

考研英语阅读第一书

文都教育

2009

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历年真题来源报刊
阅读100篇

策划：文都教育

主编：钟平 王舰

全部选自英美报刊
全面贴近真题难度



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前言

Preface

耗时颇久,本书终成,实属不易。

每年都有很多参加文都考研精彩课堂的同学问我,除了真题之外,该如何选择最贴近考研的英语复习资料?

考研英语,阅读为重,而阅读之难,是大家普遍感受到的。为什么大多数同学都做不完考研英语的试卷?因为这些阅读的文章都不是我们平时所能见到的文章。其难度、观点的展开方式、用词和表达等等,都具有十分特别的特征。纵观最近几年的考研英语真题,不难发现以下一个事实:历年考研英语阅读理解文章的来源选择是非常有规律的,每年的考研文章绝大多数来自英美国家的报刊杂志。

根据这个规律,那么广大考生在平时复习考研英语的时候,在选择阅读的材料上就有了很强的目的性,这样对我们广大考生来说也会起到事半功倍的效果。国外常见的报刊杂志按照类型进行归类总结:

1、经济类文章主要来源: The Economist (经济学家), Business Week (商业周刊), Wall Street Journal (华尔街杂志);

2、科学技术类文章主要来源: Nature (自然), Discovery (探索), Science (科学), National Geographic (国家地理), Scientific American (科学美国人), New Scientists (新科学家);

3、社会生活以及文化类文章主要来源: Newsweek (新闻周刊), Time (时代周刊), U. S News and World Report (美国新闻与世界报道), The Washington Post (华盛顿邮报), USA Today (今日美国), The Times (泰晤士报), The Guardian (卫报), The World Report (世界报道), New York Post (纽约邮报);

4、其它来源: Independent (独立日报), International Herald Tribune (国际先驱论坛), Telegraph (英国电信日报)。

在此,我们再次对历年考研英语阅读文章来源进行总结,发现规律:

1、以5年内的国外报刊杂志文章为主:在绝大多数情况下,历年考研真题的文章来源一般控制在过去的5年之内,即倘若要参加2007年考研的话,2007年的文章一般来自于2002年到2006年之间的报刊杂志上,当然历史上也有少部分文章不受年份的限制。这时我们阅读的范围就小了很多。

2、文章字数在450—600左右:我们在整理以上统计数据过程中,很容易发现历年考研英语真题文章字数一般在350—500字之间,段落上一般控制在3到6个段落。由于考研命题组一般会对国外文章进行修改,所以说,符合以下条件的国外报刊杂志是我们

选择的目标:文章字数在 450—650 字,段落在 3—7 个,年份在近 5 年之内。这样一来我们就把复习的范围大大减小了。

3、以这四本国外报刊杂志为主:通过分析 2003—2006 年这 4 年的考研阅读来源文章,我们发现,80% 以上文章来自于 The Economist (经济学家)、Newsweek (新闻周刊)、Time (时代周刊)以及 U. S News and World Report (美国新闻与世界报道)四本杂志。

因此,我们可以再次将复习范围缩小,根据不完全统计,2005 年 The Economist (经济学家)全年 60 多期杂志里,符合考研阅读理解命题文章要求的平均每期不超过 3 篇,像其他的三本杂志也是如此的情况,符合考研阅读要求的也不是很多。所以,只要我們精心地把此处提及的符合考查要求的文章挑选出来进行精读,那就是最好的考研阅读材料。

于是,用大量的时间为同学们做这样一件有意义的事情,必然能够为正苦恼于英语复习的同学带来很多好处。在此深深感谢为此书作出巨大贡献的好友程涵晗同志的鼎力相助!

本书的使用,标准很简单,每篇都是作者精选的文章,并且配备了翻译和词汇的学习,请同学至少拿出 30 篇作为精读的学习,消除所有的盲点,其他文章至少泛读 3 次以上,其力既至,其功必成!

阅读能力一旦上升,加上在文都课堂所学及应试之学,成功指日可待!

祝您成功!

