

● 陈胜辉
编著

大学英语四级

Daxue Yingyu Siji

710分阅读与

快速阅读解析

Fen Yuedu Yu

Kuaisu Yuedu **Jiexi**



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前 言

改革后的大学英语四级考试于2006年6月24日起在一定的范围内试点举行。2006年12月后已在全国全面展开。与以往的四级考试相比,新四级考试主要有三个方面的变化:

- 理解题的比重由原来的20%增加到35%,命题形式包括短对话理解多选题、长对话理解题、短文理解多选题以及复合式听写。

- 阅读测试方式多样化,包括快速阅读、篇章词汇选择形式的仔细阅读。

- 主观题量加大,在原来15分作文的基础上新增5分的汉译英。

测试题型的变化必然导致应考者学习方式的变化,原来大家熟悉的套路与应试技巧可能不一定适用了。关于如何应对仔细阅读、快速阅读、篇章词汇选择等方面的挑战,本书为你提供了简洁有效的最优学习计划以及各种题型的针对性解题诀窍。

本书具有以下特点:

仔细阅读——本部分不求面面俱到,只是抓住精髓,以点带面,给大家列举了若干有针对性的阅读方法指导,更多的精彩体现在书中的多篇阅读文章上。

快速阅读——本部分通过对双重否定、概括总结、主语缺省、部分代替整体、混淆概念等设题陷阱的全面解析,让考生能轻易识破命题者意图;掌握以关键词为突破的定位技巧,你会感到所谓高难度的快速阅读也不过如此。

选词填空——新题型选词填空题脱胎于原来的词汇题,但新四级对词汇的考查多了一重context(语境)的意义。如何练就火眼金睛,在杂乱的“词汇库”中找到自己的所需,本部分详细的语篇分析、准确的词汇定位给出了破解良方。

本书精选阅读文章52篇,内容涉及广泛。每篇文章后都附有参考答案及详析,供考生参阅。

由于编者水平有限,时间仓促,谬误疏漏之处在所难免,望广大读者及同行专家不吝赐教。

编 者
2007年6月

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第一章 仔细阅读理解

第一节 仔细阅读理解试题特点

仔细阅读理解是历年 CET 考试的重要部分。最新《大学英语教学大纲(修订本)》对教学目标做了更加明确的阐述:培养学生具有较强的阅读能力和一定的听、说、写、译能力,使他们能以英语为工具交流信息。了解阅读理解试题特点对考生来说至关重要。纵观大学英语四级考试历年试题,可以发现它的阅读理解部分有如下几个特点:

一、题材多样化

仔细阅读理解中的文章大致牵涉两大类:一类是人文社会方面的,以社会各方面为主,如文化、历史、婚姻、家庭、教育、交通、住房、环境、能源及社会其他现象。读这类文章的关键是抓住作者所支持或反对的观点,以及作者对文中所述的对人文社会现象的态度;另一类是科技方面的,如动植物、地质、海洋、遗传、语言、空间、医学、空间技术及其他最新科技理论与成果。阅读这类文章的关键是抓住作者论述的中心以及作者对于理论或成果的优劣评判。上述两类内容在同一份试卷中通常以科技为主。

二、体裁以说明和议论为主

四级考试大纲规定阅读理解部分的文章“体裁可多样化,包括记叙文、说明文、议论文等”。从历年试题中可以看出,纯粹的记叙文很少出现,说明文与议论文占绝大多数。以 2003 年 6 月四级阅读理解的文章为例,第一篇、第二篇为说明文,第三篇和第四篇为议论文。它们的特点是:对社会、自然、思维等现象进行解释或讨论,逻辑性强,较抽象,信息多,脉络复杂。针对其不同体裁,通读时应该关注不同的考点:对于说明文而言,注意重要数据和事实;对于议论文而言,注意作者的结论和观点,以及作者对其他观点的态度。

