

根据最新改革考试大纲编写



大学英语四级阅读

160 篇

黄金搭档

大学英语四六级考试命题研究组 编写

主编
李丛林

北京广播学院出版社

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本书根据教育部最新的《大学英语课程教学要求（试行）》编写而成。

为帮助考生在尽可能短的时间内适应四六级考试改革的要求，高分赢得考试，同时迅速提高阅读能力，我们在总结研究历年四六级考试的基础上，针对四六级考试改革的最新要求和考生学习的实际情况编写了本书。

本书特色：

新大纲、新标准、全新编写

全面依据为推动大学英语教学改革，教育部最新颁布的《大学英语课程教学要求（试行）》，制定的关于阅读理解能力的新标准，参阅历年正式出版的相关权威精品资料，全新编写，精心打造，时效性强，权威性高。

以实战为主，兼具理论提高

本书在每一单元后设有阅读小知识和阅读小技巧栏目，可以让您在做了大量的练习题后，换换脑筋，学点阅读知识，掌握点阅读技巧，以便接下来更好地做题，真正从实践到理论，再从理论到实践，不断使您的阅读水平获得提高。

栏目设置合理，使用方便

每篇文章后设有阅读小助手和名师精析两部分，阅读小助手帮助您扫除阅读时所遇到的生词和难句障碍，名师精析讲解详细，透析考点和命题规律，帮助您正确理解原文，举一反三，提高阅读技能。

选材精当，难度略高

本书所选文章，无论从长度、题材、难度、超纲词的比例等方面都严格按照教育部最新的改革要求，内容新颖、时代感强，与现实情况和热点问题联系紧密，可以最大限度地增加您的背景知识；难度体现遵循“掌握四级，超越四级”的原则，即本书的难度定位于四级的高端能力，而不仅仅是通过四级，“取法乎上，仅得其中”，读完本书，您定会觉得四级考试不过是一次更简单的练习而已。



在阅读中学习和巩固词汇、语法

通过阅读来学习复习词汇是记忆词汇的有效方式之一。由于我们选编的阅读文章紧扣四级考试大纲，其中包含了大量的四级考试词汇及短语，在文章中学习它们的用法印象会更加深刻。复杂句型历来是考生在阅读时比较头痛的问题，也是语法知识应用最集中的部分，我们对每篇文章中出现的复杂句型进行了详细的分析，相信定会巩固和提高您的语法知识和使用技巧。

翻译准确、设题科学

在全真精读详解测试 20 篇部分里，我们对全文进行了准确的翻译，这样既能帮助您深刻细致理解原文，又能使您在通读文章的同时检验自己的翻译水平，从而做到在强化阅读理解的过程中提高自己的英汉互译能力，达到一箭双雕的目的。在考前模拟预测部分里，我们严格按照大纲要求设题，保证了模拟的效度和信度。

总之，通过对本书内容的学习，不仅可以使您对四级考试阅读理解的短文难度、难点以及试题的命题方式等一览无余，而且还能有效地巩固和加深所学的英语语言知识，提高自己的阅读理解水平和应试能力。

荟萃精华，博采众长，紧扣大纲，全新编写
相信本书定会成为您四级阅读应试的黄金搭档

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UNIT 1

PASSAGE → ①

260 词, 建议做题时间: 8.5 分钟

Unless we spend money to **spot** and prevent **asteroids** now, one might **crash into** Earth and destroy life as we know it, say some scientists.

Asteroids are bigger **versions** of the **meteoroids** that race across the night sky. Most orbit the sun far from Earth and don't threaten us. But there are also thousands of asteroids whose orbits put them on a **collision** course with Earth.

Buy \$ 50 million worth of new telescopes right now. Then spend \$ 10 million a year for the next 25 years to locate most of the space rocks. By the time we spot a fatal one, the scientists say, we'll have a way to **change** its course.

Some scientists favor pushing asteroids off course with nuclear weapons. But the cost wouldn't be cheap.