文都 钟平



Contents

1. A fuzzy picture	1
2. A matter of life and death	5
3. A meaty question	9
4. Aircraft emissions: The dirty sky	12
5. Behind the bleeding edge	16
6. Behold, the bus of the future	20
7. Biometrics gets down to business	24
8. Bluetooth's quiet success	28
9. Buildings with minds of their own	32
10. Can coal be clean?	36
11. Car retailing	40
12. Chain reaction	44
13. Declining populations: Incredible shrinking countries	48
14. Don't shoot the messenger	52
15. Doughnut adjust your set	56
16. On the move at last?	60
17. Every little fish	64
18. Evolutionary psychology: anger management	69
19. Fashion victim	73
20. Greedy guts?	77
21. When a visa becomes a headache	81
22. A vitamin a day may do more harm than good	84
23. Can stress actually be good for you?	88
24. Microsoft's slick new vista	92
25. Stop pandering on education	95

26. All the world's a stage	98
27. Finalists are in demand	102
28. Male jab to reduce cervical cancer	105
29. So what's it all worth?	109
30. Stress and the City	113
31. Time to stand up and blow your own trumpet	117
32. Study shows cost of birth defects	121
33. Don't pay too much attention to pay	125
34. Health-care reform is in the air, but... ..	129
35. Hiring companies should show the love	133
36. How to keep your team talking	136
37. IBM shrinks its Lenovo stake	140
38. In-car technology sharply accelerates	144
39. Internet TV is finally a reality show	148
40. Meeting all the world's tech needs	152
41. The apples come together	155
42. The flavor of memories	158
43. The mystery of consciousness	161
44. Time travel in the brain	164
45. Venture capital's growing aspirations	167
46. Who made your T-shirt	170
47. Air pollution raises risk of heart disease in women	173
48. Best behaviour	176
49. How to be a good citizen	179
50. Space policy: Mercy mission	182
51. Miraculous visions	185
52. News you can choose	188
53. Nobel's greatest prize	192
54. Secrets of the digital detectives	195
55. Green aircraft; Silent skies	199
56. Sleeping on it	202
57. The law of unintended consequences	205

58. The physical internet	208
59. The un-Google	212
60. Thermoelectrics: Every little helps	215
61. Tracking your every move	219
62. Treasure on the ocean floor	222
63. University bonds: An education in finance	225
64. University expansion	228
65. Winning ways	231
66. Women in the workforce	234
67. Vaccines: A new health food	237
68. Dolly on the dinner table? Don't worry about it	241
69. College education: The ladder of fame	244
70. Animal behaviour: A stilted story	247
71. Why GM is good for us	251
72. Organ transplants: Your part or mine?	255
73. Affluence Happiness (and how to measure it)	259
74. Brain cancer: Happy families, hidden dangers	263
75. Economics focus: Rate of decline	266
76. SWIFTER, HIGHER, STRONGER	270
77. A Passover sermon, a play, and a century of the Melting pot	274
78. Athens: Then & Now	277
79. A robot in the kitchen	280
80. Pass the bacteria, please!	284
81. Online booksellers face higher costs for shipping abroad	287
82. Up close and edible: Green tea	291
83. English as language of global education	294
84. Global warming	298
85. Guilty plea in deadly Tennessee school shooting	301
86. Higher rates! Bigger fees!	304
87. What do babies know?	308
88. Limited resources	312
89. Microsoft brings instant chat to TV screen, through games	315

90. Moment of truth	319
91. The world since September 11th	322
92. Federal reserve: Difference of opinion	326
93. When the cure is not worth the cost	329
94. Poor nations to bear brunt as world warms	332
95. The falling dollar	335
96. Democrats and global warming	338
97. Senate inquiry in loan case is studying stock transfer	342
98. Can milk make you happy? Can fish make you smart?	345
99. From Genes to GMOs	349
100. Seychelles: A president in paradise	353

