

NEW

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新编大学英语四级考试过关丛书



CET-4 新题型

—— 阅读与翻译



罗益民 编著



电子科技大学出版社

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周开鑫 主审

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作者簡介

罗益民，四川省南部县人。1992年7月毕业于西南师范大学外语系，获文学硕士学位。现任重庆交通学院外语系讲师、涉外工程英语教研副主任。主要著作有：“济慈颂歌的音韵结构分析”，“济慈颂歌的感性美”，“济慈颂歌的叙述结构”，“济慈颂歌的神话思维结构”，“济慈颂歌中的形容词”，“《仙后》的创作背景和寓意结构系统”，“弗罗斯特《一条未走过的路》之我见”，“从英汉辞书的三大家族看我国英汉双语词典编纂的演进过程”，《涉外交通工程英语》（合著），《大学英语三级辅导教程》（合著），《大学英语四级辅导教程》（合著），《大学英语六级与研考辅导教程》（合著）等，共计论文18篇，合著5部。

内 容 提 要

本书根据最新《大学英语教学大纲》编写而成,可供高校文、理、工各科学学生学习使用,也可供自考、自学以及报考研究生的有志者参考使用,尤其有助于 CET-4 考生在阅读与翻译方面进行专门训练。

本书的突出特点是以练为主、讲练结合,不同于连篇累牍的“技巧”书,更不同于充斥书市的习题册。本书在每道习题后辅以参考答案和画龙点睛的评析,供学习者研究、推敲和揣摩,以期能达到熟能生巧、举一反三的感性目的。

本书选文题材广泛,兼及各种内容、各种文体,有助于培养阅读中的文化认同能力,以培养真正意义上的阅读能力。

编者的话

本书献给有志于学好英语，尤其是准备参加四级统考的青年朋友。

本书的特点，在“内容提要”已经述及。但还想在这里说几句看似题外的话，或许对读者有所帮助。

学习外语的确是一件难事，因为它是异族文化的表现和载体。由于我们中国人没有英语浇灌的文化沃土，所以学习起来确实有难度。但这并不是说英语高不可攀，只要我们从语言和文化两个方面入手，听、说、读、写、译全面发展，学好英语是完全可能的。

严格地讲，翻译是一种综合的语言能力。不然怎么会有翻译家一词，却没有听、说、读、写家呢？外语教学与研究出版社在《学生英语文库出版说明》中把英语学习分为三个境界。翻译属于第三个境界，是在英汉两种语言系统之间建立并非个别孤立词语对号的联系。其高低有赖于词汇量、文化知识、阅读能力以及母语水平。这就是为什么我们把阅读与翻译放在一起练习。所以，在每题的“说明”中，我们不仅分析、介绍了翻译的技巧，也不厌其烦地在语法、词汇、结构搭配和文化知识各方面作了结合实际、有针对性的分析，其目的是交给读者一点思维、文化移情的方法与技巧。但是绝不能忘记“熟能生巧”（Practice

makes perfect)的古训,没有一定的练习量,是谈不上翻译的技巧与方法的。这就是我们为何用以习题配说明的方式编写这本书的原因。

另一点需要说明的是,该书选文中有部分“超纲”词汇,须查词典方能得知词义,读者对此应有一个正确的认识。众所周知,会查词典是学外(英)语的基本能力之一,逼迫读者去查查词典,有助于这种能力的培养。

由于作者水平有限,加之时间仓促,书中的疏误再所难免,不当之处欢迎广大读者及同行专家不吝指正。

最后,需要特别致谢的,是我的老师重庆交通学院外语系主任周开鑫教授。他牺牲宝贵的寒假休息时间阅读并审校了本书的全部内容。没有他的悉心指导,是不会有今天摆在读者朋友面前的这本小书的。

编者

1998年3月于重庆

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Passage One

Humans readily change tools to suit the circumstances: once a basic knowledge of tool-making has been acquired it is a simple matter to make something more suitable for the job at hand. So early people made not only hand axes for chopping and *bludgeoning*, but also smaller knives and scraping tools with which to cut meat and *scrape* fat off the skins.

It is clear from *archaeology* that humans were able from very early times in history to exploit a much wider range of food sources than other creatures. In particular they were frequently able to eat meat; the diet of apes is normally *vegetarian*, consisting of grass, leaves, and shoots, supplemented by insects and *grubs*. With tools such as spears, bows and stones thrown from *slings*, early humans were able to hunt larger animals. Spears and *nooses* could be used to catch birds and smaller animals, while fish could be taken with nets and traps set on the river bottoms. *Excavations* made at the living sites of early people have revealed bones from the animals that they ate, while also providing evidence of their ingenuity. Some of the bones found in the cave of Makapansgat in South Africa show signs of being deliberately broken and divided into types suitable for different purposes as tools. Tools also enabled humans to

store food in specially made containers of wood or baskets, so that times of shortage could be lived through more easily.

I. Put the following sentences into Chinese.

1. Humans readily change tools to suit the circumstances: once a basic knowledge of tool-making has been acquired it is a simple matter to make something more suitable for the job at hand.
2. It is clear from archaeology that humans were able from very early times in history to exploit a much wider range of food sources than other creatures.
3. Some of the bones found in the cave of Makapansgat in South Africa show Signs of being deliberately broken and divided into types suitable for different purposes as tools.

I. Give short answers to the following questions.

1. For what purpose do humans change tools?
2. How can we know that early man was able to obtain a much wider range of food sources than other creatures?
3. How did humans make it easier to store food for a longer time?

