

TOPWAY

上海交通大学

潘晓燕 主审

马远翔 主编

4级全真试题

最新大学英语考试全真试题名师讲解

权威答案

设在上海交通大学的全国大学英语四、六级考试中心历年来在推动全国高校英语教学、研究与测试方面作出了巨大贡献。上海交通大学同时又是全国大学英语四、六级阅卷中心之一。

本套《全真试题名师讲解》借助于具有多年阅卷经验，工作在此第一线的精英教师的力量，力求作到答案精确，解题深入，对考生有较高的指导性。



1996.6-2002.6

中山大学出版社

TOPWAY

610

4级全真试题

最新大学英语考试全真试题名师讲解

上海交通大学

主审: 潘晓燕

主编: 马远翔

编撰: 马远翔 米卫文 王晓英

版权所有 翻印必究

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

最新大学英语考试全真试题名师讲解:1996~2002/马远翔,米卫文主编. —广州:中山大学出版社,2001.10

ISBN 7-306-01837-X

I. 最… II. ①马… ②米 III. 英语-高等学校-水平考试-解题 IV. H310.42

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2001)第 070680 号

责任编辑:熊锡源

中山大学出版社出版发行

(广州市新港西路 135 号)

肇庆科建印刷有限公司印刷 广东省新华书店经销

787×1092 毫米 16 开本 27 印张 760 千字

2001 年 10 月第 1 版 2002 年 8 月修订

(四级、六级共两册)全套定价:27.00 元

前 言

全国大学英语四、六级考试作为一种大规模的标准化考试,可以较为客观地衡量大学生的英语水平。怎样提高应试水平的问题一直困扰着大多数学生,而全真试题最能体现教学大纲的精神和要求,可以有效地提高学生的应试成绩。本书着眼于学生的实际水平,对全真试题进行了全面透彻的分析,有助于学生在短时间内全面、正确地掌握全真试题的命题原则、题型设计和应试策略,掌握四、六级考试的基本技能,巩固语言基础知识,提高运用语言的能力,帮助他们在考试中充分发挥自己真正的水平。

本书主要有如下特点:

1. 答案权威

现已出版的同类书版本很多,但质量良莠不齐,许多书甚至答案都有错,至于解析更是牵强附会,误导学生。本书由主办四、六级考试的权威机构上海交通大学潘晓燕主审,因此权威性强。

2. 试题新

本书包含了最新的考试试题,有助于学生们了解新大纲的具体要求,全面领会该考试的精髓,并能针对自己的薄弱环节多加练习。

3. 针对性强

本书编者均为从事大学英语教学多年的教师,熟知大纲的要求和学生的学习特点和水平。因此,在题目解析过程中,不仅能指出解题的关键,而且能考虑到学生的实际情况,有重点地加以分析,有的放矢,可以让学生举一反三,事半功倍。

4. 解析得当

本书针对阅读理解、词汇语法、完型填空、改错、问答、写作等方面进行详尽的分析、解释。阅读理解部分介绍了文章的阅读技巧,对每道题进行了详尽的解释;词汇语法部分指出了命题考核的重点和难点;完型填空和改错部分着眼于基本的语言点,指出语言规则和做此选择的原因;写作部分的每一篇作文都给出范文供学生们参考。本书解析精辟,重点突出,通过该书的练习,学生能较好地掌握应试的技巧,熟知四、六级英语统考的要求和形式,在考试中应付自如,取得较好的成绩。

本书在编写过程中得到上海交通大学昂立进修学院的大力支持和具体的帮助与指导,编者在此致以衷心的感谢。

但由于时间仓促,书中难免会出现这样或那样的疏漏,恳请广大读者批评指正。

目 录

2002年6月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(1)
题解	(11)
2002年1月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(19)
题解	(28)
2001年6月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(37)
题解	(44)
2001年1月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(52)
题解	(61)
2000年6月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(71)
题解	(80)
2000年1月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(87)
题解	(96)
1999年6月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(105)
题解	(114)
1999年1月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(123)
题解	(132)
1998年6月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(140)
题解	(149)
1998年1月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(158)
题解	(166)
1997年6月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(174)
题解	(181)
1997年1月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(187)
题解	(194)
1996年6月大学英语四级考试试题及题解	
试题	(201)
题解	(208)

