



张鑫友英语系列

ZHANG XINYOU ENGLISH SERIES

英语专业

飞越阅读

OVERFLY
READING

8级
考前突破每日一篇

主编 杜世彦（上海外国语大学）

审订 张鑫友 Alexander G. Stein[美]

编写 英语专业八级考试命题研究组



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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

Science, in practice, depends far less on the experiments it prepares than on the preparedness of the minds of the men who watch the experiments. Sir Isaac Newton supposedly discovered gravity through the fall of an apple. Apples had been falling in many places for centuries and thousands of people had seen them fall. But Newton for years had been curious about the cause of the orbital motion of the moon and planets. What kept them in place? Why didn't they fall out of the sky? The fact that the apple fell down toward the earth and not up into the tree answered the question he had been asking himself about those larger fruits of the heavens, the moon and the planets.

How many men would have considered the possibility of an apple falling up into the tree? Newton did because he was not trying to predict anything. He was just wondering. His mind was ready for the unpredictable. Unpredictability is part of the essential nature of research. If you don't have unpredictable things, you don't have research. Scientists tend to forget this when writing their cute and dried reports for the technical journals, but history is filled with examples of it.

In talking to some scientists, particularly younger ones, you might gather the impression that they find the "scientific method" a substitute for imaginative thought. I've attended research conferences where a scientist has been asked what he thinks about the advisability of continuing a certain experiment. The scientist has frowned, looked at the graphs, and said, "the data are still inconclusive." "We know that," the men from the budget office have said, "but what do you think? Is it worthwhile going on? What do you think we might expect?" The scientist has been shocked at having even been asked to speculate.

What this amounts to, of course, is that the scientist has become the victim of his own writings. He has put forward unquestioned claims so consistently that he not only believes them himself, but has convinced industrial and business management that they are true. If



experiments are planned and carried out according to plan as faithfully as the reports in the science journals indicate, then it is perfectly logical for management to expect research to produce results measurable in dollars and cents. It is entirely reasonable for auditors to believe that scientists who know exactly where they are going and how they will get there should not be distracted by the necessity of keeping one eye on the cash register while the other eye is on the microscope. Nor, if regularity and conformity to a standard pattern are as desirable to the scientist as the writing of his papers would appear to reflect, is management to be blamed for discriminating against the “odd balls” among researchers in favor of more conventional thinkers who “work well with the team”.

1. The author wants to prove with the example of Isaac Newton that _____.

- A. Inquiring minds are more important than scientific experiments
- B. science advances when fruitful researches are conducted
- C. scientists seldom forget the essential nature of research
- D. unpredictability weighs less than prediction in scientific research

2. The author asserts that scientists _____.

- A. shouldn't replace “scientific method” with imaginative thought
- B. shouldn't neglect to speculate on unpredictable things
- C. should write more concise reports for technical journals
- D. should be confident about their research findings

3. It seems that some young scientists _____.

- A. have a keen interest in prediction
- B. often speculate on the future
- C. think highly of creative thinking
- D. stick to “scientific method”

4. The author implies that the results of scientific research _____.

- A. may not be as profitable as they are expected
- B. can be measured in dollars and cents
- C. rely on conformity to a standard pattern
- D. are mostly underestimated by management

— Tuesday —

Ethnography is the study of a particular human society or the process of making such a study. Contemporary ethnography is based almost entirely on fieldwork and requires the complete immersion of the anthropologist in the culture and everyday life of the people who are the subject of his study. Ethnography, by virtue of its intersubjective nature, is necessarily comparative. Given that the anthropologist in the field necessarily retains cultural biases, his observations and descriptions must, to a certain degree, be comparative. Thus the formulating of generalizations about culture and the drawing of comparisons inevitably become components of ethnography.

Modern anthropologists usually identify the establishment of ethnography as a professional field with the pioneering work of the Polish-born British anthropologist Bronislaw Malinowski in the Trobriand Islands of Melanesia. Ethnographic fieldwork has since become a sort of rite of passage into the profession of cultural anthropology. Many ethnographers reside in the field for a year or more, learning the local language or dialect and, to the greatest extent possible, participating in everyday life while at the same time maintaining an observer's objective detachment.

