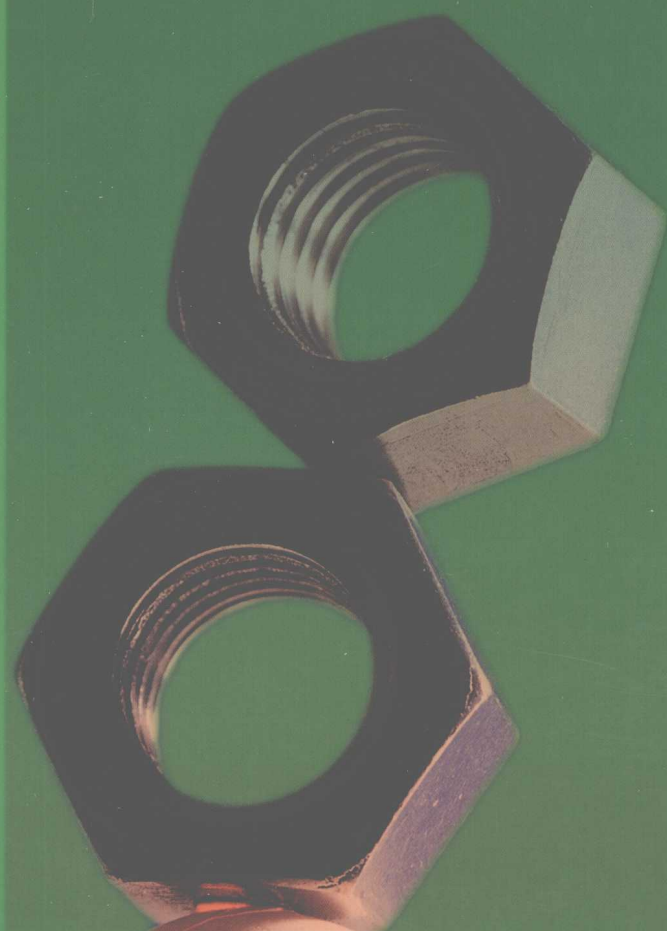
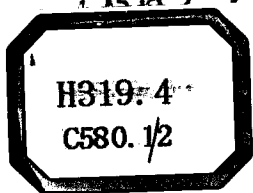


陈文光 俞 玲 主编

# 大学英语同步阅读



浙江大學出版社



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# 前 言

许多国内外专家学者充分肯定了大量阅读对外语学习的重要性。著名语言学家克兰逊 (Kranshen) 认为掌握第二语言的关键因素是接触大量可理解性的语言输入材料。哈米尔 (Harmer) 认为好的阅读材料为学生提供范例, 有利于他们提高写作能力; 而且阅读提供了学习词汇、语法、造句等等机会, 促进了语言习得。复旦大学董亚芬教授相信“广泛阅读及多读原著是学习外语不可或缺的条件”。上海对外贸易学院黄源深教授指出: “大量阅读对英语学习至关重要, 没有大量阅读很难学好英语。”

鉴于阅读涉及到能否学好英语的重要关系, 我们经过一年多的努力, 终于完成了《大学英语同步阅读》的编写工作。在编写此书的过程中, 我们从选文、设题、解题等方面都作了全面的考虑优化, 期望更多的大学生读者吸取本书的精华, 为我在大学英语学习和备考的途中助上一臂之力。

本书共选编了 200 篇阅读文章, 分 40 个单元, 每单元由 3 篇阅读理解题文章、1 篇简答题文章和 1 篇翻译题文章组成。其模式按浙江省大学英语三级考试和全国大学英语四级考试的要求和风格编写。所选的文章无论是从长度、题材、难度上, 还是从题目的设计上都注重标准考试的特点, 保证较高的信度。

本书选材广泛, 触及热点。所选文章的内容涉及人文、科技、历史、地理、艺术、体育、社会、政治等众多领域, 并分别以叙述文、说明文、评论和小说摘要等多种文体出现, 涵盖历年真题的选材范围, 使读者能够在短时间里熟悉各种阅读题材。

本书最大的特点是对三种阅读考试题型进行了详细剖析; 对出题思路、篇章主旨、阅读方式和解题技巧等分别作了解析, 使读者通过阅读和练习能有效地提高英语水平和解题能力。

本书由陈文光、俞玲主编, 参编人员有陈文高、张彦苓、陈丽莎、朱嫣红、王丽娟、王吉民。在编写过程中, 我们参考了国内外有关资料, 难以一一罗列, 在此谨表衷心感谢!

