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120 篇

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《考研英语历年真题长难句分析》

齐鲁电子音像出版社

2010

与阅读软件配套使用

考研英语阅读精选120篇

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Preface 前言

时代在变,考研也在变。但无论怎么变,英语在研究生入学考试中的重要性没有变,阅读理解在考研英语中的重要性更是有增无减:从 2005 年开始考研英语大纲进行了重大调整,阅读理解所占分值从 50 分增加到 60 分,在一张试卷上占了大半江山。

阅读如此重要,广大考生也都投入了大量的时间与精力,做了大量的阅读试题,尝试了诸多的方法技巧,但是,几年阅卷统计下来,考生的阅读成绩却一直没有显著的提高,这使很多考生感到困惑和无助。

这是为什么?问题出在哪里?

经过与考生的直接沟通,我们发现了问题所在:他们在追求阅读“量”增加的同时没有达到阅读“质”的提升,在大量泛读的同时没有重视精读,没有从根本上提高自己的阅读基本技能。在实际的阅读训练中,很多考生追求的通常是大量和快速的阅读。这种泛读或速读往往会给考生造成一种“天下文章皆入我心”的假象,但实际上他们的阅读水平并没有真正提高:看起文章来似懂非懂,做起试题来似会非会。阅读“质”的提升和阅读基本技能的提高只能通过精读,吃透文章来实现。在精读的基础上踏踏实实地提高技能并掌握一定的阅读技巧之后,再进行泛读或速读,才能如鱼得水、游刃有余。

本着设身处地为考生着想,进一步方便考生学习使用和切实提高考生英语阅读理解能力的原则,我们组织多位著名考研英语辅导专家编写了这本《考研英语阅读精选 120 篇》,旨在指导考生进行精读、细读,帮助他们切实提高阅读能力,感受实战气氛。

本书特色——

➤ 精心选材,贴近大纲

遵循考研阅读的特点,基于专家作者的努力,本书的文章选材充分保证了时新性和典型性,力争使每一篇文章都适合精读,真正突出“精选”的概念。所选文章多出自国外近五年报刊、杂志、书籍,题材广泛,触及热点,超纲词和长难句含量贴近真题,文章组合结构与最新考研大纲完全一致,每单元均包括 4 篇标准阅读题(Part A)、1 篇选择搭配题(Part B)和 1 篇翻译题(Part C),共 6 篇文章,试题总体难度接近或略高于真题,非常利于考生熟悉考试模式。

➤ 全文精译,连线解读

考研英语阅读文章长且难,致使许多考生读完文章后脑中一团迷雾,做题时不知其所云。应广大考生的强烈要求,本书将所选 120 篇文章全部给出了精当、贴切的全文精译,旨在帮助考生对文章的篇章结构、逻辑层次和行文特点有更准确、透彻的把握。这也是考生在精读文章之后最终检验自己的理解能力和理顺解题思路的最佳办法。

另外,很多考生反映在做阅读试题的时候最怕的就是读完文章却不知道答案在哪里。这与考研阅读的特点有关:考研英语阅读试题是一种选拔性试题,必须有一定难度才可以达到甄别的效果,不可能非常直观和简单。在此,我们把复杂问题简单化,用最直观和形象化的连线形式为每单元的第一篇阅读文章做了清晰的分析,将题目与其在正文里的信息点直接连线,深入浅出地指导考生发现解题信息的真正出处,从而在做题时成竹在胸,体验阅读的快乐。

➤ 主题归类, 分类索引

本书的单元设置在保持真题模式(Part A, Part B, Part C 的三重结构)的前提下,按照文章的类别进行了主题归类式的编排,即一个单元里的文章属于同一题材,这可以使考生集中训练同一文章题材,达到强化练习、强化理解的作用。此外,本书还独创性地将 120 篇文章分别按照体裁和难度设置了多功能分类索引,可供考生根据索引,打破本书的自然结构,按照需要进行模拟考研英语阅读真题的多题材、多体裁和多难度的阅读训练,分别选取不同类型的文章进行集中、专门训练。

