

中国人民大学出版社

研究生入学考试

辅导教材系列



# 1997年 硕士研究生 入学考试 英语模拟试题集

主编 张锦芯



# 1997 年硕士研究生入学考试 英语模拟试题集

主编 张锦芯

编者 张锦芯 白 洁 郭庆民

王 敏 田育英 赵艳萍

**图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据**

1997 年硕士研究生入学考试英语模拟试题集/主编 张锦芯  
北京: 中国人民大学出版社, 1996

ISBN 7-300-02249-9/G·320

I. 19...

Ⅰ. 张...

Ⅱ. 英语-研究生-入学考试-试题

Ⅳ. H31-44

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (96) 第 10301 号

**1997 年硕士研究生入学考试英语模拟试题集**

主编 张锦芯

---

出版发行: 中国人民大学出版社

(北京海淀路 175 号 邮码 100872)

经 销: 新华书店

印 刷: 中国人民大学出版社印刷厂

---

开本: 787×1092 毫米 1/16 印张: 28.75

1996 年 6 月第 1 版 1996 年 6 月第 1 次印刷

字数: 661 000

---

定价: 35.00 元

# 本书使用说明

1. 本书是“应试指导”的姊妹篇。在“应试指导”中，我们对历年考题进行了详细的解释，在此基础上对应试过程中的问题进行了深入的分析并给予考生切实的指导。考生在读完“应试指导”后，对本书的设计与宗旨会理解得更深刻，从此书中获益会更多。

2. 两套“摸底测试”系精心选编，目的在于帮助考生切实了解自己的水平。因此，做完这两套题后，考生应对自己各部分的得分进行统计，以总结出自己的弱项并据此进入“专项训练”的相应部分，进行有针对性的训练。

3. “专项训练”部分包括大量练习，供考生在了解自己的水平和弱项后，在相应的项目上进行集中有效的自我训练。如果自测结果表明考生的总体水平很差，考生也可以逐项阅读“专项训练”部分，以期达到全面提高之目的。

4. “全真模拟题”部分供考生在做完“专项训练”之后进一步检验自我能力的提高幅度，该部分的另一个宗旨是让考生通过整套题的训练，达到对考题形式、难度的适应，加快做题速度。因此，考生在做该部分题时，可以根据自己的情况随时回到“专项训练”的相应部分进行复习巩固。

5. 在分项和整套训练以后，考生可以进入“考前预测”部分。这两套题的宗旨是让考生一方面检验自己阅读本书后的收获，另一方面是让考生在参加全国统一考试之前对自己的水平有客观的了解。因此，在某种意义上说，它也有预测的目的。如果考生在这两套题上得分较低，还可以再回到“专项训练”及“全真模拟题”部分，以便进行分项及综合的复习和巩固。

6. 本书各部分的题解力求精简，以帮助考生学会分析问题的方法和掌握解题的能力。考生还应该结合“应试指导”一书中所谈的应试原则来阅读本书的题解，真正做到融会贯通。

7. 在全书的最后，我们还提供了第一、三、四部分中套题的答案，之所以将答案集中设置在书的最后，是基于这样的考虑：考生也许不愿立刻去阅读题解，而更想在核对过答案后自己去发现问题，掌握解题本领。

# 前 言

我们奉献给读者的这本《1997年硕士研究生入学考试英语模拟试题集》，是最近我们应中国人民大学出版社的邀请编写的。这本“模拟试题集”是《1997年硕士研究生入学考试英语应试指导》的姊妹篇，是与“应试指导”相辅相成的学习材料。我们相信，考生在阅读“应试指导”对硕士研究生入学考试英语试题的题型的详尽分析和讲解后，这本“模拟试题集”确实能使考生通过大量的阅读和练习，从理性和感性上更准确地把握试题的特点，在提高英语综合运用水平的同时，总结出应试的方法和规律，在考试中取得好成绩。

