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涵盖最近10年全部考试真题

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◆ 杨 波 编著

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写给同学们的知心话

在紧紧把握考研英语重点、传授科学的学习方法的同时,用尽可能短的时间,彻底解决学习者的英语基础问题,确保只具有大专公共英语水平而又求师无门的学习者,完全靠自学就能以60分以上的成绩通过考试,这就是本书最鲜明的特色,也是被本人多年教学实践反复证明可以做到的事情。近年来,随着考研人数急剧增加,全国考研英语辅导班已不计其数,考研英语辅导用书多种多样,并且涌现出了大批以考研辅导见长的专家、学者。然而,我们必须正视这样的现实:历年考研英语的及格率一直都很低,英语往往是考生最头疼的问题。其原因在于:从难度上讲,考研英语属于高级英语(英语原著),而大多数考生,只具备公共课(大学英语)(1~4册)这种基础英语的水平,离考试要求相差甚远。有些人甚至连大学英语四级的程度都不具备,及格就更没希望了。内行人都知道,要想通过考研英语(以及任何其他英语考试),关键在于具备牢固的英语基础。没有最起码的学习基础,一味追求“窍门”、“捷径”、“考试技能”,实际上无异于搞无源之水、无本之木。考生最需要的,是尽快提高英语水平,掌握科学的分析方法,而非熟读有关“听力技能”、“阅读理解技能”、“完形填空技能”、“写作技能”的考试理论。例如,用大量笔墨,谈论“主题句”、“段落发展技巧”、“猜词法”、“解题思路”,把英语当作政治理论课或数学题来对待,在客观上只能起严重的误导作用。读不懂原文,缺乏语言能力,一切都无从谈起。就好比参加马拉松比赛,身体素质上不去,比赛技能再精通又有何用?

然而,大多数学生学习时间都非常有限,让他们自己去查阅工具书来啃考研英语的原始资料,很不现实。此外,阅读英语原著,如无他人指点,理解容易停留在表面上,难以深入进去。还有,纵观目前许多做法,一般都是注解过于简略或者干脆不提供注解,而只是按题型要求汇集原始材料,有的甚至还认为“注释多了没有用,会妨碍记忆;强化考试技能的关键是多多做题”。对此,我们只能说,以大学英语四级的基础靠做题去攻克考研英语,浮光掠影,满足于一知半解,那就如同初中生想靠做题通过高考一样,其后果可想而知。因此,编写一本附有详尽注释的综合性辅导用书,真正解决攻克考研英语的根本性问题,势在必行。翻开《考研英语攻必克》,学习者可以发现:

1. 在“听力理解”部分,我们把重点放在了听力分项练习上,而不是一上来就做模拟试题。大家知道,听力考试,成绩极易受主观、客观方面等诸多因素的影响,临场发挥非常重要。为了确保学习者在准备时“高屋建瓴,一步到位”,面对考研真题占有绝对优势,本书听力练习,内容极其广泛,从新闻报道、电话交谈一直到天气预报,无所不包,而且速度稍快,口音各异,有时还带有一定的背景噪音,总体难度要超过实际考题。经过这样的高难度操练,考场上肯定有轻松自如之感。好比举重比赛,平时练的是100公斤,赛场上举50公斤,岂不是易如反掌?特别需要强调的是,提高听力,关键在于多多练习。对考试本身进行过多的理论说明,实际上用处微乎其微,而用时髦的名词去介绍听力测试,如“听力的本质就是输入与产出”,只能给人一种神乎其神的印象,对考生的心理产生消极影响。本书听力部分附有三盒磁带,其中有两盒是分项练习,另一盒则包含四套模拟试题以及8篇高难度强化练习。就像学打仗一样,我们的目的是培养实际作战能力,而不是熟读理论知识。

2. 在“阅读理解”部分,除了真题之外,全是经过反复筛选的英语原著精品,不但有“答案详解”,而且还有几乎是逐句进行的“难点注释”。这些注释大都是完整地地道的汉语译文,同时透彻分析了修辞、语法以及理解思路方面的问题。最后的“内容提要”,使学习者能及时纵览全文要旨,极大加深对原文的印象。与同类用书相比,本书阅读理解部分的讲解,是最详细的,其含金量,不言而喻。对于通过考试,实已绰绰有余。