➤ 难句分析, 答案详解

考研英语阅读理解近年来的长难句数量有增加的趋势,对考生的阅读能力提出了更高的要求。为此,本书在每单元后遴选出文章中的典型长难句,对其句子结构、理解难点逐一分析,并将翻译技巧点拨贯穿其中,相信通过本部分的讲解,可以增强考生对难句的驾驭能力,从根本上提高阅读水平。除此之外,本书中的所有参考答案皆由具备多年考研辅导经验的专家反复推敲论证后确定,解析精辟,抓住要点,触类旁通,注重总结命题规律,帮助考生轻松掌握应试技巧,了解备考方略。考虑到考生对于长难句的难把握性,本书附赠近十年阅读真题长难句分析的小册子,帮助考生从真题角度认识把握长难句。

➤ 理论指导, 技巧点拨

本书另设有 20 个考研英语小讲座,分别附在每单元的后面,详细分析了考研英语三种题型的命题特点及解题方法与技巧,旨在帮助考生提高应试能力。这其中还涵盖了关于阅读理解 Part A 部分新出现的篇章题、Part B 部分中两种新题型——段落排序题和信息匹配题、概括大意题的独到实用的分析讲解,为考生攻克这些新题型提供了最顺手的坚兵利器!

➤ 词汇扩充, 攻克盲点

考研英语大纲明确规定,在阅读文章中要保持 3% 的生词量,这是对考生提出的更高要求。由于英语词汇量的庞大性,有的考生对此感到无所适从,认为这是一个无法具体去准备的任务。这就出现了一个阅读盲点。实际上,这些超纲词还是可以去准备的,因为考研真题总会反映出一些命题规律。为此,我们将最近 10 年英语阅读真题中的 200 多个超纲词一一列出,同时从最新英美报刊中精选了 800 多个时文阅读词汇附在本书最后,使考生在阅读中能够居高临下、游刃有余!

➤ 互动光盘, 免费赠送

本书还免费赠送包含全书内容的互动学习光盘,考生可以在电脑上自行测试,不仅可以进行整单元测试练习,还可以针对自己的弱点进行文章分类练习、题目分类练习,限时阅读等,新颖的练习模式增添了阅读的乐趣,科学的批语帮您客观地分析答题情况,抓住弱点,使今后的练习有的放矢,大大提高您的学习效率!

希望这本《考研英语阅读精选 120 篇》能对您有所裨益,我们也相信只要方法得当,用完此书,您的阅读水平一定会有显著的提高。相信本书会成为广大考生迎战研究生入学考试英语考试的必备复习材料!

多功能分类索引*

单元/节	文 章	文 章 主 题	体 裁	难 度
文 化				
Unit 1	Text 1	拜占庭帝国的独特复兴模式	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	术语的演化	说明文	☆☆☆
	Text 3	火的崇拜史	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	引导公众意见的因素	议论文	☆☆☆
Part B	—	跨国公司中的跨文化交际	说明文	☆☆☆
Part C	—	叛逆的青年一代	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Unit 2	Text 1	美国的多元文化	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	社会礼仪的组成要素及特点	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	小费为何讨人厌	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	如何迎战英语全球化	议论文	☆☆☆
Part B	—	大众传媒的功能	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	新型知识精英——波波族	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Unit 3	Text 1	美国早期历史的重新解释	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	美国黑人的自我意识	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	肖像画	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	影片暴力泛滥	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part B	—	美国广告委员会及其公益广告	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	美国学生的阅读能力	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Unit 4	Text 1	美国移民文化	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	应重视新闻采访	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	方言的产生因素	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	领导才能是如何形成的	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part B	—	孩子的早期经历决定其性格	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	书写文化	议论文	☆☆☆☆

* 使用说明:

1. 本索引将全书 20 个单元的所有文章按照本书的自然顺序依次列出,方便考生按顺序查找所需文章。
2. 本书在保持考研英语阅读真题的标准模式(Part A, Part B, Part C 的三重结构)的前提下,又按照文章的主题对全部文章进行了分类,方便考生对某一专项进行集中训练。具体分类依次为:Unit 1~4—文化;Unit 5~7—生活;Unit 8~10—社会;Unit 11~12—经济;Unit 13~14—自然;Unit 15~16—科学;Unit 17—政治;Unit 18—教育;Unit 19—人物;Unit 20—医学。
3. 本索引每篇文章后均注明了其体裁和难度,考生亦可根据这两项查找所需文章进行专项训练。其中体裁分为记叙文、议论文和说明文三种;难度等级分别为:☆☆☆—较易;☆☆☆☆—标准;☆☆☆☆☆—较难。