近几年来，报考研究生的人数呈明显的增长趋势。1996年全国报考硕士研究生的人数比1995年增长了29.98%，北京市1996年报考研究生的人数比1995年增长了30%。根据预测，1997年报考研究生的人数仍将继续增长。这样一来，竞争必然加剧，考题的难度也随之加大。近几年考题的难易程度可以从考生的及格率和平均分反映出来。北京考生1994年的及格率是20%，平均分是56.61；1995年的及格率是10.97%，平均分是45.31；1996年的及格率是18.20%，平均分是47.79。从总的趋势上看，考题的难度逐渐加大。

为了适应形势的需要，1994年，国家教委对研究生英语入学考试大纲进行了部分修改，把入学考试真正作为一种水平测试、选拔人才的手段。研究生英语入学考试更加侧重考生的综合运用能力，更加强调对习惯用法和语感的掌握。在试题难度加大的情况下，仅靠熟悉基本语法规则和牢记英文单词已远远不够了。如何在较短的时间内有更多的收获，这不仅是考生所关心的，也是我们教育工作者一直在探讨的问题。

我们认为，在全面提高英语水平的同时，总结各项题型的特点，对症下药，重点突破，应是一条便捷之路。我们编写“应试指导”和“模拟试题集”，正是适应考生的这一需要，为考生自我学习和自我提高提供实际而有效的帮助。在编写这本“模拟试题集”的过程中，我们严格遵循国家教委考试大纲的要求，注重选材的新颖性与贴切性，突出强调了题型改革后的新特点，题集包括12套全真模拟题和5个题型的专项练习。我们充分考虑到了试题题材的多样化、内容的广泛性和涉及的知识面，使读者在大量阅读和练习实践的基础上熟悉各种题材的风格，熟悉语法概念，学会地道英语的习惯用法，增强语感，提高总体语言水平，同时也学到必要的应试技巧。

我们在12套模拟题和5个专项练习的编排上充分考虑了考生的特点。全书开篇安排了两套完整的试题，供考生自我摸底，以确定自己学习的难点和重点；随后为考生编排了相当数量的练习题，供考生集中练习语法、词汇、阅读理解、完形填空、英译汉和短文写作，以使考生有针对性地克服困难，达到各个击破的目的。

