

申请学士学位英语水平考试指导丛书

英语阅读理解

Reading Comprehension

学士学位英语考试命题研究组 主编 江红斌

第二版



四川大学出版社

英语阅读理解



英语

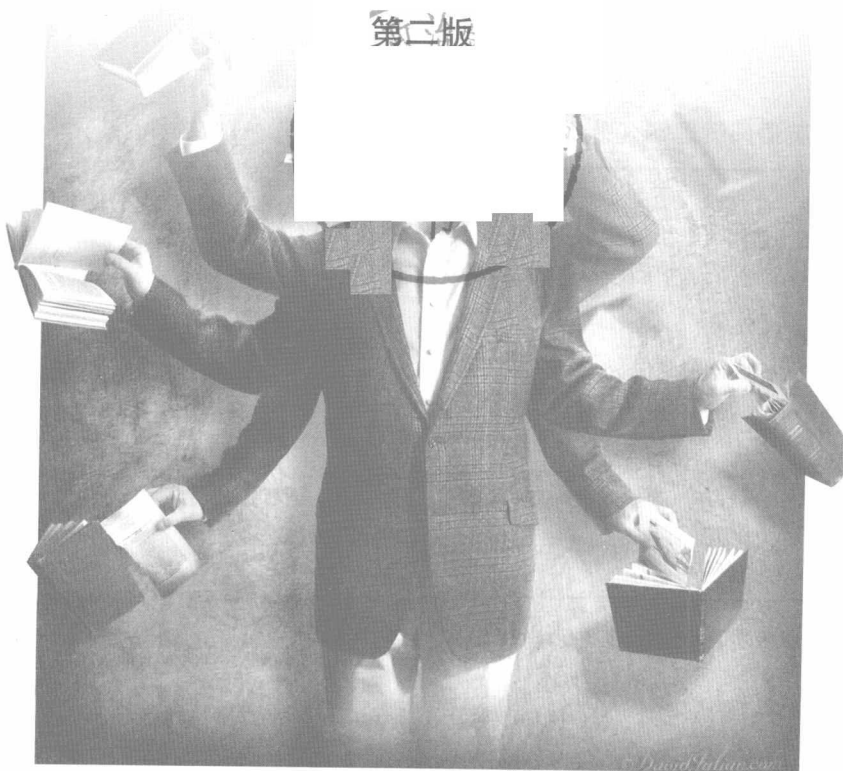
阅读理解

Reading Comprehension

学士学位英语考试命题研究组

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四川大学出版社

责任编辑:黄新路
责任校对:孟庆发
封面设计:丁 丁
责任印制:杨丽贤

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语阅读理解 / 江红斌主编. —2 版. —成都: 四川大学出版社, 2005.7

(申请学士学位英语水平考试指导丛书)

ISBN 7-5614-3139-2

I. 英... II. 江... III. 英语-阅读教学-成人教育: 高等教育-自学参考资料 IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2005) 第 079821 号

书名 英语阅读理解 (第二版)

主 编	江红斌
出 版	四川大学出版社
地 址	成都市一环路南一段 24 号 (610065)
发 行	四川大学出版社
印 刷	郫县犀浦印刷厂
成品尺寸	185 mm×260 mm
印 张	9
字 数	171 千字
版 次	2005 年 7 月第 2 版
印 次	2005 年 7 月第 1 次印刷
印 数	0 001~3 000 册
定 价	18.00 元

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85408023 邮政编码: 610065

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前 言

近年来,随着高教自考和成人本科毕业生以每年几十万人的速度递增,越来越多的考生参加到申请学士学位的英语考试中来。为了让广大考生了解这一考试的特点,并做好充分的应试准备,我们组织了部分高校具有丰富应试指导经验和长期从事学士学位英语一线教学辅导的教师编写了这套丛书。

本丛书根据学士学位英语历年考试命题特点和考纲编写而成,旨在提高和加强考生的综合应试能力。由于英语水平的提高不是一朝一夕的事,特别是英语备考需要进行长期系统性的训练,因此我们针对成人考生的特点,力求在减少考生备考量的同时,结合学士学位考题以及命题规律进行精心研究,总结出一套完整的学习和训练方法,使广大考生尽可能在较短的时间内全面提高应试能力。本丛书分为《英语阅读理解》《英语语法和词汇》《英语翻译与写作》《英语模拟题》四册。丛书的大部分资料已在一些高校成人考生中试用过,收到了较好的效果。《英语模拟题》听力磁带特聘美籍专家 Ms. Diane Campbell 和 Mr. Ryan Sweeney 录制。本丛书在编写过程中参考了部分国内外有关资料,在此谨向有关作者表示衷心的感谢!另外,本丛书的各位编辑在书稿的编辑过程中付出了大量艰辛劳动,在此一并表示感谢!