多功能分类索引

单元/节	文章	文章主题	体裁	难度
生 活				
Unit 5	Text 1	墨西哥后裔的家庭演化	说明文	☆☆☆
	Text 2	父亲对孩子成长的作用	说明文	☆☆☆
	Text 3	退休制度的利与弊	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	现行福利制度的弊端	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Part B	— 养育子女问题	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Part C	— 经历失落	说明文	☆☆☆
	Unit 6	Text 1 腹肌锻炼器的效果	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	行车礼貌与交通事故	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	走向小镇	记叙文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	不要乘火车	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Part B	— 倡导孩子步行上学	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	生活中要学会取舍	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Unit 7	Text 1	酗酒为何具有依赖性	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 2	校园持枪问题	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	美国红十字会做什么	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	妇女如何平衡家庭与事业的关系	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Part B	— 生活应该是快乐的	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Part C	— 美国人的饮食变化	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Unit 8	Text 1 老龄化:福还是祸	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	如何解决世界粮食问题	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	孩子成长问题	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	世界资源面临匮乏	说明文	☆☆☆
	Part B	— 交通违章摄像问题	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	美国人如何应对能源危机	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Unit 9	Text 1	工作岗位不平等	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 2	关爱受伤害的人	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	美国高校财政问题	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	艺术品的失窃问题	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Part B	— 在工作中如何获得尊重	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Part C	— 全球化带给人们什么	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Unit 10	Text 1 老龄化:福还是祸	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	如何解决世界粮食问题	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	孩子成长问题	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	世界资源面临匮乏	说明文	☆☆☆
	Part B	— 交通违章摄像问题	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	美国人如何应对能源危机	说明文	☆☆☆☆

多功能分类索引

单元/节	文章	文章主题	体裁	难度
Unit 10	Text 1	科技发展与环境保护	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	成就思想家的条件	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	政府对环境保护无所作为	议论文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	泰坦尼克号沉没的最新发现	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part B	—	资源枯竭与人口膨胀	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	最低生活保障制度	议论文	☆☆☆☆
经 济				
Unit 11	Text 1	推广数字集成技术	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	造假行为何以泛滥	说明文	☆☆☆
	Text 3	大、小企业的不同	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	经济学家该如何预测经济	说明文	☆☆☆
Part B	—	日本职业服装改革计划	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	市场机制的调节作用	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Unit 12	Text 1	能源危机	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	农业机械化的推广	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	金融革新	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	全球经济危机	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part B	—	提高生产率的因素	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	当今世界的经济问题	议论文	☆☆☆☆
自 然				
Unit 13	Text 1	绿毛海龟新发现	议论文	☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	热辐射对地球的影响	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	两栖动物数量下降问题	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	声音的传播速度	说明文	☆☆☆
Part B	—	地震预测	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	雷电是怎样产生的	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Unit 14	Text 1	金矿的分布与开采	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
Part A	Text 2	海底盆地的成因	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	丰富的海洋生物	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	气候变化与飓风	议论文	☆☆☆
Part B	—	地球之外生命的探索	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	测谎仪的使用	说明文	☆☆☆☆