我们谨在这里概括介绍这5个专项练习的要求和应达到的目的：

## 1. 语法结构和词汇

根据近年命题特点：

(1) 句子长度加大，选择前要把阅读与语法、词汇融在一起，即在理解意义的基础上进行选择；

(2) 单纯套语法规则不能完全解决问题，考生应注重培养、加强语感；

(3) 词汇趋于测试一词多义，不考常用意义，而考引申意义、含蓄意义；

(4) 在比较级、倒装句和虚拟语气的试题中，选择项趋向于偏，特别常见的已不再测试。

考生应加强较难语法现象的训练、长句理解的训练，分清长句句子的成分和作用，做出正确选择。

在练习词汇时，注意词汇的辨形和辨义，词汇的搭配和惯用法，避免从英汉对等出发导致判断失误。

## 2. 完形填空

完形填空的最大特点是其综合性，主要测试考生在语篇水平上综合运用语言的能力。

考生在做完形填空试题时，很大一部分失误是因语感不强，考虑问题的角度有偏差或不全面造成的。

针对考生的困难：

(1) 在逐题详解前为考生提供短文大意和段首句译文，目的是引导考生在填空前首先做到从语篇上去理解词义；

(2) 题解主要训练考生从上下文逻辑、语法结构、词义和词汇的常用搭配以及常识等多种角度判断选择，提高解题效率；

(3) 为考生提供选项中的难点（如多义词、易混词及常用搭配等）的用法举例，使考生更多地接触地道英语，增强语感。

## 3. 阅读理解

根据近年命题特点：

(1) 选材多为议论文和说明文，内容偏向社会和人文科学（包括心理学、社会学、语言学、经济学、政治学及文化等）方面；

(2) 考题提问的焦点是考生的判断力及把握主题和主旨的能力。

在编写阅读短文时：

(1) 突出考虑选材的知识性；

(2) 短文总体难度略高于1996年考题；

(3) 注意提问角度的多样化和提问措辞的多样化；

(4) 题解力求简洁，部分句子采用解释加翻译的方法，帮助考生了解句子的原文；

(5) 除重点解析正确答案外，还解释了不易判断的干扰项；

(6) 短文中超纲生词没有注出，目的是让考生从上下文判断理解词的意义。

## 4. 英译汉

考生通过做不同题材的英译汉练习：

(1) 熟练分析每个句子的句架，从语法上保证能正确理解句子意义；

(2) 练习从上下文或句子与句子之间的关系正确判断一些词的词义，避免只满足于了解词的字面意思；

(3) 练习在英译汉的过程中首先做到忠实于原文，同时也考虑符合汉语的表达习惯；

(4) 帮助考生扩大知识面。

### 5. 短文写作

结合本书中热点问题的写作，对专题进行系统的讲解，内容少而精，并配有切实的例子，帮助考生尽快掌握英语短文写作的基本方法，减少考生背诵范文单调乏味之苦，明显提高写作能力。主要讲解以下专题：

- (1) 如何写好主题句；
- (2) 如何写好文章与段落的结尾；
- (3) 如何紧扣作文题目写作文；
- (4) 如何展开段落；
- (5) 如何使用句子展开段落；
- (6) 如何使文章连贯；
- (7) 如何写图表作文；
- (8) 如何写书信体的作文。

这些专题既自成体系，又相互关联，并穿插讲解常用句型和过渡词的用法。

在5项练习后我们安排了8套全真模拟试题，这些试题从形式到难度完全是根据考试大纲的要求编写的，试题覆盖的知识面广，其目的是让考生逐渐适应这种考试的形式，以便从心理上和技能上做好充分的准备。最后，我们还安排了两套精心选择的模拟试题，以便考生检验自己的收获。考生在做题时可以对比开始的摸底测试、考前的分项练习以及应试训练，最后检验自己是否已做好了考前的各项准备。

本书的主编是中国人民大学外语系张锦芯教授，参加编写的有张锦芯教授，白洁、郭庆民、王敏、田育英4位副教授以及赵艳萍等同志。在编写过程中，新华通讯社译审陈金岚同志参加了部分审订工作，武敏、王珠英和汪明同志承担了部分选材、资料整理及打印工作。

最后，我们谨在这里感谢中国人民大学出版社的大力支持，并衷心希望“应试指导”和“模拟试题集”对所有准备参加研究生考试的考生及其他英语学习者都能有所帮助，我们衷心期待读者的批评指正。

**编者**

1996年3月

# 目 录

<b>第一部分</b>	<b>摸底测试</b> .....	1
	<b>测试题一</b> .....	1
	测试题一解析 .....	13
	<b>测试题二</b> .....	24
	测试题二解析 .....	36
<b>第二部分</b>	<b>专项训练</b> .....	48
	<b>语法结构及词汇</b> .....	48
	语法结构解析 .....	71
	词汇解析 .....	80
	<b>完形填空</b> .....	91
	完形填空解析 .....	97
	<b>阅读理解</b> .....	119
	阅读理解解析.....	168
	<b>英译汉</b> .....	186
	英译汉解析.....	192
	<b>短文写作</b> .....	197
	短文写作 (I) .....	197
	短文写作 (I) 解析 .....	198
	短文写作 (II) .....	201
	短文写作 (II) 解析 .....	202
	短文写作 (III) .....	204
	短文写作 (III) 解析 .....	205
	短文写作 (IV) .....	207
	短文写作 (IV) 解析 .....	208
	短文写作 (V) .....	211
	短文写作 (V) 解析 .....	211
	短文写作 (VI) .....	213
	短文写作 (VI) 解析 .....	214
	短文写作 (VII) .....	216
	短文写作 (VII) 解析 .....	216
	短文写作 (VIII) .....	219
	短文写作 (VIII) 解析 .....	220



