



张鑫友英语系列

ZHANG XINYOU ENGLISH SERIES

英语专业

飞越阅读

OVERFLY
READING

4级
考前突破每日一点

主编 杜世彦（上海外国语大学）

审订 张鑫友 Alexander G. Stein[美]

编写 英语专业四级考试命题研究组



海南出版社



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前

言

Preface

英语阅读理解从形式上来看可分为广义上的阅读理解和狭义上的阅读理解。广义上的阅读理解,即通过对一篇文章、一段对话,甚至一个句子的阅读,以达到理解之目的。在现在各类考试中的表现形式有:完形填空、阅读理解、短文改错、短文填空等。狭义上的阅读理解就是我们常见的一种"阅读理解"题目,这种阅读理解题目的表现形式又可细分为回答问题、正误判断、单项选择、完成句子等。

《飞越阅读·考前每日一篇》丛书是按狭义上的阅读理解各种题型而编写,它是严格按照最新修订的高校英语考试(CET4、CET6、TEM4、TEM8)大纲来编写,以星期来进行划分,全书的题量设置和结构安排是以让考生每天对狭义上的阅读理解题型进行一次训练为目的。将全书的体例定为每天一练有两大明显的优势,一是由于狭义上的阅读理解题型在各类考试中所占的比例较大,需要考生付出大量的时间和精力来消化吸收所学的知识,因此每天进行一次这样的训练对考生来说是较为科学的时间安排;二是此套书籍可以和《飞越阅读·考前周周测》系列配合使用,即每周进行一次总结性的综合训练。对时间紧张的考生来说,这样无论在训练量上还是时间配比上都比较容易接受。本书针对高校英语考试,为考生提供组织合

前

言

Preface

理,难度循序渐进的大量的练习题,选材、内容上力求新颖全面,旨在帮助考生掌握阅读题的分析方法,提高阅读能力,积累解题经验,最终达到顺利过关的目的。

另外,在全书的最后还附有所有训练题的参考答案和试题答案详解,方便考生在训练结束后,能够对照答案,找出自己的错误,从而发现自身的不足,及时进行改进,并确保考生掌握难点、要点。

本书的作者全部来自武汉大学、上海交通大学及上海外国语大学的一线英语教师,他们大都有比较丰富的 CET(大学英语等级考试)和 TEM(英语专业等级考试)复习备考辅导经验,其中有的老师还参加过考试命题,因此他们能够从考试的实际出发,对训练题的题量和难度设置进行比较科学的设计与编排,这也从根本上保证了此系列丛书的品质和效果。

由于编者水平有限,再加上时间仓促,书中难免有不妥之处,敬请广大读者与同行不吝赐教,以便再版时更正。

编者

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Week 1



Monday

As many as one thousand years ago in the Southwest, the Hopi and Zuni Indians of North America were building with adobe – sun-baked brick plastered with mud. Their homes looked remarkably like modern apartment houses. Some were four stories high and contained quarters for perhaps a thousand people, along with store rooms for grain and other goods. These buildings were usually put up against cliffs, both to make construction easier and for defense against enemies. They were really villages in themselves, as later Spanish explorers must have realized since they called them “pueblos”, which is Spanish for town.

The people of the pueblos raised what are called “the three sisters” — corn, beans, and squash. They made excellent pottery and wove marvelous baskets, some so fine that they could hold water. The Southwest has always been a dry country, where water is scarce. The Hopi and Zuni brought water from streams to their fields and gardens through irrigation ditches. Water was so important that it played a major role in their religion. They developed elaborate ceremonies and religious rituals to bring rain.

The way of life of less settled groups was simpler and more strongly influenced by nature. Small tribes such as the Shoshone and Ute wandered the dry and mountainous lands between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean. They gathered seeds and hunted small animals such as small rabbits and snakes. In the Far North the ancestors of today's Inuit hunted seals, walruses, and the great whales. They lived right on the frozen seas in shelters called igloos built of blocks of packed snow. When summer came, they fished for salmon and hunted the lordly caribou.

The Cheyenne, Pawnee, and Sioux tribes, known as the Plains Indians, lived on the grasslands between the Rocky Mountains and the Mississippi River. They hunted bison, commonly called the buffalo. Its meat was the chief food of these tribes, and its hide was used to make their clothing and covering of their tents and tips.