三、句式结构复杂

四级考试大纲规定:文章的语言难度中等,无法猜测而又影响理解的关键词,如超出教学大纲词汇表四级的范围,用汉语注明词义。这样,出题者在词汇难度方面就没有太多的发挥余地。事实上,从 2003 年 9 月四级考试阅读文章来看,绝大部分词都是大纲中有的,少数超纲词汇也有中文注释,即使个别词未加注释,也不会影响对文章的理解。因此,出题者就只能在句子难度方面做文章,通过增加句子长度和使用复杂句式来达到这一目的。例如,2003 年 9 月四级考试的阅读理解:第一篇文章共有 316 个单词,但总共只有 11 个句子,平均句长为 32.8 个词,最长的一句有 57 个词。简而言之,多重复合句、多重并列句、被动句、插入成分、分隔句、省略句、倒装句、双重否定句被广泛使用,给阅读增加了难度。

第二节 仔细阅读理解四大题型与应试策略

大学英语考试中的阅读理解部分主要测试下述能力:

1. 掌握所读材料的主旨和大意。
2. 了解说明主旨和大意的事实和细节。
3. 既理解字面意思,也能根据所阅读材料进行一定的判断和推论。
4. 既理解个别句的意义,也能理解上下文的逻辑关系。注意这里的逻辑关系,实际就是猜生词的关键。

出题人根据这4点测试要求出的题,自然就落入了主旨、细节、推理和词汇这四大题型的框框。为此我们将对这4大题型一一解剖,并找出解决方案。

一、主旨题

(一) 题型特点

主旨型试题是四级阅读测试中一种必测的题型。它是测试考生对于整篇文章的理解程度,它针对整篇或整段文章的中心思想提出问题,测试考生捕捉全文所承载的主要信息的能力。在测试中,经常以下列问题形式提出:

What is the main idea of the passage?

What is the main topic of the passage?

The central point of the selection is that _____.

The author is mainly concerned with _____.

What does the passage mainly discuss?

Which of the following best states the main idea of the passage?

The passage is mainly about _____.

Which of the following is the main topic for this passage?

Which illustrates the main idea of the selection?

The statement that best relates the main idea of this passage is _____.

有时要求应试者确定相应的文章标题来测试他对全文中心思想的领悟。常用题型有:

Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the passage?

The best title for this passage would be/might be/is _____.

What might be the best title of this passage?

The title that best expresses the ideas of this passage is _____.

有时还令应试者确定文章的基调或作者的写作目的来测试他对全文意思的理解。常用的提问方式有:

The tone of this essay is _____.

The author's attitude toward is best described as one of _____.

What is the author's main purpose in this passage?

What might be the purpose of the author to write this passage?

- o What is the primary purpose of the passage?

这些问题,实际上就是主旨题的标志,大家应该熟悉这些提问方式。

(二) 解题思路

解主旨题的关键在于把握文章的逻辑结构,因为文章主题出现的位置对应于文章逻辑结构中的一个部分。阅读理解中的文章主要是说明文和议论文,它们常见的逻辑结构有:

时间顺序:按时间顺序说明,主题通常在首段或未段。

从一般到具体:首段总说明,其他段落分别或具体说明,主题通常在首段。

从具体到一般:先分别说明,末段总结,主题在末段。

对比说明:对比的共同点或差异为主题。

分类:分类说明的各大项相加为主题。

下面我们就具体谈谈如何找出主题:

1. 找主题句

2. 概括段落大意

(1) 各段主题句或段落大意相加即为主题。

(2) 段落大意相加为全文主题。

有时段落中没有明确的主题句,可以根据句与句之间的逻辑关系推出段落的大意,然后将大意汇总,就得出全文主题。

(三) 变体及解法

主旨题还有几种变体:

1. 问标题

问标题与主旨题的做题方法和技巧完全相同,二者的差别主要体现于选项的形式:主旨题的答案通常以一句话表示,而问标题的答案大多为一个名词词组。

2. 问写作目的

该类题多次考试都有出现,在此不多论述。

3. 问作者态度

解作者态度(attitude)或语气(tone)题,关键在于把握作者对全文主体事物(与主题有关)或某一具体事物的态度。由于作者态度是主要由语言来表达,因此必须弄清有关表达褒义、中性和贬义的手段:

(1) 加入形容词定语

例如:A) His words were few. B) His interesting words were few.

