

大学英语

挑战

六级考试 阅读理解高分必备

主编 王迈迈

高分

西北工业大学出版社



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前 言

《大学英语教学大纲》最近又一次修订再版了,新修订的《大纲》对大学英语四、六级考试提出了新的更高的要求。1—4级领会式掌握的词汇由旧《大纲》的4000增加到了4200,1—6级领会式掌握的词汇由旧《大纲》的5300增加到了5500;阅读四、六级一般性材料的阅读速度要求达到每分钟70词;阅读难度略低的材料的阅读速度,四级则要求达到每分钟100词,六级要求达到每分钟120词;对听力的语速要求,四级由旧《大纲》的每分钟120词提高到了每分钟130—150词,六级由每分钟140词提高到了每分钟150—170词;写作要求也相应提高了,新《大纲》要求四级“能就一定的话题或提纲在半小时内写出120—150词的短文”,六级能在半小时内写出150—180词的短文。此外,新《大纲》还对大学英语四、六级考试的翻译能力作了具体要求,即能将“难度略低于课文的英语短文译成汉语,理解正确,译文达意,译速为每小时300英语单词”,六级译速则为“每小时350英语单词”。

为了适应新的《大学英语教学大纲》的要求,帮助同学们打好大学英语基础,提高大学英语四、六级考试的应试能力,我们组织全国多所著名大学的大学英语教师骨干,在认真总结多年来大学英语教学经验的基础上,隆重推出了这套**挑战高分**的大学英语四、六级考试丛书,希望能对同学们准备四、六级考试有所帮助。具体书目如下:

一、挑战高分 大学英语四级考试系列

1. 全真模拟与详细解答(配磁带两盒)
2. 听力理解详细解答(配磁带三盒)
3. 阅读理解高分必备

4. 词汇 1000 例详细解答
5. 简答·翻译·完形填空
6. 作文参考

二、挑战高分 大学英语六级考试系列

1. 全真模拟与详细解答(配磁带两盒)
2. 听力理解详细解答(配磁带三盒)
3. 阅读理解高分必备
4. 词汇 1000 例详细解答
5. 简答·翻译·改错·完形填空
6. 作文参考

三、大学英语四、六级考试词汇系列

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2. 四级考试词汇必备(配磁带 3 盒)
3. 六级考试词汇速记自测宝典
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编 者

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Part I 六级考试

阅读理解全真模拟试题

Test 1

Directions: *There are four reading passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.*

Passage 1

Running a fever was once thought to be the prerogative of warm-blooded creatures, whose internal temperatures are independent of the weather. But, as Matthew Kluger reported in "The Importance of Being Feverish" (January 1976), lizards can also develop fevers, even though there is no question that they are coldblooded. They raise their temperatures by moving into the sun or, in the case of Kluger's experiments under a sun lamp. And it seems to do them some good. Sick lizards kept in cages at feverish temperatures fare much better than their counterparts in normal and cool environments.

Now, fever has spread to invertebrates. Recent studies have shown that crayfish and scorpions can develop fevers. Crayfish injected with bacteria and scorpions injected with prostaglandins swam and scuttled to hot areas. (Prostaglandins are hormones thought to be instrumental in the development of a fever.)

Evidence is also mounting that moderate fevers have their benefits, which might explain why the fever process is so widespread. Leukocytes, white blood cells that are active in fighting bacterial infections, are more mobile at febrile temperatures. And fevers reduce the amount of iron available to bacteria. That reduction, combined with high temperatures, has been shown to inhibit bacterial growth.

Notes

- ① scorpion 蝎子
- ② lizard 蜥蜴
- ③ invertebrate 无脊椎动物
- ④ crayfish 小龙虾

1. Which of the following best states the main idea of the passage?
A. Coldblooded animals can develop fevers.
B. There are benefits to developing fevers.
C. Fevers inhibit bacterial growth.
D. Lizards can develop fevers.
2. Fevers cause _____.
A. iron to be made available to bacteria
B. leukocytes to be more mobile
C. sick lizards to seek cool environments
D. lizards to be coldblooded animals
3. The passage implies that crayfish injected with bacteria have a purpose for moving to hot areas. What is that purpose?
A. To seek out a more iron-rich environment.
B. To demonstrate that they are ill.
C. To develop a fever and fight bacterial infections.
D. To avoid further injections.
4. The best title for the passage can be _____.
A. the Fever
B. Fevers Have Their Benefits
C. Lizards Can also Develop Fevers
D. Feverish Lizards, and Crayfish, and Scorpions
5. The word "fare" in the last sentence of the first paragraph means _____.
A. money charged for a journey B. get on
C. food provided at table D. recover

Passage 2

At that time in Kentucky (said the Honorable Mr. K-), the law was very strict against what is termed "games of chance." About a dozen of the boys were detected playing "seven-up," or "old sledge," for money, and the grand jury found a true bill against them. Jim Sturgis was retained to defend them when the case came up, of course. The more he studied over the matter and looked into the evidence, the plainer it was

that he must lose a case at last there was no getting around that painful fact. Those boys had certainly been betting money on a game of chance.