编 者  
2004 年 8 月

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## 第一部分 阅读理解总论

2004 年颁布的《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行稿)对各种层次的大专院校的学生提出了三个不同层次的要求,即一般、较高、更高要求。

在一般要求中,对阅读理解能力的描写为:“能够读懂语言难度中等、一般性题材的英语文章,阅读速度为每分钟 70 词。在快速阅读篇幅较长、难度略低材料时,阅读速度达到每分钟 100 词;能基本读懂国内英文报刊,掌握中心意思,理解主要事实和有关细节;能读懂工作、生活中常见的应用文体的材料;能在阅读中使用有效的阅读方法。”

在较高要求中,阅读理解能力要求提高到:“能基本阅读英语国家报纸杂志的一般性题材的文章,阅读速度达到每分钟 80 词。在快速阅读篇幅较长的材料时,阅读速度达到每分钟 120 词;能就阅读材料进行略读或寻读,获取所需信息;能够基本读懂自己专业方面的综述性文献,并能正确理解中心大意,抓住主要事实和有关细节。”

而更高要求是:“能读懂有一定难度的文章,理解其意义,借助词典能阅读英语原版书籍和英语国家报刊杂志上的文章;能比较顺利地阅读与自己专业有关的文献。”

《浙江省普通高等专科英语课堂教学基本要求》则对阅读能力作了如下表述:掌握基本阅读技能,能看懂语言难度中等的一般性题材的文章、科普读物及与本专业相关的资料,阅读速度达到每分钟 50 词。

上述对阅读能力的要求,体现到一份试卷的考核上,主要测试下列能力:

- 1) 掌握所读的材料的大意;
- 2) 了解说明中心大意的事实和细节;
- 3) 既理解字面意思,也能根据所读材料进行一定的推论和判断;
- 4) 既理解个别句子的意义,也理解上下文的逻辑关系;
- 5) 根据上下文的意思,能够猜测某些生词或短语的含义;

测试阅读能力通常有三种形式:多项选择题;简答题或信息填充题;翻译。

## 一、多项选择题

### 1 概述

多项选择题是各类英语文章阅读能力测试中被采用最多的题型,其问题或题干外加一个正确答案项和三个干扰项的构题形式早已为人们所熟悉。选项的形成有一定的规律可循:正确答案项往往是文章中作者要表达的主题或原信息的同义表达语;干扰项则是试题设计人员设置的各种陷阱,一般有:使用与文章中出现的相同词或词组,甚至是同根词或形近词,却表达与文中信息不同的意思;使用似是而非的词句,其表达意思按常识可选为答案,而实际在文中没有提及;使用文中提到的词语或句子,但其表达的意思不能准确或全面地回答题目所提出的问题,等等。简单地说,干扰项有可能是“以偏概全”,“偷梁换柱”,“无是生是”,“貌合神离”。但无论如何,一篇文章是一个整体,作者通过构思布局,对事物论证、叙述、说明、描写等向读者传授知识或传递信息,因此在阅读句、段、篇时都应从整体原则出发。过分关注每个词、句的意思,会造成“见树不见林”的后果,有时就出现了有关该篇文章的问题大部分答错,甚至全部答错的情况。惟有从整体原则出发,才能既理解字面含义,又洞察深层含义;既看到上下文呼应的语言结构,又体会到字里行间的潜在含义;既了解文章各局部的含义,又能抓住其中心思想,从而对整篇文章达到较高层次的理解,提高回答问题的准确率。同时,仔细阅读题目和选项,将文章的内容连同题目和选项一起考虑,排除不能准确或全面回答题目所提出问题的选项。当然,在考试限时的情况下要做到这一点是需要扎实的英语基础的。