3. 在“完形填空”部分,任何非直观性、答案较为曲折的选项,都在语法、修辞或语义方面进行了细致说明,使学习者再也不用为理解某一答案的原因而苦思冥想。练习数量多达33篇,可根据实际需要,酌情选用。

4. 在“短文写作部分”,除提供了各种类型的写作范例外,还介绍了本人长期考研英语教学实践积累的行之有效的经验。例如:写作时,在意念上必须有清晰、完整的汉语,才能写出清晰、完整的英语。作为一个中国人,用汉语写出来的东西尚且残缺不全,英语怎么有可能地道了呢?“他来回踱着步子,好像思考什么。”根据这种意念,写出来的英语十之八九是“He walked up and down as if he thought about something.”;假如我们的意念是:“好像在思考什么,”“as if”从句就不至于出现时态错误了。本部分最大的特色,也许在于针对单句组织能力差这一关键问题,设计了大量练习,包括汉译英。想一想,掌握了单句组织能力,再写一篇小短文,又成什么问题呢?

5. 在“英汉翻译部分”,先讲最简单、最基本的翻译技能,如词类转化,而不是一上来就谈什么定语从句、长句的处理,循序渐进,由易到难,由浅入深,使学习者轻松自如尽揽翻译技能之精华。所附练习完整、系统,而且内容广泛。尤其是最后所附的综合练习,除了包括近11年全部真题外,还从各种高难度英语原著中遴选了大量富有代表性的含义深奥、结构复杂的长句。这些语言精品,远远走在了考研英语前面,使学习者准备考试时,一开始就处于居高临下的位置,赢在了起跑线上。大家知道,从表面上看,翻译似乎只是在把原文转换成汉语,而实际上,则属于一种更高层次的阅读理解。阅读理解与翻译,可谓相辅相成,缺一不可。对此,同学们必须予以高度注意。

如上所述,作为多年考研英语教学经验的结晶,本书一方面高度突出了考研英语学习的重点,点拨了科学的学习方法,另一方面又彻底解除了英语基础较差者的后顾之忧,使他们在没有任何人面授指导的情况下,通过短时间的自学,以60分以上的成绩通过考试。对于英语基础较好者,精心研读此书,则能使英语成绩在60分的基础上得到大幅度提高,从而让考研成绩如虎添翼,形成总分优势。

本书另一独到之处在于,根据考研英语的要求,对英语语法的重点内容,作了详尽、系统的介绍。尽管语法结构题已被取消,但语法知识上不去,翻译、写作肯定会受到严重影响。尤其是完形填空,不可避免地要涉及到语法规则问题。相当多的学习者,语法知识是很薄弱的,急需用最短的时间完整地充实一下。然而,自己去翻阅语法专著或教材,一是要耗费大量时间,二是难以抓住重点。可见,本书语法部分,会给学习者带来很大方便。

特别需要强调的是,学习英语,最忌讳走马观花,不求甚解,阅读理解尤为如此。对于分量较重的片断、结构较复杂的句子,一定要反复琢磨、反复体会。惟此,才能掌握语言的表达规律,对所学的东西形成理性认识,培养独立分析的能力。一篇文章,读过后如果仅满足于划划选项,对大面积的疑难之处听之任之,那实际上是在“吃老本儿”,学与不学没有多大区别。“阅读能力的提高,就是靠泛读,读得越多越好,量变就有质变;要想通过考试,阅读的数量最起码应达到200篇。”这种看法,失之片面,很难让人信服(我们不知道200篇这个数字是依据什么教育科学规律统计出来的。300篇,甚至400篇,难道不更好、更保险吗?)。考前准备时搞题海战术,四面出击,疲于奔命,这难道不是相当多的考生失败的原因吗?

在内容编排上,本书涵盖了近11年几乎全部真题。不研究真题,就无法透视命题人员的思路,而不熟悉命题人员的思路,就很难在英语基础较差的情况下通过考试。更何况,历年真题,往往有一部分的重叠。特别是阅读理解真题,包括了考研英语所涉及到的绝大部分词汇。撇开真题,埋头钻研预测、模拟试题,实在是舍近求远。成功与失败,仅在于一念之差。在考研英语用书数量繁多的今天,认真、独立的思考,是学习者考研金榜题名的首要条件。

在本书即将付印之际,对于石油大学出版社所做的大量编审工作,对于明英学校以及英籍教师 Andrew Tait 为听力部分的录音制作所提供的协助,谨表示诚挚谢意。

作者

2002年2月于新希望学校

(注:如缺少配套磁带,可与本校联系邮购:0311-6693612)