Is it worth it? Two things experts consider when judging any risk are: 1) How likely the event is; and 2) How bad the consequences if the event occurs. Experts think an asteroid big enough to destroy lots of life might strike Earth once every 500, 000 years. Sounds pretty rare—but if one did fall, it would be the end of the world. “If we don't take care of these big asteroids, they'll take care of us,” says one scientist. “It's that simple.”

The cure, though, might be worse than the disease. Do we really want fleets of nuclear weapons sitting around on Earth? ① “The world has less to fear from **doomsday** rocks than from a great nuclear fleet **set against** them,” said a New York Times article. (原2000年1月 Passage 1)

1. What does the passage say about asteroids and meteoroids?

- (A) They are heavenly bodies different in composition.
- (B) They are heavenly bodies similar in nature.
- (C) There are more asteroids than meteoroids.
- (D) Asteroids are more mysterious than meteoroids.

2. What do scientists say about the collision of an asteroid with Earth?

- (A) It is very unlikely but the danger exists.
- (B) Such a collision might occur once every 25 years.
- (C) Collisions of smaller asteroids with Earth occur more often than expected.
- (D) It's still too early to say whether such a collision might occur.



3. What do people think of the suggestion of using nuclear weapons to alter the course of asteroids?

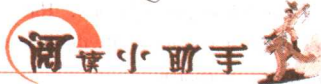
- (A) It sounds practical but it may not solve the problem.
(B) It may create more problems than it might solve.
(C) It is a waste of money because a collision of asteroids with Earth is very unlikely.
(D) Further research should be done before it is proved applicable.

4. We can conclude from the passage that _____.

- (A) while pushing asteroids off course nuclear weapons would destroy the world
(B) asteroids racing across the night sky are likely to hit Earth in the near future
(C) the worry about asteroids can be left to future generations since it is unlikely to happen in our lifetime
(D) workable solutions still have to be found to prevent a collision of asteroids with Earth

5. Which of the following best describes the author's tone in this passage?

- (A) Optimistic. (B) Critical. (C) Objective. (D) Arbitrary.



难词注释

1. spot [spɒt] vt. 发现, 认出
2. asteroid [ˈæstərɔɪd] n. 小行星
3. crash into 撞击, 猛撞
4. version [ˈvɜːʃən] n. 变化形式, 变体

5. meteoroid [ˈmi:tjərɔɪd] n. 流星体
6. collision [kəˈliʒən] n. 碰撞, 冲突, 抵触
7. doomsday [ˈduːmzdeɪ] n. 毁灭性的
8. set against 反对, 对付

难句解释

①【解析】这是一个复杂句, 在连词 that 引导的比较状语从句中省略了主干“it has less to fear”, 而“set against them”是过去分词短语作定语, 修饰名词“fleet”。



试题答案 名师精析

短文大意

该篇文章谈到了小行星有可能撞击地球毁灭人类的这一事实, 并探讨了解决问题的方法。于篇末, 作者阐明了他的态度: 用核武器来抵御小行星弊大于利。

试题精析

1. [B]。细节题。依据文章第二段可以判断出两者性质相似只是体积不同, 可以排除(A)项; 文中并无两者数量上的比较, 可排除(C)项; 也没有涉及(D)项的内容, 故答案为(B)。
2. [A]。推断题。依据文章第五段可以断定小行星与地球的碰撞概率极小, 但可能性确实存在, 这正是(A)项的内容, 故正确。

3. [B] 推断题。该问题的相关答案出现在文章最后一段中,可以确定(B)项(这个办法弊大于利)为本题的正确答案。
4. [D] 推断题。文中集中讨论了利用核武器来解决小行星的问题,但弊大于利。这就预示着,我们应当找到其他可行的办法,故正确答案为(D)。
5. [C] 观点题。从文章对小行星与地球碰撞这种事件的可能性,以及人们应该采取的对策的叙述,可以看出作者是十分客观的,所以本题的答案是(C)项。