我们希望本书能对广大考生有所帮助。由于时间仓促,编者水平有限,书中难免存在疏漏和错误,不足之处敬请读者一一指正。

编 者
2005年3月

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第一章 阅读理解的方法和技能

◆第一节 概述

在四川省高教自考和成人本科学士学位英语水平考试中，阅读理解(Reading Comprehension)是考试的主体部分，共20题，考试时间40分钟，占考分的40%。本部分由4篇短文组成，总阅读量在700~800词之间。每篇文章后有5个理解问题，考生阅读文章后应根据内容从每题4个选项中选出一个最佳答案。

阅读理解部分内容广泛，包括人物传记、社会、文化、环境保护、语言学习和科普知识等，但所涉及的背景知识都能为学生理解。阅读文章选材的原则有两条：一是体裁多样，包括叙述文、说明文、议论文等。二是文章的语言难度适中。在文章中一些无法猜测而又影响理解的关键词，如果超出了考试大纲的词汇范围，一般用汉语注明词义。

一、培养正确的阅读方法

(一) 按意群扫视、连贯阅读，而不是逐词阅读

我们的双眼在对成行成句的文字进行扫视时，是跳跃式而不是逐词进行的。因此，如果我们进行阅读时，能以意群或句子为单位进行阅读，我们的阅读速度可大幅度地提高。所谓意群，指的是那些有意义的语法结构或词组。为了方便初学者，我们用斜线符号“/”将意群分隔开。例如：

Plan your time carefully. // Make a list of your weekly tasks. // Then / make a schedule or chart of your time. // Fill in committed time / such as eating, / sleeping, / meetings, / classes, etc. // Then / decide on good, / regular times for studying. // Be sure to set aside enough time / to complete your normal reading

/ and work assignments. /

如果我们用成组视读的方法去阅读上述段落,就很容易看出这一方法的速度要比逐词阅读高好几倍。此阅读法能帮助考生将文字符号快速转化为信息内容,使考生迅速准确地理解句意。

(二) 融会贯通抓住中心思想

阅读时应力求融会贯通,掌握通篇的中心思想,而不要拘泥于对个别词句的理解。

有些学生即使对单个的词、句有好的理解,也无法保证其对整个阅读材料语篇层次上的理解无误。因此,我们要系统地、综合地理解与把握篇章的有机组成部分,学会运用标题、语篇标记和关键句子去识别文章结构,从而进行有目的的阅读。

(三) 大脑里直接反映英语概念

尽力使英语的文字在大脑里直接产生意义,而不是通过翻译来理解。

(四) 摒弃不利于提高阅读速度的不良习惯

- ① 念读,即阅读时随视线的移动而逐字默读或轻轻地将每个词读出声来的方法。
- ② 指读,即用手指指着单词逐一地往前移动的阅读。
- ③ 重读,即在阅读过程中多次将视线移回已经读过的文字上的方式。

二、打好语言基础

(一) 掌握词汇量

阅读技能训练有助于提高学生的阅读理解能力,以及阅读理解考试的成绩,但是,受训对象必须具备一定的英语语言水平才会有明显效果。只有在掌握了一定数量的词汇以及相关词组的前提下,考生才可能有效地运用阅读技能。

(二) 增加阅读量

读得越多,阅读速度和理解能力就提高越快。考生应利用课余时间广泛接触各种真实的语言材料,进行大量的阅读。只有这样才能逐步培养语感,并在阅读实践中扩大、巩固词汇量,积累阅读经验,提高阅读水平。

◆ 第二节 阅读理解的快速方法

为了有效地了解文章的中心思想和细节,读者必须采用适当的阅读方法,

以达到事半功倍的效果。因此,必须学会用略读的方法了解文章的篇章结构、大意、中心思想或主题句,然后用查读的方法找到说明中心思想的重要细节。

一、略读

略读,即“快读”。读者可有选择性地阅读材料中的内容,对一些枝节性的内容加以忽略。略读时精力必须十分集中,以便从整体上对文章进行理解,摸清作者的思想脉络。

那么,如何利用略读法进行阅读呢?我们要找出文章的大意,就要阅读各个段落的主题句。这种句子通常在段落的开头或结尾,有时也会在中间。还有一点要指出的是,文章的最后一段往往对全文进行归纳和总结,因此应加以通读。