词汇量并不等于阅读能力

新希望学校 杨波

众所周知,马列的一些经典著作,如《资本论》,其汉译本,对于我们虽然没有生词,却很难读懂。从这一例子当中,应该认识到阅读能力的真正含义,认识到词汇量并不等于阅读能力。换句话说,我们手里可以掌握无数建筑材料,但把这些材料变成高楼大厦,则又是另一回事。

阅读理解试题的得分高低,决定着考试的成败与否。就以及格为目的而言,大多数考生(尤其是应届毕业生),词汇量并非太小。那么,阅读能力为什么难以满足考试要求呢?原因有两个:1、所学过的英语精读教材,如董亚芬教授主编《大学英语》(1~4册),属于基础英语,课文的语言“太软”,难度与考研英语相差甚远。读惯了这种东西,一碰到结构复杂、意思深奥的句子,就感到迷惑不解,非常吃力。大脑适应不了英语原著的长句结构,把握不准句子深层意思走向,这是大多数考生阅读理解得分低的主要原因。如同以百米赛跑的体力去参加马拉松长跑,焉有不败之理?2、知识面狭窄。考研英语的阅读理解,考的与其说是英语,不如说是考生的综合知识结构。一个很少读书看报、孤陋寡闻的人,词汇量即使再大,恐怕也做不好考研英语阅读理解题。阅读理解时最严重的问题,不在于有几个生词,而在于生词虽然没有,但就是弄不懂原文在说什么。如1992年考研阅读理解题,有一篇文章谈的是遗忘的适应作用,纯属心理学论文。1995年有一篇文章谈板块运动与地球的关系。可以想像,心理专业、地质专业的考生在阅读这类东西时,比其他专业的考生占有明显优势。因此,要想在短时间之内有效提高阅读理解能力,除了精读一些高难度原著课文之外(在这方面,《新概念英语》第四册比较合适),必须注意看报纸,尤其是《参考消息》,关注政治、文化、科学、教育、军事、经济等方面的热点问题。要特别注意阅读《参考消息》译自英美报刊的那些文章。这些文章,与考研英语阅读理解只有一个不同:前者是中译文,后者是英语原文。像安乐死、克隆人、网上购物,《参考消息》曾多次刊登译自外刊的文章。考研的阅读理解,也都考过。考前如果注意阅读这方面的中文,考场上做与之有关的阅读理解,该是如何容易!许多新词,如“online service(在线服务)”、“net purist”(网络纯正癖者),只要以前知道汉语,再碰到相应的英语时,自然会一下子联想起来。在单纯的汉语言环境中,忽略阅读中文资料,事事都要通过英语去了解,我们的英语,要学到何年何月?我们的英文阅读速度,永远无法和中文相比。单纯靠大量阅读英语来提高阅读理解能力,时间、精力都不允许。所以,不注意通过汉语扩大自己的知识面,完善自己的知识结构,而只是背单词,拼命搞泛读,对提高阅读理解能力只能是杯水车薪。

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第一部分

听

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英语听力理解,并不神秘,如果学习方法得当,完全可以在短时间内达到及格要求。对于考研听力测试,了解一下有关情况,确实完全必要。然而,把听力测试内容归结为某些单词、某些句型,把听力技能归结为某种“窍门”、“捷径”,是对考研听力测试的简单化,其结果,可想而知。本书在听力理解部分,没有用大量的考试名词与术语去介绍考研听力的“特点”与“注意事项”,而是通过分项练习,着重培养听懂单句的能力。听力和阅读理解一样,弄懂了原文,其他一切问题便可迎刃而解;原文弄不懂,考试技能再熟悉也派不上用场。对于大多数考生来说,应该先练习听懂句子的能力,然后再做模拟试题。如同短文写作,单句都组织不好,大谈特谈“段落发展技巧”、“写作注意事项”,能有什么用处呢?