This method, called participant-observation, while necessary and useful for gaining a thorough understanding of a foreign culture, is in practice quite difficult. Just as the anthropologist brings to the situation certain inherent, if unconscious, cultural biases, so also is he influenced by the subject of his study. While there are cases of ethnographers who felt alienated or even repelled by the culture they entered, many — perhaps most — have come to identify closely with “their people”, a factor that affects their objectivity. In addition to the technique of participant-observation, the contemporary ethnographer usually selects and cultivates close relationships with individuals, known as informants, who can provide specific information on ritual, kinship, or other significant aspects of cultural life. In this process also the anthropologist risks the danger of biased viewpoints, as those who most willingly act as informants frequently are individuals who are marginal to the group and who may provide other than objective explanations of cultural and social phenomena. A final hazard inherent in ethnographic fieldwork is the ever-present possibility of cultural change produced by or resulting from the ethnographer's presence in the group.

Contemporary ethnographies usually adhere to a community, rather than individual,



focus and concentrate on the description of current circumstances rather than historical events. Traditionally, commonalities among members of the group have been emphasized, though recent ethnography has begun to reflect an interest in the importance of variation within cultural systems. Ethnographic studies are no longer restricted to small primitive societies but may also focus on such social units as urban ghettos. The tools of the ethnographer have changed radically since Malinowski's time. While detailed notes are still a mainstay of fieldwork, ethnographers have taken full advantage of technological developments such as motion pictures and tape recorders to augment their written accounts.

1. Which of the following may NOT give biases to the ethnographer's study of culture?

- A. The people who answer his question.
- B. His own cultural background.
- C. The kind of information he wants to get.
- D. The changes made by his presence in the culture in question.

2. The ethnographer shows great interest in all of the following EXCEPT _____.

- A. current conditions that exist with a culture
- B. individual behavior as shaped by a custom
- C. behavior patterns common among members of a culture
- D. differences existing within a culture

3. Malinowski _____.

- A. developed ethnography into anthropology
- B. used tape recorders to record the desired information
- C. studied such units as urban ghettos
- D. is considered father of ethnography

4. It is implied in the last paragraph that the method used by earlier ethnographers was _____.

- A. detailed note-taking
- B. random selection
- C. tape-recording
- D. on-the-spot investigation

—— Wednesday ——



nineteenth-century writers in the United States, whether they wrote novels, short stories, poems, or plays, were powerfully drawn to the railroad in its golden years. In fact, writers responded to the railroads as soon as the first were built in the 1380's. By the 1850's, the railroad was a major presence in the life of the nation. Writers such as Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau saw the railroad both as a boom to democracy and as an object of suspicion. The railroad could be and was a despoiler of nature; furthermore, in its manifestation of speed and noise, it might be a despoiler of human nature as well. By the 1850's there was a great distrust among writers and intellectuals of the rapid industrialization of which the railroad was a leading force.

Deeply philosophical historians such as Henry Adams lamented the role that the new frenzy for business was playing in eroding traditional values. A distrust of industry and business continued among writers throughout the rest of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth.

For the most part, the literature in which the railroad plays an important role belong to popular culture rather than to the realm of serious art. One thinks of melodramas, boy's books, thrillers, romances, and the like rather than novels of the first rank. In the railroad's prime years, between 1890 and 1920, there were a few individuals in the United States, most of them with solid railroading experience behind them, who made a profession of writing about railroading-works offering the ambience of stations, yards, and locomotive cabs. These writers, who can genuinely be said to have created a genre, the "railroad novel", are now mostly forgotten, their names having faded from memory. But anyone who takes the time to consult their fertile writings will still find a treasure store of information about the place of the railroad in the life of the United States.

1. With which of the following topics is the passage mainly concerned?

- A. The role of the railroad in the economy of the United States.
- B. Major nineteenth-century writers.
- C. The conflict between expanding industry and preserving nature.
- D. The railroad as a subject for literature.

2. According to the passage, the railroad played a significant role in literature in all



of the following kinds of books EXCEPT _____.

- A. thrillers B. boy's books C. important novels D. romances

3. What is the author's attitude toward the "railroad novels" and other books about railroads written between 1890 and 1920?

- A. They have as much literary importance as the books written by Emerson, Thoreau, and Adams.
B. They are good examples of the effects industry and business had on the literature of the United States.
C. They contributed to the weakening of traditional values.
D. They are worth reading as sources of knowledge about the impact of railroads of life in the United States.

— Thursday —



moderate drinking reduces stroke risk, study confirms. Similar to the way a drink or two a day protects against heart attacks, moderate alcohol consumption wards off strokes, a new study found.