翻译考查

据某些科学家讲,除非现在我们就花费金钱去发现并阻止小行星,否则正如我们所知,一旦有一颗撞击地球就会毁灭生命。

小行星比划过夜空的流星个体要大。大多数都远离地球,围绕太阳运行,且对我们没有任何威胁。但也有数以千计的小行星的运行轨道使它们有可能与地球相撞。

马上就去买价值5千万美元的新型望远镜,然后在接下来的25年里,每年再花费1千万美元去确定大多数太空飞石的位置。科学家们讲,若一旦发现一颗致命飞石,我们就会有办法改变其运行路线。

有些科学家赞成使用核武器把小行星推离轨道,但成本不菲。

而且这样做值得吗?在判断所遇风险时,专家们考虑的两件事情是:一、此类事件发生的可能性会有多大;二、若一旦发生,其后果会有多严重。专家们认为,一颗大到足以毁灭许多生命的小行星袭击地球的的几率可能是每50万年才一次。听起来相当罕见,但万一真的掉下来一颗,就将是世界末日。一位科学家谈到:“如果我们不去留意这些巨大的小行星的话,它们就会毁灭我们。事情就是这般简单。”

然而,治病反使病更糟。我们果真愿意大批的核武器遍布在地球上吗?一篇纽约时报的文章讲到:“大批对小行星的核武器要比毁灭性飞石本身更可怕。”

PASSAGE → ②

234 词,建议做题时间:8 分钟

Believe it or not, optical illusion can cut highway crashes.

Japan is a case in point. It has reduced automobile crashes on some roads by nearly 75 percent using a simple optical illusion. Bent stripes, called chevrons, painted on the roads make drivers think that they are driving faster than they really are, and thus drivers slow down.

Now the American Automobile Association Foundation for Traffic Safety in Washington D. C. is planning to repeat Japan's success. Starting next year, the foundation will paint chevrons and other patterns of stripes on selected roads around the country to test how well the patterns reduce highway crashes.

Excessive speed plays a major role in as much as one fifth of all fatal traffic accidents, according to the foundation. ①To help reduce those accidents, the foundation will conduct its tests in areas where speed-related hazards are the greatest—curves, exit slopes, traffic circles, and bridges.

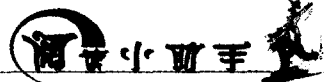
Some studies suggest that straight, horizontal bars painted across roads can initially cut the



average speed of drivers in half. However, traffic often returns to full speed within months as drivers become used to seeing the painted bars.

Chevrons, scientists say, not only give drivers the impression that they are driving faster than they really are but also make a lane appear to be narrower. The result is a longer lasting reduction in highway speed and the number of traffic accidents. (原2000年1月 Passage 2)

6. The passage mainly discusses _____.
 (A) a new way of highway speed control (B) a new pattern for painting highways
 (C) a new approach to training drivers (D) a new type of optical illusion
7. On roads painted chevrons, drivers tend to feel that _____.
 (A) they should avoid speed-related hazards (B) they are driving in the wrong lane
 (C) they should slow down their speed (D) they are approaching the speed limit
8. The advantage of chevrons over straight, horizontal bars is that the former _____.
 (A) can keep drivers awake (B) can cut road accidents in half
 (C) will have a longer effect on drivers (D) will look more attractive
9. The American Automobile Association Foundation for Traffic Safety plans to _____.
 (A) try out the Japanese method in certain areas
 (B) change the road signs across the country
 (C) replace straight, horizontal bars with chevrons
 (D) repeat the Japanese road patterns
10. What does the author say about straight, horizontal bars painted across roads?
 (A) They are falling out of use in the United States.
 (B) They tend to be ignored by drivers in a short period of time.
 (C) They are applicable only on broad roads.
 (D) They cannot be applied successfully to traffic circles.