### 2 阅读对策

#### 2.1 篇章的阅读

在阅读一篇文章时,把主要精力先放在有用信息上,如文章的话题、基本内容、事实、结构特点和情感基调等,减少处理无用信息的时间,并使有用信息条理化,以利吸收和理解。

#### 2.2 句子、段落的阅读

句子是一个整体,段落也是一个整体,因此阅读时速度要快,要按较大的意群为单位进行阅读,不要过分纠缠于单个的词,尤其是生词。因为一个句子中有些词是关键词,有些只是结构上的信号,有些只是辅助信息,对前者应重视,对后两者可一扫而过,千万不要把所有的句子都看得同等重要。

### 3 阅读理解的解题思路

大学英语等级考试要求考生在规定时间内阅读完一定词汇数量的数篇文章,并回答阅读理解的问题,这就要求考生具备相当快的阅读速度。提高阅读速度,一方面要通过平时大量地阅读题材广泛、风格多样的文章,以熟练阅读的过程,了解不同题材文章的背景材料,熟悉英语语句的各种变化,为阅读理解考试打下良好的基础;另一方面,也要掌握并熟悉一些英语阅读技巧和解题方法。两方面结合起来,对解答阅读考试中的问题大有好处。

#### 3.1 问题类型

阅读理解题的提问形式变化多样,但“基本要求”中规定要达到的目标,决定了有以下常见



的题型:(篇章或段落)主旨题、细节(理解或推断)题、语意题、作者观点和态度题、逻辑(语义或结构)推断题等。上述类型还可粗略概括为两大类:整体题和局部题。主旨题、观点态度题、逻辑推断题可划入整体题,细节题、语意题可归入局部题。

### 3.2 解题方法

考生在阅读文章之前,先快速浏览文章后面的问题,将它们作两分法的判断,从而用不同的方法来解题,可提高做题的速度。

#### 1) 主旨题

主旨题主要测试考生对短文或段落的整体理解与概括能力,即对中心思想或段落主题思想的把握。常见的提问方式有:

What is the main idea of the passage?

With what topic is the passage primarily concerned?

The author's purpose in writing the passage is \_\_\_\_\_.

The central idea conveyed in the above passage is that \_\_\_\_\_.

Which of the following best states/summarizes/expresses the main idea of the passage?

In this passage the author/writer mainly argues that \_\_\_\_\_.

With what topic is the second paragraph mainly concerned?

寻找主旨题答案,可采用略读(skimming)的方法。主题是写作意图的体现,一般具有三个特点:表达的意思比较概括,相对于其他句子,这一概括性更为明显;句子结构较简单,多数都不采用长、难句的形式;段落中的其他句子必定是用来解释、支撑或扩展主题句所表达的主题思想的。干扰项往往是那些过于具体、只涉及原文细节的表达。

#### [例 1] (1999.1 四级)

The appeal of advertising to buying motives can have both negative and positive effects. Consumers may be convinced to buy a product of poor quality or high price because of an advertisement. For example, some advertisers have appealed to people's desire for better fuel economy for their cars by advertising automotive products that improve gasoline mileage. Some of the products work. Others are worthless and a waste of consumers' money.

Sometimes advertising is intentionally misleading. A few years ago a brand of bread was offered to dieters (节食者) with the message that there were fewer calories (热量单位,大卡) in every slice. It turned out that the bread was not dietetic (适合于节食的), but just regular bread. There were fewer calories because it was sliced very thin, but there were the same number of calories in every loaf.

On the positive side, emotional appeals may respond to a consumer's real concerns. Consider fire insurance. Fire insurance may be sold by appealing to fear of loss. But fear of loss is the real reason for fire insurance. The security of knowing that property is protected by insurance makes the purpose of fire insurance a worthwhile investment for most people. If consumers consider the quality of the insurance plans as well as the message in the ads, they will benefit from the advertising.

Each consumer must evaluate her or his own situation. Are the benefits of the product important enough to justify buying it? Advertising is intended to appeal to consumers, but it does not force them to buy the product. Consumers still control the final buying decision.