101. College education: The ladder of fame	344
102. Animal behaviour: A stirred story	347
103. Why GM is good for us	351
104. Organ transplants: Your part or mine?	355
105. Affluence Happiness (and how to measure it)	359
106. Brain cancer: Happy families, hidden dangers	363
107. Economics focus: Rate of decline	366
108. SWIFTER, HIGHER, STRONGER	370
109. A Passover sermon, a play, and a century of the Melting pot	374
110. Athens: Then & Now	377
111. A robot in the kitchen	380
112. Pass the bacteria, please!	384
113. Online booksellers face higher costs for shipping abroad	387
114. Up close and edible: Green tea	391
115. English as language of global education	394
116. Global warming	398
117. Guilty plea in deadly Tennessee school shooting	301
118. Higher rates! Bigger fees!	304
119. What do babies know?	308
120. Limited resources	312
121. Microsoft brings instant chat to TV screen, through games	315



1

A fuzzy picture

The
Economist

Jan 5th, 2006

“THIS is a really exciting time—a new era is starting,” says Peter Bazalgette, the chief creative officer of Endemol, the television company behind “Big Brother” and other popular shows. He is referring to the upsurge of interest in mobile television, a nascent industry at the intersection of telecoms and media which offers new opportunities to device-makers, content producers and mobile-network operators.

Already, many mobile operators offer a selection of television channels or individual shows, which are “streamed” across their third-generation (3G) networks. In South Korea, television is also sent to mobile phones via satellite and terrestrial broadcast networks, which is far more efficient than sending video across mobile networks. In Europe, the Italian arm of 3, a mobile operator, recently acquired Canale 7, a television channel, with a view to launching mobile-TV broadcasts in Italy in the second half of 2006.

Meanwhile, Apple Computer, which launched a video-capable version of its iPod portable music-player in October, is striking deals with television networks to expand the range of shows that can be purchased for viewing on the device, including “Lost”, “Desperate Housewives” and “Law & Order”.

Despite all this activity, however, the prospects for mobile TV are unclear. For a start, nobody really knows if consumers will pay for it, though surveys suggest they like the idea. Informa, a consultancy, says there will be 125m mobile-TV users by 2010. But many other mobile technologies inspired high hopes and then failed to live up to expectations. And even if people do want TV on the move, there is further uncertainty in two areas: technology and business models.

At the moment, mobile TV is mostly streamed over 3G networks. But sending an individual data stream to each viewer is inefficient and will be unsustainable in the long run if mobile TV takes off. So the general consensus is that 3G streaming is a prelude to the construction of dedicated mobile-TV broadcast networks, which transmit digital TV signals on entirely different frequencies to those used for voice and data. There are three main standards: DVB-H, favoured in Europe; DMB, which has been adopted in South Korea and Japan; and MediaFLO, which is being rolled out in America. Watching TV using any of these tech-

nologies requires a TV-capable handset, of course.

In contrast, watching downloaded TV programmes on an iPod or other portable video player is already possible today. And unlike a programme streamed over 3G or broadcast via a dedicated mobile-TV network, shows stored on an iPod can be watched on an underground train or in regions with patchy network coverage. That suggests that some shows (such as drama) better suit the download model, while others (such as live news, sports or reality shows) are better suited to real-time transmission. The two approaches will probably co-exist.

Just as there are several competing mobile-TV technologies, there are also many possible business models. Mobile operators might choose to build their own mobile-TV broadcast networks; or they could form a consortium and build a shared network; or existing broadcasters could build such networks.

The big question is whether the broadcasters and mobile operators can agree how to divide the spoils, assuming there are any. Broadcasters own the content, but mobile operators generally control the handsets, and they do not always see eye to eye. In South Korea, a consortium of broadcasters launched a free-to-air DMB network last month, but the country's mobile operators were reluctant to provide their users with handsets able to receive the broadcasts, since they were unwilling to undermine the prospects for their own subscription-based mobile-TV services.

Then there is the question of who will fund the production of mobile-TV content: broadcasters, operators or advertisers? Again, the answer is probably "all of the above".

