Enroll more people in the PreCheck program. PreCheck is supposed to be a win-win for travelers and the TSA. Passengers who pass a background check are eligible to use expedited screening lanes. This allows the TSA to focus on travelers who are higher risk, saving time for everyone involved. The TSA wants to enroll 25 million people in PreCheck.

It has not gotten anywhere close to that, and one big reason is sticker shock. Passengers must pay \$85 every five years to process their background checks. Since the beginning, this price tag has been PreCheck's fatal flaw. Upcoming reforms might bring the price to a more reasonable level. But Congress should look into doing so directly, by helping to finance PreCheck enrollment or to cut costs in other ways.

The TSA cannot continue diverting resources into underused PreCheck lanes while most of the traveling public suffers in unnecessary lines. It is long past time to make the program work.

21. The crash of Egypt Air Flight 804 is mentioned to
- [A] stress the urgency to strengthen security worldwide.
[B] highlight the necessity of upgrading major U. S. airports.
[C] explain Americans' tolerance of current security checks.
[D] emphasize the importance of privacy protection.
22. Which of the following contributes to long waits at major airports?
- [A] New restrictions on carry-on bags.
[B] The declining efficiency of the TSA.
[C] An increase in the number of travelers.
[D] Frequent unexpected secret checks.
23. The word "expedited" (Line 4, Para. 5) is closest in meaning to
- [A] faster. [B] quieter.
[C] wider. [D] cheaper.
24. One problem with the PreCheck program is
- [A] a dramatic reduction of its scale.
[B] its wrongly-directed implementation.
[C] the government's reluctance to back it.
[D] an unreasonable price for enrollment.
25. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
- [A] Less Screening for More Safety [B] PreCheck—a Belated Solution
[C] Getting Stuck in Security Lines [D] Underused PreCheck Lanes

Text 2

"The ancient Hawaiians were astronomers," wrote Queen Liliuokalani, Hawaii's last reigning monarch, in 1897. Star watchers were among the most esteemed members of Hawaiian society. Sadly, all is not well with astronomy in Hawaii today. Protests have erupted over construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT), a giant observatory that promises to revolutionize humanity's view of the cosmos.

At issue is the TMT's planned location on Mauna Kea, a dormant volcano worshiped by some Hawaiians as the piko, that connects the Hawaiian Islands to the heavens. But Mauna Kea is also home to some of the world's most powerful telescopes. Rested in the Pacific Ocean, Mauna Kea's peak rises above the bulk of our planet's dense atmosphere, where conditions allow telescopes to obtain images of unsurpassed clarity.

Opposition to telescopes on Mauna Kea is nothing new. A small but vocal group of Hawaiians and environmentalists have long viewed their presence as disrespect for sacred land and a painful reminder of the occupation of what was once a sovereign nation.

Some blame for the current controversy belongs to astronomers. In their eagerness to build bigger telescopes, they forgot that science is the only way of understanding the world. They did not always prioritize the protection of Mauna Kea's fragile ecosystems or its holiness to the island's inhabitants. Hawaiian culture is not a relic of the past; it is a living culture undergoing a renaissance today.

Yet science has a cultural history, too, with roots going back to the dawn of civilization. The same curiosity to find what lies beyond the horizon that first brought early Polynesians to Hawaii's shores inspires astronomers today to explore the heavens. Calls to disassemble all telescopes on Mauna Kea or to ban future development there ignore the reality that astronomy and Hawaiian culture both seek to answer big questions about who we are, where we come from and where we are going. Perhaps that is why we explore the starry skies, as if answering a primal calling to know ourselves and our true ancestral homes.

The astronomy community is making compromises to change its use of Mauna Kea. The TMT site was chosen to minimize the telescope's visibility around the island and to avoid archaeological and environmental impact. To limit the number of telescopes on Mauna Kea, old ones will be removed at the end of their lifetimes and their sites returned to a natural state. There is no reason why everyone cannot be welcomed on Mauna Kea to embrace their cultural heritage and to study the stars.

26. Queen Liliuokalani's remark in Paragraph 1 indicates

- [A] its conservative view on the historical role of astronomy.
- [B] the importance of astronomy in ancient Hawaiian society.
- [C] the regrettable decline of astronomy in ancient times.
- [D] her appreciation of star watchers' feats in her time.