1. What does the passage mainly discuss?

- A. The architecture of early American Indian buildings.
- B. The movement of American Indians across North America.
- C. Ceremonies and rituals of American Indians.
- D. The way of life of American Indian tribes in early North America.

2. It can be inferred from the passage that the dwellings of the Hopi and Zuni were _____.

- A. very small
- B. highly advanced
- C. difficult to defend
- D. quickly constructed

—— Tuesday ——



here are many theories about the beginning of drama in ancient Greece. The one most widely accepted today is based on the assumption that drama evolved from ritual. The argument for this view goes as follows. In the beginning, human beings viewed the natural forces of the world, even the seasonal changes, as unpredictable, and they sought through various means, to control these unknown and feared powers. Those measures which appeared to bring the desired results were then retained and repeated until they hardened into fixed rituals. Eventually stories arose which explained or veiled the mysteries of the rites. As time passed some rituals were abandoned, but the stories, later called myths, persisted and provided material for art and drama.

Those who believed that drama evolved out of ritual also argue that those rites contained the seed of theater because music, dance, masks, and costumes were almost always used. Furthermore, a suitable site had to be provided for performances, and when the entire community did not participate, a clear division was usually made between the "acting area" and the "auditorium". In addition, there were performers, and, since considerable importance was attached to avoiding mistakes in the enactment of rites, religious leaders usually assumed that task. Wearing masks and costumes, they often impersonated other people, animals, or supernatural beings, and mimed the desired effect — success in hunt or battle, the coming rain, the revival of the Sun — as an actor might. Eventually such dramatic representations were separated from religious activities.

Another theory traces the theater's origin from the human interest in storytelling. According to this view, tales (about the hunt, war, or other feats) are gradually

elaborated, at first through the use of impersonation, action, and dialogue by a narrator and then through the assumption of each of the roles by a different person. A closely related theory traces theater to those dances that are primarily rhythmical and gymnastic or that are imitations of animal movements and sounds.

1. What does the passage mainly discuss?

- A. The origins of theater.
- B. The role of ritual in modern dance.
- C. The importance of storytelling.
- D. The variety of early religious activities.

2. What aspect of drama does the author discuss in the first paragraph?

- A. The reason drama is often unpredictable.
- B. The seasons in which dramas were performed.
- C. The connection between myths and dramatic plots.
- D. The importance of costumes in early drama.

3. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a common element of theater and ritual?

- A. Dance.
- B. Costumes.
- C. Music.
- D. Magic.

4. According to the passage, what is the main difference between ritual and drama?

- A. Ritual uses music whereas drama does not.
- B. Ritual is shorter than drama.
- C. Ritual requires fewer performers than drama.
- D. Ritual has a religious purpose and drama does not.

5. The passage supports which of the following statements?

- A. No one really knows how the theater began.
- B. Myths are no longer represented dramatically.
- C. Storytelling is an important part of dance.
- D. Dramatic activities require the use of costumes.

—— Wednesday ——



Glacier National Park in Montana shares boundaries with Canada, an American Indian reservation, and a national forest. Along the North Fork of the Flathead River, the park also borders about 17,000 acres of private lands that are currently used for ranching, timber, and agriculture. This land is an important part of the



habitat and migratory routes for several endangered species that frequent the park. These private lands are essentially the only ones available for development in the region.

With encouragement from the park, local landowners initiated a land use planning effort to guide the future of the North Fork. The park is a partner in an inter local agreement that calls for resource managing agencies to work together and with the more than 400 private owners in the area. A draft plan has been prepared, with objective of maintaining traditional economic uses but limiting new development that would damage park resources. Voluntary action by landowners, in cooperation with the park and the county, is helping to restrict small lot subdivisions, maintain wildlife corridors, and minimize any harmful impact on the environment.

The willingness of local landowners to participate in this protection effort may have been stimulated by concerns that Congress would impose a legislative solution. Nevertheless, many local residents want to retain the existing character of the area. Meetings between park officials and landowners have led to a dramatically improved understanding of all concerns.

1. The passage mainly discusses _____.

- A. the endangered species in Glacier National Park
- B. the protection of lands surrounding Glacier National Park
- C. conservation laws imposed by the state of Montana
- D. conservation laws imposed by Congress

2. Why are the private lands surrounding Glacier National Park so important?

- A. They function as a hunting preserve.
- B. They are restricted to government use.
- C. They are heavily populated.
- D. They contain natural habitats of threatened species.