难词注释

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. believe it or not 信不信由你 | 4. chevrons ['ʃevrən] n. 人字形 |
| 2. optical ['ɒptɪkəl] a. 光(学)的; 视觉的; 力学的; 视觉的 | 5. conduct ['kɒndʌkt] v. 管理, 指挥, 处理 |
| 3. illusion [i'luzjən] n. 错觉, 幻象 | 6. hazard ['hæzəd] n. 冒险, 危险 |
| | 7. initially [i'nɪʃəli] ad. 开始, 最初 |

难句解析

- ①【解析】此句是一个复杂句, 主句为“the foundation will conduct its tests”不定式短语“to help reduce... accidents”充当目的状语, 而在地点状语 in areas 中有一个用关系副词 where 引导的定语从句。此外, 破折号后的并列名词词组充当定语从句的同位语, 起补充说明作用。



短文大意

这篇文章介绍了在路面上粉刷人字型曲线,使人产生视觉错觉——感到行车速度要比实际速度快,而且车道也变窄了,从而自觉减速,减少交通事故。

试题精析

6. [A] 主旨题。分析文章的语篇,特别是文章的开头句以及文章最后两行可以判断(A)项正是文章的主题。
7. [C] 细节题。依据文章第二段人字形线使驾驶员产生错觉:车速太快,于是他们觉得应该减速。因此(C)项是答案。
8. [C] 细节题。依据文章第五段,再依据文章最后一句“The result is a longer lasting reduction…”可一目了然两者效果的比较结果。人字形线的优越之处在于它能在较长的时间内对驾驶人员起作用。本题答案为(C)项。
9. [A] 细节题。依据文章第三段可知尝试日本方式是在某些公路上,而不是在全国,故(A)正确。
10. [B] 细节题。该问题实际上和8题极为相关。依据同样在第五段。文章说“最初能让驾驶员减速一半”,“但数月后驾驶员便恢复到原来的速度”。也就是说,垂直横线只能在短时期内影响到驾驶员的行驶速度,过一段时间就不起作用了。因此(B)项是本题的答案。

翻译参考

信不信由你,视觉错觉可以减少公路交通事故。

日本便是个很好的例子。利用一种简单的视觉错觉,日本的某些路段上机动车事故减少了约75%。粉刷在路面上的人字形曲线使驾驶员认为他们的行车速度要高于实际速度,从而减速。

在华盛顿特区的美国汽车协会交通安全基金会计划再现日本的成功先例,从下一年起,基金会将在全国选定出的路段上粉刷人字形和其他一些条纹图案,以便检验各种图案在减少公路交通事故中所起的作用。

据基金会的调查,在致命的交通事故中有五分之一是由于超速行驶。为了减少此类事故,基金会将在超速行驶事故多发地段进行试验,诸如转弯处、出口的坡段、环岛地段以及桥梁等处。一些研究表明,粉刷在路面上的水平直线起初能使驾驶员的平均车速降低一半。然而,不过几个月,当他们看惯了这些横线时,交通又恢复到全速行驶。

科学家们讲,人字形曲线不仅仅使驾驶人员产生驾车速度高于实际速度的感觉,而且使车道看起来变窄了,其结果是更为长期持续地降低车速,减少了交通事故。

PASSAGE → ③

296 词,建议做题时间:9.5 分钟

Antrak was experiencing a downswing in ridership along the lines comprising its rail sys-



tem. ①Of major concern to Amtrak and its advertising agency DDB Needham, were the long-distance western routes where ridership had been declining significantly.

At one time, trains were the only practical way to cross the vast areas of the west. Trains were fast, very luxurious, and quite convenient compared to other forms of transportation existing at the time. However, times change and the automobile became America's standard of convenience. Also, air travel had easily established itself as the fastest method of traveling great distances. Therefore, the task for DDB Needham was to encourage consumers to consider other aspects of train travel in order to change their attitudes and increase the likelihood that trains would be considered for travel in the west.