假如 A) 为中性叙述的话,那么 B) 则体现了说话人对“He”的正面评价。

(2) 加入副词状语

加入的副词状语通常对动词的叙述加以界定。

例如:He successfully makes the travel plan. (表明一种正面态度); They speak clumsily. (表明一种负面态度)。

(3) 特殊动词

英语中有些动词也表明说话者的正负态度,如 fail(未能), ignore(忽视), over estimate(估计过高)等动词表示一种负面态度。由上可知,确定作者态度,有两种思路:问全文主体事物的(包括主题),可以根据阐述主题或者有关主体事物的相关句中的形容词、副词或动词,确定作者的态度;如果问的是对某一具体事物的态度,则可以定位到具体相关句,然后确定答案。

(四) 干扰项特征

1. 局部信息

局部信息是主旨题干扰选项最常见的特点,是主旨题型选项涉及文章中的细节:(1)某个自然段中的细节,如一句无展开或论述的话;(2)某自然段的大意。包含局部信息的选项不能成为主旨题的答案。包括自然段大意的选项干扰性很强,做题时尤其应该留神。

2. 概括范围过宽

这是指选项包含的内容超出文章阐述的内容。提问标题的一些干扰选项常有这种特点,这在前面已有论述。

3. 无关信息

由文章本身无法推断出来的信息,即文章中未提到、找不到语言依据的信息。

二、细节题

(一) 题型特点

细节型试题是四级阅读理解测试中的又一种常见题型。要求考生在通读全文、了解并掌握文章主题思想的同时,还应该能抓住那些往往会直接影响到读者对全文理解的某些重要细节。例如:作者为阐明中心思想所举的例证、所申述的理由、所提出的论点、所进行的过程以及要计算的数字等,这些都是重要的特定细节。它们是涉及 who, what, which, when, where, why, how 和 how much, how many, how often 等问题的答案。在扫视全文过程中,要留意去猎取上述细节内容。如果说中心思想是一篇文章的骨架,那么,这些重要细节内容无疑就是实体。细节型试题不同于主题型试题,它无需太多地运用分析、推理与归纳概括,很多时候直接或间接地就可以从文章中找到答案。

这类要求查找某些特定重要细节内容的试题常以下列形式提出来:

Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the passage?

Which of the following is NOT discussed in the passage?

All of the following are true except _____.

The reason for... is that _____.

The writer of this article was no doubt, _____.

The report is given by _____.

How does the author of this passage feel about the _____?

This passage has probably been taken from _____.

The difference between... lies in that _____.

According to the passage, when(where, why, how, who, what, which, etc.)...?

或者我们也可以用排除法来确定细节题型:主旨题、推理题和词义题都具有明显的标志,如果一个问题不属于以上三种题型,就可以将其作为细节题来处理。

(二) 解题思路

那么如何答好细节型试题呢?关键是要找准其在原文中的位置,四级考试的每一条细节题都可以对应到原文中的某一句话甚至某几个词。在读题干和选项时,我们要注意其中的实词,这些实词往往就是对照原文的线索。然后我们再通过把这些线索词与路标附近的关键词对比,往往就能准确定位。需要注意的是,一些难题的题干和选项中,常使用的是原文中关键

词的同义词。

对于具体的细节题的解法有:

1. 细节判断题是当试题要求考生对某一事实或重要细节作出 True or Not True 选择,或问到是否提及某一事实作为“例外”(EXCEPT)处理的时候,其正确的解题方法就是带着四个选择项倒过去查读原文,找准答案出处,然后仔细核实原文内容与哪一个选择项相符,将可排除的逐个地排除,这样正确答案就出现了。在通读原文时,对解释中心思想有价值的东西,特别是那些关键词,应该用笔画出,以便答题时很快找到依据。

做这类细节题时,还要注意到有时命题者故弄玄虚,在选项中加些夸大其辞的说法,把“大约”说成“绝对、肯定”,把抽象说成具体,或者把人名、地名、时间等误串起来,借以构成形似实非的干扰项,以达到“混淆视听”的目的。因此,一定要把每个选择项与出处句核实,求得精确的说法和正确的答案。