多功能分类索引

单元/节	文 章	文 章 主 题	体 裁	难 度	
科 学					
Unit 15	Text 1	睡眠可以促进记忆	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆	
	Text 2	月球探索	议论文	☆☆☆☆☆	
	Part A	Text 3	心理历史学	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
		Text 4	基因筛选婴儿	说明文	☆☆☆
	Part B	—	汽车设计的新发展	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
	Part C	—	对待科学知识的态度	议论文	☆☆☆☆☆
Unit 16	Text 1	如何区别三个不同的物质领域	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆	
	Text 2	克隆肉问题	议论文	☆☆☆☆☆	
	Part A	Text 3	古代 DNA 研究	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
		Text 4	自然学科缺乏稳定性吗	议论文	☆☆☆☆☆
	Part B	—	飞机检测	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
	Part C	—	摄影与艺术的关系	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
政 治					
Unit 17	Text 1	渐进私有化与快速私有化	议论文	☆☆☆☆☆	
	Text 2	公民权的发展	说明文	☆☆☆	
	Part A	Text 3	如何评估劳动力市场问题	议论文	☆☆☆☆☆
		Text 4	克林顿性丑闻引发争论	议论文	☆☆☆
	Part B	—	美国妇女的政治参与	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
	Part C	—	美国的政治制度	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
教 育					
Unit 18	Text 1	教师流失的原因及对策	议论文	☆☆☆☆☆	
	Text 2	美国教师责任心问题	议论文	☆☆☆☆☆	
	Part A	Text 3	育儿方法	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
		Text 4	正式学习与非正式学习	说明文	☆☆☆
	Part B	—	教师应具备的素质	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
	Part C	—	获取财富的规则	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
人 物					
Unit 19	Text 1	艺术家波提切利	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆	
	Text 2	挽救通用汽车公司财务危机的瓦格纳	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆	
	Part A	Text 3	哈代创作缺陷	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
		Text 4	癌症专家弗可曼医生	议论文	☆☆☆☆☆
	Part B	—	面孔解读专家艾克曼	说明文	☆☆☆☆☆
	Part C	—	世界小姐的告白	记叙文	☆☆☆☆☆

多功能分类索引

单元/节	文 章	文 章 主 题	体 裁	难 度
医 学				
Unit 20 Part A	Text 1	阿尔茨海默病	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 2	免疫系统	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 3	被忽视的致癌因素	说明文	☆☆☆☆
	Text 4	无氧糖酵解	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part B	—	食品与人的思维、情绪的关系	说明文	☆☆☆☆
Part C	—	让重病患者摆脱沮丧	议论文	☆☆☆☆

开篇寄语：

人都说：“考研是时间、金钱与耐力的打拼。”这话没错！选择了考研这条路，我们就得坚定不移地走下去！从现在起，你即将掀开的每一页，如同考研道路上即将踏在你脚下的基石，一页一页地翻阅下去，你将会感觉到自己的脚步会越来越沉稳。虽然脚下的基石上也会磕磕碰碰，甚至会让你跌倒，让你丧失继续走下去的决心，但是，请不要害怕，这时你最需要的就是要勇敢地站起来，继续走下去，随后你会发现原来这条路上也有惊喜和收获……

请在下面写几句为自己加油的话，好让自己更有信心地踏上征程！



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Unit 1

A book is the same today as it always was and it will never change.

一本好书，今天如此，将来亦如此，永不改变。

Part A

Text 1

字数: 446

难度系数: ★★★★★

建议做题时间: 15 分钟

Between the eighth and eleventh centuries A. D. , the Byzantine Empire staged an almost unparalleled economic and cultural revival, a revival that is all the more striking because it followed a long period of severe internal decline. By the early eighth century, the empire had lost roughly $\frac{2}{3}$ of the territory it had possessed in the year 600, and its remaining area was being raided by Arabs and Bulgarians, who at times threatened to take Constantinople and extinguish the empire altogether. The wealth of the state and its subjects was greatly diminished, and artistic and literary production had virtually ceased. By the early eleventh century, however, the empire had regained almost half of its lost possessions. Its new frontiers were secure, and its influence extended far beyond its borders. The economy had recovered. The treasury was full. And art and scholarship had advanced.



To consider the Byzantine military, cultural and economic advances as differentiated aspects of a single phenomenon is reasonable. After all, these three forms or progress have gone together in a number of states and civilizations. Rome under Augustus and fifth-century Athens provide the most obvious examples in antiquity. Moreover, an examination of the apparent sequential connections among military, economic, and cultural forms of progress might help explain the dynamics of historical change.

3 The common explanation of these apparent connections in the case of Byzantium would run like this: when the empire had turned back the enemy's raids on its own territory and had begun to raid and conquer its enemy's territory, Byzantine resources naturally expanded and more money became available to patronize art and literature. Therefore, Byzantine military achievements led to economic advances, which in turn led to cultural revival. No doubt this hypothetical pattern did apply at times during the course of the recovery. Yet it is not clear that military advances invariably came first, economic advances second, and intellectual advances third. In the 860's the Byzantine Empire began to recover from Arab incursions so that by 872 the military balance with the Abbasid Caliphate had been permanently altered in the empire's favor. The beginning of the empire's economic revival however can be placed between 810 and 830. Finally the Byzantine revival of learning appears to have begun even earlier. A number of notable scholars and writers appeared by 788 and by last decade of the eighth century a cultural revival was in full bloom, a revival that last until the fall of Constantinople in 1453. Thus the commonly expected order of military revival followed by economic and then by cultural recovery was reversed in Byzantium. In fact the revival of Byzantine learning may itself have influenced the subsequent economic and military expansion.