Two portions of the total market were targeted: 1) anxious fliers—those concerned with safety, relaxation, and cleanliness and 2) travel-lovers — those viewing themselves as relaxed, casual, and interested in the travel experience as part of their vacation. The agency then developed a campaign that focused on travel experiences such as freedom, escape, relaxation, and enjoyment of the great western outdoors. It stressed experiences gained by using the trains and portrayed western train trips as wonderful adventures.

Advertisements showed pictures of the beautiful scenery that could be enjoyed along some of the more famous western routes and emphasized the romantic names of some of these trains (Empire Builder, etc.). These ads were strategically placed among family-oriented TV shows and programs involving nature and American in order to most effectively reach target audiences. Results were impressive. The Empire Builder, which was focused on in one ad, enjoyed a 15 percent increase in profits on its Chicago to Seattle route. (原 2000 年 1 月 Passage 3)

11. What's the author's purpose in writing this passage?

- (A) To show inability of trains to compete with planes with respect to speed and convenience.
- (B) To stress the influence of the automobile on America's standard of convenience.
- (C) To emphasize the function of travel agencies in market promotion.
- (D) To illustrate the important role of persuasive communication in changing consumer attitudes.

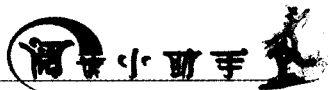
12. It can be inferred from the passage that the drop in Amtrak ridership was due to the fact that _____.

- (A) trains were not suitable for short distance passenger transportation
- (B) trains were not the fastest and most convenient form of transportation
- (C) trains were not as fast and convenient as they used to be
- (D) trains could not compete with planes in terms of luxury and convenience

13. To encourage consumers to travel by train, DDB Needham emphasized _____.

- (A) the freedom and convenience provided on trains
- (B) the practical aspects of train travel
- (C) the adventurous aspects of train trips

- (D) the safety and cleanliness of train trips
14. The train ads were placed among family-oriented TV programs involving nature and America because _____.
- (A) they could focus on meaningful travel experiences
(B) they could increase the effectiveness of the TV programs
(C) their profits could be increased by some 15 percent
(D) most travel-lovers and nervous fliers were believed to be among the audiences
15. According to the passage, the Empire Builder enjoyed an increase in ridership and profits because _____.
- (A) the attractiveness of its name and route was effectively advertised
(B) it provided an exciting travel experience
(C) its passengers could enjoy the great western outdoors
(D) it was widely advertised in newspapers and magazines in Chicago and Seattle



难词注释

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Amtrak ['æmtræk] n. 美国铁路客运公司 | 5. portray [pə:'trei] vt. 描写, 描绘; 扮演, 饰演 |
| 2. downswing ['daunswiŋ] n. 下降趋势 | 6. strategically [strə'ti:dʒikəli] ad. 从战略上, 从策略上 |
| 3. ridership ['raidəʃɪp] n. 客运量 | |
| 4. likelihood ['laɪklihud] n. 可能, 可能性 | |

难句解析

- ①【解析】这是一个倒装的复杂句, 主句的表语是介词短语“of major concern to ...”被前置, 而其主语则因为含有关系副词 where 所引导的定语从句太长被后置。另外, 要注意系动词“be + of + 抽象名词”这一结构和定语从句中的谓语过去完成进行时。



试题答案 名师精析

短文大意

文章于篇头指出了美国铁路客运公司客运量下降的现状, 及其产生的原因。接着介绍了 DDB Needham 广告公司为了改变这一现状在媒体宣传上的具体做法, 最终取得了良好的效果。

试题精析

11. [D] 主旨题。简单分析一下文章结构: 开头提出问题, 进而剖析原因, 最后解决问题。问题是如何解决的? 可见答案应该是(D)项“为了阐明有说服力的交流在改变消费者态度方面的重要作用”。
12. [B] 推断题。依据文章第二段可以推断出: 论方便, 要数汽车; 论速度, 更推飞机。