But after several restless nights an inspired idea flashed upon Sturgis, and he sprang out of bed delighted. He thought he saw his way through. The next day he whispered around a little among his clients and a few friends, and then when the case came up in court he acknowledged the seven-up and the betting, and, as his sole defense, had the astounding effrontery to put in the plea that old sledge was not a game of chance! There was the broadest sort of a smile all over the faces of that sophisticated audience. The judge smiled with the rest. But Sturgis maintained a countenance whose earnestness was even severe. The opposite counsel tried to ridicule him out of his position, and did not succeed. The judge jested in a ponderous judicial way about the thing but did not move him. The matter was becoming grave. The judge lost a little of his patience and said the joke had gone far enough. Jim Sturgis said he knew of no joke in the matter—his clients could not be punished for indulging in what some people chose to consider a game of chance until it was proven that it was a game of chance. Judge and counsel said that would be an easy matter, and forthwith called Deacons Job, Peters, Burke, and Johnson, and Dominies Wirt and Miggles, to testify; and they unanimously and with strong feeling put down the legal quibble of Sturgis by pronouncing that old sledge was a game of chance.

"What do you call it now?" said the judge.

"I call it a game of science!" retorted Sturgis, "and I'll prove it, too!"

They saw his little game.

He brought in a cloud of witnesses and produced an over-whelming mass of testimony, to show that old sledge was not a game of chance but a game of science.

Instead of being the simplest case in the world, it had somehow turned out to be an excessively knotty one. The judge scratched his head over it awhile, and said there was no way of coming to a determination, because just as many men could be brought into court who would testify on one side as could be found to testify on the other. But he said he was willing to do the fair thing by all parties, and would act upon any suggestion Mr. Sturgis would make for the solution of the difficulty.

Mr. Sturgis was on his feet in a second.

"Impanel a jury of six of each, Luck versus Science. Give them candles and a couple of decks of cards. Send them into the jury-room!"

There was no disputing the fairness of the proposition. The four deacons and the two dominies were sworn in as the "chance" jurymen, and six inveterate old seven-up professors were chose to represent the "science" side of the issue. They retired to the jury-room.

The rest of the story can be told briefly. About daylight the jury came in and Deacon Job, the foreman, read the following verdict.

"We, the jury in the case of the Commonwealth of Kentucky vs. John Wheeler et al., have carefully considered the points of the case, and tested the merits of the several theories advanced, and do hereby unanimously decide that the game commonly known as old sledge or seven-up is eminently a game of science and not of chance. In demonstration whereof it is hereby and herein stated, iterated, reiterated, set forth, and made manifest that, during the entire night, the 'chance' men never won a game or turned a jack, although both feats were common and frequent to the opposition; and furthermore, in support of this our verdict, we call attention to the significant fact that the 'chance' men are all busted, and the 'science' men have got the money. It is the deliberate opinion of this jury that the 'chance' theory concerning seven-up is a pernicious doctrine, and calculated to inflict untold suffering and pecuniary loss upon any community that takes stock in it."

Notes:

- ① the gaud jury found a true bill against them 大陪审团对他们的诉状应予受理
- ② whisper around 密谈
- ③ have the effrontery to do sth. 厚着脸皮去做某事
- ④ plea 抗辩
- ⑤ counsel 辩护人
- ⑥ jest 说笑话, 嘲弄
- ⑦ forthwith 即刻
- ⑧ testimony 证据
- ⑨ deck 一副纸牌
- ⑩ abide by 遵守
- ⑪ dominy 牧师
- ⑫ inveterate 顽固不化的