The study also found that the type of alcohol consumed — beer, wine or liquor — was unimportant. Any of them, or a combination, was protective, researchers reported in today's Journal of the American Medical Association. "No study has shown benefit in recommending alcohol consumption to those who do not drink", cautioned the authors, led by Dr. Ralph L. Sacco of Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. But the new data support the guidelines of the National Stroke Association, which say moderate drinkers may protect themselves from strokes by continuing to consume alcohol, the authors said.

The protective effect of moderate drinking against heart attacks is well established, but the data has been conflicting about alcohol and strokes, the authors said. The new study helps settle the question and is the first to find blacks and Hispanics benefit as well as whites, according to the authors. Further research is needed among other groups, such as Asian, whose past studies suggest they may get no stroke protection from alcohol or may even be put at greater risk.

Among groups where the protective effect exists, its mechanism appears to differ from the protective effect against heart attacks, which occurs through boosts in levels of so-called

“good” cholesterol, the authors said. They speculated alcohol may protect against stroke by acting on some other blood trait, such as the tendency of blood platelets to clump, which is key in forming the blood clots that can cause strokes.

The researchers studied 677 New York residents who lived in the northern part of Manhattan and had strokes between July 1, 1993 and July, 1 1997. After taking into account differences in other factors that could affect stroke risk, such as high blood pressure, the researchers estimated that subjects who consumed up to two alcoholic drinks daily were only half as likely to have suffered clot-type strokes as nondrinkers. Clot-type strokes account for 80 percent of all strokes, a leading cause of US deaths and disability. Stroke risk increased with heavier drinking. At seven drinks per day, risk was almost triple that of moderate drinkers.

An expert spokesman for the American Heart Association, who was not involved in the study, said it was well-done and important information. But it shouldn't be interpreted to mean, “I can have two drinks and therefore not worry about my high blood pressure or worry about my cholesterol,” said Dr. Edgar J. Kenton, an associate professor of clinical neurology at Thomas Jefferson University Medical College in Philadelphia. Instead, he said, the study provides good reason to do further research and to add alcohol to the list of modifiable risk factors for stroke.

1. The new study conducted by Dr. Sacco and his colleagues is unique in that

- A. It refutes early studies on the protective effect of moderate drinking against heart attack
- B. It confirms early studies of moderate drinking against heart attacks
- C. It helps to resolve the disputes over the effect of moderate drinking against stroke
- D. It finds that moderate drinking can benefit people of different races equally well

2. According to Dr. Sacco, _____.

- A. different wines work differently on drinkers at stroke risk
- B. non-drinkers should also consume a moderate amount of alcohol
- C. drinkers should keep to one kind of alcohol to ward off strokes
- D. moderate alcohol consumption protects against strokes



3. Which of the following statements is TRUE about the effect of drinking against strokes?
- A. Moderate drinking protects against heart attacks and strokes in different ways.
 - B. Even heavy drinkers suffer less chance of a stroke than non-drinkers.
 - C. Alcohol works only on patients who suffer clot-type strokes to protect them.
 - D. White people are more likely to benefit from moderate drinking than non-whites.
4. From the fourth paragraph we learn that _____.
A. heart attacks are more likely caused by alcohol than stroke
B. moderate drinking discourage blood platelets from clotting
C. boosting the levels of good cholesterol can lead to heart attacks
D. moderate drinking protect people by making the blood cell clump
5. What is said in the last paragraph by Dr. Kenton indicates that _____.
A. he is in serious doubt about the validity of the study
B. drinking alone can not protect against strokes
C. people should add alcohol to their daily diet
D. the study has not established a relation between drinking and high blood pressure

—— Friday ——



Is language, like food, a basic human need without which a child at a critical period of life can be starved and damaged? Judging from the drastic experiment of Frederick I in the thirteenth century, it may be. Hoping to discover what language a child would speak if he heard no mother tongue, he told the nurses to keep silent.

All the infants died before the first years. But clearly there was more than lack of language here. What was missing was good mothering. Without good mothering, in the first year of life especially, the capacity to survive is seriously affected.

Today no such severe lack exists as that ordered by Frederick. Nevertheless, some children are still backward in speaking. Most often the reason for this is that the mother is insensitive to the signals of the infant, whose brain is programmed to learn language

rapidly. If these sensitive periods are neglected, the ideal time for acquiring skills passes and they might never be learned so easily again. A bird learns to sing and to fly at the right time, but the process is slow and hard once the critical stage has passed.