2. 数字计算题是细节题的又一种。不时可在阅读测试中遇到。可能是数量计算、距离测定、时间年代推算或求出倍数、商数等,不一而足。

三、推理题

推理题是阅读理解题型中难度较大的一种,它要求在理解表面文字信息的基础上,作出一定的判断和推论,从而得到文章的隐含意义和深层意义。推理题所涉及的内容可能是文中某一句话,也可能是几句话,但做题的指导思想都是以表面文字信息为依据进行分析和推理,既不能够做出原文中找不到文字根据的推理,也不能根据表面文字信息做步步推理。所以,推理题的答案只能是根据原文表面文字信息进一步推出的答案,即使原文中某一句话或几句话做同义改写(paraphrase)或综合。推理题的目的是考查学生的识别能力,并不涉及复杂的判断和推理。

(一) 暗示推理题

此类题目最常见的提问方式有:

What can be inferred from the passage?

The last sentence of the passage implies that _____.

The passage suggests that _____.

It is most likely that _____.

An inference which may not be made from this passage is _____.

根据题干或选项中的线索回原文定位,仔细阅读找到的相关句,然后比较选项,排除不正确的,找到对相关句进行同义表达或综合的正确答案。既然是暗示推理题,那么答案不能一字不差地照搬原文词句,而应对原文词句做出同义改写。这种改写可以通过利用同义词、改变原句顺序或结构等方式完成。题干中如含有“learn from the passage that”也可视为这种推理题。

例如 2002 年 1 月考试的 passage 2 第 4 段:

It is estimated that up to 100,000 people watch or take part in fox hunting. But over the last couple of decades the number of people opposed to fox hunting, because they think it is brutal(残酷的), has risen sharply. Nowadays it is rare for a hunt to pass off without some kind of confrontation(冲突) between hunters and hunt saboteurs(阻拦者). Sometimes these incidents lead to violence, but mostly saboteurs interfere with the hunt by misleading riders and disturbing the trail of the fox's

smell, which the dogs follow.

28. Fox hunting opponents often interfere in the game _____.
- A. by resorting to violence
 - B. by confusing the fox hunters
 - C. by taking legal action
 - D. by demonstrating on the scene

请注意最后一句话,一个“but”(转折),再加上一个“mostly”(强调),两个不同的考点标志,揭示出其后的半句话很重要。我们读到时,就应该把“interfere”、“misleading”、“disturbing”这些关键词圈划起来,这样在做到 Q28 题时,就能回溯到原文中的这个位置,通过这几个关键词与题目中的关键词“confuse”的比较而确定 B 为正确答案。

(二) 推论题

题干中含有“infer”,“conclude”等的推理题称为推论题。要求推出的结论可能与文章主旨有关,也可能关系不大,但不管如何,碰到这种推理题,都应尽可能在速读完全文后再做,因为它的综合性较强。与主旨有关的推论题,可以仔细阅读文中表达主旨的相关句。在读完文章后,扫一下选项,排除不太可能的选项(如:与原文明显相矛盾的,提到了原文中找不到依据的事实、细节或观点),剩余的选项再回到原文中寻找语言证据,两相对照,能够由原文表面文字信息合理推论出来的,即为正确答案。

例如 2002 年 6 月考试的 passage 4 中第 4 段:

The notion that all stress makes you sick also ignores a lot of what we know about people. It assumes we're all vulnerable(脆弱的) and passive in the face of adversity(逆境). But what about human initiative and creativity? Many come through periods of stress with more physical and mental vigor than they had before. We also know that a long time without change or challenge can lead to boredom, and physical and mental strain.

