

Daxue Yingyu Baiti Kuaixun

大学英语百题快训

多所院校一线教师联手编写

针对考点分类

精选模拟百题

灵活设定做题进度

快速进入四六级考试临战状态

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成功之路的**最佳起点**



Daxueyingyu

六级阅读理解

Baitikuaixun

喻家楼 主编

中国科学技术大学出版社

大学英语百题快训

六级阅读理解

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内 容 提 要

本书是按照教育部颁布的大学英语教学大纲编写的,目的是帮助考生在短期内提高阅读理解能力,从而顺利地通过全国大学英语六级考试。

本书共收体裁不同、题材多样、风格各异的文章 80 篇。题型有主旨题、细节题、词义题、推断题等,各种题型均与全真四级试题一致,具有很强的针对性和实战性。

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前言

阅读理解是大学英语六级考试的重头戏,阅读理解做得好,六级考试也就成功了一半。快速的阅读、准确的理解,一直是广大考生孜孜以求的目标。《大学英语百题快训·六级阅读理解》就是为广大考生着想而精心编写的。

本书按照教育部颁布的《大学英语教学大纲》编写,采用全新的编辑理念,目的是帮助广大考生在最短的时间内以最大的效率提高快速阅读能力和准确理解能力。

本书共有 80 套阅读理解题,每套题由标题、内容提要、正文、生词注解、理解题答案及题目详解组成。全书从题材到体裁,从形式到内容,从题目设计到答案解析,无不渗透着作者和编者对教学大纲的深刻理解和挖掘,书中体现的每一份新意都是我们点点滴滴的心血。

本书具有以下五大特点:

1. **知识性**。本书题材丰富,体裁多样,涵盖人文、科学、医学、天文、地理等各门学科。信息量大,知识汇萃,是本书的优点和特点。仔细阅读本书,不仅可以学到诸多阅读技巧,而且可以增长各类知识。

2. **实战性**。本书为六级考试量身定做,参加编写的均是来自全国重点大学的一线教师。他们有着多年的教学经验和强烈的使命感,多次参加六级阅卷工作,对六级的命题原则和命题方向有着独到的理解和准确的把握,并将自己对考生需求的了解具体转化在本书每一道试题的精心设计与编排中。仔细阅读本书,可以切实提高解题技巧,丰富考试经验,轻松愉快地面对考试。

3. **全面性**。本书将全面提高考生的解题能力,从全篇到细节,从理解、判断到推理应有尽有。仔细阅读本书,你可以最快地提高阅读速度,并且能全方位地提高对英语篇章的认识能力,培养英语思维方式及语感。

4. **创新性**。本书从设计到编写,处处体现着创新原则。每篇文章加标题,内容提要及生词解析,这是时下坊间各类辅导书所不具备的。这种创新性体现着我们的执着追求,也代表了我们对考生的一份郑重承诺。

5. **深刻性**。本书突出六级又突破六级,凝聚着深刻的编写理念。突出六级,是以六级为主,展开攻坚战。突破六级,是不局限于六级,不以六级为最终目的,务求帮助考生达到英语学习的更高境界。这种理念和对创新性的努力追求是本书一道美丽的风景线,包含着作者和编者对广大考生的一份深厚的人文关怀。

本书集上述五大特点于一身,对参加大学英语六级考试的考生具有很强的指导意义,必将帮助你走向成功的彼岸。

为了篇幅和内容的需要,本书从一些经典作品中选用了部分材料。在此,我们向这些作品的作者表示由衷的感谢。

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Unit One

精选习题

Passage One A Book on Creationism

☞ 本文主要介绍作家 Kitcher 的一本新作。文章首段即谈到有关 Creationism 的新书纷纷出炉的目的是揭露其欺骗性,接着具体介绍了 Kitcher 书中各章节的内容及作家的简历,认为这是一部说理清晰,批驳有力的优秀作品。

Rumor has it that more than 20 books on creationism are in the publisher's pipelines. A few have already appeared. The goal of all will be to try to explain to a confused and often unenlightened citizenry that there are not two equally valid scientific theories for the origin and evolution of universe and life. *Cosmology*, geology, and biology have provided a consistent, unified, and constantly improving account of what happened. "Scientific" creationism, which is being pushed by some for "equal time" in the classrooms whenever the scientific accounts of evolution are given, is based on religion, not science. Virtually all scientists and the majority of nonfundamentalist religious leaders have come to regard "scientific" creationism as bad science and bad religion.