<b>第三部分</b>	<b>全真模拟题</b> .....	222
	模拟题一.....	222
	模拟题一解析.....	234
	模拟题二.....	244
	模拟题二解析.....	256
	模拟题三.....	266
	模拟题三解析.....	278
	模拟题四.....	288
	模拟题四解析.....	300
	模拟题五.....	308
	模拟题五解析.....	320
	模拟题六.....	329
	模拟题六解析.....	342
	模拟题七.....	350
	模拟题七解析.....	362
	模拟题八.....	373
	模拟题八解析.....	385
<b>第四部分</b>	<b>考前预测</b> .....	395
	预测题一.....	395
	预测题一解析.....	407
	预测题二.....	417
	预测题二解析.....	430
	<b>答 案</b> .....	439

# 第一部分 摸底测试

根据1994年题型改革后几年来的试题分析,我们对1997年试题的难度有一个基本的预测。这里安排的两套模拟题,就是根据我们的预测编写的,希望考生用这两套题对自己的英语水平摸摸底,做题后总结自己学习上存在的问题及复习重点。

## 测试题一

### Part I Structure and Vocabulary

#### Section A

Directions:

Beneath each of the following sentences, there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET. (5 points)

1. He had set out to question views about how life had developed on the earth. \_\_\_\_\_, he had thrown doubt on some people's religious beliefs. *11/11/11/11/11*  
A. To do so    ~~B. In doing so~~    C. To do it    ~~D. Doing so~~
2. We have to know the difference \_\_\_\_\_ between collective ownership and the ownership by the whole people.  
*(which)* ~~A. there is~~    ~~B. as is~~    C. it is    D. what is
3. Although the cultural pattern of the community affects early upbringing of a child in the home, it is \_\_\_\_\_ not the only factor.  
A. however    B. anyhow    ~~C. nevertheless~~    D. yet
4. If you are a man, you may point out that most poets and men of science are male; if you are a woman, you can retort that \_\_\_\_\_ are most criminals.  
A. the same    ~~B. also~~    C. even    ~~D. so~~
5. Engineers say that push-bottom factories may eventually permit a work schedule \_\_\_\_\_ weekends will be longer than weekdays.  
A. which    ~~B. whose~~    ~~C. in which~~    D. as
6. Last week 22 cars were reported have been stolen. Of these only one has been found,

\_\_\_\_\_ in Reckingham Palace Road, 20 miles away.

- ~~A~~. abandoned    B. being abandoned    C. having been abandoned  
D. to be abandoned

7. In Japan, a person's capabilities are not forced into an inflexible specialty. \_\_\_\_\_ there is willingness and intelligence, there is a place within the company to try and to succeed.

- A. That    ~~B~~. Where    C. ~~Once~~    ~~D~~. When

8. A man's shopping can be and often is completed in five minutes, which is only less than a quarter \_\_\_\_\_.

- ~~A~~. of a woman's    B. ~~that~~ of a woman's    C. of that of a woman    D. of a woman.

9. I \_\_\_\_\_ for a driving licence for the third time. I had been asked to drive in heavy traffic and had done so successfully.

- A. was tested    ~~B~~. had been tested    C. have been tested    ~~D~~. was being tested

10. With a large population, each person produces less and this means a lower average income than \_\_\_\_\_ with a smaller population.

- A. can be obtained    B. is obtained    ~~C~~. that obtained    ~~D~~. could be obtained

### Section B

Directions:

Each of the following sentences has four underlined parts marked A, B, C and D. Identify the part of the sentence that is incorrect and mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET. (5 points)

11. This book cost me five yuan. As you have been a good friend of mine, you may borrow it as far as you keep it clean.

12. Despite the differences in appearance and construction, most American lighthouses shared several features: a light, a living quarter, and sometimes a bell.

13. Although the advertising expenditure for instant coffee was far greater than regular coffee, the producers of the former found their product strongly resisted in the market places despite their product's manifest advantages.

~~F~~ 14. The idle useless man, to no matter what extent his life may be prolonged, merely lives a meaningless life.