**Question:** The passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) how to make a wise buying decision
- B) ways to protect the interests of the consumer
- C) the positive and negative aspects of advertising
- D) the function of advertisements in promoting sales

**[解析]** 本题答案为 C) 项。文章一开头,作者就开门见山地亮出观点: The appeal to advertising to buying motives can have both negative and positive effects. 即广告的吸引力对购物的影响可以是正负两方面的。接着通过举例先负面,后正面加以展开论证。末段提出人们对待广告应持有的立场。主题句的语言结构简洁明了。而选项 A), B) 只涉及购买和保护消费者利益,不涉及文章的主要话题广告;选项 D) 虽然谈到了广告,但只是在促销方面,三项都以偏概全,自然不正确。

**[例 2]** (1999.6 四级)

The biggest safety threat facing airlines today may not be a terrorist with a gun, but the man with the portable computer in business class. In the last 15 years, pilots have reported well over 100 incidents that could be have caused by electromagnetic interference. The source of this interference remains unconfirmed, but increasingly, experts are pointing the blame at portable electronic devices such as portable computers, radio and cassette players and mobile telephones.

RTCA, an organization which advises the aviation(航空) industry, has recommended that all airlines ban (禁止) such advises from being used during “critical” stages of flight, particularly take-off and landing. Some experts have gone further, calling for a total ban during all flights. Currently, rules on using these devices are left up to individual airlines. And although some airlines prohibit passengers from using such equipment during take-off and landing, most are reluctant to enforce a total ban, given that many passengers want to work during flights.

The difficulty is predicting how electromagnetic fields might affect an aircraft's computers. Experts know that portable devices emit radiation which affects those wavelengths which aircraft use for navigation and communication. But, because they have not been able to reproduce these effects in a laboratory, they have no way of knowing whether the interference might be dangerous or not.

The fact that aircraft may be vulnerable (易受损的) to interference raises the risk that terrorists may use radio systems in order to damage navigation equipment. As worrying, though, is the passenger who can't hear the instructions to turn off his radio because the music's too loud.

**Question:** The passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) a new regulation for all airlines
- B) the defects of electronic devices
- C) a possible cause of aircraft crashes
- D) effective safety measures of air flight

**[解析]** 本题答案为 C) 项。这是文章的第一个问题,考生可通过略读在文章的第一句找到话题: 当今航空公司面临的最大的危险 may be the man with a portable computer in business class. 再找到第二段末句,作者说专家无法了解这种(电磁)干扰 might be dangerous or not。前后结合起来考虑,不难推断出作者在说造成灾难的 possible cause。虽然本句主题句的结构较长,但

实际上有用信息第一句 but 后面和第二句原因状语后的主句都不复杂。三个干扰项乍一看都跟文章话题“航空”沾边,但真正提及的只是几个细节:A)项是指所有航空公司的一项新规定,B)项是几乎未涉及到的电磁干扰的缺陷,D)项是语义肯定的有效安全措施,因而都是错误的。

## 2) 细节题

细节题在大学英语三、四级阅读理解测试题中所占比例很大,目的在于检测考生是否掌握与中心大意或段落主题有关的具体事实和细节。提问的形式会多种多样,但都有一定的命题范围。大致可划分为两类:一类围绕短文的内容,或以疑问词开头提问,或以未完全的陈述句题干出现。有时会加上 According to the passage, in the passage 等短语。如:

According to the passage, who/what/where/when/why...?

In the passage, how many/much/long...?

The author thinks of humor as an amusement because it \_\_\_\_\_.

另一类不以短文内容设问,如:

Which of the following is not true?

Which of the following is not stated in the passage?

All of the following are true EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

寻找细节题的答案,可采用寻读(scanning)的方法。在前文提及的经略读找到主题句之后,考生已然可确定所问细节大概在文章的什么地方,并在有关句子下做出划线等的各种记忆符号,待做题时重新详读一次。而此时,考生应快速判断问题是细节理解题还是细节推断题,从而采用不同的做题策略。对于前者,关键是细节的同义表达,即题干或问题的含义加上选项含义的表达,往往就是文章中原句的相同意思或大致相同的意思。而对于后者,考生需要在阅读时保持清晰的思路,适当地运用分析、归纳、推理等技巧。也可使用排除法。

### [例 1] (2002.1 四级)

The decline in moral standards—which has long been concerned social analysts—has at last captured the attention of average Americans. And Jean Bethke Elshtain, for one, is glad.

The fact that ordinary citizens are now starting to think seriously about the nation's moral climate, says this ethics (伦理学) professor at the University of Chicago, is reason to hope that new ideas will come forward to improve it.

