

最新

大学英语四级考试精编与注释
阅读理解训练

New College English Tests and Notes (Band 4)

编著 刘艳杰 主审 王汉明

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前 言

《最新大学英语四级考试精编与注释》(以下简称“精编与注释”)是根据大学英语教学大纲和考试大纲要求编写的一套最新大学英语四级考试系列辅导教材。全部内容按四级考试试卷形式编排。《精编与注释》主要是供大学本科学生使用,目的在于迅速提高英语水平和应试能力,顺利通过四级考试。同时它也适合于准备参加研究生考试和 TOEFL、WSK 等各类英语考试的考生使用。

《精编与注释》训练丛书共分五册:

1. 综合模拟训练 本册特点是按照全国大学英语考试委员会公布的新题型要求编写的。每套试卷分为正式考试形式、要求完全相同。另一特点是,不逐题进行讲解,同时给出写作以及简短回答和听力题材料,使其成为一套自学、自测和提高英语水平的好教材。

2. 新型听力训练 听力理解题在大学英语四级考试中占百分之二十的比重,需要通过反复听的训练才能达到快速提高的目的。所谓“新型听力训练”,是在原来听力理解题之后增加新题型“听力填空”的综合训练,供考生考前强化训练使用。

3. 词汇与结构训练 英语词汇与结构是学好英语的基础,是大学英语四级必考的内容。本册主要通过大量练习题的形式掌握词汇的用法和句子结构,提高语言的运用能力。为使考生有真正的收获,每道题都有详细注释,帮助考生学习、掌握其用法。

4. 阅读理解训练 本册是通过阅读大量材料提高对文章的理解能力。训练形式除了保留原来的多项选择外,还纳入了“英译

汉”和“简短回答”两种新题型。目的是使考生熟悉考试形式,通过训练提高考生对英语书面材料的确切理解和一定的表达能力。

5. 词汇与短语学习指导 词汇是语言的基本要素之一,是学习英语,提高英语水平的基础。词汇量大小直接影响阅读理解及信息的传递。考生能否通过英语四级考试,学习和掌握英语教学大纲所规定的词汇是关键。本册是根据国家教委1994年公布的新词汇表编写的。它包括词汇和短语的基本用法,同义词的辨析,对重点词汇和短语给出例句并作必要的讲解。此书是考生必备的词汇手册。

《最新大学英语四级考试精编与注释》是一套完整的系列辅导用书,同时各册又可独立存在、单独使用。它是通过大量练习和讲解达到举一反三,高效掌握英语,运用语言,顺利通过四级考试的目的。在编写中疏漏与错误在所难免,恳请同行与读者批评指正。

作 者

1997年5月

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Test One

Part A Reading Comprehension (35 minutes)

Directions: In this part there are 4 passages. Each passage is followed by some questiones or unfinished statements. For each of them there are 4 choices marked A, B, C and D. You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Passage 1

Questions 1—5 are based on the following passage.

One day during our vacation in England, my friend and I went to the train station to buy tickets to Dover. As native speakers of English, we did not expect to have language problems in England.

"Two tickets to Dover, please." I said to the ticket seller.

"Single?" the ticket seller asked me.

I assumed that she was hard of hearing and I repeated my request a little louder.

"Two tickets to Dover!" I shouted.

Fortunately, a translator saved us at that moment. The translator explained that "a single ticket" in Great Britain does not mean "one ticket"; it means "a one-way ticket".

(1) My experience in England taught me that while British and American English are quite similar, there are also some noticeable differences between them.

Perhaps the most obvious differences between the two dialects are differences in pronunciation. British English, for example, does

not use the sound/ər/which is extremely common in American English. The British use the sound/ə/instead. In addition, some words are stressed differently in the two dialects. For instance, Americans say lāboratory while Englishmen say labōratory.

There are many examples of differences in vocabulary. For example, a British chemist is an American drugstore and the British lift is an American elevator. (2) An Englishman may ask if you want white coffee or white tea. In contrast, an Amreican asks if you want your coffee or tea with milk.