27. Mauna Kea is deemed as an ideal astronomical site due to

- [A] its geographical features.
- [B] its protective surroundings.

- [C] its religious implications. [D] its existing infrastructure.
28. The construction of the TMT is opposed by some locals partly because
- [A] it may risk ruining their intellectual life.
[B] it reminds them of a humiliating history.
[C] their culture will lose a chance of revival.
[D] they fear losing control of Mauna Kea.
29. It can be inferred from Paragraph 5 that progress in today's astronomy
- [A] is fulfilling the dreams of ancient Hawaiians.
[B] helps spread Hawaiian culture across the world.
[C] may uncover the origin of Hawaiian culture.
[D] will eventually soften Hawaiians' hostility.
30. The author's attitude toward choosing Mauna Kea as the TMT site is one of
- [A] severe criticism. [B] passive acceptance.
[C] slight hesitancy. [D] full approval.

Text 3

Robert F. Kennedy once said that a country's GDP measures "everything except that which makes life worthwhile." With Britain voting to leave the European Union, and GDP already predicted to slow as a result, it is now a timely moment to assess what he was referring to.

The question of GDP and its usefulness has annoyed policymakers for over half a century. Many argue that it is a flawed concept. It measures things that do not matter and misses things that do. By most recent measures, the UK's GDP has been the envy of the Western world, with record low unemployment and high growth figures. If everything was going so well, then why did over 17 million people vote for Brexit, despite the warnings about what it could do to their country's economic prospects?

A recent annual study of countries and their ability to convert growth into well-being sheds some light on that question. Across the 163 countries measured, the UK is one of the poorest performers in ensuring that economic growth is translated into meaningful improvements for its citizens. Rather than just focusing on GDP, over 40 different sets of criteria from health, education and civil society engagement have been measured to get a more rounded assessment of how countries are performing.

While all of these countries face their own challenges, there are a number of consistent themes. Yes, there has been a budding economic recovery since the 2008 global crash, but in key indicators in areas such as health and education, major economies have continued to decline. Yet this isn't the case with all countries. Some relatively poor European countries have seen huge improvements across measures including civil society, income equality and the environment.

This is a lesson that rich countries can learn: When GDP is no longer regarded as the sole measure of a country's success, the world looks very different.

So, what Kennedy was referring to was that while GDP has been the most common

method for measuring the economic activity of nations, as a measure, it is no longer enough. It does not include important factors such as environmental quality or education outcomes—all things that contribute to a person's sense of well-being.

The sharp hit to growth predicted around the world and in the UK could lead to a decline in the everyday services we depend on for our well-being and for growth. But policymakers who refocus efforts on improving well-being rather than simply worrying about GDP figures could avoid the forecasted doom and may even see progress.

31. Robert F. Kennedy is cited because he
 - [A] praised the UK for its GDP.
 - [B] identified GDP with happiness.
 - [C] misinterpreted the role of GDP.
 - [D] had a low opinion of GDP.
32. It can be inferred from Paragraph 2 that
 - [A] the UK is reluctant to remold its economic pattern.
 - [B] GDP as the measure of success is widely defied in the UK.
 - [C] the UK will contribute less to the world economy.
 - [D] policymakers in the UK are paying less attention to GDP.
33. Which of the following is true about the recent annual study?
 - [A] It is sponsored by 163 countries.
 - [B] It excludes GDP as an indicator.
 - [C] Its criteria are questionable.
 - [D] Its results are enlightening.
34. In the last two paragraphs, the author suggests that
 - [A] the UK is preparing for an economic boom.
 - [B] high GDP foreshadows an economic decline.
 - [C] it is essential to consider factors beyond GDP.
 - [D] it requires caution to handle economic issues.
35. Which of the following is the best title for the text?
 - [A] High GDP but Inadequate Well-being, a UK Lesson.
 - [B] GDP Figures, a Window on Global Economic Health.
 - [C] Robert F. Kennedy, a Terminator of GDP.
 - [D] Brexit, the UK's Gateway to Well-being.

Text 4

In a rare unanimous ruling, the US Supreme Court has overturned the corruption conviction of a former Virginia governor, Robert McDonnell. But it did so while holding its nose at the ethics of his conduct, which included accepting gifts such as a Rolex watch and a Ferrari automobile from a company seeking access to government.