由于听力测试易受环境、心理状态、精神状态等因素干扰,平时的自测成绩,与考场上的成绩往往有较大差距。因此,用作准备考试的听力材料,必须明显难于真题。只有这样,才能保证自己有效克服临场发挥不佳带来的影响。所以,在编写听力这部分时,我们非常注意说话的语速、口音的多样化与内容的广泛性,并且有意识地选择了一些带有背景噪音的录音,以便大幅度增强考生对听力测试的适应能力。关于题型,考研听力测试与 PETS 四级其实是完全一样的。由三部分组成:

A 节:主要测试考生理解特定或具体信息的能力。要求考生根据所听到的一段 180~220 词的独白或对话的内容,用一个词填补句子或表格中的空白。录音材料播放两遍。A 节共 5 道题。

B 节:主要测试考生理解具体或总体信息的能力。要求考生根据所听到的一段 280~320 词的独白或对话,用三个词(或三个词以下)回答 5 道简答题。录音材料播放两遍。B 节也是 5 道题。

C 节:主要测试考生获取特定信息、理解主旨要义和详细信息、猜测词义、判断演讲者态度、意图的能力。要求考生根据所听到的三段独白或对话(每段 200~300 词),从每题所给的 4 个选择项中选出最佳选项。每段录音材料只播放一遍。C 节共 10 道题。

听力部分总题量为 20 道题,答题时间为 30 分钟,原始赋分为 20 分。

答题时需注意:

(1) 听前。利用录音材料没有开始以前的 25 秒时间,阅读卷面已有的文字信息,设法找出意义相关的词语,激活大脑中已有的专业知识和背景知识,从而更快、更准确地把握全文内容,圈定要填补或回答的特定信息。

(2) 听中。根据现有的文字信息,认真收听第一遍录音,并把自己读到、听到和想到的综合起来,以便对全文内容有较为详细的了解,同时快速作笔记。此时不要忙于填写,因为了解全文内容和听清回答的内容最重要。

(3) 听后。充分利用第一遍录音结束后的 30 秒停顿时间,快速填写、回答问题,书写要整齐,速度要快。能用阿拉伯数字的地方不要用单词(words)。万一有写不完的情况,可每个词先写一两个字母或作上标记,遇上不会写或一时想不起来的词,可以暂时以音代义,过后再补。放第二遍录音时,边听边检查确认所听的内容,如果发现错误,可划上记号,待全部录音放完后,再利用最后所给的 5 分钟时间进行纠正。

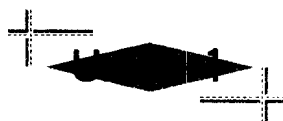
如上所述,由于 A、B 两部分录音要放两遍,而且 A、B、C 部分的全部问题都已印在试卷上,这样就给考生带来了很大便利。考虑到 A、B 两部分题型最难,后面设计的综合练习,多以填空为主。需要强调的是,准备听力测试,要有“精听”与“泛听”之分。对于语速较快、分量较重的片断,务必反复听、反复体会其发音特点。在此基础上,考生可以利用的手头上的英语磁带,尽可能多地泛听。练习时应以不带耳机的裸听为主,因为,裸听要比戴着耳机听难得多。另外,就目前的条件,考研听力测试,一般都是裸听。

(注:如无配套磁带,可联系邮购:0311-6693612)

第一章

听力理解练习(一)

对听力材料中的数字进行正确理解并做出快速反应,可说是听力技能当中最难的一项内容。要求认真做下面练习,并且反复进行精听。



◆ Part 1 ◆

Right or Left-handed

Exercises: Choose the best answer for each question.

- What is said about left handers in the study?
 - They are usually more clever.
 - They get tired easily.
 - They are more likely to make minor mental errors.
 - They are more skillful in handling equipment.
- What was said about the study program?
 - It had its limitations.
 - Its results were regarded as final.
 - It was supported by the government.
 - It was not sound theoretically.
- What was the traditional explanation of left handers having more accidents?
 - Their lack of concentration resulting from mental stress.
 - The lack of consideration for them in equipment design.
 - The probability of their getting excited easily.
 - Their slowness in responding.

◆ Part 2 ◆

Ordinals

Directions: Some ordinal numbers are easily confused with others. This drill is for practice in distinguishing between confusing pairs of cardinals. Listen carefully. Draw a circle around the number you hear.

- The Olympic games began in the (4th—5th) century B. C.
- The (1st—3rd) Roman governor built a huge stadium.
- Baseball fans celebrated the (18th—80th) anniversary of baseball last year.
- The game will be on the (22nd—27th) of April.
- This year is the (25th—29th) year of professional hockey.
- Last year was the (118th—180th) year of the horse race called the Kentucky Derby.
- The football season begins on the (21st—23rd) of September.
- The baseball season begins on (22nd—27th) of April.
- The hockey season begins on the (25th—29th) of November.
- The team from Mexico won (1st—4th) place in tennis match.
- Last year the (4th—5th) winter Olympics were held in Sweden.
- This is the (5th—6th) year in which soccer championship playoffs have been held.