3. The relationship between park officials and neighboring landowners may best be described as _____.

- A. Indifferent
- B. Intimate
- C. cooperative
- D. disappointing

4. It can be inferred from the passage that a major interest of the officials of Glacier National Park is to _____.

- A. limit land development around the park
- B. establish a new park in Montana
- C. influence national legislation
- D. settle border disputes with Canada

Thursday



hen I was growing up, the whole world was Jewish. The heroes were Jewish and the villains were Jewish. The landlord, the doctor, the grocer, your best friend, the village idiot, and the neighborhood bully: all Jewish. We were working class and immigrants as well, but that just came with territory. Essentially we were Jews on the streets of New York. We learned to be kind, cruel, smart and feeling in a mixture of language and gesture that was part street slang, part grade-school English, part kitchen Yiddish.

One Sunday evening when I was eight years old my parents and I were riding in the back seat of my rich uncle's car. We had been out for a ride and now we were back in the Bronx, headed for home. Suddenly, another car sideswiped us. My mother and aunt shrieked. My uncle swore softly. My father, in whose lap I was sitting, said out the window at the speeding car, "That's all right. Nothing but a few Jews in here." In an instant I knew everything. I knew there was a world beyond our streets, and in that world my father was humiliated man, without power or standing.

When I was sixteen, a girl in the next building had her nose straightened; we all went together to see Selma Shapiro lying in state, wrapped in bandages from which would emerge a person fit for life beyond the block. Three buildings away a boy went downtown for a job, and on his application he wrote "Arnold Brown" instead of "Arnold Braunowiitz". The news swept through the neighborhood like a wild fire. A nose job? A name change? What was happening here? It was awful; it was wonderful.

It was frightening; it was delicious. Whatever it was, it wasn't standstill. Things felt lively and active. Self-confidence was on the rise, passivity on the wane. We were going to experience challenges. That's what it meant to be in the new world. For the first time we could imagine ourselves out there. But who exactly do I mean when I say we? I mean Arnie, not Selma. I mean my brother, not me. I mean the boys, not the girls. My mother stood behind me, pushing me forward. "The girl goes to college, too," she said. And I did. But my going to college would not mean the same thing as my mother's going to college, and we all knew it. For my brother, college meant going from the Bronx to Manhattan. But for me? From the time I was fourteen I yearned to get out of the Bronx, but get out into what? I did not actually imagine myself a working person alone in Manhattan and nobody else did either. What I did imagine was that I would marry, and that the man I married would get me downtown. He would brave the perils of class and race, and somehow I'd be there alongside him.



1. In the passage, we can find the author was _____.
A. quite satisfied with her life B. a poor Jewish girl
C. born in a middle-class family D. a resident in a rich area in New York
2. Selma Shapiro had her nose straightened because she wanted _____.
A. to look her best B. to find a new job in the neighborhood
C. to live a new life in other places D. to marry very soon
3. Arnold Brown changed his name because _____.
A. there was racial discrimination in employment
B. Brown was just the same as Braunowitz
C. It was easy to write
D. Brown sounds better
4. From the passage we can infer that _____.
A. the Jews were satisfied with their life in the Bronx
B. the Jewish immigrants could not be rich
C. all the immigrants were very poor
D. the young Jews didn't accept the stern reality

—— Friday ——

Before the mid-1860's, the impact of the railroads in the United States was limited, in the sense that the tracks ended at this Missouri River, approximately the center of the country. At the point the trains turned their freight, mail, and passengers over to steamboats, wagons, and stagecoaches. This meant that wagon freighting, stagecoaching, and steamboating did not come to an end when the first train appeared; rather they became supplements or feeders. Each new "end-of-track" became a center for animal-drawn or waterborne transportation. The major effect of the railroad was to shorten the distance that had to be covered by the older, slower, and more costly means. Wagon freighters continued operating throughout the 1870's and 1880's and into the 1890's. Although over constantly shrinking routes, and coaches and wagons continued to crisscross the West wherever the rails had not yet been laid. The beginning of a major change was foreshadowed in the later 1860's, when the Union Pacific Railroad at last began to build westward from the Central Plains city of Omaha to meet the Central Pacific Railroad advancing eastward from California through the formidable barrier of the Sierra Nevada. Although President Abraham Lincoln signed the original Pacific Railroad bill in 1862 and a revised, financially much more generous version in 1864, little construction was completed until 1865 on the Central Pacific and 1866 on the Union Pacific. The primary

reason was skepticism that a Railroad built through so challenging and thinly settled a stretch of desert, mountain, and semiarid plain could pay a profit. In the words of an economist, this was a case of “premature enterprise”, where not only the cost of construction but also the very high risk deterred private investment. In discussing the Pacific Railroad bill, the chair of the congressional committee bluntly stated that without government subsidy no one would undertake so unpromising a venture; yet it was a national necessity to link East and West together.