2002年6月大学英语四级考试试题

Part I Listening Comprehension

(20 minutes)

Section A

1. A) His father.
B) His mother.
C) His brother.
D) His sister.
2. A) A job opportunity.
B) A position as general manager.
C) A big travel agency.
D) An inexperienced salesman.
3. A) Having a break.
B) Continuing the meeting.
C) Moving on to the next item.
D) Waiting a little longer.
4. A) The weather forecast says it will be fine.
B) The weather doesn't count in their plan.
C) They will not do as planned in case of rain.
D) They will postpone their program if it rains.
5. A) He wishes to have more courses like it.
B) He finds it hard to follow the teacher.
C) He wishes the teacher would talk more.
D) He doesn't like the teacher's accent.
6. A) Go on with the game.
B) Draw pictures on the computer.
C) Review his lessons.
D) Have a good rest.
7. A) She does not agree with Jack.
B) Jack's performance is disappointing.
C) Most people will find basketball boring.
D) She shares Jack's opinion.
8. A) The man went to a wrong check-in counter.
B) The man has just missed his flight.
C) The plane will leave at 9:14.
D) The plane's departure time remains unknown.
9. A) At a newsstand.
B) At a car dealer's.

- C) At a publishing house.
 - D) At a newspaper office.
10. A) He wants to get a new position.
- B) He is asking the woman for help.
 - C) He has left the woman a good impression.
 - D) He enjoys letter writing.

Section B

Passage One

Questions 11 to 13 are based on the passage you have just heard.

11. A) They are interested in other kinds of reading.
- B) They are active in voluntary services.
 - C) They tend to be low in education and in income.
 - D) They live in isolated areas.
12. A) The reasons why people don't read newspapers are more complicated than assumed.
- B) There are more uneducated people among the wealthy than originally expected.
 - C) The number of newspaper readers is steadily increasing.
 - D) There are more non-readers among young people nowadays.
13. A) Lowering the prices of their newspapers.
- B) Shortening their news stories.
 - C) Adding variety to their newspaper content.
 - D) Including more advertisements in their newspapers.

Passage Two

Questions 14 to 17 are based on the passage you have just heard.

14. A) A basket. B) A cup. C) An egg. D) An oven.
15. A) To let in the sunshine. B) To serve as its door.
- C) To keep the nest cool.
 - D) For the bird to lay eggs.
16. A) Branches. B) Grasses. C) Mud. D) Straw.
17. A) Some are built underground. B) Some can be eaten.
- C) Most are sewed with grasses.
 - D) Most are dried by the sun.

Passage Three

Questions 18 to 20 are based on the passage you have just heard.

18. A) To examine the chemical elements in the Ice Age.
- B) To look into the pattern of solar wind activity.
 - C) To analyze the composition of different trees.
 - D) To find out the origin of carbon-14 on Earth.
19. A) The lifecycle of trees.
- B) The number of trees.
 - C) The intensity of solar burning.
 - D) The quality of air.
20. A) It affects the growth of trees.
- B) It has been increasing since the Ice Age.

C) It is determined by the chemicals in the air.

D) It follows a certain cycle.

Part II Reading Comprehension

(35 minutes)

Passage One

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following passage:

In the 1960s, medical researchers Thomas Holmes and Richard Rahe developed a checklist of stressful events. They appreciated the tricky point that any major change can be stressful. Negative events like "serious illness of a family member" were high on the list, but so were some positive life-changing events, like marriage. When you take the Holmes-Rahe test you must remember that the score does not reflect how you deal with stress—it only shows how much you have to deal with. And we now know that the way you handle these events dramatically affects your chances of staying healthy.

By the early 1970s, hundreds of similar studies had followed Holmes and Rahe. And millions of Americans who work and live under stress worried over the reports. Somehow, the research got boiled down to a memorable message. Women's magazines ran headlines like "Stress causes illness!" If you want to stay physically and mentally healthy, the articles said, avoid stressful events.