But the challenge is not to be underestimated. Materialism and individualism in American society are the biggest obstacles. “The thought that I’m in it for me has become deeply rooted in the national consciousness,” Ms. Elshtain says.

Some of this can be attributed to the disintegration of traditional communities, in which neighbors looked out for one another, she says. With today's greater mobility and with so many couples working, those bonds have been awakened, replaced by a greater emphasis on self.

In a 1996 poll of Americans, loss of morality topped the list of the biggest problems facing the U.S. And Elshtain says the public is correct to sense that: Data show that Americans are struggling with problems unheard of in the 1950s, such as classroom violence and a high rate of births to unmarried mothers.

The desire for a higher moral standard is not a lament (挽歌) for some non-existent “golden age”, Elshtain says, nor is it a wishful (一相情愿) longing for a time that denied opportunities

to women and minorities. Most people, in fact, favor the lessening of prejudice.

Moral decline will not be reversed until people find ways to counter the materialism in society, she says. "Slowly, you recognize that the things that matter are those that can't be bought."

**Questions:**

1. Professor Elshtain is pleased to see that Americans \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) have adapted to a new set of moral standards  
B) are longing for the return of good old days  
C) have realized the importance of material things  
D) are awakening to the lowering of their moral standards
2. The moral decline of American society is caused mainly by \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) its growing wealth  
B) the self-centeredness of individuals  
C) underestimating impact of social changes  
D) the prejudice against women and minorities
3. Which of the following characterizes the traditional communities?  
A) Great mobility  
B) Concern for one's neighbors.  
C) Emphasis on individual effort.  
D) Ever-weakening social bonds
4. In the 1950s, classroom violence \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) was something unheard of  
B) was by no means a rare occurrence  
C) attracted a lot of public attention  
D) began to appear in analysts' data
5. According to Elshtain, the current moral decline may be reversed \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) if people can return to the "golden age"  
B) when women and men enjoy equal rights  
C) when people rid themselves of prejudice  
D) if less emphasis is laid on material things

[解析]五个问题或题干的命题范围都很明确,考生可容易地判断出它们都属于细节理解题,因此做题的思路应以找同义表达语为主。

第1题:文章第一段与选项D)都是说“Professor Elshtain 高兴地看到美国人民终于注意到了道德水准低下这一现象”。题干中的 is pleased 是文中第二句的 is glad 的同义表达语;选项D)前半句 Americans are awakening to 的意思相当于第一句中的 has captured the attention of average Americans,后半句 the lowering of their moral standards 的意思又相当于 the decline in moral standards。因此答案为D)项。

第2题:文章第三段中 the biggest obstacles 与题干中 is caused mainly 表达的都是原因,其前后的 materialism and individualism 和 I'm in it for me... 都是选项B) the self-centeredness of individuals(个人主义以我为中心)的意思。所以答案为B)项。

第3题:问题中的 traditional communities 出现在文章的第四段第一句,找到其后用来解释的非限制性定语从句... neighbors looked out for one another,不难发现选项B) concern for one's neighbors 正是“邻居之间相互关照”的意思。所以选项B)是正确答案无疑。

第4题:题干涉涉及到20世纪50年代,所以找到第五段该时间所在的末句中 problems unheard

of,它与选项 A) something unheard of 几乎是同样的表达。所以正确答案为 A。

第 5 题:最后一段文章与选项 D)的大致意思都是“如果我们设法抵制实利主义,当前道德水准低下的现象才能彻底改变。”find ways to counter the materialism 与选项 D) less emphasis is laid on material things 的意思相当。本题答案非 D) 莫属。

### 3) 语意题

语意题测试考生根据一定的上下文猜测对某个词或词语的理解。这些词或词语有些是考生可以直接或间接地找到其解释的偏难生词,有些是其意义在特定的语境中有了改变的老词,有些是要求指出其所代名词的代词。常见的提问形式有:

The word/phrase/statement "... " most probably means \_\_\_\_\_.

The word "... " stands for \_\_\_\_\_.

In the last sentence of the second paragraph, the phrase "... " refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

By saying that "... ", the author means \_\_\_\_\_.