二、查读

查读,即一目数行地扫视与答题相关的词句。由于在略读中已对文章的主题和细节有所了解,并进行过勾勒,因此,我们可利用问题中相关的关键词语快速查阅我们所需的信息。

三、细读

细读是在找到自己需要的细节描述部分后,将有关句子详读一次,并进行适当推理。

◆ 第三节 阅读理解技能

一般而言,作者在写文章时都有一个中心思想,各个段落便围绕这一主题进行阐述和发展。因此,有效的阅读在于对段落或篇章的理解。考生首先应了解文章的整体意义,然后再了解细节。鉴于以上原因,我们把寻找中心思想的技能训练放在首位,而把查找细节和猜词的技能训练放在其后;至于推测、总结归纳等技能,它们属于高层次的理解,必须以低层次的理解为条件,故安排在最后。

一、确定中心思想

确定文章的中心思想是阅读理解中最重要的一项技能。因为一旦明确了篇章的主旨,便可有目的地进行阅读。在回答这类问题时,建议考生利用略读法寻找中心思想。一是仔细阅读并力争看懂文章的头两句和最后几句,以及每段的首句和尾句;二是根据所给选项的提示,对阅读材料的有关部分认

真阅读、分析，进而确定正确答案。现举例说明如下：

〔例1〕 One hundred years ago, school teachers were expected to provide a variety of services in addition to their teaching duties and to behave themselves in an example (serving as an example) manner. They cared for the oil lamps, tended the fire, and supplied their students with sharp pencils. After a long day in the classroom, they were expected to spend some time every evening reading the Bible. Women teachers could not marry, and barber shops (理发店) were off limits (禁止进入的) to men teachers. Of course, alcohol and tobacco were forbidden.

Multiple Choice

What does this passage focus on?

- A. How to survey quickly.
- B. How to read efficiently.
- C. How to question efficiently.
- D. Why to survey.

答案：B 作者在文章首句点明教师除了要完成教学任务和为学生树立行为举止的榜样以外，还要提供各种额外的服务。其后的句子都服务于此句，并给出进一步阐述说明主题句的例子。因此，选项 B 是能概括中心大意的正确答案。

〔例2〕 Until the War of 1812, the United States had always bought its manufactured goods, especially its fine cloth, from England. During the war, however, the United States could neither sell its raw materials, nor buy manufactured goods in European markets. There was nothing to do but manufacture its own goods. By the end of the War of 1812 there were nearly 150,000 men and women working in cotton and woolen mills in the United States. We have no figures on the number of workers employed in the various stages of iron production, but we know that the iron industry had greatly increased. Besides the cloth and iron works, there was a great leather industry, including shoe factories, saddle shops, and harness (马具) -making shops, while American hatters were able to supply the market with wool hats and fur caps.

Multiple Choice

The central idea of this paragraph is:

- A. As a result of the War of 1812, Americans began to produce better cloth than they had previously obtained from abroad.
- B. The War of 1812 caused large numbers of Americans to move from the farms into

the factories.

- C. After the War of 1812 the United States was far less dependent on Europe for its manufactured goods.
- D. The War of 1812 caused a temporary change in the pattern of trade between the United States and Europe.

答案：C 短文的第一句 however 后的内容描述了美国既不能在欧洲市场上出售自己的原料，也不能买到制造品。再从第二句得知美国在这种情况下不得不生产自己所需的商品，其后几句都是进一步举例说明。因此，选项 C 为正确答案。

二、辨认主题展开的重要细节

在阅读一段材料时，通常首要的目的是找出中心句，从而抓住作者的写作目的和写作脉络。接着，我们要查找一些事实与重要细节，因为它们是用来为中心思想服务，说明主题信息的。这种题在考题中分值很重，但一般都可在文中找到相对应的句子，因此考生应争取答对所有的细节题。细节题常见的提问方式有：

1. It is stated in the passage that. . .
2. Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the passage?
3. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage?
4. According to the passage, who/why/when. . . ?