由此可见,选项(B)是答案。

13. [C] 细节题。该问题中最为关键的词是 emphasized“强调”,依据是文章第三段最后一句,该句说出了 DDB Needham 公司强调的内容,也即是选项(C)的内容。
14. [D] 推断题。依据文章第四段:显然,广告是针对“目标”观众。再依据第三段可判断答案为(D)。
15. [A] 推断题。根据文章的最后两段我们可知,Empire Builder 之所以成功,是由于公司在广告宣传上努力的结果。因此,答案应该是选项(A)。

翻译参考

美国铁路客运公司在其铁路系统所属的线路上,客运量呈下降趋势。对于该公司及其广告代理商 DDB Needham 公司来讲,最为关注的问题就是其一直以来客流量大幅下降的西部长途线路。

火车曾经是跨越广袤西部的唯一可行的交通工具。与当时其他的交通方式相比,火车快捷、豪华且方便。然而,时代变迁,汽车成为了美国人衡量便利的标准。而且,空运轻而易举地证实其是长途旅行的最为快捷的方式。因此,DDB Needham 公司所面临的任务是启发消费者考虑到火车旅行在其他方面的好处,以期改变其态度,进而加大他们考虑乘火车去西部的可能性。

广告公司目标对准了消费市场的两部分人群:一是对空乘焦虑不安的人们——他们关注安全性、舒适性,以及清洁度;二是热衷于旅行的人们——他们自认为放松、休闲,喜欢把旅行经历视为度假的一部分。于是,该公司展开了一场宣传活动,集中着眼在西部广阔天地的自由自在、消遣娱乐、松驰享受等种种旅行经历,活动强调乘火车时所获得的体验,并且把西部火车旅行描绘为精彩的冒险活动。

广告出示的图片展现了较为著名的西部沿线的美丽风光,并且突出宣传了这些列车中一些富有浪漫色彩的名字(如“帝国缔造者”等)。为了最有效地影响到他们的目标观众,这些广告非常讲究策略地插播在定向于家庭及有关自然与美国风光的电视节目。效果是显著的:在一部广告中突出宣传的“帝国缔造者”号列车,在其芝加哥至西雅图的线路段,利润上涨了15%。

PASSAGE → ④

283 词,建议做题时间:9 分钟

Why does cream go bad faster than butter? Some researchers think they have the answer, and it comes down to the structure of the food, not its chemical composition—a finding that could help rid some processed foods of chemical preservatives.

Cream and butter contain pretty much the same substances, so why cream should sour much faster has been a mystery. Both are emulsions—tiny globules of one liquid evenly distributed throughout another. The difference lies in what's in the globules and what's in the surrounding liquid, says Brocklehurst, who led the investigation.

In cream, fatty globules drift about in a sea of water. In butter, globules of a watery solution are locked away in a sea of fat. The bacteria which make the food go bad prefer to live in

the watery regions of the mixture. "This means that in cream, the bacteria are free to grow throughout the mixture," he says.

When the situation is reversed, the bacteria are locked away in compartments buried deep in the sea of fat. Trapped in this way, individual colonies cannot spread and rapidly run out of nutrients. They also slowly poison themselves with their waste products. "In butter, you get a self-limiting system which stops the bacteria growing," says Brocklehurst.

①The researchers are already working with food companies keen to see if their products can be made resistant to bacterial attack through alterations to the food's structure. Brocklehurst believes it will be possible to make the emulsions used in salad cream, for instance, more like that in butter. The key will be to do this while keeping the salad cream liquid and not turning it into a solid lump. (原2000年1月 Passage 4)