解答语意猜测题,词(语)所在的上下文是重要线索。上下文线索可以是标点符号,如逗号、冒号、破折号和括号等;信号词,如 is, is called, means, that is (to say), i. e., or, define as, refer to 等;同义词或反义词,尤其是后者,如: in contrast, on the other hand, rather than, although, yet, but, while, whereas, unlike, as supposed to 等;其他还可以是释例、常识或经验、构词法、常出现在前文一两句中的代词指代的名词,等等。

[例 1] (1997. 1 四级)

Statuses are marvelous human inventions that enable us to get along with one another and to determine where we "fit" in society. As we go about our everyday lives, we mentally attempt to place people in terms of their statuses. For example, we must judge whether the person in the library is a reader or a librarian, whether the telephone caller is a friend or a salesman, whether the unfamiliar person on our property is a thief or a meter reader, and so on.

The statuses we assume often vary with the people we encounter, and change throughout life. Most of us can, at very high speed, assume the statuses that various situations require. Much of social interaction consists of identifying and selecting among appropriate statuses and allowing other people to assume their statuses in relation to us. This means that we fit our actions to those of other people based on a constant mental process of appraisal and interpretation. Although some of us find the task more difficult than others, most of us perform it rather effortlessly.

A status has been compared to ready-made clothes. Within certain limits the buyer can choose style and fabric. But an American is not free to choose the costume of a Chinese peasant or that of a Hindu prince. We must choose from among the clothing presented by our society. Furthermore, our choice is limited to a size that will fit, as well as by our pocketbook. Having made a choice within these limits we can have certain alterations made, but apart from minor adjustments, we tend to be limited to what the stores have on their racks. Statuses too come ready made, and the range of choice among them is limited.

### Questions:

1. The word "appraisal" (Line 5, Para. 2) most probably means \_\_\_\_\_.

A) involvement

C) assessment

B) appreciation

D) presentation

2. In the last sentence of the second paragraph, the pronoun "it" refers to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) fitting our actions to those of other people appropriately  
B) identification of other people's statuses  
C) selecting one's own statuses  
D) constant mental process
3. By saying that "an American is not free to choose the costume of a Chinese peasant or that of a Hindu prince" (Line 2-3, Para. 3), the writer means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) different people have different styles of clothes  
B) ready-made clothes may need alternations  
C) statuses come ready made just like clothes  
D) our choice of statuses is limited

### [解析]

第1题: appraisal 的意思可以从其后面 interpretation(解释, 揣测)一词的意思得到提示: 先估计, 后解释。因此它的意思最有可能是 assessment(估量, 掂量)。

第2题: 根据第2段最后两句的意思, 代词 it 与同一句中的 the task 都是指前面一句话中的 fitting our actions to those of other people。所以 A) 项为正确答案。

第3题: 第3段前两句的意思是: 社会地位好比成衣, 顾客选成衣的款式与衣料有一定的限制。因此作者说 an American is not free to choose the costume of a Chinese peasant or that of a Hindu prince。他的意思是: our choice of statuses is limited(我们选择社会地位也是受限制的)。

### 4) 作者观点态度题

一般而言, 作者对某一事物的态度、看法和情绪, 可以通过作者在文章中的选词造句来体现。作者观点态度题正是测试考生就作者对论述对象所持这种思想倾向和感情色彩的判断, 比如对所陈述的观点是赞同还是反对, 抑或是犹豫不决; 对记叙或描写的人、物或事件是同情、失望、冷漠、批评、表扬还是厌恶。此类推断题的常见提问形式有:

What is the author's (overall) attitude towards ...?

Which of the following best describes the author's tone in this passage?

In this passage the author looks on ... with an attitude of \_\_\_\_\_.

The author appears to feel that \_\_\_\_\_.

解答作者观点态度题, 考生既要依靠文章的主题思想作为推理的前提, 又要注意作者的措辞, 尤其是形容词一类的修饰语。同时熟悉阅读理解题的选项中常用来表示态度、语气的词。主要有:

objective(客观的), subjective(主观的), positive(肯定的), negative(否定的), optimistic(乐观的), pessimistic(悲观的), partial(偏袒的), impartial(公平的), formal(正式的), informal(非正式的), enthusiastic(热情的), indifferent(冷淡的), encouraging(激励的), discouraging(沮丧的), critical(批评的), questioning(质疑的), skeptical(怀疑的), satirical(讽刺的), cautious(小心的), cautionary(谨慎的), sympathetic(同情的), compassionate(富有同情心的), persuasive(劝说的), aggressive(气势逼人的), neutral(中立的), compromising(折中的), active(积极的), matter-of-fact(就事论事的), supportive(支持的), 等。

## [例 1] (1997.6 四级)

The fridge is considered a necessity. It has been so since the 1960s when packaged food first appeared with the label: "store in the refrigerator."