But such simplistic advice is impossible to follow. Even if stressful events are dangerous, many—like the death of a loved one—are impossible to avoid. Moreover, any warning to avoid all stressful events is a *prescription* (处方) for staying away from opportunities as well as trouble. Since any change can be stressful, a person who wanted to be completely free of stress would never marry, have a child, take a new job or move.

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.

21. The result of Holmes-Rahe's medical research tells us _____.
- A) the way you handle major events may cause stress
 - B) what should be done to avoid stress
 - C) what kind of event would cause stress
 - D) how to cope with sudden changes in life
22. The studies on stress in the early 1970's led to _____.
- A) widespread concern over its harmful effects
 - B) great panic over the mental disorder it could cause
 - C) an intensive research into stress-related illnesses
 - D) popular avoidance of stressful jobs
23. The score of the Holmes-Rahe test shows _____.
- A) how much pressure you are under
 - B) how positive events can change your life
 - C) how stressful a major event can be
 - D) how you can deal with life-changing events
24. Why is "such simplistic advice" (Line 1, Para. 3) impossible to follow?
- A) No one can stay on the same job for long.
 - B) No prescription is effective in relieving stress.

- C) People have to get married someday.
 - D) You could be missing opportunities as well.
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

Passage Two

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage:

Most episodes of absent-mindedness—forgetting where you left something or wondering why you just entered a room—are caused by a simple lack of attention, says Schacter. “You’re supposed to remember something, but you haven’t encoded it deeply.”

Encoding, Schacter explains, is a special way of paying attention to an event that has a major impact on recalling it later. Failure to encode properly can create annoying situations. If you put your mobile phone in a pocket, for example, and don’t pay attention to what you did because you’re involved in a conversation, you’ll probably forget that the phone is in the jacket now hanging in your *wardrobe* (衣柜). “Your memory itself isn’t failing you,” says Schacter. “Rather, you didn’t give your memory system the information it needed.”

Lack of interest can also lead to absent-mindedness. “A man who can recite sports statistics from 30 years ago,” says Zelinski, “may not remember to drop a letter in the mailbox.” Women have slightly better memories than men, possibly because they pay more attention to their environment, and memory relies on just that.

Visual cues can help prevent absent-mindedness, says Schacter. “But be sure the cue is clear and available,” he cautions. If you want to remember to take a *medication* (药物) with lunch, put the pill bottle on the kitchen table—don’t leave it in the medicine chest and write yourself a note that you keep in a pocket.

Another common episode of absent-mindedness: walking into a room and wondering why you’re there. Most likely, you were thinking about something else. “Everyone does this from time to time,” says Zelinski. The best thing to do is to return to where you were before entering the room, and you’ll likely remember.

26. Why does the author think that encoding properly is very important?
- A) It helps us understand our memory system better.
 - B) It enables us to recall something from our memory.
 - C) It expands our memory capacity considerably.
 - D) It slows down the process of losing our memory.
27. One possible reason why women have better memories than men is that _____.
- A) they have a wider range of interests
 - B) they are more reliant on the environment
 - C) they have an unusual power of focusing their attention
 - D) they are more interested in what’s happening around them
28. A note in the pocket can hardly serve as a reminder because _____.
- A) it will easily get lost
 - B) it’s not clear enough for you to read
 - C) it’s out of your sight
 - D) it might get mixed up with other things

29. What do we learn from the last paragraph?
- A) If we focus our attention on one thing, we might forget another.
 - B) Memory depends to a certain extent on the environment.
 - C) Repetition helps improve our memory.
 - D) If we keep forgetting things, we'd better return to where we were.
30. What is the passage mainly about?
- A) The process of gradual memory loss.
 - B) The causes of absent-mindedness.
 - C) The impact of the environment on memory.
 - D) A way of encoding and recalling.

Passage Three

Questions 31 to 35 are based on the following passage

It is hard to track the blue whale, the ocean's largest creature, which has almost been killed off by commercial whaling and is now listed as an endangered species. Attaching radio devices to it is difficult, and visual sightings are too unreliable to give real insight into its behavior.