⑬foreman 陪审团发言人

6. Who of the following was charged with gambling?
A. Dominie Miggles. B. Deason Job.
C. John Wheeler. D. All of these.
7. In the sentence "they saw his little game," "the little game" is which of the following?
A. Playing old sledge for money.
B. The judge toying with Sturgis.
C. The game played by the jury.
D. Sturgis's plan for winning his case.
8. According to the story, what kind of game is old sledge?
A. An illegal game. B. A game of chance.
C. A card game. D. One played by "a dozen of the boys".
9. Why does the jury say, "it is ... stated, iterated, reiterated, set forth, and made manifest..." in its verdict?
A. It emphasizes their decision.
B. They are angry.
C. It sounds official.
D. They are unsure of the verdict.
10. The jury, by its verdict, did all of the following except _____.
A. approve of the state's pernicious doctrine
B. free John Wheeler
C. approve of seven-up
D. decide old sledge was a game of science

Passage 3

From the U. S. Supreme Court now comes an extraordinary decision permitting inquiries into the "state of mind" of journalists and the editorial process of news organizations. This is perhaps the most alarming evidence so far of a determination by the nation's highest court to weaken the protection of the First Amendment for those who gather and report the news.

The court last year upheld the right of police to invade newspaper offices in search of evidence, and reporters in other cases have gone to jail to protect the confidentiality of their notebooks. Under the recent 6-3 ruling in a libel case, they now face a challenge to the privacy of their minds.

Few would argue that the First Amendment guarantees absolute freedom of speech or freedom of the press. Slander and libel laws stand to the contrary as a protection of an individual's reputation against the irresponsible dissemination of falsehoods. The effect of this latest decision, however, is to make the libel suit, or the threat of one, a clear invasion by the courts into the private decision-making that constitutes news and editorial judgement.

In landmark decisions of 1964 and 1967, the Supreme Court established that public officials or public figures bringing libel actions must prove that a damaging falsehood was published with "actual malice"—that is, with knowledge that the statements were false, or with reckless disregard of whether they were true or not.

Justice Byron R. White, writing for the new majority in the new ruling, says it is not enough to examine all the circumstances of publication that would indicate whether there was malicious intent or not. It is proper and constitutional, he says, for "state-of-mind evidence" to be introduced. The court is thus ordering a CBS television producer to answer questions about the thought processes that went into the preparation and airing of a segment of "60 Minutes."

That six justices of the Supreme Court fail to see this as a breach of the First Amendment is frightening. The novelist George Orwell may have been mistaken only in the timing of his vision of a Big Brother government practicing mind-control.

Notes:

- ①the First Amendment 第一个修正案
- ②confidentiality 机密
- ③libel 诽谤
- ④bring libel actions 对诽谤提出起诉
- ⑤reckless 不顾后果的
- ⑥Justice 最高法院法官
- ⑦breach 破坏,违反

11. This article deals principally with _____.

- A. the U. S. supreme Court's decision
- B. explaining the First Amendment to the constitution
- C. an attack on the freedom of the press
- D. slander and libel laws

12. How many justices would have to change their minds to reverse this

decision?

- A. One. B. Two. C. Three. D. Four.

13. This writer feels the Supreme Court is wrong in this case because

_____.

A. newspapers were unsophisticated when the First Amendment was written

B. reporters are entitled to special rights

C. it challenges the privacy of a journalist's mind

D. Judge White has himself been accused of slander and libel

14. What does "actual malice" (fourth paragraph) mean?

A. Knowledge that the statements were false.

B. Reckless disregard of whether the statements were true or not.

C. Either A or B.

D. Libel.

15. Which of the following is not true?

A. U. S. Supreme Court's new decision is to protect the individual's reputation.

B. The first Amendment is to protect journalists.

C. The decisions of 1964 and 1967 by the Supreme Court is to inquire the "state of mind" of the journalists.

D. Justice Byron R. White is for the new ruling.

Passage 4

After an absence of thirty years, I decided to visit my old school again. I had expected to find changes, but not a completely different building. As I walked up the school drive, I wondered for a moment if I had come to the right address. The grimy, red-brick fortress with its tall windows that had looked down grimly on tile playground and playing fields had been swept away. In its place stood a bright, modern block raised from the ground on great concrete stilts. A huge expanse of glass extended across the face of the building; and in front, there was a well-kept lawn where previously there had been an untidy gravel yard.

I was pleased to find that it was break-time and that the children were all in the playground. This would enable me to meet some members of staff; On entering the building, I was surprised to hear loud laughter coming from what appeared to be the masters' common room. I could not help remembering the teachers in my time, all dressed in black gowns and high collars. And above all, I recalled Mr. Garston (whom we had

nicknamed 'Mr. Ghastly'), the headmaster, who had imposed iron discipline on staff and pupils alike. I knocked at the common room door and was welcomed by a smiling young man who introduced himself to me as the headmaster. He was dressed casually in a sports jacket, and his cheerful manner quickly dispelled the image of 'Mr. Ghastly'. After I had explained who I was, the headmaster presented me to the teachers (all of whom were only a little younger than himself), and said he would take me round the school.

