

大学英语四级应试题典

写作128篇

模拟测试题

夏晓梅 张静 主编

大连理工大学出版社



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前言

中国有一句老话：“熟读唐诗三百首，不会写诗也会吟”，恰如其分地道出了写作与阅读之间密不可分的微妙关系。英语写作也是如此，要想写出好文章，就必须大量阅读。读的文章越多，写作灵感就越强。

通过阅读提高写作能力，就要求学生在阅读时有意识地把文章分类，这样有助于了解和掌握各种文体的特点和写作方法。英语文章可分为四种类型，即：描写文、叙述文、说明文和议论文。在平时阅读时遇到合适的文章或段落，可以在老师的指导下应用于写作实践，日积月累，就会养成良好的阅读与写作相互联系的好习惯。

本书给出四种段落写作模式，每种模式都有详细讲解、例文、例文分析。值得一提的是，在这四种模式以后还配有相关的训练，即：Paragraph Analysis Exercise。如果你每个题、每个段落都认真阅读、仔细揣摩并做一做，相信你的英文写作能力会有长足的进步。有志者，事竟成。

编者

1998年7月25日

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Recognizing Paragraph Patterns

1. PARAGRAPHS OF ANALYSIS

In this kind of paragraph pattern, a topic is analyzed. The topic is broken down into causes, effects, reasons, methods, purposes, or other categories that support the main idea. This main idea may be presented as a general statement at the beginning of the paragraph. This kind of *deductive* organization moves from the general to the particular. Or the main idea may be presented as a general conclusion at the end of the paragraph. This kind of *inductive* organization moves from the particular to the general.

Here is an example of a paragraph of analysis with deductive organization:

Modern people, in spite of their scientific knowledge, often seem as superstitious as their ancestors. Astrology is a half-billion-dollar business. Intelligent persons still believe that lines on their palm or the arrangement of tea leaves in a cup predict the future. Airplanes do not have a row of seats numbered 13, and buildings omit a thirteenth floor. Black cats, broken mirrors, and spilled salt create fear and anxiety in many people. And ouija boards continue to be a popular pastime.

The main idea of this paragraph is stated in the first, or topic sentence. This is followed by examples to prove the author's point. If it is important, the examples can be taken out of the paragraph and listed in outline form:

Modern people seem as superstitious as their ancestors.

- A. Astrology is a half-billion-dollar business.
- B. Intelligent persons still believe that lines on their palm or the arrangement of tea leaves in a cup predict the future.
- C. Airplanes do not have a row of seats numbered 13 and buildings omit a thirteenth floor.
- D. Black cats, broken mirrors, and spilled salt create fear and anxiety in many people.
- E. Ouija boards continue to be a popular pastime.

Here is an example of a paragraph of analysis with inductive organization:

From Italian we get such words as *balcony*, *cavalry*, *miniature*, *opera*, and *umbrella*. Spanish has given us *mosquito*, *ranch*, *cigar*, and *vanilla*. Dutch has provided *brandy*, *golf*, *measles*, and *wagon*. From Arabic we have borrowed *alcohol*, *chemistry*, *magazine*, *zenith*, and *zero*. And Persian has loaned us *chess*, *checkers*, *lemon*, *paradise*, and *spinach*. It is clear that English is a language that borrows freely from many sources.

In this example, particular examples are given first, followed by the general conclusion that English has borrowed words from many different languages.

2. PARAGRAPHS OF DESCRIPTION.

A second type of paragraph pattern is one in which something is described. This may be a physical description, as of a person or place, or it may be a description of a process, a step-by-step explanation of how something is done.

The following paragraph describes an octopus:

An octopus appears to be just a huge head with eight long, fearful arms. Its head is soft and rubberlike. Its eyes stick out on stalks so that it can see in all directions. Its mouth is on the underside of its body and has powerful jaws shaped like a beak. The long arms, or tentacles, have double rows of suckers. These can fasten onto objects with such suction that they cannot be pulled off.

The following example describes the method of mouth-to-mouth artificial respiration.

In certain accidents, if breathing stops, it is possible to save life by artificial respiration. This means that someone else causes air to enter and leave a person's lungs. The method of artificial respiration now recommended by the U. S. Army, the Red Cross, and the Boy Scouts of America is a method of mouth-to-mouth breathing. First, place the victim face up. Tilt the victim's head back so that the chin is pointing upward. Next, if there is any foreign matter in the victim's mouth, wipe it out quickly with your fingers. Then, with your right-hand thumb, pull the jaw down to clear the tongue from the air passage in the back of the victim's mouth. With your left hand, pinch the nostrils to prevent the air you blow into the

victim's mouth from escaping through the nose. Now, place your mouth tightly over the victim's and blow into his or her mouth until you see the chest rise. Remove your mouth, turn your head to the side, and listen to the outrush of air that indicates air exchange. Repeat blowing. For an adult, blow vigorously at a rate of about twelve breaths a minute, for a young child take relatively shallow breaths, at a rate of about twenty a minute.

3. PARAGRAPHS OF COMPARISON AND CONTRAST

A third type of paragraph pattern is one in which several things are compared or contrasted. Paragraphs of this kind usually state the main idea—the things being demonstrated as similar or different—in the first sentence. Then the idea is developed in subsequent sentences, often with examples. The following extract is an illustration:

Discovery and invention are sometimes confused. Essentially, however, they are quite distinct. Discovery is the finding of something that has always been there, though its existence or its meaning has remained hidden. Invention is the design of something new to be made from known materials. America, for example, was discovered; the United States was invented. America has always been there, though its existence was unknown, at least to Europeans, until navigating explorers found it. But the United States was a combination of known materials; land, law, and people.

The purpose of this paragraph is to draw a distinction between

discovery and invention. It therefore includes definitions. The following paragraph compares and contrasts two kinds of elephants. It also includes description.

There are two kinds of elephants—the African and the Indian. The African elephant is larger and darker; it also has larger ears and a more sloping forehead. Both can be tamed, but the Indian elephant is more easily trained to do work. When an African elephant sleeps, it usually stands up, but its Indian cousin usually sleeps lying down.

4. PARAGRAPHS OF ANALOGY

A fourth type of paragraph pattern is one which is organized around an analogy for the purpose of clarifying a particular point. In the following example, after a clearly stated topic sentence, the author compares a good prose style with a good runner. The analogy demonstrates the clear and direct writing that it describes.

In prose, the good style is the lean style. Like a good distance runner, it hasn't an ounce of fat anywhere on it. And like the good distance runner, it moves without excess motion. Its arms don't flail out in all directions; they swing easily at the sides in a beautiful economy of effort. A good style has the same grace and beauty in its motion as a good athlete because there's nothing wasted. Everything is there for a purpose.

The main idea in the following example is implied by the use of