

CET-4

大学英语四级考试

阅读理解真题详解

(1997-2002年)

主编 季绍斌 副主编 陈军

中国对外经济贸易出版社

ENGLISH

1-1319.4-40

524

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

大学英语四级考试阅读理解真题详解:1997~2002 年/
季绍斌主编. —北京:中国对外经济贸易出版社,
2002. 6

ISBN 7-80004-767-9

I. 大… II. 季… III. 英语—阅读教学—高等学
校—水平考试—解题 IV. H319.4-44

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2002)第 044925 号

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中国对外经济贸易出版社出版
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新华书店北京发行所发行
煤炭工业出版社印刷厂印刷

*

850×1168 毫米 32 开本

12.5 印张 325 千字

2002 年 8 月第 1 版

2002 年 8 月第 1 次印刷

印数: 4000 册

ISBN 7-80004-767-9

H·126

定价: 22.00 元

前 言

全国大学英语四级考试是由国家教育部高教司组织的一种大规模的主要针对在校非英语专业学生的标准化英语水平测试。随着国内用人单位越来越多地要求大学毕业生要通过 CET-4, 甚至通过 CET-6, 大学英语等级考试成了目前国内最重要的英语水平测试之一。其中阅读理解是大学英语等级考试中分值最高的部分。因此, 如何在有限的时间内迅速提高阅读能力就成了众多考生关心的大事。本文作者从事一线大学英语教学和等级考试辅导多年, 现将近年 CET-4(1997 年 1 月到 2002 年 1 月) 中的阅读真题全部译成中文, 并将每篇短文后的提问和四个选项均译成汉语, 以便同学们理解答题; 另外还有简短的解题说明和体裁分析等。本书的另一特色就是针对每篇短文中出现的完整句子进行了简要的语法分析, 并把其中的生词、句型和有关的词语搭配单独列出, 便于同学们复习词汇和语法。总之, 本书的宗旨是力求让阅读这本书的读者在较短的时间内达到 CET-4 阅读考试的要求。

在本书的编写过程中, 虽然编者力求准确、无误, 但由于时间和水平的限制, 书中若有纰漏, 希望考生在认真通读本书后, 将有关建议尽快反馈给我们, 以便我们不断完善此书, 并能更好地为广大考生服务。

最后, 衷心祝愿广大考生顺利过级!

编 者

2002 年 4 月

目 录

1997 年 1 月四级阅读理解详解	1
1997 年 6 月四级阅读理解详解	37
1998 年 1 月四级阅读理解详解	72
1998 年 6 月四级阅读理解详解	106
1999 年 1 月四级阅读理解详解	147
1999 年 6 月四级阅读理解详解	183
2000 年 1 月四级阅读理解详解	222
2000 年 6 月四级阅读理解详解	257
2001 年 1 月四级阅读理解详解	292
2001 年 6 月四级阅读理解详解	327
2002 年 1 月四级阅读理解详解	359

1997年1月四级阅读理解详解

Questions 51 to 55 are based on the following passage:

体裁分析:以下是一篇讲述人们身份的说明文。

- Statuses are marvelous human inventions that enable us to get along with one another and to determine where we “fit” in society.

译文:身份是人类奇妙的发明,它使人恰当相处,帮助人们确定自己在社会中所“适合”的位置。

第一层:Statuses are marvelous human inventions that enable
主 谓 定语从句
us to get along with one another and to determine where we
“fit” in society.

第二层:that enable us to get along with one another and to de-
主 谓 宾 宾补
termine where we “fit” in society.

第三层:where we “fit” in society.
引 主 谓 状

讲解:status n. 身份 [词组]fit in 适合 [搭配]get along
with 与……相处

- As we go about our everyday lives, we mentally attempt to place people in terms of their statuses.

译文:在日常生活中,我们头脑里经常根据别人的身份试着判断别人。

第一层: As we go about our everyday lives, we mentally attempt to place people in terms of their statuses.

时间状语从句 主 状

empt to place people in terms of their statuses.