考研词汇

launch[ˈlɔːntʃ]

v. ①发射;②使(船)下水;③发动,开展;

n. 发射,下水

[真题例句] The debate was launched (v. ③) by the Government, which invited anyone with an opinion of the BBC—including ordinary listeners and viewers—to say what was good or bad about the Corporation, and even whether they thought it was worth keeping. [1996 年阅读 2]

[例句精译] 这场争论是英国政府发起的,它邀请每一位对 BBC 有看法的人——包括普通的听众和观众——对公司好坏进行评论,甚至可以评论他们是否认为公司值

得办下去。

inspire[ɪnˈspaɪə]

v. ①鼓舞,激起;②使产生灵感

consensus[kənˈsensəs]

n. (意见等)一致,一致同意

[真题例句] In a draft preface to the recommendations, discussed at the 17 May meeting, Shapiro suggested that the panel had found a broad consensus that it would be "morally unacceptable to attempt to create a human child by adult nuclear cloning." [1999 年阅读 4]

[例句精译] 在 5 月 17 日会议上讨论的建议序言草案中,夏皮罗表示,专家组已取得



广泛的共识,认为“试图利用成人细胞核去克隆婴儿从道义上讲是无法接受的”。

transmit[trænz'mit] 传递,传导

v. ①传播,发射;②传递,传导

[真题例句] 61. From the passage we can infer that [A] electronic mail will soon play a dominant role in transmitting (①) messages

[例句精译] 61 根据本文,我们可以推断出:

[A] 电子邮件将很快在信息传播中起主导作用

[A] 电子邮件将很快在信息传播中起主导作用

adopt[ə'dɒpt] 采用,采纳,通过;②收养

v. ①采用,采纳,通过;②收养

[真题例句] Too many schools adopt (①) the “win at all costs” moral standard and measure their success by sporting achievements. [1995 年阅读 4]

[例句精译] 太多的学校采用“不惜一切代价获取成功”的道德标准并通过炫耀成绩来估量孩子们是否成功。

portable['pɔ:təbl] 轻便的,手提(式)的

a. 轻便的,手提(式)的

背景常识介绍

移动电视技术

从目前全球范围内手机电视的业务开展来看,存在两种最主要的方式:流媒体和广播。

为了开发手机电视的市场需求,部分电信系统商已经开始在手机上提供电视收视的服务,这些服务和传统电视并不相同,手机通过电信网络(2.5G/2.75G/3G)连接到媒体服务器,采用点对点流媒体方式播放,而非多点式的广播。但当3G的使用越来越普遍后,利用大量频率提供廉价电视内容的播放将会越来越不经济,同时对大规模的商业运营在技术上也相当不实际。手机电视业务数据是通过卫星或地面数字广播来进行传输。但是,由于广播方式可能同时牵涉到电信运营商和广播网络运营商,商业模式上相对复杂,特别是在管制较严的国家受政策因素的影响较大,制约较多,给商用运营带来一定的难度。

参考译文

移动电视正在出现——但是市场将怎样发展下去却仍然不得而知

“这真是一个令人激动的时刻——一个新的时代正在开始”,Endemol 电视公司的首席创意官 Peter Bazalgette 这样宣称,他谈到了众人对移动电视的巨大兴趣,这是一个在电信和媒体领域有交叉的新兴产业,给设备制造商、电视内容制作者以及移动网络运营商提供了新的机遇。

许多移动网络运营商已经通过他们的第三代(3G)网络用流媒体方式提供了一些电视频道以及个人表演。在韩国,电视节目也通过卫星和地面广播网传送给移动电话,这远比通过移动网络传输视频更为有效。最近在欧洲,意大利 3G 移动运营商买下了一个电视频道“第七频道”,目的是为了 2006 年下半年在意大利发射移动电视信号。

与此同时,苹果电脑公司在 10 月发售了一款可以观看电视的便携式音乐播放器 iPod,这个播放器大大扩展了电视网络节目的范围,其可以供用户购买的、用于在移动终端的节目范围令人惊奇,包括《迷失》、《绝望的主妇》以及《法律与秩序》。