So biologists were delighted early this year when, with the help of the Navy, they were able to track a particular blue whale for 43 days, monitoring its sounds. This was possible because of the Navy's formerly top-secret system of underwater listening devices spanning the oceans.

Tracking whales is but one example of an exciting new world just opening to civilian scientists after the cold war as the Navy starts to share and partly uncover its global network of underwater listening system built over the decades to track the ships of potential enemies.

Earth scientists announced at a news conference recently that they had used the system for closely monitoring a deep-sea volcanic eruption (爆发) for the first time and that they plan similar studies.

Other scientists have proposed to use the network for tracking ocean currents and measuring changes in ocean and global temperatures.

The speed of sound in water is roughly one mile a second—slower than through land but faster than through air. What is most important, different layers of ocean water can act as channels for sounds, focusing them in the same way a stethoscope (听诊器) does when it carries faint noises from a patient's chest to a doctor's ear. This focusing is the main reason that even relatively weak sounds in the ocean, especially low-frequency ones, can often travel thousands of miles.

31. The passage is chiefly about _____.
- A) an effort to protect an endangered marine species
 - B) the civilian use of a military detection system
 - C) the exposure of a U. S. Navy top-secret weapon
 - D) a new way to look into the behavior of blue whales
32. The underwater listening system was originally designed _____.
- A) to trace and locate enemy vessels
 - B) to monitor deep-sea volcanic eruptions
 - C) to study the movement of ocean currents
 - D) to replace the global radio communications network
33. The deep-sea listening system makes use of _____.

- A) the sophisticated technology of focusing sounds under water
 - B) the capability of sound to travel at high speed
 - C) the unique property of layers of ocean water in transmitting sound
 - D) low-frequency sounds traveling across different layers of water
34. It can be inferred from the passage that _____.
- A) new radio devices should be developed for tracking the endangered blue whales
 - B) blue whales are no longer endangered with the use of the new listening system
 - C) opinions differ as to whether civilian scientists should be allowed to use military technology
 - D) military technology has great potential in civilian use
35. Which of the following is true about the U. S. Navy underwater listening network?
- A) It is now partly accessible to civilian scientists.
 - B) It has been replaced by a more advanced system.
 - C) It became useless to the military after the cold war.
 - D) It is indispensable in protecting endangered species.

Passage Four

Questions 36 to 40 are based on the following passage

The fitness movement that began in the late 1960s and early 1970s centered around *aerobic exercise* (有氧操). Millions of individuals became engaged in a variety of aerobic activities, and literally thousands of health spas developed around the country to *capitalize* (获利) on this emerging interest in fitness, particularly aerobic dancing for females. A number of fitness spas existed prior to this aerobic fitness movement, even a national chain with spas in most major cities. However, their focus was not on aerobics, but rather on weight-training programs designed to develop muscular mass, strength, and endurance in their primarily male enthusiasts. These fitness spas did not seem to benefit financially from the aerobic fitness movement to better health, since medical opinion suggested that weight-training programs offered few, if any, health benefits. In recent years, however, weight training has again become increasingly popular for males and for females. Many current programs focus not only on developing muscular strength and endurance but on aerobic fitness as well.

Historically, most physical-fitness tests have usually included measures of muscular strength and endurance, not for health-related reasons, but primarily because such fitness components have been related to performance in athletics. However, in recent years, evidence has shown that training programs designed primarily to improve muscular strength and endurance might also offer some health benefits as well. The American College of Sports Medicine now recommends that weight training be part of a total fitness program for healthy Americans. Increased participation in such training is one of the specific physical activity and fitness objectives of Healthy People 2000: National Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Objectives.