25. According to the passage people who have experienced ups and downs may become _____.
- A. nervous when faced with difficulties
 - B. physically and mentally strained
 - C. more capable of coping with adversity
 - D. indifferent toward what happens to them

这段话的倒数第二句,用了一个比较结构,强调了经过压力的人无论在体力上还是在精神上都比以前更具活力,这种“more... than...”的强调表达方法应当引起我们的注意。在做第 25 题时,就能判断出 C 选项“应对逆境更游刃有余”与之相吻合,从而选择 C 为正解。

四、词义题

在阅读中我们会遇到一些生词和短语或熟词新义。如果不影响我们对文章的理解,可以将它们略过,继续读下去。如果是一些关键词,考试时又不能使用辞典,而吃不准它的词义又会影响理解,无法读下去。在这种情况下,就应该充分发挥猜词能力。根据上下文,运用常识或语法结构知识,或通过构词法分析去猜测词义。

所谓猜词的技巧,就是指利用文章上下文意思、逻辑推理、语法及语篇的完整性。说起来这似乎只是在遇到生词时有用,其实不然,理解熟悉的词在特定文字中的新的取义,用到的是

同样的能力。猜词的技巧用途普遍,你只要阅读就会遇到,你一旦有困难它就能特别帮忙。词汇、语法甚至整篇文章的理解都是以此为主要手段。

不必查字典你一定能回答得出这个问题,这就是简单的猜词义。你需要的只是更多更复杂的练习。那么,猜词时有什么技巧?

(一) 上下文是关键

上下文指的是关键词所在的句子本身,以及这个句子的上下句或更远的上下文。一般而言,上下文线索所提示的意义与关键词的关系要么为同义关系,要么为反义关系。

1. 同义关系

(1) 所考词汇在文章中被同义词、同位语、定语从句等解释或定义时,那么它与提示词构成同义关系。这些解释有时伴随过渡词,如 *namely* (即), *in other words* (换句话说), *this means* 等。

(2) 并列或递进关系表示同义:假如所考词汇与线索提示词之间以如下结构连接,那么二者为同义关系。例如以 *and, indeed, just as, also, besides, almost, even, similarly, likewise, correspondingly* (相应地), *accordingly* (因此), *in the same way* 等结构连接均表示同义关系。

(3) 因果关系表示同义:假如所考词汇与线索提示词之间以如下结构连接,那么二者为同义关系。例如以 *because, since, for, if, thus, so... that... , so... as to... , therefore, consequently, as a result, in that, result in, cause, lead to, be due to* 等结构连接均表示同义关系。

(4) 举例表示同义关系:假如所考词汇与线索提示词之间有如下过渡词,即所考词汇被一个例子所解释,那么例子的含义为所考词汇的意义。引出例子的常见词为 *for example, for instance, such as, to specify* (说得具体一点) 等。

(5) 标点符号暗示语义关系:破折号或括号均表示同义解释。

2. 反义关系

凡是所考词汇与线索提示词之间以下列结构表示转折或对立关系的,二者之间可能构成反义关系。例如以 *but, however, although, though, while, whereas, despite, in spite of, in contrast, on the contrary* 等结构连接。

(二) 利用逻辑

有时根据上下文提供的线索或者其他方法,仍然不能得到惟一答案。这时可以利用语法和逻辑方面的规划来判断,符合语法和逻辑规则的可能为正确答案,反之则不是。

(三) 借助构词法

不少英文单词,尤其是四级大纲之外的难词、复杂词,大都可以分解成前缀、后缀和词根,假如对它们的含义或功能比较了解,就能较准确地推测出它们相互组合后形成的新词的词义。

(四) 词义题的变体——指代题

指代题也是四级考试中的常见题型之一。代词指代总的原则是就近指代:指代在性(阴性或阳性)、数(单数或复数)、格(主格或宾格)、逻辑、位置等方面与之接近的名词。就位置而言,如上所述,代词所指代的名词通常在本句或上句之中。就数而言,单数代词指代单数名词,复数代词指代复数名词,例如:*it* 指代单数名词(单数可数名词或不可数名词),也可指代一个句子;*they* 指代复数名词主格;*them* 指代复数名词宾格;*one* 指代单数可数名词等。除了位置、性、数和格等方面的要求外,逻辑和意义也是衡量的标准,也就是说,正确的答案应该从意义(主要指语法搭配)上和逻辑(只要指思想内容)上都说得通。

第三节 仔细阅读解析

Passage 1

On average, American kids ages 3 to 12 spent 29 hours a week in school, eight hours more than they did in 1981. They also did more household work and participated in more of such organized activities as soccer and *ballet* (芭蕾舞). Involvement in sports, in particular, rose almost 50% from 1981 to 1997; boys now spend an average of four hours a week playing sports; girls log half that time. All in all, however, children's leisure time dropped from 40% of the day in 1981 to 25%.