The first four chapters of Kitcher's book give a very brief introduction to evolution. At appropriate places, he introduces the criticisms of the creationists and provides answers. In the last three chapters, he takes off his gloves and gives the creationists a good beating. He describes their programs and *tactics*, and, for those unfamiliar with the ways of creationists, the extent of their deception and distortion may come as an unpleasant surprise. When their basic motivation is religious, one might have expected more Christian behavior.

Kitcher is a philosopher, and this may account, in part, for the clarity and effectiveness of his arguments. The nonspecialist will be able to obtain at least a notion of the sorts of data and argument that support evolutionary theory. The final chapters on the creationists will be ex-

tremely clear to all. On the dust jacket of this fine book, Stephen Jay Gould says: "This book stands for reason itself." And so it does — and all would be well were reasons, the only judge in the creationism(evolution) debate.

Notes:

1. **cosmology** [kɒz'mɒlədʒi] *n.* (天文学)宇宙论
2. **tactics** ['tæktiks] *n.* 战术,策略,手法

1. "Creationism" in the passage refers to _____.
A. evolution in its true sense as to the origin of the universe
B. a notion of the creation of religion
C. the scientific explanation of the earth formation
D. the deceptive theory about the origin of the universe
2. Kitcher's book is intended to _____.
A. recommend the views of the evolutionists B. expose the true features of creationists
C. curse bitterly at his opponents D. launch a surprise attack on creationists
3. From the passage we can infer that _____.
A. reasoning has played a decisive role in the debate
B. creationists do not base their argument on reasoning
C. evolutionary theory is too difficult for nonspecialists
D. creationism is supported by scientific findings
4. This passage appears to be a digest of _____.
A. a book reviews B. a scientific paper
C. a magazine feature D. a newspaper editorial
5. The word "pipelines" may carry the meaning of _____.
A. exhaust B. tube
C. being published D. issued

Passage Two A Fall in Inflation

☞ 文章主要介绍近年来西方经济大国通货膨胀率下降的情况及可能的原因。尽管经济政策的调整对经济形势往往只能起到不确定和非常滞后的作用,但通货膨胀率的下降表明这些经济大国仍持续了良好的发展势头。

Much of the language used to describe monetary policy, such as “steering the economy to a soft landing” or “a touch on the brakes”, makes it sound like a precise science. Nothing could be further from the truth. The link between interest rates and inflation is uncertain. And there are long, variable lags before policy changes have any effect on the economy. Hence the analogy that links the conduct of monetary policy to driving a car with a blackened windscreen, a cracked rear view mirror and a faulty steering wheel.

Given all these disadvantages, central bankers seem to have had much to boast about of late. Average inflation in the big seven industrial economies fell to a mere 2.3% last year, close to its lowest level in 30 years, before rising slightly to 2.5% this July. This is a long way below the double-digit rates which many countries experienced in the 1970s and early 1980s.

It is also less than most forecasters had predicted. In late 1994 the panel of economists which The Economist polls each month said that America's inflation rate would average 3.5% in 1995. In fact, it fell to 2.6% in August, and is expected to average only about 3% for the years as a whole. In Britain and Japan inflation is running half a percentage point below the rate predicted at the end of last year. This is no flash in the pan, over the past couple of years, inflation has been consistently lower than expected in Britain and America.

Economists have been particularly surprised by favorable inflation figures in Britain and the United States, since conventional measures suggest that both economies, and especially America's, have little productive slack. America's capacity utilization, for example, hit historically high levels earlier this year, and its jobless rate (5.6% in August) has fallen below most estimates of the natural rate of unemployment — the rate below which inflation has taken off in the past.

Why has inflation proved so mild? The most thrilling explanation is, unfortunately, a little defective. Some economists argue that powerful structural changes in the world have up-ended the old economic models that were based upon the historical link between growth and inflation.

6. From the passage we learn that _____.

- A. there is a definite relationship between inflation and interest rates
- B. economy will always follow certain models
- C. the economic situation is better than expected
- D. economists had foreseen the present economic situation

7. According to the passage, which of the following is true?

- A. Making monetary policies is comparable to driving a car
- B. An extremely low jobless rate will lead to inflation

- [illegible]

Passage Three Home Schoolers

文章主要介绍了家庭式教育的提倡者们排斥公共学校的理由。尽管与公共学校的拥护者们之间关系已有所缓和,但出于宗教等观念原因或是由于对公共教育感到不满,他们当中的大多数仍坚持家庭式教育是最佳方式。

The estimates of the numbers of home-schooled children vary widely. The U.S. Department of Education estimates there are 250 000 to 350 000 home-schooled children in the country. Home-school advocates put the number much higher — at about a million.

Many public school advocates take a harsh attitude toward home schoolers, perceiving their actions as the ultimate *slap* in the face for public education and a damaging move for the children. Home schoolers harbor few kind words for public schools, charging shortcomings that range from lack of religious perspective in the curriculum to a herdlike approach to teaching children.

Yet, as public school officials realize they stand little to gain by remaining hostile to the home-school population, and as home schoolers realize they can reap benefits from public schools these hard lines seem to be softening a bit. Public schools and home schoolers have moved closer to tolerance and, in some cases, even cooperation.

Says John Marshall, an education official, "We are becoming relatively tolerant of home schoolers". The idea is, "Let's give the kids access to public school so they'll see it's not as terri-

ble as they've been told, and they'll want to come back".

Perhaps, but don't count on it, say home-school advocates. Home schoolers oppose the system because they have strong convictions that their approach to education — whether fueled by religious enthusiasm or the individual child's interests and natural pace — is best.

"The bulk of home schoolers just want to be left alone." Says Enge Cannon, associate director of the National Center for Home Education. She says home schoolers choose that path for a variety of reasons, but religion plays a role 85 percent of the time.

Professor Van Galen breaks home schoolers into two groups. Some home schoolers want their children to learn — not only traditional subject matter but also "strict religious doctrine and a conservative political and social perspective. Not incidentally, they also want their children to learn — both intellectually and emotionally — that the family is the most important institution in society."

Other home schoolers contend "not so much that the schools teach *heresy*, but that schools teach whatever they teach inappropriately," Van Galen writes. "These parents are highly independent and strive to 'take responsibility' for their own lives within a society that they define as bureaucratic and inefficient".

Notes:

1. **slap**[slæp] *v. & n.* 掴, 拍, 掌击
2. **heresy**['herəsi] *n.* (宗教)异端, 异端邪说

11. According to the passage, home schoolers are _____.
 - A. those who engage private teachers to provide additional education for their children
 - B. those who educate their children at home instead of sending them to school
 - C. those who advocate combining public education with home schooling
 - D. those who don't go to school but are educated at home by their parents
12. Public schools are softening their position on home schooling because _____.
 - A. there isn't much they can go to change the present situation
 - B. they want to show their tolerance for different teaching systems
 - C. home schooling provides a new variety of education for children
 - D. public schools have so many problems that they cannot offer proper education for all children
13. Home-school advocates are of the opinion that _____.
 - A. things in public schools are not so bad as have often been said

- B. their tolerance of public education will attract more kids to public schools
 - C. home schooling is superior and, therefore, they will not easily give in
 - D. their increased cooperation with public school will bring about the improvement of public education
14. Most home schoolers' opposition to public education stems from their _____.
 A. respect for the interests of individuals
 B. worry about the inefficiency of public schools
 C. concern with the cost involved
 D. devotion to religion
15. According to Van Galen some home schoolers believe that _____.
 A. public schools take up a herdlike approach to teaching children
 B. teachers in public school are not as responsible as they should be
 C. public schools cannot provide an education that is good enough for their children
 D. public schools are the source of bureaucracy and inefficiency in modern society

Passage Four Migration to the New World

文章主要叙述了西半球“新大陆”上人类以及其它动、植物的迁移过程。首先分析了人类可能是从白令海峡到达了美洲大陆的原因,然后通过对动、植物迁移的研究表明可能曾经存在一块连接两块大陆的陆地。

The New World was already an old world to the Indians who were in residence when Europeans took possession of it in the sixteenth century. But the life story of the human species goes back a million years, and there is no doubt that man came only recently to the Western Hemisphere. None of the thousands of sites of *aboriginal* habitation uncovered in North and South America has antiquity comparable to that of Old World sites. Man's occupation of the New World may date back several tens of thousands of years, but no one rationally argues that he has been here even 100 000 years.

Speculation as to how man found his way to America was lively at the outset and the proposed routes boxed the compass. With one or two notable exceptions, however, students of American anthropology soon settled for the plausible idea that the first immigrants came by way of a land bridge that had connected the northeast corner of Asia to the northwest corner of North

Toward the end of the last century, however, it became apparent that the Western Hemisphere was the New World not only for man but also for a host of animals and plants. Zoologists and botanists showed that numerous subjects of their respective kingdoms must have originated in Asia, and spread to America. (There was evidence also for some movement in the other direction.) These findings were neither astonishing nor wholly unexpected. Such spread of populations is not to be *envisioned* as an *exodus* or mass migration, even in the case of animals. It is, rather, a spilling into new territory that accompanies increase in numbers, with movement in the direction of least population pressure and most favorable ecological conditions. But the immense traffic in plant and animal forms placed a heavy burden on the Bering Strait land bridge, as the anthropologists had envisioned it. Whereas purposeful men could make their way across a narrow bridge (in the absence of a bridge, Eskimos, sometimes cross the strait in skin boats), the slow diffusion of plants and animals would require an avenue as broad as a continent and available for ages at a stretch.

1. **aboriginal** [ˌæbəˈrɪdʒənəl] *adj.* & *n.* 土著居民(的), 土生动植物
2. **isthmus** [ˈɪsməs] *n.* (地质学)地峡
3. **dryshod** [ˈdraɪˈʃɒd] *adj.* & *adv.* 不湿脚的(地)
4. **envision** [ɪnˈvɪʒən] *v.* 想像, 预想, 展望
5. **exodus** [ˈeksədəs] *n.* (成群的)出去, 离去

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18. By saying "the proposed routes boxed the compass," the author implied that _____.
 A. the migration of mankind was from East to West
 B. mankind traveled in all directions
 C. before mankind migrated, they had learned to use compass
 D. mankind walked from Asia to America using compasses
19. One reason for the migration not mentioned in the passage is _____.
 A. favorable environmental conditions B. the existence of a land bridge
 C. famine D. overpopulation
20. At the end of the passage, the author implies that _____.
 A. it was man who brought animals and plants when they migrated
 B. the plants and animals went to America within a short period of few years
 C. except for the Bering Strait, there might have existed a large continent
 D. man had boated from Asia to America in addition to walking

习题详解

Passage One

1. 答案为 D。词义题。本文第一段最后一句指出,几乎所有的科学家和大多数原教旨主义宗教领导都认为所谓“科学”的上帝创造说是糟糕的科学和糟糕的宗教,再结合下文可知 Creationism 是关于上帝创造世界的学说。
2. 答案为 B。推断题。根据第二段第三句,“在最后三章中,他脱下手套,对上帝创造说给予了痛击”。而第四句讲到,他描述了上帝创造说信奉者的计划和策略,使那些不熟悉他们手段的人对于他们的欺骗和歪曲会感到吃惊与反感。
3. 答案为 B。推断题。文章第一段第四句指出,所谓“科学的”上帝创造说是建立在宗教而不是科学基础上,Kitcher 的书中也对这一理论进行了批判,指出它的欺骗性和歪曲事实,所以选 B。
4. 答案为 A。判断题。本文第二段介绍了 Kitcher 的书各个章节的具体内容,第三段介绍了 Kitcher 本人的简历和上述书中最后几章的具体内容。本文实际上是该书的摘要,这与 A 项 a book review 的意思吻合。
5. 答案为 C。词义题。本句讲到,传言有 20 多本关于上帝创造说的书正在出版商的 pipelines 上,显然是将出版商的准备工作比作了 pipelines,因此 C 为正确答案。