要点归纳：

(1) 先通过问题中的关键词找到文中与之相对应的相同或类似的词语，然后再细读与之相关的句子。在 4 个选项中选择出与文章中的原词、原句或原结构类似的释义性答案。

(2) 当一个问题答案分散在文章各处时，考生可以主题思想为指导，对备选答案一一对比后做出选择。

(3) 依据阅读材料来答题，而不是先入为主。在阅读中过分依赖自己已有的知识、认识能力和文化背景，过多地受个人印象的影响，都可能影响对文章具体内容的正确理解。

(4) 分析语篇。如果说作者的写作过程是一个编码过程的话,那么语篇分析便是对作者的这一编码进行解码的过程。考生应将注意力放在语篇上,分析句子是如何衔接成段落,段落又是如何组成篇章的,这样就可迅速在相应的位置找到问题的答案。

通常细节描述采取以下方法排列:

- ① 时间先后顺序;
- ② 因果关系;
- ③ 词汇(即关键词)重复;
- ④ 比较和对比;
- ⑤ 简单列举;
- ⑥ 按事件的重要性排列。

[例1] It was the use of the telescope, of course, that opened the modern age of astronomy (天文学) and made possible the growth of all our current theories. Johannes Kepler and Tycho Brahe tried to answer some questions about the solar system, but it was Galileo who made the first use of the telescope to observe the heavens close up. Born in 1564, Galileo added greatly to our knowledge of the stars before he died in 1642. By means of his telescope he discovered moons in orbit around Jupiter (木星). Although he saw only four, scientists after him discovered eight more moons. Galileo also discovered that the planet (行星) Venus (金星) did not always appear the same size. It was his wise use of the telescope that helped him understand this important fact: that the sun, and not the earth, is the center of the planets.

Multiple Choice

In this paragraph we may find the following facts or details, of which some are important and some are not very important. Please circle those you think important.

- A. Kepler and Brahe answered questions about the solar system.
- B. Galileo was born in 1564 and died in 1642.
- C. He discovered moons around Jupiter.
- D. Galileo observed the planet Venus.
- E. He came to understand that the earth is not the center of the stars' system.

答案: C, D, E 采取略读方法通读全文后,可以判断中心大意为最后一句话“伽利略明智地使用望远镜并因之了解到太阳是行星的中心”。然后可辨认出 C, D, E 支持这个中心大意,并属于与中心大意有关的事实和细节。

[例2] To be successful in a job interview (or for that matter in almost any interview situation), the applicant should demonstrate certain personal and professional qualities. Owing to the fact that the first and often lasting impression of a person is determined by the clothes he wears, the job applicant should take care to appear well-groomed and modestly dressed, avoiding the extremes of too elaborate or too casual attire. Besides care for personal appearance, he should pay close attention to his manner of speaking, which should be neither awkward nor familiar but rather straightforward, grammatically accurate, and friendly. In addition, he should be prepared to talk knowledgeably about the requirements of the position for which he is applying in relation to his own professional experience and interests. And finally, the really impressive applicant must convey a sense of self-confidence and enthusiasm for work, factors which all interviewers value highly. The job seeker who displays these characteristics, with just a little luck, will certainly succeed in the typical personnel interview.

Multiple Choice

The job seeker's first as well as the lasting impression on the interviewer is mostly determined by his _____.

- A. personal appearance
- B. most attractive personal qualities
- C. his certain professional experience and interests
- D. his great enthusiasm for the work

答案: A 这篇短文首先提出这样的观点:要在面试中获得成功,应试者应充分展示其个人及职业素质。接着作者列出了如何展示个人素质和专业素质的4个方面:穿着、谈吐、业务知识、自信热情。问题问的是面试者对应试者的第一个难忘印象是什么,我们只要按照文章叙述的顺序寻找,很快就能在4个备选答案中选出正确的答案A。

三、猜测词义

在实际阅读中,词汇构成的障碍比语法结构构成的障碍大,词汇的掌握对文章理解有直接的影响。但是,在阅读中了解所有词汇是不可能的,重要的是拥有猜测生词的技能。

在阅读题中,为了考核此种技能,常见的题型如下:

1. According to the author, the word "... " means _____.
2. What does the author probably mean by "... " in... paragraph?
3. Which of the following is nearest in meaning to "... "?
4. From the passage, we can infer that the word "... " is _____.

5. The term “...” in paragraph... can be best replaced by...
6. What does the author probably mean by “...” in... paragraph?
7. What's the meaning of “...” in line... of paragraph...?
8. As used in the line..., the word “...” refers to _____.