There are few differences in the grammar of the two dialects, probably because grammar does not change as easily as pronunciation or vocabulary. We do find some differences such as the British saying "He is in hospital." but the Americans insisting on the article, "He is in the hospital." In addition, the British often begin a question with *have*. An Englishman may ask you, "Have you a cigarette?" while an American is more likely to ask, "Do you have a cigarette?"

British spelling differs slightly from American spelling. Americans write words like *honor* and *color* without the *u* of the English *honour* and *colour*. Americans write *er* in words like *center* and *theater* but the British write words like *re*, as in words like *centre* and *theatre*. Americans use the letter *z* in words such as *organize* and *organization*; the British use *s*, as in *organise* and *organisation*.

1. The passage is mainly about C.
- A. an experience of the author in England
- B. how to buy a ticket in Great Britain

- C. British and American English
D. different dialects ✓
2. Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
A. The ticket seller was hard of hearing.
B. The author didn't say clearly.
C. American and British English are two different languages.
✓ D. The word "behavior" is American spelling. ✓
3. The most evident differences between British and American English lie in A.
A. pronunciation
B. grammar
C. vocabulary
✓ B. spelling
4. In American English, the word "lift" does not mean B.
A. raising to a higher position
B. an apparatus for taking people up and down to another floor
C. the upward force of air on the wings of an aircraft
D. a free ride in a private vehicle
5. It can be inferred from the passage that the author is _____.
A. an Englishman
✓ B. an American ✓
✓ C. a Canadian
D. an Australian

Passage 2

Questions 6—10 are based on the following passage.

Born in 1830 in rural Amherst, Massachusetts, Emily Dickinson spent her entire life in the household of her parents.

Between 1858 and 1862, it was later discovered, she wrote like a person possessed, often producing a poem a day. It was also during this period that her life was transformed into the myth of Amherst (阿 姆 赫 斯 特). Withdrawing more and more, keeping to her room, sometimes even refusing to see visitors who called, she began to dress only in white—a habit that added to her reputation as an eccentric (行为古怪的人).

(3) In their determination to read Dickinson's life in terms of a traditional romantic plot, biographers have missed the unique pattern of her life—her struggle to create a female life not yet imagined by the culture in which she lived. Dickinson was not the innocent, lovelorn (失 恋 的), and emotionally fragile girl sentimentalized by the Dickinson myth and popularized by William Luce's 1976 play, *The Belle of Amherst* (《阿 姆 赫 斯 特 的 美 女》). Her decision to shut the door on Amherst society in the 1850's transformed her house into a kind of magical realm in which she was free to engage her poetic genius. Her seclusion was not the result of a failed love affair, but rather a part of a more general pattern of renunciation (克制自己的) through which she, in her quest for self-sovereignty, carried on an argument with the Puritan fathers, attacking with wit and irony their cheerless Calvinist doctrine, their stern patriarchal God, and their rigid notions of "true womanhood."

6. What is the author's main purpose in the passage?
- A. To interpret Emily Dickinson's eccentric behavior.
 - B. To promote the popular myth of Emily Dickinson.
 - ☒ C. To discuss Emily Dickinson's failed love affair.

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Q. To describe the religious climate in Emily Dickinson's time.

7. According to the passage, biographers of Emily Dickinson have traditionally _____.

- A. criticized most of her poems
- B. ignored her innocence and emotional fragility
- C. seen her life in romantic terms
- D. blamed her parents for restricting her activities

8. Why does the author mention William Luce's play *The Belle of Amherst*?

- A. To give an example of the sentimentalized Emily Dickinson myth.
- B. To show how popular Emily Dickinson's poems have become.
- C. To show that Emily Dickinson was also an actress.
- D. To illustrate the theatrical quality of Emily Dickinson's poems.

9. The author suggests all of the following as reasons for Emily Dickinson's unusual behavior EXCEPT the _____.

- A. struggle to create a new female identity
- B. desire to develop her genius undisturbed
- C. search for her own independence
- D. attempt to draw attention to her poetry

10. It can be inferred from the passage that Emily Dickinson lived in a society that was characterized by _____.

- A. strong Puritan beliefs
- B. equality of men and women
- C. the encouragement of nonconformity
- D. the appreciation of poetic creativity

Passage 3

Questions 11—15 are based on the following passage.