"Children are affected by the same time *crunch* (危机) that affects their parents," says Sandra Hofferth, who headed the recent study of children's timetable. A chief reason, she says, is that more mothers are working outside the home. (Nevertheless, children in both double-income and "male breadwinner" households spent comparable amounts of time interacting with their parents, 19 hours and 22 hours respectively. In contrast, children spent only 9 hours with their single mothers.)

All work and no play could make for some very messed-up kids. "Play is the most powerful way a child explores the world and learns about himself," says T. Berry Brazilton, professor at Harvard Medical School. Unstructured play encourages independent thinking and allows the young to negotiate their relationships with their peers, but kids ages 3 to 12 spent only 12 hours a week engaged in it.

The children sampled spent a quarter of their rapidly decreasing "free time" watching television. But that, believe it or not, was one of the findings parents might regard as good news. If they're spending less time in front of the TV set, however, kids aren't replacing it with reading. Despite efforts to get kids more interested in books, the children spent just over an hour a week reading, let's face it, who's got the time?

- By mentioning "the same time crunch" (Line 1, Para. 2) Sandra Hofferth means _____.
 A. children have little time to play with their parents
 B. children are not taken good care of by their working parents
 C. both parents and children suffer from lack of leisure time
 D. both parents and children have trouble managing their time
- According to the author, the reason given by Sandra Hofferth for the time crunch is _____.
 A. quite convincing B. partially care C. totally groundless D. rather confusing
- According to the author a child develops better if _____.
 A. he has plenty of time reading and studying
 B. he is left to play with his peers in his own way
 C. he has more time participating in school activities
 D. he is free to interact with his working parents
- The author is concerned about the fact that American kids _____.
 A. are engaged in more and more structured activities

- B. are increasingly neglected by their working mothers
 C. are spending more and more time watching TV
 D. are involved less and less in household work
5. We can infer from the passage that _____.
- A. extracurricular activities promote children's intelligence
 B. most children will true to reading with TV sets switched off
 C. efforts to get kids interested in reading have been fruitful
 D. most parents believe reading to be beneficial to children

内容大意

本文首先对 1981 年与 1997 年美国儿童的时间安排作了一番比较,通过一系列有力的数据证实美国儿童的闲暇时间已经大大减少。作者对此感到担忧,并由此引出自己的观点,儿童需要自己可以自由支配的时间,这样不仅可以鼓励他们独立思考,还能使他们学会如何与同龄人交往。文章最后,作者还谈到孩子们花在阅读上的时间少主要是由于自己可以自由支配的时间少,再一次重申了自己的观点。

题目解析

1.【解析】答案:C. 推理判断题。要知道“the same time crunch”的所指,就应回到第一段去寻找答案。第一段的种种数据提供了 1981 年到 1997 年美国儿童时间安排的变化,但最关键的是最后一句话:“All in all, however, children's leisure time dropped from 40% of the day in 1981 to 25%.”由此可知,这里的时间危机实际上就是指闲暇时间的缺乏。选项 D 是个强干扰项,但文中只谈及时间的紧张,对于父亲和孩子能否安排好自己的时间未作评价。

2.【解析】答案:D. 推理判断题。Sandra Hofferth 认为这种时间危机是由于更多的母亲出外工作。作者在随后的括号中谈到 19 和 22 小时这两个数据时用了“comparable”(可比较的;比得上的)这个词,意思就是这两个时间并没有实质上的差别。而后又话锋一转(in contrast),指出单亲家庭中母亲和孩子的相处时间只有 9 个小时,两组数据前后矛盾,确实是 rather confusing,即为 D。