◆ Part 1 ◆

Taking Pictures

Exercises: Choose the best answer according to the tape.

- Many photography shops are quite busy because _____.
A. people have returned from their vacation
B. people hope to have their pictures developed quickly
C. people want to show the pictures to their friends
- Tom Baudet says that he takes lousy(蹩脚的) pictures because _____.
A. his shots are deceiving
B. his shots aren't technically good
C. the pictures are too honest
- According to Tom Baudet, pictures will be _____.
A. unrealistic B. honest C. natural
- According to Tom Baudet, pictures are always a _____ reflection of the things as they were.
A. false B. true C. interesting

◆ Part 2 ◆

Jess More

Exercises: Choose the best answer according to the tape.

- Jess More is _____ his new post as director of the Johnson Space Centre.
A. filling B. taking C. leaving
- Jess More will be _____.
A. jobless B. reassigned C. redesigned
- It can be inferred from the tape that More is probably to blame for _____.
A. the rocket's O-rings B. the work C. the Challenger accident
- According to one top congressional aide, More is not _____ enough to stay on at his former job after the accident.
A. competent B. handsome C. effective

◆ Part 1 ◆

Olympic Gold Medal Winners in 1976

Directions: This drill is for practice in recognizing numbers. Listen carefully. Write down the numbers as quickly as you can.

Event	Competitor	Country	Performance	
100 meter	(m)	H. Crawford,	Trinidad & Tobago	_____ s.
100 meter	(w)	A. Richter,	West Germany	_____ s.
200 meter	(m)	D. Quarrie,	Jamaica	_____ s.
200 meter	(w)	B. Eckert,	East Germany	_____ s.
400 meter	(m)	A. Juantorena,	Cuba	_____ s.
400 meter	(w)	I. Szewinska,	Poland	_____ s.
1 500 meter	(m)	J. Walker,	New Zealand	_____ m. _____ s.
1 500 meter	(w)	T. Kazankina,	U. S. S. R.	_____ m. _____ s.

◆ Part 2 ◆

Expenditures for Canadian Families in 1976

Exercises: Fill in the blanks according to the tape.

The average family in Canada had(1) _____ persons in 1976. The full time wage earners in each family was averaged at (2) _____ in 1976. The average income before taxes per family was 20 772 Canadian dollars. The average total expenditure for each family in 1976 amounted to 19 987 dollars.

Out of the total expenditure, food made up the largest portion—(3) _____ in 1976. Another big portion out of the expenditure went to shelter—(4) _____. Water and fuel was(5) _____ of the total expenditure. Household operation took up 3.8%. Next, furnishing and equipment was 4.9% in 1976. Household appliances was(6) _____. Clothing, another big portion out of the expenditure, came to (7) _____. Next, we have personal care on the list, which was(8) _____ in 1976. Medical and health care was(9) _____. Smoking and alcoholic beverages was (10) _____. Each family in Canada spent quite a lot on travel and transportation, that's 13.5% out of the total expenditure in 1976. Automobile and truck were also a great portion out of the total expenditure, that was 10.9% in 1976. Next, recreation, 4.8%. Education, (11) _____. The average family spent 1.5% of the total expenditure on reading. Miscellaneous expenses was 4.2% in 1976.

Now, let's have a look at the whole picture of the expenditure. The total current consumption came up to 73.6% in 1976. Personal taxes was(12) _____ and security, (13) _____. And lastly, an average family in Canada spent 2.1% of total expenditure on gifts and contributions.

◆ Part 3 ◆

通过下面的句子,请熟悉英语中年、月、日的表达方式,并快速做出反应。

World Famous Composers

Directions: You will hear the dates of birth and death of ten world famous composers. Listen carefully. Fill in the blanks with the dates you hear. Write as rapidly as you can. You may use the short forms for months. For example: Jan. for January and Feb. for February.