1. The author refers to the impact of railroads before the late 1860's as “limited” because _____.

- A. the track did not take the direct route from one city to the next
- B. passengers and freight had to transfer to other modes of transportation to reach western destinations
- C. passengers preferred stagecoaches
- D. railroad travel was quite expensive

2. What can be inferred about coaches and wagon freighters as the railroad expanded?

- A. They developed competing routes.
- B. Their drivers refused to work for the railroads.
- C. They began to specialize in private investment.
- D. There were insufficient numbers of trained people to operate them.

3. Why does the author mention the Sierra Nevada in line 15?

- A. To argue that a more direct route to the West could have been taken.
- B. To identify a historically significant mountain range in the West.
- C. To point out the location of a serious train accident.
- D. To give an example of an obstacle faced by the central pacific.

4. The word “subsidy” in line 23 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. persuasion
- B. financing
- C. explanation
- D. penalty

—— Saturday ——

Certainly no creature in the sea is odder than the common sea cucumber. All living creature, especially human beings, have their peculiarities, but everything about the little sea cucumber seems unusual. What else can be said about a bizarre animal that, among other eccentricities, eats mud, feeds almost continuously day and night but can live without eating for long periods, and can be poisonous but is considered supremely edible by gourmets.



For some fifty million years, despite all its eccentricities, the sea cucumber has subsisted on its diet of mud. It is adaptable enough to live attached to rocks by its tube feet, under rocks in shallow water, or on the surface of mud flats. Common in cool water on both Atlantic and Pacific shores, it has the ability to suck up mud or sand and digest whatever nutrients are present.

Sea cucumbers come in a variety of colors, ranging from black to reddish-brown to sand-color and nearly white. One form even has vivid purple tentacles. Usually the creatures are cucumber-shaped — hence their name — and because they are typically rock inhabitants, this shape, combined with flexibility, enables them to squeeze into crevices where they are safe from predators and ocean currents.

Although they have voracious appetites, eating day and night, sea cucumbers have the capacity to become quiescent and live at a low metabolic rate — feeding sparingly or not at all for long periods, so that the marine organisms that provide their food have a chance to multiply. If it were not for this faculty, they would devour all the food available in a short time and would probably starve themselves out of existence.

But the most spectacular thing about the sea cucumber is the way it defends itself. Its major enemies are fish and crabs, when attacked, it squirts all its internal organs into water. It also casts off attached structures such as tentacles. The sea cucumber will eviscerate and regenerate itself if it is attacked or even touched; it will do the same if the surrounding water temperature is too high or if the water becomes too polluted.

1. According to the passage, why is the shape of sea cucumbers important?

- A. It helps them to digest their food.
- B. It helps them to protect themselves from danger.
- C. It makes it easier for them to move through the mud.
- D. It makes them attractive to fish.

2. The fourth paragraph of the passage primarily discusses _____.

- A. the reproduction of sea cucumbers
- B. the food sources of sea cucumbers
- C. the eating habits of sea cucumbers
- D. threats to sea cucumbers' existence

3. What can be inferred about the defence mechanisms of the sea cucumber?

- A. They are very sensitive to surrounding stimuli.
- B. They are almost useless.
- C. They require group cooperation.
- D. They are similar to those of most sea creatures.

4. Which of the following would NOT cause a sea cucumber to release its internal

organs into the water?

A. A touch.

B. Food.

C. Unusually warm water.

D. Pollution.

Sunday

Human beings have used tools for a very long time. In some parts of the world you can still find tools that people used more than two million years ago. They made these tools by hitting one stone against another. In this way, they broke off pieces from one of the stones. These chips of stone were usually sharp on one side. People used them for cutting meat and skin from dead animals, and also for making other tools out of wood. Human beings needed to use tools because they did not have sharp teeth like other meat-eating animals, such as lions and tigers. Tools helped people to get food more easily.

Working with tools also helped to develop human intelligence. The human brain grew bigger, and human beings began to invent more and more tools and machines. The stone chip was one of the first tools that people used, and perhaps it is the most important. Some scientists say that it was the key to the success of mankind.