The high court's decision said the judge in Mr. McDonnell's trial failed to tell a jury that it must look only at his "official acts," or the former governor's decisions on "specific" and "unsettled" issues related to his duties.

Merely helping a gift-giver gain access to other officials, unless done with clear intent to pressure those officials, is not corruption, the justices found.

The court did suggest that accepting favors in return for opening doors is "distasteful" and "nasty." But under anti-bribery laws, proof must be made of concrete benefits, such

as approval of a contract or regulation. Simply arranging a meeting, making a phone call, or hosting an event is not an “official act”.

The court’s ruling is legally sound in defining a kind of favoritism that is not criminal. Elected leaders must be allowed to help supporters deal with bureaucratic problems without fear of prosecution for bribery. “The basic compact underlying representative government,” wrote Chief Justice John Roberts for the court, “assumes that public officials will hear from their constituents and act on their concerns.”

But the ruling reinforces the need for citizens and their elected representatives, not the courts, to ensure equality of access to government. Officials must not be allowed to play favorites in providing information or in arranging meetings simply because an individual or group provides a campaign donation or a personal gift. This type of integrity requires well-enforced laws in government transparency, such as records of official meetings, rules on lobbying, and information about each elected leader’s source of wealth.

Favoritism in official access can fan public perceptions of corruption. But it is not always corruption. Rather officials must avoid double standards, or different types of access for average people and the wealthy. If connections can be bought, a basic premise of democratic society—that all are equal in treatment by government—is undermined. Good governance rests on an understanding of the inherent worth of each individual.

The court’s ruling is a step forward in the struggle against both corruption and official favoritism.

36. The underlined sentence (Para. 1) most probably shows that the court
- [A] avoided defining the extent of McDonnell’s duties.
[B] made no compromise in convicting McDonnell.
[C] was contemptuous of McDonnell’s conduct.
[D] refused to comment on McDonnell’s ethics.
37. According to Paragraph 4, an official act is deemed corruptive only if it involves
- [A] leaking secrets intentionally. [B] sizable gains in the form of gifts.
[C] concrete returns for gift-givers. [D] breaking contracts officially.
38. The court’s ruling is based on the assumption that public officials are
- [A] justified in addressing the needs of their constituents.
[B] qualified to deal independently with bureaucratic issues.
[C] allowed to focus on the concerns of their supporters.
[D] exempt from conviction on the charge of favoritism.
39. Well-enforced laws in government transparency are needed to
- [A] awaken the conscience of officials.
[B] guarantee fair play in official access.
[C] allow for certain kinds of lobbying.
[D] inspire hopes in average people.
40. The author’s attitude toward the court’s ruling is
- [A] sarcastic. [B] tolerant.
[C] skeptical. [D] supportive.

Part B

Directions:

The following paragraphs are given in a wrong order. For Questions 41 ~ 45, you are required to reorganize these paragraphs into a coherent article by choosing from the list A ~ G to fill them into the numbered box. Paragraphs B and D have been correctly placed. Mark your answers on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

- [A] The first published sketch, *A Dinner at Poplar Walk*, brought tears to Dickens's eyes when he discovered it in the pages of *The Monthly Magazine*. From then on his sketches, which appeared under the pen name "Boz" in *The Evening Chronicle*, earned him a modest reputation.
- [B] The runaway success of *The Pickwick Papers*, as it is generally known today, secured Dickens's fame. There were Pickwick coats and Pickwick cigars, and the plump, spectacled hero, Samuel Pickwick, became a national figure.
- [C] Soon after *Sketches by Boz* appeared, a publishing firm approached Dickens to write a story in monthly installments, as a backdrop for a series of woodcuts by the then-famous artist Robert Seymour, who had originated the idea for the story. With characteristic confidence, Dickens successfully insisted that Seymour's pictures illustrate his own story instead. After the first installment, Dickens wrote to the artist and asked him to correct a drawing Dickens felt was not faithful enough to his prose. Seymour made the change, went into his backyard, and expressed his displeasure by committing suicide. Dickens and his publishers simply pressed on with a new artist. The comic novel, *The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club*, appeared serially in 1836 and 1837, and was first published in book form in 1837.
- [D] Charles Dickens is probably the best-known and, to many people, the greatest English novelist of the 19th century. A moralist, satirist, and social reformer. Dickens crafted complex plots and striking characters that capture the panorama of English society.
- [E] Soon after his father's release from prison, Dickens got a better job as errand boy in law offices. He taught himself shorthand to get an even better job later as a court stenographer and as a reporter in Parliament. At the same time, Dickens, who had a reporter's eye for transcribing the life around him especially anything comic or odd, submitted short sketches to obscure magazines.
- [F] Dickens was born in Portsmouth, on England's southern coast. His father was a clerk in the British navy pay office—a respectable position, but with little social status. His paternal grandparents, a steward and a housekeeper, possessed even less status, having been servants, and Dickens later concealed their background. Dickens' mother supposedly came from a more respectable family. Yet two years before Dickens' birth, his mother's father was caught stealing and fled to Europe, never to return. The family's increasing poverty forced Dickens out of school at age 12 to work in Warren's Blacking Warehouse, a shoe-polish factory, where the other working boys mocked him as "the young gentleman." His father was then imprisoned for debt. The humiliations