[词汇注释] brilliant 杰出的 ingenious 有独创性的 Austrian 奥地利的 renowned 著名的 celebrated 有名的

1. Johann Bach, a famous German composer, was born on _____, and died on January 28, 1750.
2. George Handel, a well-known German-born British composer, was born on _____, and died on April 14, 1759.
3. Wolfgang Mozart was a brilliant Austrian composer, who was born on _____, and died on December 5, 1791.
4. Ludwig Beethoven, an ingenious German composer, was born on _____, and died on March 26, 1827.
5. As one of the outstanding Austrian composers, Franz Schubert was born on January 31, 1797, and died on _____.
6. Felix Mendelssohn, another famous German composer, was born on February 3, 1809, and died on _____.
7. Poland also produced a well-known composer, Frederic Chopin, who was born on _____, and died on October 17, 1849.
8. Franz Liszt was a renowned Hungarian composer. He was born on _____, and died on July 31, 1886.

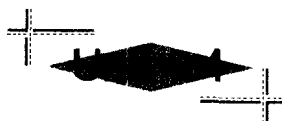
◆ Part 4 ◆

通过下面的练习,熟悉英语中四位、五位数字的理解与反应。

University and College Degrees

Directions: You are going to hear some statistics about university and college degrees granted in some specialized fields in a country. Listen carefully. Write down the numbers you hear on the tape.

Beginning with the field of Agriculture, we find high domination of the field by men—with 1 men and 2 women earning Bachelor degrees in Agriculture. Next, in the field of Architecture we again find domination by men: 3 for men and 4 for women. Turning to the Biological Sciences we again find men dominating: 5 for men and 6 for women. In the field of Business and Commerce the difference is even greater. Men earned 7 degrees, while women earned 8 degrees. In the field of Education: men—9, women—10. This is the first field we find that is dominated by women. The field of Engineering, as you might expect, is dominated by men. These statistics report that 11 degrees were granted to men and only 12 to women. In English and Journalism men earned 13 degrees and women earned 14 degrees—a second field in which women lead.



◆ Part 1 ◆

A Piece of News

Exercises: Choose the best answer for each question according to the tape.

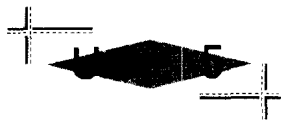
1. According to the news, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was nearly _____ in New Delhi.
A. knocked down B. assessed C. murdered
2. At the time of the assassination, Rajiv Gandhi was attending a prayer service with _____ other persons.
A. two B. three C. four
3. How many people were wounded while the police arrested the gunman? _____.
A. Eight B. Six C. Five
4. The security personnel have had their job _____ for the time being.
A. stopped B. suspected C. spend
5. The gunman was only a few _____ away from Rajiv Gandhi when he fired.
A. inches B. yards C. feet
6. According to the police, the gunman was over _____ years old.
A. twenty B. thirty C. fifty
7. The gunman immediately laid down his _____ when he was spotted.
A. arm B. arms C. arts

◆ Part 2 ◆

Exercises: Choose the best answer for each question.

1. According to the speaker, what do people often think about astronomers?
A. They spend most of their time looking through telescopes.
B. They are constantly analyzing data.
C. They often live near observatories.
D. They devote a lot of time to theoretical problems.
2. What is one advantage of photographing the skies?
A. The cost of equipment needed is reduced.
B. Fewer data need to be analyzed.
C. The images can be studied by different astronomers.
D. The natural colors of astronomical objects can be captured.
3. Why do astronomers often use photographic plates?
A. To decrease the time it takes to photograph objects.
B. To avoid using a telescope.
C. To sharpen the color of what they observe.
D. To obtain images of distant objects.
4. What is one reason astronomers make long time exposures?
A. To spend less time at their telescopes.
B. To overcome the problem of weak light.

- C. To take more photographs.
D. To photograph astronomical objects without using telescopes.



◆ Part 1 ◆

Farm Hands

Exercises: Answer the questions according to the tape.

1. Beside a dog walker, a housewife, a tour guide and a social worker, who else spent a day on the farm? _____.
2. What does Hall Gibson's farm produce? _____.
3. How many children are there among this voluntary group of farm hands? _____.
4. As far as personal relations are concerned, what were the farm hands related to each other when they set out from Manhattan? _____.
5. Under the Farm Hands Program, how many people have worked on the farm for a period of two months or longer? _____.
6. What does the phrase "work like a demon" mean? _____.

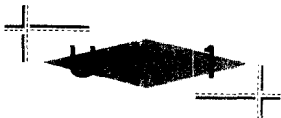
◆ Part 2 ◆

Why Learn Foreign Languages?

Exercises: Fill in the blanks according to the tape.