Since 1960 a new kind of tool has appeared. This is the silicon chip — a little chip of silicon crystal. It is smaller than a finger-nail, but it can store more than a million “bits” of information. It is an electronic brain. Every year these chips get cleverer, but their size gets smaller, and their cost gets less. They are used in watches, calculators and intelligent machines that we can use in many ways.

In the future we will not need to work with tools in the old way. Machines will do everything for us. They will even talk and play games with us. People will have plenty of spare time. But what will they do with it?

Human beings used stone chips for more than two million years, but human life changed very little in that time. We have used silicon chips for only a few years, but life is changing faster every day. What will life be like twenty years from now? What will the world be like two million years from now?

1. The stone chip is thought to be the most important tool because it _____.

A. was one of the first tools

B. developed human capabilities

C. led to the invention of machines

D. was crucial to the development of mankind

2. At the end of the passage the author seems to suggest that life in future is _____.

A. disastrous

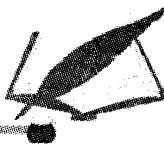
B. unpredictable

C. exciting

D. colorful



Week 2



Monday



California is a land of variety and contrast. Almost every type of physical land feature, sort of arctic ice fields and tropical jungles can be found within its borders. Sharply contrasting types of land often lie very close to one another.

People living in Bakersfield, for instance, can visit the Pacific Ocean and the coastal plain, the fertile San Joaquin Valley, the arid Mojave Desert, and the high Sierra Nevada, all within a radius of about 100 miles. In other areas it is possible to go snow skiing in the morning and surfing in the evening of the same day, without having to travel long distance.

Contrast abounds in California. The highest point in the United States (outside Alaska) is in California, and so is the lowest point (including Alaska. Mount Whitney, 14,494 feet above sea level, is separated from Death Valley, 282 feet below sea level, by a distance of only 100 miles. The two areas have a difference in altitude of almost three miles.

California has deep, clear mountain lakes like Lake Tahoe, the deepest in the country, but it also has shallow, salty desert lakes. It has Lake Tulainyo, 12,020 feet above sea level, and the lowest lake in the country, the Salton Sea, 236 feet below sea level. Some of its lakes, like Owens Lake in Death Valley, are not lakes at all: they are dried-up lake beds.

In addition to mountains, lakes, valleys, deserts, and plateaus, California has its Pacific coastline, stretching longer than the coastlines of Oregon and Washington combined.

1. Which of the following is the lowest point in the United States?

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| A. Lake Tulainyo. | B. Mojave Desert. |
| C. Death Valley. | D. The Salton Sea. |

2. Where is the highest point in the United States located?

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| A. Lake Tahoe. | B. Sierra Nevada. |
| C. Mount Whitney. | D. Alaska. |

3. How far away is Death Valley from Mount Whitney?
- A. About 3 miles. B. Only 100 miles.
C. 282 feet. D. 14,494 feet.
4. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage as being within a radius of about 100 miles of Bakersfield?
- A. The Pacific Ocean. B. San Joaquin Valley.
C. Mojave Desert. D. Oregon and Washington.
5. Which statement best demonstrates that California is a land of variety and contrast?
- A. The highest lake in California is Lake Tulainyo.
B. It is possible to go surfing and snow skiing in some parts of California without having to travel long distance.
C. Sierra Nevada, San Joaquin Valley, Mojave Desert and the Pacific Ocean all lie within a radius of about 100 miles.
D. Owens Lake in Death Valley is not really a lake at all.

— Tuesday —



Most earthquakes occur within the upper 15 miles of the earth's surface. But earthquakes can and do occur at all depths to about 460 miles. Their number decreases as the depth increases. At about 460 miles one earthquake occurs only every few years. Near the surface earthquakes may run as high as 100 in a month, but the yearly average does not vary much. In comparison with the total number of earthquakes each year, the number of disastrous earthquakes is very small.

The extent of the disaster in an earthquake depends on many factors. If you carefully build a toy house with an erect set, it will still stand no matter how much you shake the table. But if you build a toy house with a pack of cards, a slight shake of the table will make it fall. An earthquake in Agadir, Morocco, was not strong enough to be recorded on distant instruments, but it completely destroyed the city. Many stronger earthquakes have done comparatively little damage. If a building is well constructed and built on solid ground, it will resist an earthquake. Most deaths in earthquakes have been due to faulty building construction or poor building sites. A third and very serious factor is panic. When