

Advanced
Reading Test Preparation
高级英语应试阅读系列

Reading
For TEM-8

英语专业八级阅读

朱 篱 编著

TEM-8
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TOEFL
IELTS

清华大学出版社

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内 容 简 介

本书共 10 个单元, 110 篇文章。每个单元都是一份按英语专业八级考试真题阅读部分设计的模拟试题。本书的特点是: 所选文章全部是未经简化的原汁原味的英文, 既有生词解释又有语言难点注释; 既有答案也有问题解答, 方便实用, 仿真性、指导性强。

读者对象: 准备参加英语专业八级考试的读者。

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前 言

本书是根据《高校英语专业八级考试大纲》编写而成，目的是帮助参加英语专业八级考试的考生了解TEM-8阅读部分的题型及特点，并使考生得到充分的阅读训练。

本书真实地反映了近几年 TEM-8 考试阅读部分的走向，无论是在选材、题量和问题设计上都具有很高的仿真性。

本书共有 10 个单元，每个单元的编排与真题阅读部分的编排一样，有 11 篇文章，要求考生在规定时间内完成。本书在每个单元后面附有词汇和句法注释，使考生在阅读理解的同时增加语言知识。对每个阅读理解问题本书都作了详细的注释，帮助考生加深理解文章的内容。本书的语言资料全部选自英美出版物，内容丰富，可扩大考生的知识面。

据统计，全国英语专业八级考试的通过率远远低于专业四级考试的通过率，其原因在很大程度上是因为八级试题中的阅读量较之四级增加了近一倍。由于我国高校英语专业教学仍然强调精读，这使得学生的知识面和阅读面过于狭窄，缺乏必要的知识结构来应付大量的语言资料。我们希望通过本书的学习，考生能够提高阅读速度，掌握必要的阅读技巧，扩大知识面，调整知识结构，在以后的考试中能应付自如。

书中难免有疏漏之处，敬请广大读者批评指正。

编者

2002 年 7 月

Contents

阅读理解题型分析	1
Unit One	17
Unit Two	49
Unit Three	82
Unit Four	116
Unit Five	147
Unit Six	181
Unit Seven	214
Unit Eight	244
Unit Nine	275
Unit Ten	306
Key to Comprehension Questions	335
Explanations to Comprehension Questions	337

阅读理解题型分析

第一节 阅读理解的知识结构

阅读是对文字进行解码并赋予意义的过程，是从文字中提取信息的活动。在阅读过程中，读者不是被动的解码者，而是与文本和作者进行直接的对话和交流。阅读是一个过程，其结果是理解。要理解所读的内容，读者要把已有的知识结构（schemata）运用到阅读当中，在新的知识和已有知识的相互作用中，理解才会产生。阅读过程中所运用的知识包括语言知识、结构知识和背景知识。这些知识也正是《高校英语专业八级考试大纲》所要求的。

一、语言知识

语言知识也就是词汇和句法知识。考生的词汇量应该在 8 000 以上。考生应该能够对复杂的句子结构进行分析和理解，许多考题是建立在对句子的正确理解基础之上的。

二、结构知识

结构知识是关于文本信息的内在关联以及细节的具体安排，这包括篇章结构、体裁、文章的拓展方式等。例如，如果对所谓的“故事语法（story grammar）”有所了解，如小说、寓言情节的发展过程，这对理解小说会很有帮助。同样，阅读理解不能只停留在对词和单句的理解上，还应该理解句子之间的逻辑关系，理解文章的结构和展开方式。例如，要读懂说明文和议论文，就应该了解它们的结构以及论点拓展的方式。

三、背景知识

背景知识指的是理解文章内容所需要的专业知识和百科知识。虽然八级阅读的文章并不要求有很强的专业知识，但内容熟悉的文章更有利于理解。例如，熟悉当代政治、文化、科技等方面的信息，有利于理解试题中有关文章的内容。这就要求考生平时要有很宽的知识面和阅读面，要有广泛的兴趣，要多接触各类题材的阅读材料。

第二节 考题内容

一、测试要求和选材范围

《高校英语专业八级考试大纲》对阅读提出如下要求：

1. 读懂英美报刊杂志上的社论、文章和书评；既能理解其字面意义，又能分辨出其中的事实和细节。
2. 能读懂一般历史传记和文学作品，既能理解其字面意义又能理解其隐含意义。
3. 能分析上述题材文章的思想观点、通篇布局、语言技巧和修辞手段。

二、题材和体裁

从历年考题可以看出，阅读部分选材相当广泛。从题材上说，有报刊报导、书评、文学作品片断、研究报告、广告、课程介绍、说明书、节目介绍等；在体裁方面有说明文、议论文、记叙文和描述文，但以说明文和议论文为主。