~~C~~ 15. After several years of hard study, they have acquired a good deal of theoretical

knowledge <sup>is relating to</sup> ~~related~~ to their job.  
D

16. The light, which otherwise disturbed the invalid, was excluded from his chamber by means of shutters.  
A B C D  
*that would have*
17. Just as the chemist draws his deduction from the results of laboratory experiments, so the students of language must draw their deduction from an observation of the fact of language.  
A B C D
18. Experience shows that success is less due to ability than to zeal. The winner is he who gives himself to work, body and soul.  
A B C D
19. Hard work, moreover tends not only to give us rest for the body, and what is even more important, peace to the mind.  
A B C D  
*but*
20. How the illiterate couple managed to make three university students of their three sons are more than I can imagine.  
A B C D

### Section C

Directions:

Beneath each of the following sentences, there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

21. He was a young man of barely eighteen years, evidently country \_\_\_\_, and now, as it seemed, on his first visit to town.  
A. brought up B. bred C. grown up D. raised
22. Every year in the U. S., colleges and graduate schools continue to \_\_\_\_ highly trained people to compete for jobs that are not there. As a result, graduates cannot enter the professions for which they were trained.  
A. turn out B. work out C. make out D. bring out
23. City planners must never forget that public acceptance of their ideas requires time. So when their ideas are \_\_\_\_, they must continue to work.  
A. refused B. rejected C. denied D. objected
24. Certain cities \_\_\_\_ a small-town atmosphere in those neighborhoods characterized by unique ethnic charm.  
A. retail B. detain C. retain D. disdain
25. Sewing one's own clothes is a way of saving money and allows one to choose a favourite style and \_\_\_\_.

- ~~A.~~ fabric    B. linen    C. cheque    D. silk
26. Before sitting for the entrance examination for post-graduate students, many candidates try to familiarize themselves with the formula of the exam by doing \_\_\_ tests.  
A. imitated    ~~B.~~ simulated    C. stimulated    D. exemplary
27. The only solution to rubbish problem for a nation which now spends more on wrapping food than it pays farmers to produce it, is recovering \_\_\_ the packaging materials for commercial as well as for conservation reasons.  
A. on sale    B. on the spot    ~~C.~~ on a large scale    D. on all sides
28. The first men to study the nature of electricity could not imagine that their experiments, carried on because of mere intellectual curiosity, would eventually lead to modern electrical technology, without which we can scarcely \_\_\_ contemporary life.  
A. get hold of    ~~B.~~ conceive of    C. get the better of    D. take advantage of
29. In a family where the roles of men and women are not sharply separated and where many household tasks are shared to a greater or lesser extent, notions of male \_\_\_ are hard to maintain.  
~~A.~~ privilege    B. predominance    C. prevalence    D. priority
30. Students learning English find the news a useful \_\_\_ of language practice. To improve their listening comprehension, they listen to the news on the radio and watch it on television.  
A. resource    B. origin    ~~C.~~ source    D. illustration
31. The \_\_\_ difference in Chinese dialect has been a continuing problem ever since China became an empire in 221 B. C. , and it is one big reason why the country has remained improverished.  
~~A.~~ enormous    B. immense    C. imminent    D. eminent
32. It is virtually impossible to \_\_\_ the number of people in the world who have acquired an adequate working knowledge of English in addition to their own languages.  
A. appraise    B. evaluate    C. assess    ~~D.~~ estimate
33. It is interesting to note that in countries where the national diet contains large quantities of \_\_\_ flour and vegetables, certain diseases are comparatively rare.  
A. tasteful    B. cereal    C. delicious    ~~D.~~ unrefined
34. If the population of the Earth goes on increasing at its present rate, there will eventually not be enough resources left to \_\_\_ life on the planet.  
A. attain    B. detain    ~~C.~~ sustain    D. retain
35. There are many disadvantages in grouping pupils just according to their intellectual ability. In fact, bright children are rarely \_\_\_ by mixed-ability teaching.  
A. held out    ~~B.~~ held back    C. held up    D. held in
36. The vast differences in the ways students learn are often \_\_\_ when they are taught

the same thing, in the same way, at the same time. Therefore many of them feel little enthusiastic and even hostile for the ways instruction is handled.