In my fridgeless fifties childhood, I was fed well and healthily. The milkman came daily, the grocer, the butcher(肉商), the ice-cream man delivered two or three times a week. The Sunday meat would last until Wednesday and surplus(剩余的) bread and milk became all kinds of cakes. Nothing was wasted, and we were never troubled by rotten food. Thirty years on, food deliveries have ceased, fresh vegetables are almost unobtainable in the country.

The invention of the fridge contributed comparatively little to the art of food preservation. A vast way of well-tried techniques already existed—natural cooling, drying, smoking, salting, sugaring, bottling...

What refrigerator did promote was marketing—marketing hardware and electricity, marketing soft drinks, marketing dead bodies of animals around the globe in search for a good price.

Consequently, most of the world's fridge are to be found, not in the tropics where they might proved useful, but in the wealth countries with mild temperatures where they are climatically almost unnecessary. Every winter, millions of fridges hum away continuously, and at vast expense, busily maintaining an artificially-cooled space inside an artificially-heated house—while outside, nature provides the desired temperature free of charge.

The fridge's effect upon the environment has been evident, while its contribution to human happiness has been insignificant. If you don't believe me, try it yourself, invest in a food cabinet and turn off your fridge next winter. You may miss the hamburgers(汉堡包), but at least you'll get rid of that terrible hum.

**Question:** What is the author's overall attitude toward fridges?

A) Neutral.

C) Objective.

B) Critical.

D) Compromising.

[解析] 从文章的几个段首句中的用词(有下划线词): In my fridgeless fifties childhood, I was fed well and healthily; The invention of the fridge contributed comparatively little to the art of food preservation; Consequently, most of the world's fridge are to be found... in the wealth countries with mild temperatures where they are climatically almost unnecessary; The fridge's effect upon the environment has been evident, while its contribution to human happiness has been insignificant. 就可以清楚地看出, 作者对冰箱持批评态度, 故选项 B) 为正确答案。

### 5) 逻辑推断题

逻辑推断题测试考生就文章陈述的论点、描述的事实、话语中的深层含义或弦外之音、篇章结构的前后内容、文章出处等进行推理, 从而得出合乎逻辑的结论。(原则上讲, 主旨题、作者观点态度题、词义题也属此类, 但因规律明显, 所以已单独列出) 这种逻辑推断题的常见提问方式有:

It can be inferred / seen / concluded from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.

It is implied / suggested / indicated in the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.

Based on the passage, we can assume / presume that \_\_\_\_\_.

Which of the following conclusions could best be drawn from the passage?

We can learn / (safely) conclude from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.

What do you think the author will go on to discuss in the following paragraphs?

Where might the passage be taken from?

解答逻辑推断题,要求考生对文章有关部分理解透彻。在此基础上,针对题目的要求和提示,找到原文中所有相关信息进行仔细分析,摸清它们相互之间时间、方位、因果、比较、对照、递进等逻辑关系,进行综合推理,选定答案。因此,对句与句、段与段之间的过渡词句的敏感性很重要,如 but, yet, however, though 等词连接的句子,其后的信息往往是作者要传达的重点。同时,把握某些代词的指代关系和隐含语义的连贯,对辨清逻辑发展的来龙去脉也很关键。

[例 1] (1994.6 四级)

The British system of Coast Guard is very different. There are a small number of lifeboatmen, who go out to help ships in trouble. These brave men often risk their lives, but they receive no money for their work. Most of them have other jobs. The special lifeboats are provided by the RNLB, a private group which depends completely on money from private people. As a result, it can not always buy the most modern lifeboats. About ten years ago, British researchers pointed it out that the old lifeboats never sank, but they turned over in certain sea conditions and stayed upside down in the water. However, there was a new kind of lifeboat that did not turn over. The RNLB began to buy this safer kind of boat, but it could only buy one or two every year,

Some years ago a lifeboat station that did not have the new type of lifeboat received a radio call from a small ship that was sinking. The call came in storm. The sea was very rough, but the lifeboat went out to try to save the men on the sinking ship. Two hours later, nothing more was heard from the lifeboat. One day later a helicopter found the lifeboat. It was lying upside down in the sea. Probably a large wave hit it and turned it over. There were no survivors.