谓 宾 状

第二层: As we go about our everyday lives

引 主 谓 定 宾

讲解: [句型] (to) attempt to 努力 [搭配] in terms of 根据,

按照

- For example, we must judge whether the person in the library is a reader or a librarian, whether the telephone caller is a friend or a salesman, whether the unfamiliar person on our property is a thief or a meter reader, and so on.

译文: 例如, 我们必须判断在图书馆里的那个人是读者还是馆员, 打电话来的人是朋友还是推销员, 登门拜访的不速之客是小偷还是抄表工等等。

第一层: For example, we must judge whether the person in the

插入语 主 谓 宾

library is a reader or a librarian, whether the telephone caller is a friend or a salesman, whether the unfamiliar person on our property is a thief or a meter reader, and so on.

第二层: whether the person in the library is a reader or a libr-

分句1

arian, whether the telephone caller is a friend or a salesman,

分句2

whether the unfamiliar person on our property is a thief or a

分句3

meter reader, and so on.

第三层: 分句1: whether the person in the library is a reader or

引 主 状 系表

a librarian

分句2: whether the telephone caller is a friend or a sale-

引 主 系表

sman

分句3: whether the unfamiliar person on our property

引 定 主 状

is a thief or a meter reader, and so on.

系表 补

讲解: [词组] meter reader 抄表工 property n. 财产

- The statuses we assume often vary with the people we encounter, and change throughout life.

译文: 我们所取得的身份随着所接触的人的不同而改变, 且一生都在变化。

第一层: The statuses we assume often vary with the people we

主 定 状 谓1

encounter, and change throughout life.

状 谓2 状

第二层: we assume/ we encounter

主 谓 主 谓

讲解: vary verb. 变化 encounter verb. 遇到

- Most of us can, at very high speed, assume the statuses that various situations require.

译文: 我们中的大多数人可以迅速地设想出不同情况下应有的身份。

第一层: Most of us can, at very high speed, assume the statu-

定 主 情 插入语 谓 宾

ses that various situations require.

定语从句

第二层: that various situations require.

引 定 主 谓

讲解: various adj. 不同的 require verb. 需要

- Much of social interaction consists of identifying and selecting among appropriate statuses and allowing other people to assume their statuses in relation to us.

译文: 许多社会上相互交流的情况就包括辨别并选择合适的身份, 并且让其他人表现出与我们相处时应有的身份。

第一层: Much of social interaction consists of identifying and

定 主 谓 宾1

selecting among appropriate statuses and allowing other people

宾2

状

宾3

to assume their statuses in relation to us.

讲解: [搭配] consist of 由……组成(无被动形式) [词组] in relation to 与……发生联系 appropriate adj. 适当的

- This means that we fit our actions to those of other people based on a constant mental process of appraisal and interpretation.

译文: 这就意味着我们根据他人的行为来调整自己的行为, 而这是以评估与解释的心理持续活动过程为基础的。

第一层: This means that we fit our actions to those of other

主 谓

宾语从句

people based on a constant mental process of appraisal and interpretation.

第二层: that we fit our actions to those of other people based

引 主 谓 定 宾

宾补

on a constant mental process of appraisal and interpretation.

讲解: constant adj. 永恒的 [词组] mental process 心理过程
appraisal n. 评估 interpretation n. 解释

- Although some of us find the task more difficult than others, most of us perform it rather effortlessly.

译文:虽然我们中有些人比其他人更觉得这件事困难,但大多数人在做这件事时是不费力气的。

第一层:Although some of us find the task more difficult than

让步状语从句

others, most of us perform it rather effortlessly.

定 主 谓 宾 状

第二层:Although some of us find the task more difficult than

引 定 主 谓 宾 状

others

讲解:effortlessly adv. 不费力气地

- A status has been compared to ready-made clothes.

译文:身份可以比作现成的衣服。

第一层:A status has been compared to ready-made clothes.

主 谓 状

讲解:compare verb. 比较

- Within certain limits the buyer can choose style and fabric.

译文:购买者在一定的范围内选择款式与布料。

第一层:Within certain limits the buyer can choose style and

状 主 谓 宾

fabric.

讲解:fabric n. 织物

- But an American is not free to choose the costume (服装) of a Chinese peasant or that of a Hindu prince.

