

阅读突破 高分必备

■ 大纲解析，考点逐一突破

■ 命题规律，技巧一一点拨

■ 综合阅读，一篇胜过十篇

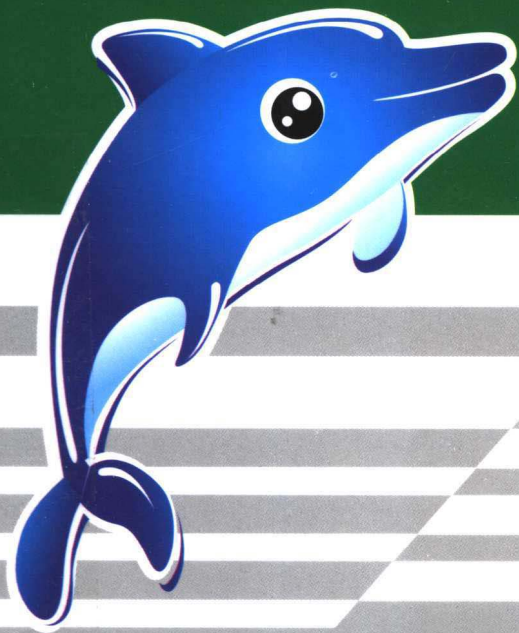
■ 历年真卷，实战完美演绎

全国英语等级考试

阅读高分突破

第二级

全国英语等级考试教材编写组
全国英语等级考试命题研究中心
未来教育教学与研究中心



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前 言

全国英语等级考试(Public English Test System,简称 PETS)是教育部考试中心设计并负责的全国性英语水平考试体系,和其他考试不同的是,PETS 考试是一种向社会全方位开放的考试体系,是以测试考生的英语实际运用能力为主要目的的。而阅读理解就是这种能力的一个重要组成部分,所以在 PETS 的各级别考试中,它占的权重都是最大的。因此,阅读理解能力的高低不仅是英语学习者英语水平高低的重要标志,在一定程度上也是影响考生得分的重要因素,所以,编者针对 PETS 各级考试和考生的特点,为广大考生精心编写了这套《全国英语等级考试阅读高分突破》(1~4 级)系列图书。

具体来说,本套丛书内容组织上分起、承、转、合四个过程,实现了一个质的飞跃:

一、起:最新真卷自测

首先为大家提供的是最新的阅读真卷,让大家可以在开始复习备考前检测一下自己的水平,清楚自己的优缺点,以此来进行有针对性的备考。我们这个独特的“引子”可称为“起”。

二、承:大纲解说和命题规律

承接着最新真题,在第一章和第二章的内容里,编者分别为大家分析了考纲和考点,并有针对性地以历年真题为例,总结了命题规律和答题技巧。因为我们深谙古人“授人以鱼,不如授人以渔”的话语,所以为大家准备了这些理论和技巧性的东西,此部分可谓“承”。

三、转:综合阅读

“纸上得来终觉浅,绝知此事要躬行”,再科学的理论,再有效的技巧,如果不经实践,那也只能是“纸上谈兵”。所以我们在第三章为大家准备了八个单元的阅读练习,每一单元练习的材料无论体裁、题材,还是文章长短、难易,都严格以大纲和真题为标杆。而且在每一单元后面都为大家安排了“难词突破”、“难句翻译”、“篇章分析”和“答案精析”四个小模块,来帮助大家更好地理解和学习。在大家摸清命题规律和答题技巧后,第三章的内容可以让大家有针对性地转入练习,是“转”也。

四、合:历年真卷

理论掌握了,练习也做了。那么在真正考试时又会怎样呢?所以我们又为大家准备了最新的五套真卷来供大家演练,并配以“答案精析”供大家自测。始自真卷,终自真卷,实现了“合”的意义。

本套丛书即是此思路,让大家明确考点,通过练习吃透考点,进而通过真卷来直击考点,让考生有节奏、有弹性地完成备考,取得高分。

在编写过程中,编者参考了大量相关的资料和文献,并得到了很多长期活跃在 PETS 考试第一线的老师和专家们的支持,在此特别表示感谢。本书由辽宁石油化工大学外国语学院顾玉梅老师担任主编。

由于时间仓促,书中难免出现不当和疏漏,恳请广大读者和同行提出宝贵意见,以待再版时修订。

编 者

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2008年3月真卷

第三部分 阅读理解

阅读下列短文,从每题所给的四个选项(A、B、C和D)中,选出最佳答案,并在答题卡1上将该项涂黑。

A

Is staring at a big, white wall during class making you feel dull? If you have ever walked past math teacher Mr. Kelley's room, you may have noticed how cheerful it is throughout the year. One thing that makes his classroom so much fun is the celebrity (名人) pictures on his front wall.