~~A.~~ disregarded    B. distinguished    C. discharged    D. discerned

37. With the pace of change quickening, more and more scientists find it hard to keep up with the latest development even in their own \_\_\_\_.

~~A.~~ disciplines    B. major    C. realms    D. circles

38. After years of being exposed to the sun and rain, the sign over the shop had become completely \_\_\_\_.

~~A.~~ illegal    B. eligible    ~~C.~~ illegible    D. unreadable

39. The police carried out an \_\_\_\_ investigation, but the missing woman was not yet found.

A. exhausting    B. exhaustible    ~~C.~~ exhaustive    D. exhausted

40. \_\_\_\_ I phoned the police, then I made a list of what had been stolen, and then I made myself a cup of tea.

A. At first    ~~B.~~ First    C. In the first place    D. At the start

## Part II Cloze Test

Directions:

For each numbered blank in the following passage, there are four choices labelled A, B, C and D. Choose the best one and put your choice in the ANSWER SHEET. (10 points)

Throughout history, gold has been a precious material, eagerly sought and cherished. It was probably the first metal to be 41 because it is beautiful and imperishable, and because beautiful objects can be made from it—even with 42 tools. However, the amount of gold known to ancient peoples probably 43 not much more than the amount produced each year by the world's largest gold mine in South Africa.

The intrinsic value of gold has always been known, even before gold was used in coinage. It 44 the only universally recognized standard of value in international monetary 45. Most of the world's 46 gold is absorbed by governments and central banks to provide backing for paper 47, but the amount of gold used in the arts and in industry is 48. In 49 to its use for jewelry, decorative finishes, and dentistry, its special properties have 50 many applications in modern science and technology.

41. A. mined~~✓~~    B. discovered~~✓~~    C. purchased    D. manufactured

42. A. delicate    B. primitive~~✓~~    C. sophisticated    D. ingenious

43. A. added    B. summed    C. amounted    ~~✓~~D. totalled

44. A. remains~~✓~~    B. is remained    C. remains as    D. remains of

45. A. exchange~~✓~~    B. exhibition    ~~C.~~ expedition    D. excursion

46. A. reformed      B. refined ✓      C. resolved      D. reclaimed  
 47. A. production      B. currency ✓      C. replacement      D. distribution  
 48. A. stabilizing      B. decreasing      C. increasing ✓      D. recovering  
 49. A. comparison      B. compensation      C. standardization      D. addition  
 50. A. drawn from      B. derived from      C. lead to ✓      D. resort to

### Part III Reading Comprehension

Directions:

Each of the passages below is followed by some questions. For each question there are four answers marked A, B, C and D. Read the passages carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions. Then mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET. (40 points)

#### Passage 1

*is very important!*  
 A single status may have multiple roles attached to it, constituting a role set. Consider the status of a patient in a hospital. The status involves the sick role; another role as the peer of other patients; still another role as the "appreciative" receiver of the gifts and attention of friends and family members; one role as a consumer of newspapers, magazines, and other small items purchased from a hospital attendant; and a role as acquaintance of a number of friendly hospital personnel. Or consider your status as a family member. Your status includes a variety of roles, for example, parent and child, uncle, spouse, and cousin. Clearly, a role does not exist in a social vacuum; it is a bundle of activities that are connected with the activities of other people. For this reason, there can be no professors without students, no husbands without wives, no whites without nonwhites, and no lawyers without clients.

Roles affect us as sets of norms that define our duties—the actions others can legitimately insist that we perform, and our rights—the actions we can legitimately insist that others perform. Every role has at least one reciprocal role attached to it; the rights of one role are the duties of the other role. As we have noted, we have a social niche for the sick. Sick people have rights—our society says they do not have to function in usual ways until they get well. But sick people also have the duty to get well and "not enjoy themselves too much". The sick role also entails an appeal to another party—the physician. The physician must perceive the patient as trying to get well—this is the physician's right and the patient's duty. And the patient must see the doctor as sincere—the patient's right and the physician's duty. It should come as no surprise that the quality of medical care falters when patient and physician role expectations break down.