Here the biggest surprise of all was in store for me. Gone were the heavy desks of old with their deeply-carved initials; gone, too, were the gloomy classrooms with their ink-stained, dark-brown walls, and their raised platform for the teachers. The rooms now were gaily painted in contrasting colours, and the children, far from sitting rigidly in their places, seemed almost free to do as they liked. I looked at them with envy as I remembered how, as a child, I had gazed at the blackboard, barely daring to whisper to my neighbour.

16. The writer _____.
A. had no difficulty in recognizing his old school
B. found it difficult to recognize his old school
C. noticed that the building was still unfinished
D. was surprised to see an untidy grand yard
17. From what is said in the passage it seems clear the writer _____.
A. disapprove of all the changes that had taken place
B. felt sorry for the children in the school
C. felt that condition at the school had improved a lot
D. was glad that the school was still the same
18. _____ up the school drive, I wondered if I had come to the right address.
A. On walking
B. Walked
C. While walking
D. While walked
19. The word "rigidly" in the last paragraph means _____.
A. freely
B. stiffly
C. lazily
D. happily
20. Which of the following statements is not true?
A. There was a huge expanse of glass on the face of the building.
B. There was a well-kept lawn in front of the building.
C. There was an untidy gravel yard in front of the building.
D. There used to be an untidy gravel yard.

Test 2

Passage 1

You'd have to look a long time before you'd find anyone more supportive than I am of the First Amendment guaranteeing freedom of speech to people, but if someone doesn't impose a "gag" rule soon on grandmothers, I can no longer be responsible for the kind of children I'm raising.

If I've told my mother, Chatty Kathy, once I've told her a million times, it is not important that my children know that when I was a child, my bedroom once caught fire from polluted gym clothes.

It is of no consequence to my children that I lost three wristwatches within a three-month period or that I once parked the family car in the garage, neglected to put it in park, watched it roll back against the door, and had to climb in through the window to get it out.

Heaven knows it's tough enough for parents to be taken seriously by their children without parents pointing out their own two or three imperfections. Kids not only begin to see human qualities in you, they begin to draw parallels between your life and theirs.

Frankly, I never thought Mother would turn on me. We had a great relationship when I was growing up. She regarded me as a punishment from God and I regarded her as a storm trooper with a job to do. Every once in a while she'd say something intimate like, "You're going to get yours someday... just wait..."

When I was sinking in a sea of diapers, formulas and congenital spitting, I didn't get the support I had hoped for. Mother couldn't wait to pull her grand-children on her lap and say, "Mommy never took naps. You know what she used to do when Grandma would lie down every afternoon? She'd hie off and turn the hose on and made the muddiest mess in the backyard you'd ever see."

Her words would return to me like an echo at the most inopportune times. One day when I had called my son down for using a word that curled my hair, he said, "Grandma said you had a mouth like a drunken sailor in Shanghai. She said she washed your mouth out with soap so many times, she had to starch your tongue."

"Grandma was kidding," I said.

"Grandma never kids," he answered. "She said once you were a little kid just like us."

I looked at my son and said, "You're going to get yours someday... just wait."

Notes:

①turn on 攻击

②trooper 骑兵, 警察

③formulas 公式

④congenital 先天的, 天生的

⑤hie off 赶往

1. The major idea of this passage is contained in the _____.
A. second paragraph B. third paragraph
C. first paragraph D. fifth paragraph
2. The word "hie" in the sixth paragraph probably means _____.
A. hide B. hurry
C. nap D. cry
3. What does "You're going to get yours someday" in the fifth paragraph and in the last paragraph probably mean?
A. I'm going to point out your faults to your children.
B. when I get the chance I'm going to punish you.
C. You'll have kids one of these days too.
D. I'm going to wash your mouth out with soap.
4. In the passage, the writer supports which of the following statements?
A. It's not important what children know.
B. Children always believe their grandmothers.
C. Grandmothers shouldn't tell their grandchildren about the imperfections of their parents.
D. Mothers regard their children as a punishment from God.
5. The tone of this passage is one of _____.
A. mock seriousness B. outright amusement
C. pleading D. apology

Passage 2

A treaty on an international Law of the Sea will be signed in Caracas Venezuela, where negotiations under the auspices of the United Nations began in 1974.

The date of the signing ceremony necessarily remains uncertain but a sense of urgency remains.