Kelley's students have been writing to celebrities from across the nation asking for a photo and a few words of advice. "It really takes a lot of time and money," Kelley said. First, Kelley and his students make a list of all the celebrities to whom they want to write. Once a student picks a star, Kelley looks them up in his book of addresses to see if he can write to that person.

Writing to the stars takes a lot of time because he has to personalize each letter, print them out, and address them. In the letter, Kelley asks the celebrity to send his classes a picture with some advice he or she would give to today's youth.

Kelley takes up a collection in all of his classes and asks each student to contribute (捐) a dollar to pay for the postage. Once Kelley mails off all the letters, the fun really begins. So far he has gotten back about 20 letters and pictures. "The only thing that isn't cool is when the celebrity sends the picture back with no advice on it, which is my entire purpose in doing this," said Kelley. When he gets at least three pictures returned, he lets his classes guess who the three stars are. He keeps score of how many celebrities each class has guessed. Jason Bryant, a student, said, "It's become a contest(竞赛) between the classes to see who can guess the most stars, and it's really fun."

56. What is the text about?

[A] Celebrities sending photos to Kelley.

- [B] Celebrities giving advice to students.
 - [C] Kelley and his classes writing to celebrities.
 - [D] Kelley inviting celebrities to his classes.
57. The phrase “to personalize each letter” (line 1 , para. 3) means “_____”.
- [A] to print out each letter
 - [B] to personally send out each letter
 - [C] to find the address of each celebrity
 - [D] to make the letter suitable for a particular star
58. Who pays to send out the letters?
- [A] Kelley himself.
 - [B] Kelley’s students.
 - [C] The contest organizer.
 - [D] Jason Bryant.
59. What is Kelley’s main purpose of writing the letters?
- [A] To educate his students.
 - [B] To have pictures for his office wall.
 - [C] To improve his students’ letter writing skills.
 - [D] To help his students know more about the celebrities.
60. According to Jason Bryant, they find a lot of fun in _____.
- [A] studying math
 - [B] reading replies
 - [C] the name-guessing game
 - [D] receiving pictures from celebrities

B

As you know, “being green” means that you care about the environment(环境) and that you do what you can to help the Earth. Recycling(回收利用) paper and cans, reducing waste, and protecting wildlife are all examples of “green” activities.

This special green issue of *National Geographic Kids* is devoted to the environment. In fact, you’re being green simply by reading it. When you’re finished, you’ll know a lot of things you probably didn’t know at all. And you’ll be a greener citizen with a strong sense of environmental protection.

In this issue(一期杂志) you will discover how you can help the Earth face its five biggest environmental problems. Animal behavior specialist Jane Goodall shares new ideas about how you can help wildlife. Answer actor Leonardo DiCaprio's call to action to help the environment. Just how green are you? Answer our questions on page 10 to find out. You may win a trip to Orlando, Florida. And there's a special pullout poster to hang on the wall.

61. The writer's main purpose in writing this text is to _____.

- [A] persuade the reader to waste less
- [B] explain the meaning of the word "green"
- [C] encourage people to buy this issue
- [D] call on people to protect the environment

62. This issue is called "green" because of _____.

- [A] the subject discussed
- [B] the color of the pullout poster
- [C] the kind of paper used for the magazine
- [D] the wild animals mentioned in the issue

63. In this issue, we may probably find an article about _____.

- [A] how to travel to Florida
- [B] a role Leonardo played in a film
- [C] new methods of feeding animals
- [D] how to protect wildlife

C

Millions of Americans survive(生存) in low-paying jobs. *The Working Poor* (319 pages), by David Shipler, a Pulitzer-winning former reporter, shows just how barely they get by.