1. Matthew asked Chris why there are so many _____ in the world.
2. According to Chris, most _____ belong to the Indo-European group.
3. Chris is not quite clear about the _____ of the history of the above-mentioned languages.
4. The reason for the great variety of dialects is that in ancient times communication was by _____.
5. According to Chris, there isn't _____ for Esperanto.
6. Chris thinks that _____ has the greatest chance of becoming the language of the future.

录音文字及答案



◆ Part 1 ◆

Right or Left-handed

1. C 2. A 3. B

According to a new study done at the Medical School of the University of California at Los Angeles, left handed people may be more likely to have accidents than the right handed. One reason may be : left handers tend to make minor mental mistakes. In the study of 2 000 sailors, those who had more mental errors also had more accidents, and left handers were reported to have more mental errors and more accidents than right handers. The author of the study, Jim Watson said "Minor mental mistakes are mistakes that any adults would make when they are tired or careless and they can lead to accidents because we lose track of what we are doing." Paul white, chief of the study program, said that he found the study interesting and exciting. But he warned that the conclusions should not be accepted without further investigation. He said the study had limitations, and limitations could have influenced the results. Jim Watson, who is right handed himself, stressed that the study was not an official project and said that the findings could not be applied to every left hander. He said minor mental mistakes could be regarded as evidence of lack of concentration. But in the past, it was believed that left



handlers tended to have more accidents largely because most equipment was designed for right handers.

◆ Part 2 ◆

Ordinals

略



◆ Part 1 ◆

Taking Pictures

1. A 2. C 3. A 4. A

I've been told that I take lousy pictures. It's not that my shots aren't technically OK; it's just that my pictures seem to bring out the worst in people. I hope that's not a sign of something. I usually end up throwing away half the pictures I take. It's not that they're deceiving. Not at all; they're just too honest. It's true what they say that a camera never lies, but you certainly can lie to a camera. We do it all the time; at least we exaggerate a little to a lens. The first thing you'll usually hear when you point a camera at someone is, "Wait, I'm not ready." Well, so you wait while they brush the crumbs off their chin, put out a cigarette, or throw an arm around the person next to them like they've been standing that way all day. Well, you get your picture, but it's blown all out of proportion(失真). Everybody's having a little more fun than they really were and liking each other more than they actually do. We're all guilty of this one time or another. You're with your sweetheart travelling somewhere. You've been walking and complaining about the price of the room, the blister on your heel and the rude waitress at the cafe. But then, you stop somebody on the street, hand them your camera, and put on your very best having-a-wonderful-time smile. Well, ten years later you'll look at that picture in a scrapbook and remember what a great trip it was, whether it was or not. For it's a natural thing to do: plant little seeds of contentment in our lives in case we doubt we ever had any. Well, it's good practice to take an opportunity to mug up to a camera(在照相机面前装模作样). There never seems to be a camera around for the real special times: that make-up embrace after a long and dangerous discussion, the look on your face as you hold the phone and hear you got that promotion, the quiet ride home from the hospital after learning those suspicious lumps were benign(良性的) and something to watch but not worry about. Those are the memories that should be preserved, to be remembered and relied upon when harder times take hold.

◆ Part 2 ◆

Jess More

1. C 2. B 3. C 4. A

【词汇注释】 Jess Moore 杰斯·莫尔 NASA 美国国家航空和宇宙航行局 shuttle 航天飞机 the Challenger 挑战者号 O-rings O形圆环 edge 勇气

Jess Moore, NASA's top official in charge of the shuttle program when Challenger exploded, announced today he's leaving his new post as Director of the Johnson Space Center. Moore will take a leave of absence and then be reassigned to NASA headquarters in Washington. NPR's Daniel Zwerdling reports. "The obvious question, of course, is this: Is Jess Moore leaving his job and taking a year off work because of the Challenger accident? Moore came under quite a bit of pressure before a congressional committee early this summer when his former assistant testified that he told Moore in detail almost a year ago that there were serious problems with the shuttle rocket's O-rings, the same O-rings that eventually caused the Challenger accident. That testimony flatly contradicted what Moore's been saying all along: that he did not know the O-ring problems were serious until after the Challenger exploded. Congressional sources who've interviewed Moore told me that they have no way of knowing just who's telling the truth, Moore, or Moore's former assistant. But one top congressional aide who met with Moore recently says the NASA veteran's been depressed since the Challenger blew up. He says, Moore doesn't have the edge he used to. He's hollow inside, just like a lot of guys at NASA who worked on the