of his father's imprisonment and his labor in the blacking factory formed Dickens' greatest wound and became his deepest secret. He could not confide them even to his wife, although they provide the unacknowledged foundation of his fiction.

[G] After *Pickwick*, Dickens plunged into a bleaker world. In *Oliver Twist*, he traces an orphan's progress from the workhouse to the criminal slums of London. *Nicholas Nickleby*, his next novel, combines the darkness of *Oliver Twist* with the sunlight of *Pickwick*. The popularity of these novels consolidated Dickens as a nationally and internationally celebrated man of letters.

D → 41. → 42. → 43. → 44. → B → 45.

Part C

Directions:

Read the following text carefully and then translate the underlined segments into Chinese. Your translation should be written neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

The growth of the use of English as the world's primary language for international communication has obviously been continuing for several decades. (46) But even as the number of English speakers expands further there are signs that the global predominance of the language may fade within the foreseeable future.

Complex international, economic, technological and cultural changes could start to diminish the leading position of English as the language of the world market, and UK interests which enjoy advantage from the breath of English usage would consequently face new pressures. Those realistic possibilities are highlighted in the study presented by David Graddol. (47) His analysis should therefore end any self-contentedness among those who may believe that the global position of English is so stable that the young generation of the United Kingdom do not need additional language capabilities.

David Graddol concludes that monoglot English graduates face a bleak economic future as qualified multilingual youngsters from other countries are proving to have a competitive advantage over their British counterparts in global companies and organizations. Alongside that, (48) many countries are introducing English into the primary-school curriculum but British schoolchildren and students do not appear to be gaining greater encouragement to achieve fluency in other languages.

If left to themselves, such trends will diminish the relative strength of the English language in international education markets as the demand for educational resources in languages, such as Spanish, Arabic or Mandarin, grows and international business process outsourcing in other language such as Japanese, French and German, spreads.

(49) The changes identified by David Graddol all present clear and major challenges to the UK's providers of English language teaching to people of other countries and to broader education business sectors. The English language teaching sector directly earns nearly £1.3 billion for the UK in invisible exports and our other education related exports earn up to £10 billion a year more. As the international education market expands, the recent

slowdown in the number of international students studying in the main English-speaking countries is likely to continue, especially if there are no effective strategic policies to prevent such slippage.

The anticipation of possible shifts in demand provided by this study is significant: (50) It gives a basis to all organizations which seek to promote the learning and use of English, a basis for planning to meet possibilities of what could be a very different operating environment. That is a necessary and practical approach. In this as in much else, those who wish to influence the future must prepare for it.

Section III Writing

Part A

51. Directions:

You are to write an email to James Cook, a newly-arrived Australian professor, recommending some tourist attractions in your city. Please give reasons for your recommendation.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET.

Do not sign your own name at the end of the email. Use “Li Ming” instead.

Do not write the address. (10 points)

Part B

52. Directions:

Write an essay of 160~200 words based on the following pictures. In your essay, you should

- 1) describe the pictures briefly,
- 2) interpret the meaning, and
- 3) give your comments.

You should write neatly on the ANSWER SHEET. (20 points)



“有书”与“读书”