1. The central idea of this passage is that _____.

- [A] Byzantine Empire's usual order of military and economic revival coming before cultural revival was reversed
- [B] after 810 Byzantine economic recovery stimulated a military and later cultural expansion that lasted until 1453
- [C] the 8th-century revival of Byzantine learning is a phenomenon that is difficult to explain

[D] Byzantine Empire's revival between the 8th and 11th centuries shows cultural rebirth preceding economic and military revival reversed the commonly accepted order of progress

2. It can be inferred from the passage that the Byzantine Empire continuously suffered significant territorial losses.

[A] in 600

[B] during the 7th century

[C] a century after the cultural achievements of the Byzantine Empire had been lost

[D] soon after the revival of Byzantine learning

3. In the third paragraph the author most probably provides an explanation of the apparent connections among economic, military and cultural development in order to.

[A] suggest that the process of revival in Byzantium agree with this model

[B] set up an order of events that is then shown to be not generally applicable to the case of Byzantium

[C] attack traditional historical scholarship about Byzantium

[D] suggest that Byzantium represents a case for which no historical precedent exists

4. Which of the following does the author mention as crucial evidence concerning the manner in which the Byzantine revival began?

[A] The Byzantine military revival of the 860's led to economic and cultural advances.

[B] The Byzantine cultural revival lasted until 1453.

[C] The Byzantine economic recovery began in the 900's.

[D] The revival of Byzantine learning began toward the end of the 8th century.

5. According to the author, "The common explanation" (Line 1, Para. 3) of connections between economic, military and cultural development is.

[A] revolutionary and too new to have been applied to history of the Byzantine Empire

[B] reasonable but an antiquated theory of the nature of progress

[C] not applicable to the Byzantine revival as a whole but does perhaps accurately describe limited periods during the revival

[D] equally applicable to the Byzantine case as a whole and to the history of military economic and cultural advances in ancient Greece and Rome

Text 2

字数: 418

难度系数: ★★★

建议做题时间: 13 分钟

Every profession or trade, every art, and every science has its technical vocabulary, the function of which is partly to refer to things or processes which have no names in ordinary English, and partly to secure greater exactness in expression. Such special dialects, or jargon, are necessary in technical discussion of any kind. Being universally understood by the devotees of the particular science or art, they have the precision of a mathematical formula. Besides, they save time, for it is much more economical to name a process than to describe it. Thousands of these technical terms are very properly included in every large dictionary, yet, as a whole, they are rather on the outskirts of the English language than actually within its borders.

Different occupations, however, differ widely in the character of their special vocabularies. In trades and handicrafts and other occupations, such as farming and fishing, that have occupied great numbers of men from remote times, the technical vocabulary is very old. It consists largely of native words, or of borrowed words that have worked themselves into the very fiber of our language. Hence, though highly technical in many particulars, these vocabularies are more familiar in sound, and more generally understood than most other technicalities. The special dialects of law, medicine, and



philosophy have also become pretty familiar to cultivated person, and have contributed much to the popular vocabulary.

Yet, every vocation still possesses a large body of technical terms that remain essentially foreign, even to educated speech. And the proportion has been much increased in the last fifty years, particularly in the various departments of natural and political sciences and in the mechanic arts. Hence new terms are coined with the greatest freedom, and abandoned with indifference when they have served their turn. Most of the new coinages are confined to special discussions and seldom get into general literature or conversation. Yet no profession is nowadays, as all profession once were, a closed guild. The lawyer, the physician, the man of science, and the cleric associate freely with his fellow creatures, and do not meet them in a merely professional way.

Furthermore, what is called popular science makes everybody acquainted with modern views and recent discoveries. Any important experiment, though made in a remote or provincial laboratory, is at once reported in the newspapers, and everybody is soon talking about it—as in the case of the Roentgen rays and wireless telegraphy. Thus, our common speech is always taking up new technical terms and making them commonplace.