The news of the disaster shocked the British people. Some people criticized the lifeboat system. In their opinion, the U. S. system is better. "We can not send brave men out in boats which aren't safe," they said. "They need the best boats which money can buy. The government must control the lifeboat system." Today, however, the system remains the same.

**Question:** It is implied in the passage that \_\_\_\_\_:

- A) no one expected the kind of disaster that happened some years ago
- B) the lifeboatmen should not be sent out when the sea is too rough
- C) the U. S. lifeboat system has more money than the British system
- D) the lifeboat system in the U. S. remains the same as before.

[解析] 依据文章最后一段中人们批评英国海上救生制度时,与美国的做法进行比较这一对比逻辑关系,从 They need the best boats which money can buy. 我们可推断出 C) 项符合原文意思。A) 项所表达的意思“没有人料到几年前发生的那种灾难”与原文中的 About ten years ago, British researchers pointed it out that the old lifeboats never sank but they turned over in certain sea conditions ... 时间不一致;B) 项应把 when the sea is too rough 改为 in boats which aren't safe 才对;D) 项的主语应是英国而非美国。

[例 2] (2002. 1 四级)

For an increasing number of students at American universities, old is suddenly in. The rea-



son is obvious: the graying of American means jobs. Coupled with the aging of the baby-boom (生育高峰期) generation, a longer life span means that the nation's elderly population is bound to expand significantly over the next 50 years. By 2050, 25 percent of all Americans will be older than 65, up from 14 percent in 1995. The change poses profound questions for government and society, of course. But it also creates career opportunities in medicine and health professions, and in law and business as well. "In addition to the doctors, we're going to need more sociologists, biologists, urban planners and specialized lawyers," says Professor Edward Schneider of the University of Southern California's (USC) School of Gerontology (老年学).

Lawyers can specialize in "elder law", which covers everything from trusts and estates to nursing home abuse and age discrimination(歧视). Businessmen see huge opportunities in the elder market because the baby boomers, 74 million strong, are likely to be the wealthiest group of retirees in human history. "Any student who combines an expert knowledge in gerontology with, say, an MBA or law degree will have a license to print money," one professor says.

Margarite Santos is a 1-year-old senior at USC. She began college as a biology major but found she was "really bored with bacteria." So she took a class in gerontology and discovered that she liked it. She says, "I did volunteer work in retirement homes and it was very satisfying."

**Question:** It can be seen from the passage that the expansion of America's elderly population

- A) will provide good job opportunities in many areas
- B) will impose an unbearable burden on society
- C) may lead to nursing home abuse and age discrimination
- D) will create new fields of study in universities

[解析] 文章第一段前面部分讲述美国老龄人口正在增加的现象及它给政府和社会带来的问题,后面以 but 引导出较为重要的信息,恰好与 A) 项“美国老年人口增加给许多领域提供很好的就业机会”意思接近。而 B) 项“美国老年人口增加使社会不堪重负”是 but 前面的句子所传达的信息,相对而言较为次要。因此正确答案是 A) 项。

## 二、简答题

### 1 概述

根据 1996 年 6 月公布的《全国大学英语四级考试新题型》,简答题(Short Answer Questions)与完型填空、翻译一样成了大学英语四级考试中的备选题之一。

简答题是试题中主观题的一部分,这种题型可以兼测学生的阅读能力及英语表达能力,其目的在于检查和提高考生的语言实际应用能力。自公布该题型以来,简答题共考了六次,即 1997 年 1 月、1999 年 1 月和 6 月、2002 年 6 月及 2003 年 6 月和 9 月。

在试题中,简答题安排在写作之前,通常是一篇体裁为议论文或说明文的文章,其难度和长度与阅读理解的短文相当,短文后附有 5 个与文章内容相关的(其中 2003 年 6 月和 9 月的考试中有 8 个)问题或不完整的句子,要求考生阅读后尽可能用最简短的英语单词、短语或句