36. The word "spas" (Line 3, Para. 1) most probably refers to _____.
- A) sports activities
 - B) places for physical exercise
 - C) recreation centers
 - D) athletic training programs
37. Early fitness spas were intended mainly for _____.
- A) the promotion of aerobic exercise
 - B) endurance and muscular development

- C) the improvement of women's figures
 D) better performance in aerobic dancing
38. What was the attitude of doctors towards weight training in health improvement?
 A) Positive. B) Indifferent.
 C) Negative. D) Cautious.
39. People were given physical fitness tests in order to find out _____.
 A) how well they could do in athletics
 B) what their health condition was like
 C) what kind of fitness center was suitable for them
 D) whether they were fit for aerobic exercise
40. Recent studies have suggested that weight training _____.
 A) has become an essential part of people's life
 B) may well affect the health of the trainees
 C) will attract more people in the days to come
 D) contributes to health improvement as well

Part III Vocabulary and Structure

(20 minutes)

41. You would be _____ a risk to let your child go to school by himself.
 A) omitting B) attaching C) affording D) running
42. He is always here; it's _____ you've never met him.
 A) unique B) strange C) rare D) peculiar
43. There has been a great increase in retail sales, _____?
 A) does there B) isn't there C) hasn't there D) isn't it
44. We'd like to _____ a table for five for dinner this evening.
 A) preserve B) retain C) reserve D) sustain
45. Although a teenager, Fred could resist _____ what to do and what not to do.
 A) being told B) telling C) to be told D) to tell
46. The European Union countries were once worried that they would not have _____ supplies of petroleum.
 A) proficient B) efficient C) potential D) sufficient
47. In fact, Peter would rather have left for San Francisco than _____ in New York.
 A) to stay B) stayed C) staying D) having stayed
48. He soon received promotion, for his superiors realized that he was a man of considerable _____.
 A) ability B) future C) possibility D) opportunity
49. Britain has the highest _____ of road traffic in the world—over 60 cars for every mile of road.
 A) popularity B) density C) intensity D) prosperity
50. How is it _____ your roommate's request and yours are identical?
 A) if B) so C) what D) that
51. In my opinion, he's _____ the most imaginative of all the contemporary poets.
 A) in all B) at best C) for all D) by far
52. He didn't have time to read the report word for word; he just _____ it.
 A) skimmed B) observed C) overlooked D) glanced
53. The leader of the expedition _____ everyone to follow his example.

- A) promoted B) reinforced C) sparked D) inspired
54. What a lovely party! It's worth _____ all my life.
 A) remembering B) to remember
 C) to be remembered D) being remembered
55. Who would you rather _____ with you, George or me?
 A) going B) to go C) have gone D) went
56. The _____ goal of the book is to help bridge the gap between research and teaching, particularly between researchers and teachers.
 A) intensive B) concise C) joint D) overall
57. The owner and editor of the newspaper _____ the conference.
 A) were attending B) were to attend
 C) is to attend D) are to attend
58. We left the meeting, there obviously _____ no point in staying.
 A) were B) being C) to be D) having
59. Their products are frequently overpriced and _____ in quality.
 A) influential B) inferior C) superior D) subordinate
60. The neighborhood boys like to play basketball on that _____ lot.
 A) valid B) vacant C) vain D) vague
61. These people once had fame and fortune; now _____ is left to them is utter poverty.
 A) all that B) all what C) all which D) that all
62. To our _____, Geoffrey's illness proved not to be as serious as we had feared.
 A) anxiety B) relief C) view D) judgment
63. Many people like white color as it is a _____ of purity.
 A) symbol B) sign C) signal D) symptom
64. The residents, _____ had been damaged by the fire, were given help by the Red Cross.
 A) all of their homes B) all their homes
 C) whose all homes D) all of whose homes
65. This research has attracted wide _____ coverage and has featured on BBC television's Tomorrow's World.
 A) message B) information C) media D) data
66. I would never have _____ a court of law if I hadn't been so desperate.
 A) sought for B) accounted for C) turned up D) resorted to
67. Investigators agreed that passengers on the airliner _____ at the very moment of the crash.
 A) should have died B) must be dying
 C) must have died D) ought to die
68. The energy _____ by the chain reaction is transformed into heat.
 A) transferred B) released C) delivered D) conveyed
69. _____ their work will give us a much better feel for the wide differences between the two schools of thought.
 A) To have reviewed B) Having reviewed
 C) Reviewing D) Being reviewed
70. During the process, great care has to be taken to protect the _____ silk from damage.
 A) sensitive B) tender C) delicate D) sensible