三、题型

阅读理解部分有细读和快读两部分。细读部分为四篇短文，

2 500 字左右,要求在 30 分钟内完成,快读部分为七段短文,3 000 字左右,要求在 5 分钟内用略读和查读的方法完成。

从以上内容可以看出,考生应该有广泛的知识面和阅读面,能够应付各种题材和体裁的文章;考生应该有一定的语言和语篇知识;考生还应该有一定的阅读能力和技巧,不仅能够细读、略读和查读,还要能够评读。

第三节 阅读理解题型分析

八年级阅读共有 11 段文字,前面四段 (Text A~Text D) 用于细读,后面七段 (Text E~Text K) 用于略读和查读。细读要求辨别事实和细节、理解字里行间的意义以及评判作者的观点和态度。略读和查读则要求通过快速浏览来找出文章的大意和获取具体信息。纵观历年阅读试题,其题型可分以下几类。

一、重新表述题

这一类题侧重考生对文章字面意义的理解,而不用推敲作者的意图和文字的隐含意义。大多数问题的设计是基于文章中的某一部分,包括词、短语、句子或段落。回答这样的问题就要在文章中找到相应的部分并读懂它。请看 2002 年考题 Text B 中的例子:

Cooperative competition. Competitive cooperation. Confused?
Airline alliances have travellers scratching their heads over what's going on in the skies.

What is the best word to describe air travellers' reaction to airline alliances?

- A. Delight.
- B. Indifference.
- C. Objection.
- D. Puzzlement.

解这道题关键是理解 *scratch one's head* 这一短语。如果知道该短语用来表示迷惑，那么解题就非常容易了。事实上，有些问题是专门针对英语的固定短语而设计的。例如，2002 年试题 Text A 中有一道题要求理解 *gain the upper hand* 这一短语；2001 年试题 Text B 中有一道题要求理解 *split the difference* 这一短语。

重新表述题可以针对一个句子。2001 年试题 Text B 中有这样的例子：

But the punishment was surely disproportionate to the crime, and many investments that look foolish in retrospect seemed sensible at the time.

The writer thinks that those Asian countries

- A. well deserved the punishment.
- B. invested in a senseless way at the time.
- C. were unduly punished.
- D. had had relationships between government and businesses.

上面这句话是说，这种惩罚和所犯错误是不相称的，因为许多投资在当时看来是明智的。题干加选项 C（作者认为这些亚洲国家受到过重的惩罚）重新表述了这段文字的意思。

重新表述题可以针对一个段落。2002 年试题 Text C 有这样一段文字：

The triumph of English in France and elsewhere in Europe, however, may rest on something more enduring. As they become entwined with each other politically and economically, Europeans need a way to talk to one another and to the rest of the world. And for a number of reasons, they've decided upon English as their common tongue.

针对这一段的问题是：

In the author's opinion, what really underlies the rising status of English in France and Europe is

- A. American dominance in the Internet software business.

- B. a practical need for effective communication among Europeans.
- C. Europeans' eagerness to do business with American businessmen.
- D. the recent trend for foreign companies to merge with each other.

这一段是说，英语在法国和欧洲其他地方之所以十分流行有着最根本的原因：随着欧洲人在政治和经济方面关系越来越密切，他们需要一种方法来互相交流；出于种种原因，他们把英语作为通用语言。显然，选项 B 表述了这一段的内容。

二、区分事实和细节题

《高校英语专业八级考试大纲》要求考生能够分辨文章的事实和细节。试题中的许多问题是根据这一要求而设计的。例如，2000 年试题 Text A 有这样一段文字：

But there is a sense of entitlement and security that Danes grow up with. Certain things are yours by virtue of citizenship, and you shouldn't feel bad for taking what you're entitled to, you're as good as anyone else. The rules of the welfare system are clear to everyone, the benefits you get if you lose your job, the steps you take to get a new one; and the orderliness of the system makes it possible for the country to weather unemployment and social unrest without a sense of crisis.

其问题是：

At the end of the passage the author states all the following EXCEPT that

- A. Danes are clearly informed of their social benefits.
- B. Danes take for granted what is given to them.
- C. the open system helps to tide the country over.
- D. orderliness has alleviated unemployment.

该题要求理解上述文字中所陈述的事实并加以辨别，然后排除和事实不相关的选项。选项 A 表述了第 3 句所陈述的事实；选项 B 表述了第 1 句所陈述的事实；选项 C 表述了最后一句所陈述的事

实；选项 D 并非是事实，因为最后一句是说，秩序使丹麦人能够平稳地面对失业和社会动荡，这句话并没有减缓失业的意思。

一些事实和细节分布在多段落中，甚至分布在整篇文章中。有时文章中的事实和细节的顺序和选项的顺序并不一致。如上面选项中的细节排列并不是按照文章的时间顺序来的。另外，事实和细节题数量较多，几乎每篇文章都会出现一到两次。

三、推论题

对文章内容进行推论是阅读的一个重要技能，也就是人们常说的理解“行外之意 (meaning beyond the lines)”。考生根据文章提供的文字线索，借助常识和上下文的逻辑关系来推断没有直接表述的内容。例如 2001 年试题 Text A 中有这样一段文字：

The most striking thing about Blackpool these days compared with 20 years ago is how empty its beaches are. When the tide is out, Blackpool's beaches are a vast plain of beckoning sand. They look spacious enough to accommodate comfortably the entire populace of northern England. Ken Welsby remembers days when, as he puts it, "you couldn't lay down a handkerchief on this beach, it was that crowded."