然而,尽管有这么多的商业行为,移动电视的前景依旧是不明朗的。作为一个开端,没有人真正清楚消费者是否乐意为它付费,即使调查显示他们喜欢这个主意。一个名为 Informa 的顾问表示到 2010 年将会有 1.23 亿移动电视用户。但是有许多其他的移动技术尽管给了人们很高的期待,最终却没能做出成绩。就算人们真的需要在移动中观看电视,还有两方面的不确定因素存在着:技术和商业模式。

在现阶段,移动电视主要通过 3G 网络用流媒体方式来传送,但是给每一个观众发送一段单独的数据流的效果会很差,而且在长时间的运动中也会不稳定,比如说在移动电视被关闭时。因此大多数人认为 3G 技术只是建立起一个专门的移动电视广播网络的前奏,这个网络以一种全然不同的频率为使用声音和数据的人传送数字电视信号,主要分为 3 种:DVB-H,主要在欧洲受到欢迎;DMB,正在韩国和日本被采用;以及 MediaFLO,已经在美国铺开其网络。

与此相反,在 iPod 或其他便携式视频播放器上观看下载的电视节目已经成为可能,而且不像那些通过 3G 网络或专用移动电视网传送的节目,人们可以在地铁里或者网络信号覆盖不稳定的地区观看储存在 iPod 上的节目。这说明有些节目(比如戏剧)比较适合用下载的形式,而另一些节目(比如现场直播新闻、体育节目或现场节目)更加适合实时播送。这两种方法有可能共存。

就像有几种互相竞争的移动电视技术那样,同样存在着几种可能的商业模式。移动运营商也许会选择建立起他们自己的移动电视广播网;或者他们可以组成联盟建立起一个共享网络;或者现有的广播公司会建立起类似的网络。

如果这个网络可以赢利,关键问题就是广播公司能否和移动运营商就如何划分利益达成一致。广播公司拥有节目内容,但掌上终端通常都由移动运营商控制,而且他们并不总是意见一致。在韩国,广播公司联盟上个月开播了一个免费的 DMB 网络,但是这个国家的移动运营商却并不愿意为用户提供能够接收这个广播信号的掌上终端,因为他们不愿破坏他们自己拥有付费移动电视业务的前景。

于是,接下来的问题就是谁将投资移动电视内容的制作:广播公司、运营商还是广告商?同样的,答案很可能是“他们所有人”。



2

A matter of life and death

The
Economist

Jan 23rd, 2006

CONCEPTION and cancer, which mark the beginning and, often, the end of life, share some molecular details. Cancer cells copy their contents and divide rapidly; so do newly fertilized eggs. This requires genetic reprogramming. Curiously, as a result of the reprogramming, both contain appreciable amounts of an enzyme called reverse transcriptase that biologists more usually associate with certain viral infections, including HIV. Reverse transcriptase makes part of the cell's protein publishing line work backwards, recreating DNA, a molecule in which organisms typically store genetic information, from its less stable and correspondingly less favoured cousin, RNA. Why it does so in cancer and in embryos, though, is something of a mystery.

Corrado Spadafora, of Italy's National Institute of Health, in Rome, studies this little-known puzzle. There are thousands of reverse-transcriptase genes in the genomes of all mammals. What that job is exactly, Dr Spadafora is not sure, but data he presented at the annual meeting of the British Andrology Society, in Leeds, suggest some answers.

Dr Spadafora showed recently that reverse transcriptase is required for mouse embryos to develop. He did this by removing it in two ways. First, he exposed embryos created in Petri dishes to a common AIDS drug called nevirapine, which works by gumming the enzyme up. This halted development whenever it was added to embryos up to the stage when they were only four cells big. Adding the drug later, when the four cells had divided into eight, had no effect. Second, he checked the drug was not bad for the embryos in some other, unknown, way by specifically turning off reverse transcriptase-producing genes. The result was the same: the embryos did not die, and again, during the sensitive period, they seemed to get stuck in a juvenile stage.

There are hints that reverse transcriptase is needed for a lot of early embryonic functions associated with getting cells ready to specialize into different types of tissue. Seven of the ten genes Dr Spadafora tested were active in healthy embryos, but were shut down in the nevirapine arrested ones.