Experts suggest that speech stages are reached in a fixed sequence and at a constant age, but there are cases where speech has started late in a child who eventually turns out to be of high IQ. At twelve weeks a baby smiles and makes vowel-like sounds; at months he can speak simple words and understand simple commands; at eighteen months he has a vocabulary of three to five words. At three he knows about 1,000 words which he can put into sentences, and at four his language differs from that of his parents in style rather than grammar.

Recent evidence suggests that an infant is born with the capacity to speak. What is special about man's brain, compared with that of the monkey, is the complex system which enables a child to connect the sight and feel of, say, a toy-bear with the sound pattern "toy bear". And even more incredible is the young brain's ability to pick out an order in language from the mixture of sound around him, to analyze, to combine and recombine the parts of a language in new ways.

But speech has to be induced, and this depends on interaction between the mother and the child, where the mother recognizes the signals in the child's babbling (咿哑学语), grasping and smiling, and responds to them. Insensitivity of the mother to these signals dulls the interaction because the child gets discouraged and sends out only the obvious signals. Sensitivity to the child's non-verbal signals is essential to the growth and development of language.

1. The purpose of Frederick I's experiment was _____.

- A. to prove that children are born with the ability to speak
- B. to discover what language a child would speak without hearing any human speech
- C. to find out what role careful nursing would play in teaching a child to speak
- D. to prove that a child could be damaged without learning a language

2. The reason some children are backward in speaking is most probably that _____.

- A. they are incapable of learning language rapidly
- B. they are exposed to too much language at once
- C. their mothers respond inadequately to their attempts to speak
- D. their mothers are not intelligent enough to help them



3. What is exceptionally remarkable about a child is that _____.

- A. he is born with the capacity of speak
- B. he has a brain more complex than an animal's
- C. he can produce his own sentences
- D. he owes his speech ability to good nursing

4. Which of the following can NOT be inferred from the passage?

- A. The faculty of speech is inborn in man.
- B. Encouragement is anything but essential to a child in language learning.
- C. The child's brain is highly selective.
- D. Most children learn their language in definite stages.

—— Saturday ——

Coincident with concerns about the accelerating loss of species and habitats has been a growing appreciation of the importance of biological diversity, the number of species in a particular ecosystem, to the health of the Earth and human being. Much has been written about the diversity of terrestrial organisms, particularly the exceptionally rich life associated with tropical rain forest habitats. Relatively little has been said, however, about diversity of life in the sea even though coral reef systems are comparable to rain forests in terms of richness of life.

An alien exploring Earth would probably give priority to the planet's dominant, most distinctive feature — the ocean. Humans have a bias toward land that sometimes gets in the way of truly examining global issues. Seen from far away, it is easy to realize that landmasses occupy one third of the Earth's surface. Given that two thirds of the Earth's surface is water and that marine life lives at all levels of the ocean, the total three dimensional living space of the ocean is perhaps 100 times greater than that of land and contains more than 90 percent of all life on Earth even though the ocean has fewer distinct species.

The fact that half of the known species are thought to inhabit the world's rain forests does not seem surprising, considering the huge numbers of insects that comprise the bulk of the species. One scientist found many different species of ants in just one tree from a rain forest. While every species is different from every other species, their genetic makeup constrains them to be insects and to share similar characteristics with 750, 000 species of

insects. If basic, broad categories such as phyla and classes are given more emphasis than differentiating between species, then the greatest diversity of life is unquestionably the sea. Nearly every major type of plant and animal has some representation there.

To appreciate fully the diversity and abundance of life in the sea, it helps to think small. Every spoonful of ocean water contains life on the order of 100 to 100,000 bacterial cells plus assorted microscopic plants and animals, including larvae of organisms ranging from sponges and corals to starfish and clams and much more.

1. What is the main point of the passage?

- A. Humans are destroying thousands of species.
- B. There are thousands of insect species.
- C. The sea is even richer in life than the rain forests.
- D. Coral reefs are similar to rain forests.

2. Why does the author compare rain forests and coral reefs?

- A. They are approximately the same size.
- B. They share many similar species.
- C. Most of their inhabitants require water.
- D. Both have many different forms of life.

3. The author argues that there is more diversity of life in the sea than in the rain forests because _____.

- A. more phyla and classes of life are represented in the sea
- B. there are too many insects to make meaningful distinctions
- C. many insect species are too small to divide into categories
- D. marine life forms reproduce at a faster rate

4. Which of the following conclusions is supported by the passage?

- A. Ocean life is highly adaptive.
- B. More attention needs to be paid to preserving ocean species and habitats.
- C. Ocean life is primarily composed of plants.
- D. The sea is highly resistant to the damage done by pollutants.