3.【解析】答案:B. 事实细节题。可从文章第三段“Unstructured play encourages independent thinking and allows the young to negotiate their relationships with their peers”找到答案。A 显然与作者的观点相反;“unstructured”这个词的使用是排除 C 选项的有力根据;作者认为与同龄人互动很重要,应此选项 D 也可排除。

4.【解析】答案:A. 事实细节题。从第一段作者就谈到了美国儿童参与有组织的活动的增加了,自由支配的时间缩短了,在第三段用了“unstructured play”这个词,第四段用了“free time”,说明作者担心的是随着孩子们参与有组织活动的时间的增加,自由支配时间的缩短,最终会影响他们的发展。选项 B 是作者在第二段反驳的观点;选项 C 可从最后一段“their rapidly decreasing ‘free time’”相悖;第一段就说:“They also did more household work”,排除 D。

5.【解析】答案:D. 推理判断题。最后一段提到“Despite efforts to get kids more interested in books”,说明很多父母正是因为觉得阅读对孩子有好处,才下功夫想让孩子多花点时间读书。选项 A 是个强干扰项,按常理来说是正确的,但不是本文所要表达的意思,文中也没有任

何暗指。而且,“extracurricular activities”包括了“structured”和“unstructured activities”,文章中只说了“unstructured play”对儿童的发展有益,没有对“structured activities”作出评价。

Passage 2

Henry Ford, the famous U. S. inventor and car manufacturer, once said, “The business of American is business.” By this he meant that the U. S. way of life is based on the values of the business world.

Few would argue with Ford's statement. A brief glimpse at a daily newspaper vividly shows how much people in the United States think about business. For example, nearly every newspaper has a business section, in which the deals and projects, finances and management, stock prices and labor problems of corporations are reported daily. In addition, business news can appear in every other section. Most national news has an important financial aspect to it. Welfare, foreign aid, the federal budget, and the policies of the Federal Reserve Bank are all heavily affected by business. Moreover, business news appears in some of the unlikeliest places. The world of arts and entertainment is often referred to as “the entertainment industry” or “show business”.

The positive side of Henry Ford's statement can be seen in the prosperity that business has brought to U. S. life. One of the most important reasons so many people from all over the world come to live in the United States is the dream of a better job. Jobs are produced *in abundance* (大量地) because the U. S. economic system is driven by competition. People believe that this system creates more wealth, more jobs, and a materially better way of life.

The negative side of Henry Ford's statement, however can be seen when the world business is taken to mean big business. And the term big business—referring to the biggest companies, is seen in opposition to labor. Throughout U. S. history working people have had to fight hard for higher wages, better working conditions, and the right to form unions. Today, many of the old labor disputes are over, but there is still some employee anxiety. Downsizing—the laying off of thousands of workers to keep expenses low and profits high—creates feelings of insecurity for many.

- The United States is a typical country _____.
 - which encourages free trade at home and abroad
 - where people's chief concern is how to make money
 - where all business are managed scientifically
 - which normally works according to the federal budget
- The influence of business in the U. S. is evidenced by the fact that _____.
 - most newspapers are run by big business
 - even public organizations concentrate on working for profits
 - Americans of all professions know how to do business
 - even arts and entertainment are regarded as business
- According to the passage, immigrants choose to settle in the U. S. , dreaming that _____.
 - they can start profitable businesses there

- B. they can be more competitive in business
 C. they will make a fortune overnight there
 D. they will find better chances of employment
4. Henry Ford's statement can be taken negatively because _____.
- A. working people are discouraged to fight for their rights
 B. there are many industries controlled by a few big capitalists
 C. there is a conflicting relationship between big corporations and labor
 D. public services are not run by the federal government
5. A company's efforts to keep expenses low and profits high may result in _____.
- A. reduction in the number of employees
 B. improvement of working conditions
 C. fewer disputes between labor and management
 D. a rise in workers' wages

内容大意

本文一开始就用 Henry Ford 的话点题：“The business of America is bussiness”。第二段开始对这一论断加以例证，说明美国商业化的确是无所不在，无孔不入。第三段作者对商业化对美国造成的正面影响加以阐述，比如好的工作机会。最后一段介绍了商业化带来的负面影响，主要是大企业与劳工之间的矛盾。