16. The significance of Brocklehurst's research is that _____.
 - (A) it suggested a way to keep some foods fresh without preservatives
 - (B) it discovered tiny globules in both cream and butter
 - (C) it revealed the secret of how bacteria multiply in cream and butter
 - (D) it found that cream and butter share the same chemical composition
17. According to the researchers, cream sours faster than butter because bacteria _____.
 - (A) are more evenly distributed in cream
 - (B) multiply more easily in cream than in butter
 - (C) live on less fat in cream than in butter
 - (D) produce less waste in cream than in butter
18. According to Brocklehurst, we can keep cream fresh by _____.
 - (A) removing its fat
 - (B) killing the bacteria
 - (C) reducing its water content
 - (D) altering its structure
19. The word "colonies" (Line2, Para.4) refers to _____.
 - (A) tiny globules
 - (B) watery regions
 - (C) bacteria communities
 - (D) little compartments
20. Commercial application of the research finding will be possible if salad cream can be made resistant to bacterial attack _____.
 - (A) by varying its chemical composition
 - (B) by turning it into a solid lump
 - (C) while keeping its structure unchanged
 - (D) while retaining its liquid form



难词注释

1. come down to 归结为
2. rid...of... 使去掉, 使摆脱
3. emulsion ['i:məlʃən] n. 乳状液
4. globule ['glɒbjʊ:l] n. 小珠体
5. lock away 把...上锁, 收藏起来, 把...禁闭起来
6. compartments [kəm'pɑ:tmənt] n. 隔间, 车厢, 隔仓室
7. run out of 用光, 耗尽



8. nutrients ['nju:triənt] a. 有营养的

9. alteration [ˌɔ:lte'reiʃən] n. 改变, 变更, 改动

难句解析

①【解析】在本句中应明确:由 keen 开始一直到句末这一形容词短语是个修饰成分,起到修饰 food companies 的作用。此句中的习语 keen to do 的意思是:eager to do sth. or see sth. done 热衷于做某事;渴望做某事。



试题答案 名师解析

短文大意

通过研究我们得知:奶油和黄油的化学成分是相同的,但食物结构不同,从而揭开了奶油变质快的谜底。而且此研究可运用到实际的食品加工生产中。

试题精析

16. [A]. 细节题。依据是文章第一段“...a finding that could help rid some processed food of chemical preservatives.”接下来的第二、第三、第四段具体阐明奶油容易变质而黄油不容易变质的道理。最后一段又说研究人员准备与食品公司合作,生产既能保鲜又不用任何化学防腐剂的食品。从四个选项来看,(A)项是答案。
17. [B]. 推断题。依据是文章第三段、四段,我们可知道细菌在奶油里比在黄油里更容易存活,由此我们可以推断出细菌在奶油中比在黄油中繁衍起来容易得多。因此(B)项为本题的正确答案。
18. [D]. 细节题。文章最后一段正是选项(D)(改变结构)的内容。
19. [C]. 语义题。根据该词出现的语境,也即上下文判断,应该是“菌落”的意思,与(C)吻合。
20. [D]. 推断题。依据是最后一段。注意:该句中的 while 是时间概念,相当于 in the course of.

翻译参考

为什么奶油变质的速度要比黄油的快?一些研究人员认为他们找到了答案,原因可归结为食物的结构而非食物的化学成分——这一发现有助于一些加工食品不再添加化学防腐剂。

奶油和黄油含有极为相同的物质,所以为什么奶油变酸如此之快一直是个谜。两者都是乳状液——即一种液状小球体均匀地分布于另一种液体之中。负责此项研究的 Brocklehurst 讲:“两者的差别就在于小球体中和外围液体中分别是什么物质。”

在奶油中,是脂肪小球体漂移在大量的水中。而在黄油中,是液状小球体被禁锢在大量的脂肪中。致使食物变质的细菌喜欢生活在混合物的水域里。他说:“这就意味着在奶油中,细菌可自由自在地在混合物中繁衍。”

如果情况相反的话,细菌就会被深深禁锢在大量脂肪中的密封仓内,无法扩展,很快耗尽养分,且慢慢被自身的排泄废物毒化致死。Brocklehurst 讲:“在黄油中,你会看到一个自我限制的系统,最后终止细菌的繁衍。”