One way that people are linked in groups is through networks of reciprocal roles. Role relationships tie us to one another because the rights of one end of the relationship are the duties of the other. People experience these stable relationships as social structure—a hospital, a college, a family, a gang, an army, and so on.

51. If you are a patient, you take on all the following roles EXCEPT the role as \_\_\_\_.
- A. a friend of your fellow patients
  - B. a staff member of the hospital
  - C. the receiver of the treatment
  - D. a buyer of medicines
52. The example of the family member in paragraph one is used to convey the idea that \_\_\_\_.
- B. A. roles involve both duties and rights corresponding to them
  - B. a role set forms a network of interdependencies
  - C. family roles are far more complex than they appear
  - D. family members have more duties than patients
53. Which of the following may be one of the doctor's duties?
- A. See to it that the patient gets well as soon as possible.
  - B. Make sure that the patient doesn't enjoy himself too much.
  - C. Ask the patient to be cooperative in the treatment.
  - D. Perceive the patient as eager to get well.
54. A role is best defined in its relation to \_\_\_\_.
- A. another status
  - B. its obligation
  - C. other roles
  - D. its importance

## Passage 2

There are people in Italy who can't stand soccer. Not all Canadians love hockey. A similar situation exists in America, where there are those individuals—you may be one of them—who yawn or even frown when somebody mentions baseball. Baseball to them means boring hours watching grown men in funny tight outfits standing around in a field staring away while very little of anything happens. They tell you it's a game better suited to the 19th century—slow, quiet, gentlemanly. These are the same people—you may be one of them who love football because there's sport that glorifies "the hit".

By contrast, baseball seems abstract, cool, silent, still.

On TV the game is fractured into a dozen perspectives, replays, close-ups. The geometry of the game, however, is essential to understanding it. You will contemplate the game from one point as a painter does his subject; you may, of course, project yourself into the game. It is in this projection that the game affords so much space and time for



involvement. The TV won't do it for you.

Take, for example, the third baseman. You sit behind the third base dugout and you watch him watching home plate, His legs are apart, knees flexed. His arms hang loose. He does a lot of this. The skeptic still cannot think of any other sports so still, so passive. But watch what happens every time the pitcher (投手) throws; the third baseman goes up on his toes, flexes his arms or bring the glove to a point in front of him, takes a step right or left, backward or forward, perhaps he glances across the field to check his first baseman's position. Suppose the pitch is a ball. "Nothing happened," you say. "I could have had my eyes closed."

The skeptic and the innocent must play the game. And this involvement in the stands is no more intellectual than listening to music is. Watch the third baseman. Smooth the dirt in front of you with one foot; smooth the pocket in your glove; watch the eyes of the batter, the speed of the bat, the sound of horsehide on wood. If football is a symphony (交响乐) of movement and theatre, baseball is chamber (室内) music, a spacious interlocking of notes, chors and responses.

55. The passage is mainly concerned with \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. the different tastes of people for sports
  - B. the different characteristics of sports
  - C. the attraction of football
  - D. the attraction of baseball
56. Those who don't like baseball may complain that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. it is only to the taste of the old
  - B. it involves fewer players than football
  - C. it is not exciting enough
  - D. it is pretentious and looks funny
57. The author admits that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. baseball is too peaceful for the young
  - B. baseball may seem boring when watched on TV
  - C. football is more attracting than baseball
  - D. baseball is more interesting than football
58. We can safely conclude that the author \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. likes football
  - B. hates football
  - C. hates baseball
  - D. likes baseball

### Passage 3

Historians may well look back on the 1980s in the United States as a time of rising affluence side-by-side with rising poverty. The growth in affluence is attributable to an