其问题是：

We can learn from the passage that Blackpool used to

- A. have as many beaches as Luxemburg.
- B. have seriously polluted drinking water.
- C. boast some imposing seafront sights.
- D. attract few domestic holiday makers.

今天 Blackpool 的海滩显得空旷冷落；而 20 年前，这儿很拥挤，连放置一块手帕的地方都没有。因此可以推断，那时这儿游客众多，一定是这里的海边景色迷人。选项 C 是答案。

再比如，2002 年试题 Text B 有这样一段话：

But why, after years of often ferocious competition, have airlines

decided to band together? Let's just say the timing is mutually convenient. North American airlines, having exhausted all means of earning customer loyalty at home, have been looking for ways to reach out to foreign flyers. Asian Carriers are still hurting from the region-wide economic downturn that began two years ago – just when some of the airlines were taking delivery of new aircraft.

针对这一段的提问是：

According to the passage, setting up airline alliances will chiefly benefit

- A. North American airlines and their domestic travellers.
- B. North American airlines and their foreign counterparts.
- C. Asian airlines and their foreign travellers.
- D. Asian airlines and their domestic travellers.

上面这段文字是说，北美和亚洲航空公司的结盟恰巧是在双方都面临问题的时候：北美航空公司面临国内客源减少的问题，而亚洲航空公司还受到亚洲金融危机的影响。选项 B 是根据上面这段文字所推断出来的结论。

四、作者态度题

阅读理解除了字面意义和行间意义这两个层次外，还有作者的“言外意义”，也就是说要理解作者对所讨论话题的态度和口吻。理解作者的态度和口吻主要从作者的措辞（diction）着手。作者通过对词的取舍来表达自己的看法。另外，一些细节的安排和取舍也反映了作者的态度。例如，2000年试题 Text C:

Fred Cooke of Salford turned 90 two days ago and the world has been beating a path to his door. If you haven't noticed, the backstreet boy educated at Blackpool grammar styles himself more grandly as Alastair Cooke, broadcaster extraordinaire. An honorable KBE, he would be Sir Alastair if he had not taken American citizenship more than a half century

ago.

If it sounds snobbish to draw attention to his humble origins, it should be reflected that the real snob is Cooke himself, who has spent a lifetime disguising them. But the fact that he opted to renounce his British passport in 1941 – just when his country needed all the wartime help it could get – is hardly a matter for congratulation.

Cooke has made a fortune out of his love affair with America, entrancing listeners with a weekly monologue that has won Radio 4 many devoted adherents. Part of the pull is the developed drawl. This is the man who gave the world “midAtlantic”, the language of the disc jockey and public relations man.

He sounds American to us and English to them, while in reality he has for decades belonged to neither. Cooke’s world is an America that exists largely in the imagination. He took ages to acknowledge the disaster that was Vietnam and even longer to wake up to Watergate. His politics have drifted to the right with age, and most of his opinions have been acquired on the golf course with fellow celebrities.

He chased after stars on arrival in America, fixing up an interview with Charlie Chaplin and briefly becoming his friend. He told Cooke he could turn him into fine light comedian; instead he is an impressionist’s dream.

Cooke liked the sound of his first wife’s name almost as much as he admired her good looks. But he found bringing up baby difficult and left her for the wife of his landlord.

Women listeners were unimpressed when, in 1996, he declared on air that the fact that 4% of women in the American armed forces were raped showed remarkable self-restraint on the part of Uncle Sam’s soldiers. His arrogance in not allowing BBC editors to see his script in advance worked, not for the first time, to his detriment. His defenders

said he could not help living with the 1930s values he had acquired and somewhat dubiously went on to cite “gallantry” as chief among them. Cook’s raconteur style encouraged a whole generation of BBC men to think of themselves as more important than the story. His treacly tones were the model for regular World Service reports From Our Own Correspondent, known as FOOCs in the business. They may yet be his epitaph.

The writer comments on Cooke’s life and career in a slightly _____ tone.

- A. ironic.
- B. detached.
- C. scathing.
- D. indifferent.