[参考答案与说明]

- I. 1. 人类随时改良工具以适应环境: 一旦掌握了制造工具的基本知识, 要制造某种工具以更好地对手上的活路就显得简单易行了。

[说明] 对该句的被动语态, 可考虑进行转换, 不要机械直译。由于汉语比英语较少用被动结构, 译时只要省去主语即可。另外应注意 humans 一词的准确含义, 若译成

“人”、“人们”均不及“人类”好。

2. 从考古学的成果可以清楚地看到，人类很早就能开拓十分广阔的获得食物的渠道，这一点是其他动物所无法比拟的。

[说明] 英译汉首先要“吃透”原文，然后按照目的语的习惯把它表达出来，这是等效翻译的原则。钱钟书先生所谓的“投胎转世”、“精魂依然故我”，就是这个意思。该句中的 archaeology 就是指“考古学的成果与发现”。此处的“成果”是字里行间的意义，译时按汉语的习惯应补出来。另外，在句式结构的转换方面应避免机械移植的欧化倾向，如该句中的 from 结构，more...than 结构等。

3. 在南非马卡潘斯加特山洞里发现的一些骨头表明它们是被故意弄断并分类处理以作不同用途的工具的。

[说明] 这是一个结构较紧的句子。只要弄清其主要结构并按汉语习惯顺理出来即可。其中，应特别注意“being ...”的逻辑主语是“bones”。

- I. 1. To suit the circumstances.
2. From archaeology.
3. To invent food containers.

[说明] 答好问题的关键是确定答案内容在文中所处位置。

多数情况是在文中寻找答案，把那个表达中心思想的关键性词组或者短语找出来即可。简略回答的答案可以是一个词组，也可以是一个短语，但肯定不是一个或多个句子。当然，也会出现根据文章推断或概括主要内容然后回答所给问题的情况。

Passage Two

Curiosity and cultural achievement alone cannot explain human development; without the right kind of biological background, we could not have succeeded so well. A chimpanzee, for example, is an intelligent and *inquisitive* creature, but he cannot tell another chimp of a good idea that has just occurred to him. Unlike humans, the chimpanzee has a very limited facility for language that can deal in abstract ideas and *speculative* thought. Even though some chimpanzees have been taught to communicate in American Sign Language, researchers are *skeptical* of the results. Humans somehow acquired that ability (how, we cannot tell) and it gave them the power to think ahead and devise ways of overcoming natural disabilities.

In some ways humans have benefited by their descent from the apes. From the apes we take the basic skeletal structure that could develop an ability to walk upright on two legs, freeing our arms and hands for other purposes than carrying the body. In addition, apes have hands that can grasp objects. We inherited these too, and in time developed them into instruments of great precision. In humans the hand is constructed so flexibly that the thumb can touch any other finger of the same hand tip to tip. This "opposability" is something few apes are capable of

and, in humans, allows the hand to work with both strength and *delicacy*.

Despite the enormous advantages of these two qualities, there were still dangers; a two-legged creature cannot run as fast as one with four legs, so only those early *hominids* who could make intelligent use of tools survived. The ability to acquire culture must have gained adaptive value, because only those capable of using it effectively would survive to breed. This may explain the increase in the size of the brain that, in time, made possible ever greater advances in culture, though this happened only after a very long period.

I. Put the following sentences into Chinese.

1. Curiosity and cultural achievement alone cannot explain human development; without the right kind of biological background, we could not have succeeded so well.
2. Humans somehow acquired that ability (how, we cannot tell) and it gave them the power to think ahead and devise ways of overcoming natural disabilities.
3. From the apes we take the basic skeletal structure that could develop an ability to walk upright on two legs, freeing our arms and hands for other purposes than carrying the body.
4. This may explain the increase in the size of the brain that, in time, made possible ever greater advances in culture, though this happened only after a very long period.

II. Give short answers to the following questions.

1. Apart from curiosity and cultural achievement, what else is also significant in accounting for the cause of human development?
2. In what way are humans more capable of creative thinking than chimpanzees?
3. What does the term "opposability" refer to in the context?
4. What contributed to the increase of the size of the human brain?

[参考答案与说明]

1. 1. 仅仅是好奇心和文化成就无法把人类发展的过程解释清楚。没有正确的生物背景，我们不可能发展得这么顺利。

[说明] 此句的后半句是由 without... 为条件的一个虚拟句。

Succeed so well 是“如此顺利”之意。

2. 无论如何，人类得到了这种能力（我们不知道是怎么得到的），而这种能力使他们能够思考未来，想出办法克服自身的缺陷。

[说明] somehow 是“无论如何”之意；power 也指“人的能力”；natural 在此句中与“自然界”没有关系，是“与生俱来的”之意。

3. 从类人猿那儿我们得到了一个基本的骨架，以发展靠两腿直立行走的能力，腾出手臂做支撑躯体以外的其他的事情。

[说明] 此句是一个复句。翻译时应考虑进行适当调整，以免出现不土不洋的欧化味。从结构上看，英语比较严谨，汉语较为松散。为使译文在阅读时符合汉语读者的审美习惯，可考虑将原英文分解成若干部分，再用汉语的顺

序和习惯表达出来。另外，对概念表达的抽象性或具体性两种语言各有千秋，译时只要遵循目的语的习惯即可。如上句中的短语 for other purposes，此时可具体为“做其他的事情”。

4. 这或许可以解释人脑体积增长的原因，这种增长终究使得人类文化的进步突飞猛进，虽然这是在经历了十分漫长的时间以后才发生的。

[说明] in time 仍“总有一天”、“终将”之意。例如：If you keep on, you will succeed in time 如果坚持下去，你总有一天会成功的。

- I. 1. The right kind of biological background.
2. To possess the power to think ahead and devise ways of solving problem.
3. The ability to allow the hand to work with strength and delicacy.
4. The ability to acquire culture.