译文:但是一个美国人并不能随意选择中国农民的衣物或是印度王子的服装。

第一层:But an American is not free to choose the costume of a

连 主 谓 宾1

Chinese peasant or that of a Hindu prince.

定 宾2 定

讲解:[词组] Hindu prince 印度王子

- We must choose from among the clothing presented by our society.

译文:我们必须从我们社会中已有的服装中进行挑选。

第一层:We must choose from among the clothing presented by

主 谓 状

our society.

讲解: present verb. 提供

- Further more, our choice is limited to a size that will fit, as well as by our pocketbook (钱包).

译文:另外,我们所作的选择会受到合适的尺寸以及经济能力的限制。

第一层:Further more, our choice is limited to a size that will

状 定 主 谓 状

fit, as well as by our pocketbook

补

第二层:that will fit

主 谓

讲解:[词组] further more 此外, 另外

- Having made a choice within these limits we can have certain alterations made, but apart from minor adjustments, we tend to be limited to what the stores have on their racks.

译文:在这些范围内,我们可在几个可以相互替代的衣服中作出选择,但我们可能会被局限于在商店的货架上陈列的衣物中进行挑选,最多作些小的调整。

第一层:Having made a choice within these limits we can have

状

certain alterations made, but apart from minor adjustments,

插入语

we tend to be limited to what the stores have on their racks.

主

谓

状

第二层: we can have certain alterations made/ what the stores

主

谓

定

宾

定

宾

主

have on their racks.

谓

状

讲解: [搭配] apart from 除了 [句型] (to) tend to 有……倾向
rack n. 货架

- Statuses too come ready made, and the range of choice among them is limited.

译文: 身份也是现成的东西, 其选择的范围是有限的。

第一层: Statuses too come ready made, and the range of choice

分句1

分句2

among them is limited.

第二层: 分句1: Statuses too come ready made

主 状

谓

分句2: the range of choice among them is limited.

主

定

系表

讲解: range n. 范围

51. In the first paragraph, the writer tells us that statuses can help us ____.

在第一段中, 作者告诉我们身份有助于我们_____。

[A] determine whether a person is fit for a certain job

判断一个人是否适合于某项工作

[B] behave appropriately in relation to other people

在与其他人相处时举止要得体

[C] protect ourselves in unfamiliar situations

在陌生的情况下保护自己

[D] make friends with other people

与他人交友

解析:从文章的第一段就不难看出[B]项最符合题意。

52. According to the writer, people often assume different statuses _____.

根据作者的意思,人们通常假设不同的身份_____。

[A] in order to identify themselves with others

以使自己有别于他人

[B] in order to better identify others

以便更好地辨认他人

[C] as their mental processes change

在他们思想进程发生改变时

[D] as the situation changes

当情况变化时

解析:依据文章第二段第2行的内容,可知[D]项最符合题意。

53. The word “appraisal” (Line 9, Para. 2) most probably means “_____”.

“appraisal”一词(第二段第9行)最有可能的意思是“_____”。

[A] involvement 涉及

[B] appreciation 欣赏

[C] assessment 评价

[D] presentation 提出

解析:四个选择项的意思分别为:[A] involvement (涉及,卷入); [B] appreciation (欣赏); [C] assessment (评价,鉴定); [D] presentation (提出)。而文中“appraisal”出现在第二段第5行,从其内容来看,选择项[C]应该是最为接近的词义。

54. In the last sentence of the second paragraph, the pronoun “it” refers to “_____”.

在第二段最后一句中,代词“它”指的是“_____”。

[A] fitting our actions to those of other people appropriately

根据他人的行为恰当地调整自己的行为

[B] identification of other people's statuses

辨别出他人的身份

[C] selecting one's own statuses

选择自己的身份

[D] constant mental process

不断进行的心理活动过程

解析:该代词出现的上下文应该是文章第二段第4行中,其中前半句在第53题中已解释过;在第二个句子中,“it”应该指代前面的“task”,而“task”最有可能指第一个句子中的主要成分,也就是“fit our actions to those of other people.”所以,[A]项正确。

55. By saying that “an American is not free to choose the costume of a Chinese peasant or that of a Hindu prince” (Lines 3~4, Para. 3), the writer means _____.

作者说:“一个美国人并不能随意选择中国农民的衣物或是印度王子的服装(第三段第3~4行)”,意思是_____。

[A] different people have different styles of clothes

不同的人有不同款式的服装

[B] ready-made clothes may need alterations

现成的服装需要改动

[C] statuses come ready made just like clothes

身份犹如现成的服装

[D] our choice of statuses is limited

我们对身份的选择是有局限的

解析:依据文章第三段第1行和文章的最后一句,我们可知身份的选择是受限制的。故[D]项正确。

Questions 56 to 60 are based on the following passage:

体裁分析:以下是一篇讨论成为作家的议论文。

- Many a young person tells me he wants to be a writer.

译文:很多年轻人告诉我们他们想当作家。

第一层: Many a young person tells me he wants to be a writer.

定 主 谓 宾 宾语从句

第二层: he wants to be a writer.

主 谓

讲解: 无

- I always encourage such people, but I also explain that there's a big difference between "being a writer" and writing.

译文:我总是鼓励这样的人,但我又跟他们解释说,“成为作家”和写作之间存在着极大的差异。

第一层: I always encourage such people, but I also explain

分句1 分句2

that there's a big difference between "being a writer" and writing.

第二层:分句1: I always encourage such people

主 状 谓 宾

分句2: I also explain that there's a big difference be-

主 状 谓 宾语从句

tween "being a writer" and writing.

第三层: that there's a big difference between "being a writer"

引 系 定 主 状

and writing.

讲解: 无

- In most cases these individuals are dreaming of wealth and fame, not the long hours alone at a typewriter.

译文:在大多数情况下,这些人梦想着财富与名声而不是在打字

机旁孤零零地呆上很长时间。

第一层: In most cases these individuals are dreaming of wealth

状 定 主 谓 宾

and fame, not the long hours alone at a typewriter.

补

讲解: [词组] in most cases 在大多数情况下 individual n. 个

人 wealth n. 财富 fame n. 名声

- “You’ve got to want to write,” I say to them, “not want to be a writer”.

译文: 我对他们说, “你必须想写作而不是想当作家。”

第一层: “You’ve got to want to write,” I say to them, “not

宾1 主 谓 宾 宾2

want to be a writer”.

第二层: You’ve got to want to write, / not want to be a writer

主 谓 谓

讲解: 无

- The reality is that writing is a lonely, private and poor-paying affair.

译文: 现实的写作是孤独的、私人的、报酬低的活。

第一层: The reality is that writing is a lonely, private and po-

主 系 表语从句

or-paying affair.

第二层: that writing is a lonely, private and poor-paying af-

引 主 系表

fair.

讲解: reality n. 现实 affair n. 事情

- For every writer kissed by fortune there are thousands more whose longing is never rewarded.

译文: 幸运之神每降临到一位作家身上, 就有数千位作家, 他们

对成功的渴求却从来没有得到回报。

第一层: For every writer kissed by fortune there are thousands

状

系 主

more whose longing is never rewarded.

定语从句

第二层: whose longing is never rewarded.

定 主 系 状 表

讲解: longing n. 愿意 reward verb. 回报

- When I left a 20-year career in the U. S. Coast Guard to become a freelance writer (自由撰稿人), I had no prospects at all.

译文: 当我离开美国海岸警卫队做了20年的工作, 成为一名自由撰稿人的时候, 我根本看不到美好的情景。

第一层: When I left a 20-year career in the U. S. Coast Guard

时间状语从句

to become a freelance writer, I had no prospects at all.

主 谓 宾 状

第二层: When I left a 20-year career in the U. S. Coast Guard

引 主 谓 定 宾 状

to become a freelance writer

讲解: [词组] the U. S. Coast Guard 美国海岸警卫队 prospect
n. 情景

- What I did have was a friend who found me my room in a New York apartment building.

译文: 我只有一间在纽约的公寓房间, 这是我的一个朋友帮我找的。

第一层: What I did have was a friend who found me my room

主

谓

定语从句

in a New York apartment building.