作者对 Cooke 是颇有微词的，这从一些具有负面评判性的用词可以看出（styles himself more grandly, snob, hardly a matter for congratulation, arrogance, to his detriment, epitaph）。另外，第5、6段中的事实也有损 Cooke 的形象。（选项 C 是该题答案。）

五、主旨题

该类问题主要出现在 Text E 至 Text H 这四段文字中。理解英语文章的主旨（thesis）并不困难，这主要是因为英美人总是把文章的主旨在一开始就交代得一清二楚。理解文章的中心大意首先可以浏览文章开头部分。例如 2002 年考题 Text F 是这样开头的：

It seems obvious that trapping more of the sun’s heat will make the planet hotter. But what seems obvious isn’t always true. According to some respected scientists, there is a chance that global warming could plunge us into, of all things, ice age.

其问题是：

In the following passage, the author intends to

- A. explain how the Gulf Stream is formed.
- B. compare global warming with global cooling.
- C. explain the composition of the sea currents.
- D. deliver a warning of a coming ice age.

这篇文章的主体部分讲述了全球变暖有可能使 Gulf Stream 停止工作，从而使欧洲变冷。文章的主旨作者在第 1 段第 2 句做了交待。因此，只要浏览第一段的内容，就可以了解文章的主旨。（选项 D 为答案。）

有时，主旨句并不在第 1 段，这就需要接着往下浏览，主旨句可能在第 2 段或者 3 段。例如 2000 年考题 Text E 的开头部分是：

Hundreds of students send me e-mail each year asking for advice about education. They want to know what to study, or whether it's OK to drop out of college since that's what I did.

My basic advice is simple and heartfelt. "Get the best education you can. Take advantage of high school and college. Learn how to learn."

其问题是：

In the passage Bill Gates mainly discusses

- A. a person's opportunity of a lifetime.
- B. the success of the computer industry.
- C. the importance of education.
- D. high school education in the US.

文章第 1 段只是提出问题，第 2 段对问题做出回答，这就是 Bill Gates 所要讨论的内容。

有时文章的主旨要综合各段落的主题句（topic sentence）才能捕捉到。例如 2001 年考题 Text E 的第 1 段是：

Do your relationships keep falling? When you leave your home in the morning are you already feeling stressed? Is there no time in your life for fun any more? Cancel your appointment with the doctor. What you need is a good interior-design book. Publishers have created a new genre

of books for the home, titles that go beyond paint charts and superficial style and instead show you how your home can be transformed and even heal your life.

这篇文章的问题是:

The purpose of the passage is to

- A. review some newly-published interior-design nooks.
- B. explore the potential market for interior-design books.
- C. persuade people to buy some good books.
- D. stress the importance of reading good books.

文章第 1 段只是说室内装修书籍可以改善人们的生活, 但还无法确定问题中哪个选项是正确的。但如果能够浏览各段的主题句 [Dawna Walter is one of the authors leading the way in Britain with her book *Organized Living* that attempts to show how even a tidy sock drawer can improve the quality of you life (第 2 段), Another recent book in the British market was Sarah Shurety's Chinese-inspired *Feng Shui For Your Home* (第 4 段), The book *Creating Space*, by Elizabeth Wilhide, claims that readers following its advice will not just improve their homes but transform their lives (第 5 段)], 就不难看出文章的主要目的是评价几本有关装修的新书。

六、查读信息题

这一类题出现在 Text I ~ Text K 这三段文字中, 要求用查读的方法从大量的文字资料中迅速查找某一具体事实或某一特定信息, 如数据、人物、事件、时间、地点等。这类问题的解答要求考生有目的地针对文章的相关部分查找信息。例如, 2000 年试题 Text K 中有这么一段:

To qualify to study in Belgium, it is essential to meet relevant requirements in (1) academic credentials, (2) linguistic skills, (3) academic objectives and (4) financial resources. Let us review these four points:

1. Academic credentials

Equivalence and admissibility of degree will be assessed according to Belgium law and individual university regulations. Please submit a copy of your degree with a translation to the chosen university's admission board.

2. Language skills

Chinese students who wish to follow courses in Dutch or French must realize that a superficial knowledge of the language will not do. The ability to speak Dutch or French is imperative in order to follow lectures and to pass examinations. A preparatory year of language instruction is available in some universities for already enrolled students. Please apply for information at the university of your choice.

Students who wish to attend lectures in English (post-academic training international courses) must of course have a good command of that language. Universities will inform you about their individual TOEFL requirements.

针对这一部分的问题是:

Students who wish to take courses in Dutch or French

- A. should pass the TOEFL test first.
- B. must speak Dutch or French first.
- C. may receive language training.
- D. must have a good command of English.

解这一道题首先要弄清所要查阅的具体信息是什么, 要在题干和选项中找出关键词, 然后迅速在文章中找到相应的部分。如这一道题的关键词是 Dutch 和 French, 然后在文章中找到相对应的部分。

七、文章结构题

2001年考题 Text H 是这样的: