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英语专业4级

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阅读

上海外国语大学

丛书主审◇邹申 丛书主编◇张艳莉  
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# 英语专业4级

## 阅读

常州大学图书馆  
藏书章  
上海外国语大学

丛书主审◇邹申 丛书主编◇张艳莉  
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# 前言

## PREFACE

全国高等院校英语专业基础阶段考试，即TEM4 (Test for English Majors Band 4)，是由高等院校外语专业指导委员会主持实施的全国性考试。其目的是检查各高校英语专业基础阶段教学大纲的执行情况，促进高校之间的合作与交流，以及为教育管理部门、教师和学生提供有关信息反馈。

随着该考试的权威性与社会影响的不断扩大，参加考试的考生从20世纪90年代初的1万多人增长到2014年的27万多人。

在过去的近20多年里，英语专业教学大纲经历过两次修订和颁布，目前所采用的是于2000年出版的《高等学校英语专业英语教学大纲》。同样，作为检查教学大纲执行情况的考试大纲，也经历了两次修订和颁布，目前指导四级考试的纲领性文件是在2004年出版的《高等学校英语专业四级考试大纲》，它对考试的性质、内容、题型、命题过程等都做出了具体而详尽的说明。

根据该考纲，四级考试属于标准参照性考试，考试范围为《教学大纲》所规定的听、读、写3项技能及语言知识（另有专业四级口试测试口语能力）。其具体构成如下表：

### 英语专业四级考试试卷构成总表

序号	题号	各部分名称	题型	题数	计分	比重	考试时间 (分钟)
I		听写	主观题	1	15	15%	15
II	1—30	听力理解 A 对话 B 短文 C 新闻	客观题 客观题 客观题	(30) 10 10 10	(30) 10 10 10	(15%) 5% 5% 5%	20
III	31—50	完型填空	客观题	20	20	10%	15
IV	51—80	语法与词汇	客观题	30	30	15%	15
V	81—100	阅读理解	客观题	20	20	20%	25
VI		写作 A 命题作文 B 便条	主观题 主观题	(2) 1 1	(25) 15 10	(25%) 15% 10%	(45) 35 10
合计				103	140	100%	135

TEM4考试只限高校英语专业二年级在校生参加，其他年级学生不能提前或推迟考试，该考试于每年4月中下旬的某个周六（英语专业第四学期）举行（具体日期每年略有不同），试卷各部分采用记权方式，折算成百分制，以60分为及格标准。考试合格者可获得由教育部外语教学指导委员会颁发的证书，根据考试成绩，证书分合格（60~69分）、良好（70~79分）和优秀（80分及以上）3个等级。当年未通过者可在次年获得最多一次补考机会，补考通过后只能获得合格证书。

为了帮助考生更快地提高备考能力，我们为考生设计了一套完美的备考方

案，通过这个备考方案，考生可以提早准备，循序渐进地学习，最后顺利通关并取得好成绩。具体方案如下：

**第1波：**打好基础——考试专项的系统学习和了解，全方位掌握考试信息、题型特点和解题技巧，做到心中有数；

**第2波：**专项冲刺——有针对性地对专项测试题进行集中练习，弱项不再有，全面提升考试战斗力，做到胸有成竹；

**第3波：**实战通关——通过历年真题和预测试卷进行综合自测，实战演练，做到稳操胜券。

备考方案中的所有图书完全按照教学大纲与考试大纲的精神和要求编写，选材新颖，讲解细致到位，参加编写的人员有参加英语专业大纲修订及研究的专家，有多年来参加四、六级考试阅卷的经验丰富的阅卷员，还有承担本科二年级英语各重点课程的资深教师。本系列为第1波中的考试专项系列，分为听力、语法与词汇、完型填空、阅读、写作5个分册。本系列丛书于2010年第一次出版，之后在2012年进行了修订，为了保证本书的时效性，2014年我们对本书再次进行修订，以帮助考生掌握考试的最新动态。

《英语专业4级阅读》分为3大部分，第1部分“聚焦英语专业4级阅读”，从英语专业教学大纲与考试大纲对阅读部分的要求进行了介绍，并分析了阅读部分的题型特点和考点，以使考生对该项目及测试重点有个宏观上的了解；第2部分“解析英语专业4级阅读”，通过对历年真题的详细梳理和解析使考生了解常见的出题方式和解题思路，打好阅读理解基础，切实提高应试能力；第3部分“冲击英语专业4级阅读”，从社会生活、科学技术、文化、经济、人物传记和新闻报道6个方面精选了阅读文章及练习题。希望读者能够通过练习，归纳出不同篇章主题

出题的规律和解答的技巧，同时提供了8套完全按照英语专业4级考试要求编排的全真模拟题。本书所选题材广泛，题型多样，每套试题附有详细的答题解析，指导考生如何把应试技巧转化为可遵循的模式，在考试中加以运用，并用以自测。

在本书编写过程中，我们得到了外语专业教学指导委员会测试办公室的大力支持。全国高等院校外语专业教学指导委员会英语组副组长、上海外国语大学博士生导师邹申教授在百忙之中，对稿子进行了悉心审校，此外，上海外国语大学的王怡青、刘怡、郑媛媛、王海萍、程宏金、石健、陈佳老师及陈建林博士也参与了部分编写工作，在此表示衷心的感谢。

语言能力的提高不是一朝一夕能够突飞猛进的，我们希望考生通过使用本套丛书，获得解题的基本思路，并且通过各单项技能的操练，稳步提高和稳固语言知识与能力。

本书是专为英语专业准备参加四级考试的学生所编，但也可供成人教育及高等教育自学考试英语专业本科以及其他具有相当水平的学生使用。

由于时间仓促，加上水平有限，书中难免存在一些问题与错误，敬请读者批评指正。

张艳莉

2014年4月

# 目录

## CONTENTS

### 第1部分 聚焦英语专业4级阅读

一、大纲剖析 .....	002
二、评分细则 .....	003
三、考点分析 .....	003
四、题型特点 .....	014

### 第2部分 解析英语专业4级阅读

2014年英语专业4级阅读理解 .....	021
答案及解析 .....	026
2013年英语专业4级阅读理解 .....	028
答案及解析 .....	034
2012年英语专业4级阅读理解 .....	035
答案及解析 .....	040
2011年英语专业4级阅读理解 .....	041
答案及解析 .....	047
2010年英语专业4级阅读理解 .....	048
答案及解析 .....	053
2009年英语专业4级阅读理解 .....	054
答案及解析 .....	060
2008年英语专业4级阅读理解 .....	061
答案及解析 .....	066
2007年英语专业4级阅读理解 .....	068
答案及解析 .....	074
2006年英语专业4级阅读理解 .....	075
答案及解析 .....	080



2005年英语专业4级阅读理解 .....	081
答案及解析 .....	087

### **第3部分 冲击英语专业4级阅读**

<b>专题阅读</b> .....	090
社会生活篇 .....	090
科学技术篇 .....	093
文化篇 .....	097
经济篇 .....	101
人物传记篇 .....	105
新闻报道篇 .....	109
<b>全真模拟</b> .....	113
模拟练习一 .....	113
模拟练习二 .....	119
模拟练习三 .....	124
模拟练习四 .....	130
模拟练习五 .....	137
模拟练习六 .....	143
模拟练习七 .....	149
模拟练习八 .....	154
<b>参考答案及解析</b> .....	159
<b>参考文献</b> .....	172

# 第1部分

## 聚焦英语专业4级阅读



## 一 大纲剖析

2000年高等学校外语专业教学指导委员会颁布的《高等学校英语专业英语教学大纲》对专业四级考试中阅读理解(Part V: Reading Comprehension)部分的测试目的说明是：“测试学生通过阅读获取有关信息的能力，考核学生掌握相关阅读策略和技巧的程度。既要求准确性，也要求一定的速度。阅读速度为每分钟120个单词。”

具体要求如下：

1. 测试要求：

- (a) 能读懂英美国家出版的中等难度的文章和材料。
- (b) 能读懂难度相当于美国Newsweek的国际新闻报道。

### 例如

“Since the late 19th century, the unofficial slogan of the U.S. Postal Service (it doesn't have an official one) has been guaranteed delivery through rain, sleet, or snow. Nowhere mentioned in that motto is a crippling economy or revenue and budget shortfalls. The government-subsidized service faces a nearly \$7 billion net loss by year's end, landing it on the government list of federal programs at “high risk” of collapse, right up there with Medicare and the 2010 census. President Obama even piled on, remarking this summer that America's postal agency looked pretty dismal compared with private competitors like FedEx and UPS.” (By Daniel Stone, Oct 5, 2009, Newsweek)

- (c) 能读懂难度相当于Sons and Lovers 的文学原著。

### 例如

“Nevertheless, there was a state of peace in the house for some time. Mrs. Morel was more tolerant of him, and he, depending on her almost like a child, was rather happy. Neither knew that she was more tolerant because she loved him less. Up till this time, in spite of all, he had been her husband and her man. She had felt that, more or less, what he did to himself he did to her. Her living depended on him. There were many, many stages in the ebbing of her love for him, but it was always ebbing.”

- (d) 能掌握所读材料的主旨大意，了解说明主旨大意的事实和细节；既理解字面意思，又能根据所读材料进行判断和推理；既能理解个别句子的意义，也能理解上下文的逻辑关系。

历年的试题类型都紧扣《大纲》此条，如常见的细节题（考查对事实和细节的理解）、推断题（考查对材料进行判断和推理的能力，以及上下文的逻辑关系）、主旨题（考查对材料主旨大意的把握）和词汇题（考查对材料字面意义和个别句子及词汇意义的理解）。

(e) 能在阅读中根据需要自觉调整阅读速度和阅读技巧。

(f) 考试时间25分钟。

25分钟内需要完成4篇文章的总体阅读,每篇文章长度为400—500个单词,同时还要对二十道选择题作答(题号81—100),这就需要考生精神高度集中,采用有效的阅读技巧和答题方式,才能确保高水平的发挥。但是就练习而言,在规定时间内完成全部阅读应该是首要目标,之后才需要有针对性的练习各种题型的回答技巧和相应的阅读方式。

## 2. 《大纲》规定的选材原则:

(a) 题材广泛,包括社会、科技、文化、经济、日常知识、人物传记等;

(b) 体裁多样,包括记叙文、描写文、说明文、议论文、广告、说明书、图表等;

(c) 阅读材料的语言难度中等,关键词汇基本上不超出《大纲》规定的范围。

不难看出,这一规定几乎囊括了各类型的问题和题材,不易总结规律,因此备考练习时应多从题型入手,增加单位时间内的阅读量,而且中英文材料都要多读,特别是一些翻译成中文的国外报道。因为这样有助于熟悉英语文章的篇章结构和布局特点,而且在阅读的同时也可以增进对可能出现在考题中的话题的熟悉程度,对提高英语阅读的水平很有帮助,这样就能在考试中临阵不慌,发挥正常。

## 二 评分细则

阅读考试题型差不多是客观题,每题分值固定为1分,二十道选择题共20分,占总成绩的20%,比重是所有题型中最重的。因此对每一道题目都应该重视,简单的题目要保证准确率,难度较大的题目尽量多分析,要从文章所谈到的内容分析,不可想当然地回答。最后,对于非常难的题目,不要浪费过多的时间,要尽可能保证分配给每篇文章的时间,这样才能从容答题。

## 三 考点分析

从历年的专业四级考试中阅读理解部分来看,文章选材原则是:

(a) 选材广泛,包括

社会话题:如个人品格(2013)毕业生的失业问题(2012),日本年轻人的婚恋观(2011)

教育话题:如公共演讲(2013),毕业演讲(2010),美国现行校历问题(2007)



科技话题:如耳机设计(2013),科学家的思维和行为方式(2010),工程师的工作(2009)

文学阅读:如《简·爱》节选(2006)

历史研究:如英语单词来源(2007),英国社会阶层变化(2006)

人物传记:如女企业家Cordia Harrington(2011),人物述评(2005)

妇女话题:如夫妻关系(2001),家电与妇女(2002)

种族话题:如机场的种族歧视(2008)

经济话题:如美国的经济萧条(2012),中国经济特区(2004)

(b) 文体多样,包括

记叙文:如钱财损失事件(2013),春季大扫除(2011),机场的种族歧视(2008),砍价经历(2007)

说明文:如公共演讲(2013),感谢的表达方式(2012),纳斯达克线条(2010),科学家的思维和行为方式(2010)

议论文:如电子阅读(2011),美国现行校历问题(2007),音乐(2005)

描写文:如埃及的宝藏和城市(2012),回忆片断(2005)

(c) 关键词汇基本不超出《大纲》规定的范围

经过分析,我们可以发现从1997年到2004年的阅读理解,细节题占65.8%,推理题占26%,态度类占2.1%,主旨题占2%,词汇和指代类占4.2%。从中不难看出细节题和推理题一直是专四阅读理解的主要考点。我们再分析2005年到2013年的阅读理解,细节题占54.2%,推理题占27%,态度类占3%,主旨题占6.5%,词汇和指代类占8.3%。经过比较我们可以看出细节题和判断推理题仍然是阅读理解的主要考查重点。这样在考试中,这两种题型就要求学生有较高的语言阅读能力,逻辑推理能力和一定的阅读策略,在把握全文的基础上才能得出答案。所以考生在阅读训练时,应该注重针对这两种题型的训练,才能拿到较高的分数。

下面让我们看下这几种题型在历年真题中的考查形式。

## 1 / 细节类

### 实考真题 2013年阅读理解(TEXT A)

Great speaking ability is not something we're born with. Even Barack Obama works hard to perfect every speech. For a brilliant speech, there are rules that you can put to good use. To learn those rules you have to practice and learn from some outstanding speeches in the past

84. According to the passage, which of the following best explains the author's view on "great speaking ability"?

A. It comes from observing rules.

- B. It can be perfected with easy effort.
- C. It can be acquired from birth.
- D. It comes from learning and practice.

**解析** D。细节类。最后一段提到奥巴马总统作为口才好、擅长演讲的实例。“Even Barack Obama works hard to perfect every speech.”再结合这段的第一句“Great speaking ability is not something we're born with”可以看出作者的观点是好口才源于练习而非天生。

### 实考真题 2010年阅读理解 (TEXT A)

What is the nature of the scientific attitude, the attitude of the man or woman who studies and applies physics, chemistry, geology, engineering, medical or any other science? We all know that science plays an important role in the societies in which we live. Many people believe, however, that our progress depends on two different aspects of science. The first of these is the application of the machines and products that scientists and technologists develop. New drugs, faster and safer means of transport, new systems of applied knowledge are some examples of this aspect of science.

81. Many people believe that science helps society to progress through \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. applied knowledge
  - B. more than one aspect
  - C. technology only
  - D. the use of machines

**解析** B。细节类。第一段第四行“Many people believe, however, that our progress depends on two different aspects of science.”社会的进步依靠于科学的两个不同方面。所以选B。

### 实考真题 2005年阅读理解 (TEXT C)

For many, the enjoyment of music does not remain at a standstill. We feel that we can get more satisfaction from the musical experience. We want to make closer contact with music in order to learn more of its nature; thus we can range more broadly and freely in the areas of musical style, form, and expression. This book explores ways of achieving these objectives. It deals, of course, with the techniques of music, but only in order to show how technique is directed toward expressive aims in music and toward the listener's musical experience. In this way, we may get an idea of the composer's intentions, for indeed, the composer uses every musical device for its power to communicate and for its contribution to the musical experience.



91. We can infer from the second paragraph that the book from which this excerpt is taken is mainly meant for \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. listeners.            B. composers.            C. musicians.            D. directors.

**解析** A。细节类。第五行 “This book explores ways of achieving these objectives.” these objectives 所指为 the enjoyment of music。这是音乐听众 (listeners) 的做法, 而不是 composers, musicians 或者 directors。

## 2 推理类

### 实考真题 2012年阅读理解 (TEXT C)

“I’m a little worried about my future,” said Dustin Hoffman in *The Graduate*. He should be so lucky. All he had to worry about was whether to have an affair with Mrs Robinson. In the sixties, that was the sum total of post-graduation anxiety syndrome.

91. The author begins with an episode from *The Graduate* in order to

- A. support the fact that more women are working now.  
B. show that few graduates started working right after graduation.  
C. demonstrate that there were much fewer graduates than now.  
D. emphasize the sharp contrast between now and then.

**解析** D。推理类。文章第一段, 作者提到电影《毕业生》, 主人公因为受到有夫之妇的诱惑而陷入痛苦中, 而现在的年轻人就没那么幸运了, 他们最大的问题就是毕业后找不到工作。

### 实考真题 2009年阅读理解 (TEXT D)

With a start, I realized that perhaps the reason for the 4 a.m. wake-up noise was not ordinary rudeness but carefully executed spite: I had not tipped Raoul in Christmases past. I honestly hadn’t realized I was supposed to. This was the first time he’d used the card tactic. So I got out my checkbook. Somewhere along the line, holiday tipping went from an optional thank-you for a year of services to a Mafia-style protection racket (收取保护费的黑社会组织).

98. According to the passage, the author felt \_\_\_\_\_ to give Raoul a holiday tip.

- A. excited            B. delighted            C. embarrassed            D. forced

**解析** D。推理类。最后一句 “Somewhere along the line, holiday tipping went from an optional thank-you for a year of services to a Mafia-style protection racket.”, 这种节假日收取小费的行为已经从自愿表示感激的行为, 变成强迫收取保护费的行为了。

### 实考真题 2008阅读理解 (TEXT B)

In an article some Chinese scholars are described as being “tantalized by the mysterious dragon bone hieroglyphics.” Tantalized is one of many English words that have their origins in myths and legends of the past (in this case, Greek and Roman ones). The meaning of the verb tantalize is a very particular one: “to promise or show something desirable to a person and then take it away; to tease by arousing hope.” Many (but not all) English dictionaries give you a brief indication of a word’s origins in brackets before or after the explanation of the meaning. For tantalize the following explanation is given: [ > Tantalus]. This means that you should look up the name Tantalus to find out the word’s origins, and if you do, you will find out that in Greek mythology, Tantalus was a king who was punished in the lower world with eternal hunger and thirst; he was put up to his chin in water that always moved away when he tried to drink it and with fruit on branches above him placed just a little bit out of his reach. Can you see why his name was changed into a verb meaning “to tease or torment by arousing desire”?

85. The purpose of the first sentence in Paragraph One is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. to describe the work of some Chinese scholars.
- B. to arouse readers’ interest in hieroglyphics.
- C. to lead readers onto the main theme.
- D. to link the preceding part to the present one.

**解析** C. 推理类。第二句话 “...Tantalized is one of many English words that have their origins in myths and legends of the past (in this case, Greek and Roman ones).” Tantalized (逗弄) 是来源于过去的神话和传说 (如希腊和罗马神话) 的英语单词之一, 这恰与文章的主题相符。

## 3

### 主旨类

### 实考真题 2012阅读理解 (TEXT B)

From 2007 to 2010, American households lost \$11 trillion in real estate, savings, and stocks. More than half of all U.S. workers either lost their jobs or were forced to take cuts in hours or pay during the recession. The worst may be behind them now, but the shocking losses of the past few years have reshaped nearly every facet of their lives—how they live, work, and spend—even the way they think about the future.

86. We learn from the first paragraph that the recession

- A. affected Americans in certain occupations.





- B.had great impact on Americans' work and life.
- C.had only brought huge losses in savings and stocks.
- D.is over with some of the losses recovered.

**解析** B。主旨类。文章第一段描述了经济衰退对美国人的工作和生活的巨大影响。

### 实考真题 2008阅读理解 (TEXT B)

In an article some Chinese scholars are described as being “tantalized by the mysterious dragon bone hieroglyphics.” Tantalized is one of many English words that have their origins in myths and legends of the past (in this case, Greek and Roman ones). The meaning of the verb tantalize is a very particular one: “to promise or show something desirable to a person and then take it away; to tease by arousing hope.” Many (but not all) English dictionaries give you a brief indication of a word’s origins in brackets before or after the explanation of the meaning. For tantalize the following explanation is given: [> Tantalus]. This means that you should look up the name Tantalus to find out the word’s origins, and if you do, you will find out that in Greek mythology, Tantalus was a king who was punished in the lower world with eternal hunger and thirst; he was put up to his chin in water that always moved away when he tried to drink it and with fruit on branches above him placed just a little bit out of his reach. Can you see why his name was changed into a verb meaning “to tease or torment by arousing desire”?

Another example is the word siren, familiar to us as the mechanical device that makes such an alarming sound when police cars, ambulances, or fire engines approach. This word also has its origins in Greek mythology. The traveler Odysseus (Ulysses to the Romans) made his men plug their ears so that they wouldn’t hear the dangerous voices of the sirens, creatures who were half bird and half woman and who lured sailors to their deaths on sharp rocks. So the word came to be associated both with a loud sound and with danger!

When someone speaks of a “jovial mood” or a “herculean effort”, he or she is using words with origins in mythology. Look these words up to find their meaning and relationship to myths.

Many common words, such as the names for the days of the week and the months of the year, also come from mythology. Wednesday derives from the ancient Norse king of the gods, Woden, and Thursday was originally Thor’s day, in honour of Thor, the god of thunder. As a matter of fact, all the planets, except the one we live on, bear names that come from Roman mythology, including the planet that is farthest away from the sun and for that reason was called after the Roman god of the dead. This god has also given his name to one of the chemical elements. Several other elements have names that come from mythology, too.

It seems that myths and legends live on in the English language.