6. The author's main purpose in writing this passage is to _____.
 [A] describe a phenomenon [B] argue about a belief
 [C] propose a solution [D] stimulate an action
7. By saying that technical terms are "on the outskirts of the English language than...", the author implies that _____.
 [A] they are used in the urban areas [B] they are used in the rural areas
 [C] they do not constitute the core of common speech [D] they are not understood by English farmers
8. When the author refers to professions as no longer being "closed guilds", he means that _____.
 [A] it is much easier to become a professional today than it was in the past
 [B] there is more social communication between professionals and others
 [C] popular science has told its secrets to the world
 [D] anyone can not understand anything in profession
9. It seems that the passage implies _____.
 [A] the English language is always becoming larger and larger
 [B] the words of the English language are always changing
 [C] one can never be sure what a word means without consulting an expert
 [D] technical terms have little chance of becoming part of the main body of the language
10. The author mentions Roentgen rays and wireless telegraphy as examples of _____.
 [A] rapid occurrence of jargon [B] rapid disappearance of jargon
 [C] precision of jargon in meaning [D] popular familiarity with jargon

Text 3

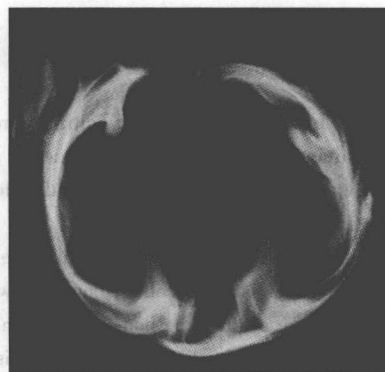
字数: 402

难度系数: ★★★★★

建议做题时间: 13 分钟

Fire worship is a religious devotion to fire as a sacred element. Like sun worship, from which it cannot always be distinguished, the worship of fire is one of the earliest forms of religion. The flame itself may be the object of admiration, or it may be regarded as the material manifestation of a divinity or fire spirit.

In almost every mythology, there is an account of the way fire was brought to human kind. In Greek legend, the Titan Prometheus is said to have stolen the precious flame from Mount Olympus, the home of the gods. A legend among the Polynesian Cook Islanders of the South Pacific describes the descent of the culture hero Maui to the underworld, where he learned the art of making fire by rubbing two sticks together. Various Semitic peoples appeased the fire god Moloch with the sacrifice of their firstborn children, and ritual offerings to fire gods were made



by the Egyptians and other peoples of the ancient world.

Fire worship occupied a central position in the religious rites of the early Indo-European peoples. Among the early Hindus, sacrifice to the fire was one of the first acts of morning devotion, and the hymns addressed to the fire god Agni outnumbered those in praise of any other divinity. Fire worship also was generally practiced among the ancient Slavic peoples.

The worship of fire had its fullest development, however, in ancient Persia, where from earliest times the ritual keeping of the flame was the chief characteristic of the Zoroastrian religion. Fire was believed to be the earthly manifestation of the Divine, the heavenly light. The conquest of Persia by the Muslims was symbolized by putting out of the holy flame in the Persian temples.

Closely associated with fire worship is the religious ceremony of fire walking. Practiced by many peoples in all ages, it is still performed in Tahiti, Trinidad, Mauritius, the Fiji Islands, India, and Japan. The ceremony involves stepping, barefoot, across large stone that have been heated upon a bed of burning logs. Various explanations, none of them altogether satisfactory, have been offered to explain why fire walkers apparently suffer no burns or pain. In ancient times, particularly in India, the rite is said to have involved passing through the flames, rather than walking upon them. Some authorities believe that participants may have been able to walk through the flames without being touched by them.

11. According to the first paragraph, which of the following is the reason why people worship fire?

- [A] Because it comes from the sun. [B] Because it is often used in religious rites.
[C] Because it is believed to be holy. [D] Because it provides warmth to people.

12. The Semitic people _____.

- [A] offered the lives of their first children to fire god
[B] used their firstborn children in their rites
[C] believed their firstborn children were given to them by fire god
[D] regarded their firstborn children as sacred beings

13. Among the early Hindus, _____.

- [A] most of their songs were sung in praise of fire god
[B] most of their holy songs were composed to praise fire god
[C] sacrifice of their children to fire god was made early in the morning
[D] there were more than one fire god to worship

14. In the history of fire worship, among which people was it most popular?

- [A] The Semitic peoples. [B] The ancient Persians.
[C] The ancient Greeks. [D] The early Hindus.