In his tour around the world of low-paying jobs, Shipler describes a kind of domino model of a downward cycle. "Poor housing can worsen a child's illness, which leads to a call for a doctor, which results in a medical bill that cannot be paid, which ruins a credit record, which raises the interest rate on an auto loan(贷款), which results in the buying of a used car, which causes a mother to be late for work, which limits her pay raise and earning ability, which keeps her to poor housing, which worsens the illness, and so on."

What Shipler aims to do in the book is to produce a picture of all of those dominoes at once, the problems that keep the working poor on the edge of household disaster(灾难). As the condi-

tions for the lowest-paid workers keep worsening, he writes, "the low-paid employees have been testing the American belief in hard work."

To those who don't quite make it from paycheck to paycheck, convenience stores in poor neighborhoods lend money at interest rates of about 20% for a two-week loan. If that can't be repaid, it's gladly rolled over—for another 20%. In the space of a few months, he or she owes twice as much in interest as he borrowed.

Shipler doesn't place all the blame on society. The people he meets often lack the soft skills that employers require, like showing up on time, following directions, even knowing how to comb their hair. To be sure, they need better schools and medical care, but they also need to know better than to use their hard-earned checks to get drunk and disorderly, or go in for ill-advised sex and foolish spending.

64. The main purpose of this text is to _____.
[A] show how the poor can improve their living conditions
[B] discuss the reasons why many Americans are poor
[C] introduce David Shipler's book about the poor
[D] describe how a reporter has become a writer
65. In the text, the sufferings of the poor are described as _____.
[A] one misfortune leading to another
[B] being the result of unemployment
[C] caused by the lack of social care
[D] becoming more widespread
66. We may infer from the text that the American belief in hard work is that _____.
[A] one can improve one's life by working hard
[B] one should work hard and play hard
[C] one should improve his soft skills at work
[D] one can prove himself useful through hard work
67. The convenience stores in poor neighborhoods have _____.
[A] helped the poor out of their difficulties
[B] made the poor people even poorer
[C] provided an unnecessary service
[D] shown interest in training the poor

68. It can be learned from the text that _____.

- [A] poor people are more careful with money
- [B] low-paid people have their own faults
- [C] poor people are exploited by the society
- [D] soft skills are more important than hard skills

D

When Charles Darwin explained evolution(进化), the process he saw was natural selection (选择). It turns out human selection can also cause plants to evolve.

Take the case of the snow lotus, a rare(稀少的) plant that grows only high up in the Himalayas. Researchers have discovered that one type of the plant has been becoming smaller over time—the one people like to pick.

A type of snow lotus called *Saussurea laniceps* is used in Tibetan and Chinese medicine and is increasingly demanded by tourists. The largest plants are picked, and that occurs during their only flowering period.

The result is that only smaller, unpicked plants go to seed. Selection caused by humans is a powerful force, according to some scientists. They studied the plants picked over time and also compared the snow lotuses growing in heavily harvested areas with those found in places where people rarely picked them.

They reported in an article that the heavily harvested snow lotuses have been getting shorter over the last century, while those in areas not picked have remained the same. They found that in the heavily harvested areas, where only the smaller plants got to reproduce, the average height was 5.3 inches. The same plants in rarely harvested areas averaged 9 inches in height. And they noted that another type of snow lotuses which is not often picked, has not been changing.

69. What does the word “that” (line 3, para. 3) refer to?

- [A] Research done by Darwin.
- [B] Seeds of *Saussurea laniceps* by natural selection.
- [C] The picking of *Saussurea laniceps* by tourists.
- [D] The *Saussurea laniceps* used in traditional Chinese medicine.

70. What has caused *Saussurea laniceps* to become smaller?

- [A] Poor soil conditions in the Himalayas.
- [B] The shortening of flowering period.

[C] Tourist selections of seeds of the plants.

[D] Reproduction from seeds of smaller plants.

71. What is this text mainly about?

[A] A research finding.

[B] Choices of tourists.

[C] Darwin's discovery.

[D] Protection of the snow lotus.

E

Find Something for Your Holidays

(www.smithsojourners.com)

TOUR de FRANCE JULY 2-24

Paris, France This is the greatest, most famous bicycle race in the world. For over a hundred years, cyclists from around the world have come to the French countryside to compete (比赛), while the world itself watches. This year, the excitement will be great, as Lance Armstrong goes for a SEVENTH Tour de France win. (www.letour.fr)

RUNNING OF THE BULLS/FESTIVAL OF SAN FERMIN JULY 6-17

Pamplona, Spain Every one knows what it is by sight: hundreds of sweaty men and women running down narrow streets before stampeding bulls (狂奔的牛). It's the famous Running of the Bulls in Pamplona, and nearly two weeks of partying with it. (www.sanfermin.com/www.pamplona.net)

CELEBRATION OF LIGHT JULY 27-AUGUST 6

Vancouver, BC, Canada One of the biggest international showcases of fireworks (焰火) takes place every summer over English Bay in Vancouver (although you can see it from a variety of public parks and beaches). This year, teams from three nations will take part, showing off the best fireworks. (www.celebration-of-light.com)

NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL AUGUST 28-29

London, England Each year over one million people come to this area in west London during the late August Bank Holiday to dance and eat and drink and play. It began in 1964 and has grown into one of the world's biggest and most expected parties. (www.portowebbo.co.uk/nottinghilltv/carnivall.htm)

72. From the text we learn that if someone wants to find information about travel offers they can visit _____.
 [A] www. letour. fr
 [B] www. smithsojourners. com
 [C] www. sanfermin. com
 [D] www. celebration-of-light. com
73. If you love sports and the countryside, a good choice is probably _____.
 [A] France
 [B] England
 [C] Spain
 [D] Canada
74. If someone has a vacation in late July and early August, a good choice may be _____.
 [A] Celebration of Light
 [B] Notting Hill Carnival
 [C] Tour de France
 [D] Festival of San Fermin
75. How can you find more information about the events listed?
 [A] By phone.
 [B] On the Internet.
 [C] On TV.
 [D] From the radio.



答案精析

第三部分:阅读理解

A

56. C 【精析】主旨题。题干意为“这篇文章主要说的是什么?”从文章的整体来看,作者叙述了凯勒和他授课班级的学生给名人写信的经历。所以本题的正确答案是C。

57. D 【精析】释义题。题干意为“文中第三段第一行的短语‘to personalize each letter’是什么意思?”从文章的第三段可知,凯勒不但要把发给明星的信件打印出来,写出邮寄地址,还要在每一封信里写出他和他的学生们的请求。因此可知,他要使每一封信都具有针对性。

所以本题的正确答案是D。

58. B 【精析】细节题。题干意为“谁付邮资?”文中最后一段第一句提到凯勒要求他班级里的每一个学生都要捐出一美元用于支付邮费,因此可知,是学生们出的钱交付的邮资。所以本题的正确答案是B。

59. A 【精析】细节题。题干意为“凯勒写这些信件的目的是什么?”根据文中最后一段凯勒所说,这些名人回信都会附有照片,但是照片上却并没有什么箴言,而其实索求这些箴言才是他真正的目的。因此,凯勒写信本想请求这些名人给当代的青年提出一些劝勉的话,用于教育他的学生。所以本题的正确答案是A。

60. C 【精析】细节题。题干意为“根据贾森·布莱恩特所说的,他们在什么中找到了乐趣?”根据最后一段倒数第一句话可知,各个班级的学生们比赛看哪个班级能够最多次数地准确猜测出明星的身份,这个竞赛很有趣。所以本题的正确答案是C。

B

61. C 【精析】主旨题。题干意为“作者写这篇文章的目的是什么?”文章的第一段讲解什么是绿色环保,什么样的活动才是绿色环保的。第二段讲这期特刊对于绿色环保的特别之处,也就是只要你阅读了它,你就为保护环境贡献了一份力量,因为你会了解许多以前不知道的事情,知道了如何做才能变成一个更加环保的好公民。文章最后一段更加明确地表明这本杂志将告诉你关于绿色环保方面更加细致的知识,并且告诉了读者购买这期特刊可能会获得一次免费旅游的机会和一个免费赠送的挂签。因此本篇文章是在推销这期特刊。所以本题的正确答案是C。

62. A 【精析】细节题。题干意为“这期特刊称为‘绿色环保’的原因是什么?”根据第二段第一句话,这期特刊是专门讨论环境的,可知这期杂志之所以称为“绿色环保”,就是因为这本杂志讨论的主题是绿色环保。所以本题的正确答案是A。

63. D 【精析】推断题。题干意为“在这期杂志里,我们可能看到一篇关于什么的文章?”根据第三段第二句,“Animal behavior specialist Jane Goodall shares new ideas about how you can help wildlife.”可知,读者在这期杂志里可以看到保护野生动物的文章。所以本题的正确答案是D。

C

64. C 【精析】主旨题。题干意为“这篇文章主要讲的是什么?”文章整体都是在讲希普利写的这本书的内容,揭示了穷人如何在贫穷这个多米诺模式里一直贫穷的过程和原因,并提到了希普利对穷人一直贫穷原因的分析,以及希普利提出的改变穷人贫穷现状的建议措施。所以本题的正确答案是C。

65. A 【精析】细节题。题干意为“在文章中,穷人的悲惨遭际被描述成什么?”根据文章第二段的表述可知,穷人的一个不幸的生活遭际会导致下一个不幸的生活遭际,这是一个

循环往复的过程,穷人很难逃脱出来。所以本题的正确答案是A。

66. A 【精析】推断题。题干意为“根据文中的意思我们能够推断出美国人对勤劳的信仰是什么?”根据全文,穷人们一直贫穷,他们陷入了一种贫穷的多米诺模式,虽然他们一直辛勤工作,但是他们仍然很难从贫穷中逃脱出来,这对美国人的信仰造成了一种危机。因此美国人对劳动的信仰应该是通过辛勤劳动,他们就能摆脱贫困,实现由穷变富(from rags to riches)的美国梦。所以本题的正确答案是A。

67. B 【精析】推断题。题干意为“穷人区的便利店使穷人变得怎么了?”根据第四段,穷人区的便利店会给那些入不敷出的穷人放出一些为期两周的高利贷,如果他们不能到期还款,他们通常可以续贷,但是高额的利率却没有降低;久而久之,穷人借的高利贷利息数额就同当初的借款一样多了。因此,这些便利店使穷人变得越来越穷。所以本题的正确答案是B。

68. B 【精析】推断题。题干意为“从文中我们可以了解到什么?”根据文章最后一段,虽然穷人需要社会在教育和医疗保障上给予帮助,但是穷人本身也要注意生活节俭,不能用血汗钱去做一些不理智的事情。因此可知,穷人本身也有一些缺点。所以本题的正确答案是B。

D

69. C 【精析】细节题。题干意为“第三段第三行中的‘that’指代什么?”根据第三段最后一句话,最大的雪莲被摘走了,这恰恰发生在它们惟一的开花季节。可知that指代的是最大的雪莲被摘走这个事情。所以本题的正确答案是C。

70. C 【精析】推断题。题干意为“是什么使 *Saussurea laniceps* 变得越来越小?”根据整篇文章,在自然界中,人为选择也可以使植物进化,人们把最大的雪莲花都摘走了,只剩下那些体型小的雪莲,它们得以结子延续物种,而那些体型大的却没有如此幸运。所以本题的正确答案是C。

71. A 【精析】主旨题。题干意为“这篇文章讲的是什么?”这篇文章通篇讲的都是人类的行为也可以造成物种的进化,这是一个科学发现。所以本题的正确答案是A。

E

72. B 【精析】细节题。题干意为“从文章中我们可以知道,如果某个人想找一些关于旅游的信息,可以访问哪个网站?”根据标题《为你的假期找些事做》下面的网站可知,整篇文章的内容都是出自这个网站,因此,读者只有访问这个网站,才能找到相关信息。所以本题的正确答案是B。

73. A 【精析】细节题。题干意为“如果你喜欢运动和乡村,一个很好的选择可能是什么?”根据文章第一部分可知,参加自行车竞赛的选手要在法国的乡村比赛。因此,喜欢运动和欣赏乡村风景的游人可以去法国。所以本题的正确答案是A。

74. A 【精析】细节题。题干意为“如果有个人在七月下旬和八月上旬有个假期,一个很好的旅游选择是什么?”根据第三部分的标题可知,只有烟花展是在七月下旬和八月上旬期间举办的,因此到这里来旅游是最佳的选择。所以本题的正确答案是 A。

75. B 【精析】推断题。题干意为“你如何才能找到关于这些节日的更多信息?”根据全文各部分文章的信息来源都是网站,而各部分又都提供了相关的网站网址,因此只有在网站上才能找到关于这些节日的更多信息。所以本题的正确答案是 B。