Part IV Short Answer Questions

(15 minutes)

As researchers learn more about how children's intelligence develops, they are increasingly surprised by the power of parents. The power of the school has been replaced by the home. To begin with, all the factors which are part of intelligence—the child's understanding of language, learning patterns, curiosity—are established well before the child enters school at the age of six. Study after study has shown that even after school begins, children's achievements have been far more influenced by parents than by teachers. This is particularly true about learning that is language-related. The school rather than the home is given credit for variations in achievement in subjects such as science.

In view of their power, it's sad to see so many parents not making the most of their child's intelligence. Until recently parents had been warned by educator who asked them not to educate their children. Many teachers now realize that children cannot be educated only at school and parents are being asked to contribute both before and after the child enters school.

Parents have been particularly afraid to teach reading at home. Of course, children shouldn't be pushed to read by their parents, but educators have discovered that reading is best taught individually—and the easiest place to do this is at home. Many four-and five-year-olds who have been shown a few letters and taught their sounds will compose single words of their own with them even before they have been taught to read.

S1. What have researchers found out about the influence of parents and the school on children's intelligence?

S2. What do researchers conclude about children's learning patterns?

S3. In which area may school play a more important role?

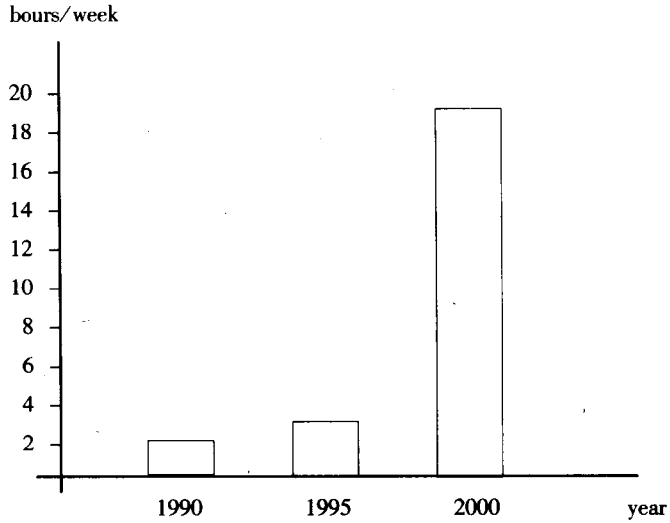
S4. Why did many parents fail to make the most of their children's intelligence?

S5. The author suggests in the last paragraph that parents should be encouraged to

Part V Writing

(30 minutes)

Directions: For this part, you are allowed thirty minutes to write a composition on the topic *Student Use of Computers*. You should write at least 120 words, and base your composition on the chart and the outline given below:



Average number of hours a student spends on the computer per week

1. 上图所示为 1990 年、1995 年、2000 年某校大学生使用计算机的情况,请描述其变化;
2. 请说明发生这些变化的原因(可从计算机的用途、价格或社会发展等方面加以说明);
3. 你认为目前大学生在计算机使用中有什么困难或问题。

Student Use of Computers

2002年6月大学英语四级考试题解

Part I Listening Comprehension

Section A

1. **W:** I suppose you've bought some gifts for your family?
M: Well, I've bought a shirt for my father and two books for my sister, but I haven't decided what to buy for my mother, probably some jewels.
W: Who did the man buy the books for?
2. **W:** Look! It says they want a junior sales manager, and it seems like it's a big company. That'll be good, for you might have to travel a lot.
M: Do they say anything about experience?
W: What are they talking about?
3. **W:** I think we've covered everything. What about a cup of coffee before we move onto the next item?
M: Good idea. I really can't wait another minute.
W: What does the woman suggest doing?
4. **W:** But what happens if it rains? What are we going to do then?
M: We'll have to count on good weather, but if it does rain, the whole thing will have to be canceled.
W: What do we learn from the conversation?
5. **W:** You took an optional course this semester, didn't you? How is it going?
M: Terrible. It seems like the more the professor talks, the less I understand.
W: How does the man feel about the course?
6. **W:** Mark is playing computer games.
M: Should he do that when the final exam is drawing near?
W: What does the man think Mark should do?
7. **M:** Jack seems to think that this year's basketball season will be disappointing.
W: That's his opinion. Most others think differently.
M: What does the woman mean?
8. **M:** Is this the check-in counter for flight 914 to Los Angeles?
W: Yes, but I'm sorry the flight has delayed because of a minor mechanical problem. Please wait for further notice.
M: What do we learn from this conversation?
9. **M:** Excuse me. I'd like to place an advertisement for a used car in the Sunday edition of your paper.
W: OK, but you have to run your advertisement all week. We can't quote rates for just Sunday.
M: Where is the conversation most probably taking place?
10. **M:** I spent so much time polishing my letter of application.
W: It's worthwhile to make the effort. You know just how important it is to give a good impression.
M: What do we know about the man?

Section B

Passage One

Not everybody reads the daily newspaper. People who do not read newspapers are sometimes referred to as non-readers. Early research has shown that non-readers are generally low in education, low in income, either very young or very old. In addition, non-readers are more likely to live in rural areas and have less contact with neighbors and friends. Other studies show that non-readers tend to isolate themselves from the community or less likely to own a home, and seldom belong to local voluntary organizations. Why don't these people read a daily paper? They say they don't have the time, they prefer radio or TV, they have no interest in reading at all, and besides, they think newspapers are too expensive. Recent surveys, however, have indicated that the portrait of the non-reader is more complicated than first thought. There appears to be a group of non-readers that does not fit the type mentioned above. They are high in income and fall into the age group of 26 to 65. They are far more likely to report that they don't have the time to read the papers, and they have no interest in the content. Editors and publishers are attempting to win them back. First, they are adding news briefs and comprehensive indexes. This will help overcome the time problem. And they are also giving variety to newspaper content to help build the reader's interest.

Question 11: What is typical of non-readers according to the early research?

Question 12: What are the findings of recent surveys?

Question 13: What are editors and publishers doing to attract the non-readers?

Passage Two

Did you know that there's a kind of bird that can sew? This bird, called the "Tailor Bird", uses its mouth as a needle. It sews leaves together in the shape of a cup. Then it adds a layer of straw to the inside of the cup and lays its eggs there. Each bird species builds its own special kind of nest. The most common materials used for nests are grasses, branches, and feathers. A bird must weave these materials into a nest. Just imagine building a house without cement or nails to hold it together! Another bird is called the "Weaver Bird". The "Weaver Bird" builds a nest that looks like a basket. The nest does shape like a pear with a hole in the middle. The hole is the door of the nest. A third bird is called the "Oven Bird". The "Oven Bird" makes nest that is very solid. The nest is made of mud. The "Oven Bird" forms the mud into the shape of an oven, and then muds it in drying sun. The sun bakes the mud, making it very hard. Not all birds make their homes in branches. Some birds build their nests on the ground while others bury their eggs under the ground, and some birds do not build nests at all. So when you look for nests and eggs in the branches of trees and bushes, remember that some nests may be right under your feet.

Question 14: What does the nest built by a Tailor Bird look like?

Question 15: Why is there a hole in the Weaver Bird's nest?

Question 16: What is the Oven Bird's nest made of?

Question 17: What might surprise us about birds' nests according to the speaker?

Passage 3

You can tell the age of a tree by counting its rings, but these records of a tree's life really say a lot more. Scientists are using tree rings to learn what's been happening on the sun's surface for the last ten thousand years. Each ring represents a year of growth. As a tree grows, it adds a layer to its trunk, taking up chemical elements from the air. By looking at the elements in the rings from a given year, scientists can tell what elements were in the air that year. Doctor Stevenson is analyzing one element—carbon-14 in rings from both living and dead trees. Some of the rings go back almost ten thousand years to the end of the Ice Age. When Stevenson followed the carbon-14 trail