15. According to this passage, fire walking _____.

- [A] is believed to be possible because the walkers are not touched by the flame of the fire
[B] was a way of worshipping fire god in ritual ceremonies in ancient India
[C] is a religious ceremony among some peoples which is yet little understood
[D] was not as popular among the ancient Indians as it was among the ancient Japanese

Text 4

字数: 395

难度系数: ★★★

建议做题时间: 13 分钟

In a democratic society, citizens are encouraged to form their own opinions on candidates for public office, taxes, constitutional amendments, environmental concerns, foreign policy, and other issues. The opinions held by any population are shaped and manipulated by several factors: individual circumstances, the mass media, special interest groups, and opinion leaders.

Wealthy people tend to think differently on social issues from poor people. Factory workers probably do not share the same views as white collar, nonunion workers. Women employed outside their homes sometimes have perspectives different from those of full time homemakers. In these and other ways individual status shapes one's view of current events.

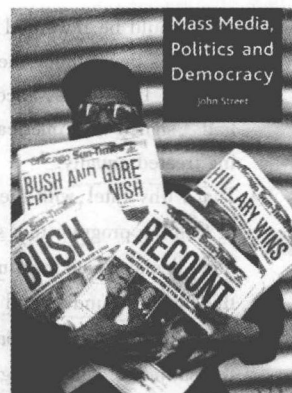
The mass media, especially television, are powerful influences on the way people think and act. Government officials

note how mail from the public tends to “follow the headlines”. Whatever is featured in newspapers and magazines and on television attracts enough attention that people begin to inform themselves and to express opinions.

The mass media have also created larger audiences for government and a wider range of public issues than existed before. Prior to television and the national editions of newspapers, issues and candidates tended to remain localized. In Great Britain and West Germany, for example, elections to the national legislatures were usually viewed by voters as local contests. Today's elections are seen as struggles between party leaders and programs. In the United States radio and television have been beneficial to the presidency. Since the days of Franklin D. Roosevelt and his “fireside chats”, presidents have appealed directly to a national audience over the heads of Congress to advocate their programs.

Special groups spend vast sums annually trying to influence public opinion. Public utilities, for instance, tried to sway public opinion in favor of nuclear power plants. Opposed to them were citizens' organizations that lobbied to halt the use of nuclear power. During the 1960s the American Medical Association conducted an unsuccessful advertising campaign designed to prevent the passage of Medicare.

Opinion leaders are usually such prominent public figures as politicians, show business personalities, and celebrity athletes. The opinions of these individuals, whether informed and intelligent or not, carry weight with some segments of the population. Some individuals, such as Nobel prizewinners, are suddenly thrust into public view by the media. By quickly reaching a large audience, their views gain a hearing and are perhaps influential in shaping views on complex issues.



16. The second paragraph is mainly about the influence of _____.

[A] gender on people's view

[B] people's status on their view

[C] living standard on people's view

[D] different ranks on people's view

17. The expression “follow the headlines” (Line 2, Para. 3) shows _____.

[A] people seldom have time to read newspaper articles

[B] people think the headlines contain the most important information

[C] people often get their opinions from newspapers or television

[D] most people regard newspapers or TV as misleading

18. Which of the following suggests the role of TV in the shaping of public opinion?

[A] TV programs have a strong influence on governmental policy.

[B] Chats on televisions are chief means for running for presidency.

[C] More and more people show interest in politics because of TV.

[D] Before the use of TV, people showed little interest in politics.

19. It is obvious that the opinion of famous people _____.

[A] is often ignored by the public

[B] is seldom expressed to the point

[C] is often imposed on the public

[D] has a strong influence on people

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

[A] The viewpoints of people in different circumstances are totally different.

[B] The mass media is the most important means that influences people's opinions.

[C] Some interest groups sometimes are not on the behalf of common people.

[D] The views of the public are influenced by famous public figures because their opinions are more reasonable.

Part B

字数: 559

难度系数: ★★★

建议做题时间: 17 分钟

[A] For example, the American manager who promised to be fair thought he was telling his Japanese staff that their hard