Since cancer cells also contain a lot of reverse transcriptase, Dr Spadafora wondered whether stopping the enzyme working might stop them dividing as well. He transplanted

four kinds of human cancer into four groups of mice and treated some of each group with nevirapine or a similar drug. In all cases the earlier he gave the drug, the slower the tumours grew, and they always grew more slowly than tumours in mice which got neither drug. As in the embryo experiments, he then silenced the cancer-cell genes that produced reverse transcriptase, and likewise found the tumours grew more slowly.

Moreover, both the drugs and the gene-silencing technique flattened some types of cancer cells, which suggests that both methods of getting rid of reverse transcriptase's effects caused similar molecular changes inside the cells.

That common anti-HIV drugs slow cancer growth in AIDS patients has been known for some time. Doctors, however, have attributed the fact to the healthier immune systems the drugs promote. Dr Spadafora's results suggest a more precise mechanism.

考研词汇

molecular[məu'lekjulə]

a. 分子的, 由分子组成的

[真题例句] But NBAC members are planning to word the recommendation narrowly to avoid new restrictions on research that involves the cloning of human DNA or cells-routine in molecular biology. [1999 年阅读 4]

[例句精译] 但是, NBAC 成员们正计划在建议的措辞上更为严谨, 以避免给克隆人体 DNA 或细胞等研究带来更多地限制——(这属于)分子生物研究中的常规课题。

reverse[ri'veɪs]

n. ①相反, 反转, 颠倒; ②背面, 后面; a. 相反的, 倒转的; v. 颠倒, 倒转, (使)倒退

[真题例句] Anyone can see this trend is unsustainable. Yet few seem willing to try to reverse (v.) it. [2003 年阅读 4]

[例句精译] 任何人都明白这个趋势不能维持下去, 但是很少有人愿意扭转它。

expose[iks'pəʊz]

v. ①(to)使暴露, 受到; ②使曝光; ③揭露

[真题例句] (73) Owing to the remarka-

ble development in mass-communications, people everywhere are feeling new wants and are being exposed (①) to new customs and ideas, while governments are often forced to introduce still further innovations for the reasons given above.

[2000 年翻译]

[例句精译] (73) 大众通讯的显著发展使各地的人们不断感到有新的需求, 不断接触到新的习俗和思想, 由于上述原因, 政府常常得推出更多的革新。

juvenile['dʒu:vɪnail]

a. 青少年的, 幼稚的; n. 青少年, 少年读物

[真题例句] Many theories concerning the causes of juvenile (a.) Delinquency (crimes committed by young people) focus either on the individual or on society as the major contributing influence. [2004 年完形]

[例句精译] 有关少年犯罪的许多理论往往将其主要原因归咎于个人或社会。

immune[i'mju:n]

a. ①免疫的, 有免疫力的; ②有受影响的; ③免除的, 豁免的



[真题例句] The rats (49: develop) bacterial infections of the blood, (50: as if) their immune (①) systems—the self-protecting mechanism against disease—had crashed. [1995 年完形]

[例句精译] 老鼠患血液细菌感染, 似乎它们的免疫系统——抵御疾病的自我保护机制——已崩溃。

precise[prɪ'saɪs] 精确的, 准确的

a. 精确的, 准确的

[真题例句] Much of the language used to describe monetary policy, such as “steering the economy to a soft landing” or “a touch on the brakes”, makes it sound like a precise science. [1997 年阅读 5]

[例句精译] 很多用来描述货币政策的词, 如“引导经济软着陆”, “经济刹车”, 使货币政策听起来像是一门精确的科学。

背景常识介绍

反转录酶的发现

1970 年 Temin 等在致癌 RNA 病毒中发现了一种特殊的 DNA 聚合酶, 该酶以 RNA 为核板, 根据碱基配对原则, 按照 RNA 的核苷酸顺序(其中 U 与 A 配对)合成 DNA。这一过程与一般遗传信息流转录的方向相反, 故称为反转录, 催化此过程的 DNA 聚合酶叫做反转录酶(reverse transcriptase)。后来发现反转录酶不仅普遍存在于 RNA 病毒中, 哺乳动物的胚胎细胞和正在分裂的淋巴细胞中也有反转录酶。

反转录酶的发现对于遗传工程技术起了很大的推动作用, 目前它已成为一种重要的工具酶。用组织细胞提取 mRNA 并以它为模板, 在反转录酶的作用下, 合成出互补的 DNA (cDNA), 由此可构建出 cDNA 文库 (cDNA library), 从中筛选特异的目的基因, 这是在基因工程技术中最常用的获得目的基因的方法。

参考译文

生和死的问题

怀孕与癌症, 前者是生命的开端, 后者是生命的结束, 但这两者在分子程度的细节上却有着相同之处。癌细胞复制自身并且快速分裂; 新受精的卵细胞也一样。两者都要求基因的重组。令人好奇的是, 作为重组的结果, 这两者都包含一种为数不少的生物酶——反转录酶, 生物学家通常将这种酶与某些病毒性感染联系在一起, 包括 HIV。反转录酶使部分细胞的蛋白质链反向工作, 反向复制和 DNA 类似但较不稳定且相对而言并不重要的分子 RNA, 重新生成 DNA——一种典型的储存了生物基本遗传信息的分子。为什么癌症和胚胎有这些相同点仍然是一个谜。

罗马意大利国家健康学院的 Corrado Spadafora 就在研究这个鲜为人知的难题。在所有哺乳动物的基因组中有上千个反转录酶的基因。Spadafora 博士不敢肯定到底该做什么工作,但是他在利兹英国男科学会年会上提交的资料指出了某些答案。

Spadafora 博士最近表示反转录酶在老鼠胚胎的发育中是必需的。他用两种方法除去反转录酶。第一种方法,他对在皮氏培养皿中生成的胚胎使用一种名为奈韦拉平的普通抗艾滋药物时,这种药物能破坏这种生物酶。在胚胎只有四个细胞的时候加入这种药物会停止细胞继续发育。如果晚一点、在胚胎分裂为 8 个细胞时加入药物则没有用。第二种方法,他使用药物以一种没有其他副作用的不明方法来专门抑制反转录酶基因的产生。效果是一样的:胚胎并没有死去,另外,在这个敏感的时期,他们似乎停留在了这个不成熟的阶段。

有线索显示,在早期假如胚胎想要实行将细胞转化为不同种类的组织的功能,反转录酶是必需的。在 Spadafora 博士测试的 10 个基因中,有 7 个基因在健康的胚胎中是活动的,但在加入了奈韦拉平的胚胎中则没有活动。

因为癌细胞同样含有许多反转录酶,Spadafora 博士很想知道是否停止这种生物酶的作用同样会阻止细胞分裂。他将四种人类癌细胞移植到四组老鼠的体内,每一组用奈韦拉平或其他类似的药来治疗。在所有的试验中,越早给药肿瘤长得越慢,而且总是比没有用药的老鼠体内的肿瘤长得慢。而在胚胎试验中,他抑制了产生反转录酶的癌细胞的基因,同样发现肿瘤的生长变慢了。

而且,无论是药物还是通过基因沉默技术抑制致癌细胞,都说明去除反转录酶会导致细胞内部分子结构变化。

人们早就知道普通的抗艾滋病药物可以减缓艾滋病人的癌细胞生长。而医学界已经开始利用这一实际情况研究提高免疫系统的药物了。Spadafora 博士的研究结果提供了更为具体的方法。

返回目录

由于反转录酶在胚胎发育中起着关键作用,因此抑制其活性可能会导致发育异常。Spadafora 博士的研究表明,在胚胎发育早期,反转录酶的表达水平很高,但随着发育的进行,其表达水平会逐渐降低。如果抑制反转录酶的活性,可能会导致胚胎发育停滞或畸形。此外,反转录酶在癌细胞中也起着重要作用,因此抑制其活性可能会抑制癌细胞的生长。Spadafora 博士的研究为开发新的抗癌药物提供了思路。