题目解析

1.【解析】答案：B. 事实细节题。无论从 Herry Ford 的话，还是从第二段整段对这一论断的例证都可看出美国就是一个人人都想着如何赚钱的地方。选项 A 不是本文的侧重点；选项 C 没有根据，而且此论断过于绝对，一看就应排除；选项 D 用常理即可推知是错误的。

2.【解析】答案：D. 事实细节题。文章第二段最后说：“Moreover, business news appears in some of the unlikeliest places. The world of arts and entertainment is often referred to as the entertainment industry or ‘show business’.”由此可见，选项 D 是美国商业化影响深重的有力佐证。选项 A 力度不够；选项 B 可依据常识排除，因为公共组织不可能以赢利为目的；选项 C 过于绝对，可立即排除。

3.【解析】答案：D. 事实细节题。文章第三段说：“One of the most important reasons so many people from all over the world come to live in the United States is the dream of a better job.”由此可知大多数移民美国的人主要的目的是找份好工作。其他选项都过于片面，只可能是少数人的想法，只有选项 D 可以概括全面。

4.【解析】答案：C. 事实细节题。最后一段主要讨论了 Henry Ford 的论断的负面问题，文章明确提到“*And the term big business-referring to the biggest companies, is seen in opposition to labor*”，这说明大公司、大企业与劳工之间的矛盾就是美国商业化运作的负面问题。选项 A 与文章意思相反；B、D 各表述为一种现象，没有正面或负面的倾向。

5.【解析】答案：A. 事实细节题。要想降低费用，增加利润，选项 B、D 显然决不可能；C 属无关选项；只有选项 A 可从文章的最后一句话“*Downsizing the laying off of thousands of work-*

ers...”中找到依据。

Passage 3

Professor Smith recently persuaded 35 people, 23 of them women, to keep a diary of all their absent-minded actions for a fortnight. When he came to analyze their embarrassing *lapses* (差错) in a scientific report, he was surprised to find that nearly all of them fell into a few groupings. Nor did the lapses appear to entirely *random* (随机的).

One of the women, for instance, on leaving her house for work one morning threw her dog her earrings and tried to fix a dog biscuit on her ear. “The explanation for this is that the brain is like a computer,” explains the professor. “People program themselves to do certain activities regularly. It was the women’s custom every morning to throw her dog two biscuits and then put on her earrings. But somehow the action got reversed in the program.” About one in twenty of the incidents the volunteers reported were these “program assembly failures”.

Altogether the volunteers logged 443 unintentional actions that they found themselves doing—an average of twelve each. There appear to be peak periods in the day when we are at our *zaniest* (荒谬可笑的). These are two hours some time between eight a. m. and noon, between four and six p. m. with a smaller peak between eight and ten p. m. “Among men the peak seems to be when a changeover in brain ‘programs’ occurs, as for instance between going to and from work.” Women on average reported slightly more lapses—12.5 compared with 10.9 for men—probably because they were more reliable reporters.

A startling finding of the research is that the absent-minded activity is a hazard of doing things in which we are skilled. Normally, you would expect that skill reduces the number of errors we make. But trying to avoid silly slips by concentrating more could make things a lot worse—even dangerous.

- In his study Professor Smith asked the subjects _____.
 - to keep track of people who tend to forget things
 - to report their embarrassing lapses at random
 - to analyze their awkward experiences scientifically
 - to keep a record of what they did unintentionally
- Professor Smith discovered that _____.
 - certain patterns can be identified in the recorded incidents
 - many people were too embarrassed to admit their absent-mindedness
 - men tend to be more absent-minded than women
 - absent-mindedness is an excusable human weakness
- “Program assembly failures” (Line 6, Para. 2) refers to the phenomenon that people _____.
 - often fail to program their routines beforehand
 - tend to make mistakes when they are in a hurry
 - unconsciously change the sequence of doing things
 - are likely to mess things up if they are too tired