解猜测词义题时，首先必须在文章中找到这个词或词组，然后利用上下文线索理解词义。

(一) 下定义线索

通过下定义可解释作者所用的词的准确含义。常见标志词有：refer to, be called, be known as, mean, define, be, represent, deal with, constitute 等。

[例1] In slang the term “jam” constitutes a state of being in which a person finds himself or herself in a difficult situation. If a person finds himself in a jam, he may feel _____.

Multiple Choice

- | | |
|----------|------------------|
| A. ill | B. light-hearted |
| C. happy | D. in a dilemma |

从句子的谓语 constitutes 即可推测 jam, 即 difficult situation, 所以, 即使不熟悉 dilemma, 也应该能够排除 A, B 和 C 而选出正确答案 D。

[例2] Being a good, docile son, I didn't argue with my parents.
句中的 docile 可利用同义线索推断为“听话的”。

[例3] The harbor is protected by a jetty—a wall built out into the water.
句中的 jetty 可根据破折号后的定义推断为“防波堤”。
注：定义既可以由破折号引导，也可以用括号、冒号引出。

(二) 词汇重复线索

通常，在文中会找到重复的词汇来说明新词。常见的信号词有 or, similarly, that is to say, in other words, namely, or rather, say 等等。

[例1] He had a wan look. He was so pale and weak that we thought he was ill.
根据词汇重复, wan 可推断为“脸色苍白”。

[例2] I am a resolute man. Once I set up a goal, I won't give it up easily.

根据词汇重复, resolute 可推断为“坚定的”。

(三) 常识线索

通常凭自己的经验或对某个问题的常识, 读者也可猜出许多词的词义。

[例 1] My parents went out and got a new TV. That afternoon an antenna was put on the roof... Later I asked her, “How did you know the TV was here?”

“The antenna...”

根据常识判断, antenna 为天线。

[例 2] The door was so low that I hit my head on the lintel.

根据常识判断, lintel 为“门楣”。

(四) 有关信息线索

如果我们将文章中有关的信息汇集起来, 可作出明智的猜测。

[例 1] He is still awkward with a knife and fork and drops food at each meal.

Multiple Choice

What does “awkward” mean in sentence?

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| A. difficult | B. clumsy |
| C. ungraceful | D. dangerous |

根据上下文的内容和逻辑推测, awkward 在这里的意思为 B。

[例 2] The fishermen make their canoes from tree trunks. They go from island to island in these light narrow boats and collect turtles' eggs.

我们从上下文中可以得出以下信息: canoes 是一种渔夫用树木做的、来回于岛屿之间的、较狭长的、类似于小船之类的东西。尽管我们可能还不能肯定它的确切解释, 但这一生词已经不会影响我们的阅读和理解了。

(五) 举例线索

对于不熟的词, 文中的例子也能给予一些线索和提示。常见的信号词有: such as, like, for example, for instance 等。

[例 1] In the corner, there is a Christmas tree with its branches decorated with shinning ornaments such as coloured lights and glass balls, and sometimes hung with gifts.

根据 such as 后的举例可猜测出 ornaments 意为“装饰物”。

〔例2〕 She is studying glaucoma and other diseases of the eye.

句中虽未告知 glaucoma 的确切意思，但可猜测出它是一种眼疾。

(六) 比较线索

比较事物时，我们就看得出它们的相似之处。

通常，标志词为 as... as..., like 等。

〔例1〕 The hot-air balloon took off. It was as buoyant in the air as a cork (软木塞) in water.

句意为“热气球升起来了。在空中飘动，就像软木塞在水中一样”。根据比较线索可猜测 buoyant 词义为“浮动”。

〔例2〕 When the parents are sure the children are really asleep, they creep like robbers into the children's bedroom and leave the presents near their beds.

根据比较线索，creep 意为“蹑手蹑脚”。

(七) 对照线索

对照能暗示生词意思。有时，一个句子会告诉你一个生词的否定和相反的意思。

其标志词有 while, however, since, in contrast 等。

〔例1〕 The sea looks very pretty when the sun is shining on it. It can be very rough when there is a strong wind.

根据逻辑关系判定两个句子属反义关系，因此推测出 rough 意为“粗野的，狂暴的”。

〔例2〕 In the northern regions the winters are generally cold and humid, and the summers hot and dry.

显然，冬天和夏天的气候是截然相反的，它们的修饰词的意思也应该截然相反。cold 与 hot 对应，humid 与 dry 对应。因此，humid 是“潮湿”意思。