Are you aware that you actually possess six senses? The sixth is a muscular sense responsible for directing your muscles intelligently to the exact extent necessary for each action you perform. For example, when you reach for an object, the sensory nerves linking the muscles to the brain stop your hand at the correct spot. (4) This automatic perception of the position of your muscles in relation to the object is your muscular sense in action.

Muscles are stringy bundles of fibers varying from one five-thousandth of an inch to about three inches. They have three unique characteristics; they can become shorter and thicker, they can stretch, and they can retract to their original positions. Under a high powered microscope, muscle tissue is seen as long, slender cells with a grainy texture(组织)like wood.

More than half of a person's body is composed of muscle fibers, and most of which are involuntary—in other words, work without conscious direction. The voluntary muscles, those that we move consciously to perform particular actions, number more than five hundred. Women have only 60 to 70 percent as much muscle as men for their body mass. That is why an average woman can't lift as much, throw as far, or hit as hard as an average man.

11. Intelligent use of the muscles means that _____.

A. one always knows what muscles are doing

B. one performs simple actions without working

☒ C. one's muscles are used only to the extent necessary for each action they perform

D. one improves muscular action consciously

12. Muscles are unique fibers in that they can ____.

A. contract

B. stretch

C. retract

~~D. all of the above~~

B 13. According to the passage, more than half of a person's body is composed of ____.

A. voluntary muscles

~~B. involuntary muscles~~

~~C. muscle tissues~~

~~D. sensory nerves~~

C 14. The last paragraph implies that ____.

A. the muscular sense is more important than any other sense

B. muscular sense involves automatic perception

~~C. there are many more than 500 involuntary muscles in the body~~

~~D. muscle tissue is inflexible~~

15. Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?

A. The sixth sense is familiar to everyone.

B. Although the sixth sense exists, people are not conscious of it.

C. The sixth sense is controlling the muscular as well as other organisms.

D. Women's sixth sense is not as the same as men's, so they are weaker than man.

Passage 4

Questions 16—20 are based on the following passage.

A weather map is an important tool for geographers. A succession of three or four maps presents a continuous picture of weather changes. Weather forecasters are able to determine the speed of air masses and fronts, to determine whether an individual pressure area is deepening or becoming shallow and whether a front is increasing or decreasing in intensity. They are also able to determine whether an air mass is keeping its original characteristics or taking on those of the surface over which it is moving. Thus, a most significant function of the map is to show a synoptic picture, not in detail, of conditions in the atmosphere at a given time.

All students of geography should be able to interpret a weather map accurately. Weather maps contain an enormous amount of information about weather conditions existing at the time of observation over a large geographical area. They reveal in a few minutes what otherwise would take hours to describe. The United States Weather Bureau issues information about approaching storms, floods, frost and all climatic conditions in general. Twice a month it issues a 30-day "outlook" which is a rough guide to weather conditions likely to occur over broad areas of the United States. These 30-day outlooks are based upon an analysis of the upper air levels which often set the stage for the development of air masses, fronts, and storms.

Considerable effort is being made today to achieve more accurate weather predictions. (5) With the use of electronic instruments and earth satellites, enormous gains have taken place recently in identifying and tracking storms over regions which have

but few meteorological stations. Extensive experiments are also in progress for weather changing studies.

16. One characteristic of weather maps NOT mentioned by the author in this passage is _____. *B*

~~A.~~ fronts

~~B.~~ thermal changes *热力学变化*

~~C.~~ frost *霜冻 霜冻产生*

D. wind speed

D 17. The thirty-day forecast is determined by examining _____. *B*

A. daily weather maps

~~B.~~ upper air levels

C. satellite reports

D. changing fronts

D 18. The observation of weather conditions by satellites is advantageous because it _____. *D*

~~A.~~ uses electronic instruments

B. enables man to alter the weather

~~C.~~ makes weather prediction easier

D. gives the scientist information not obtained readily otherwise

19. A weather map is "synoptic" because it _____. *D*

~~A.~~ gives an outline of information

B. appears daily

~~C.~~ shows changing fronts

D. can be interpreted accurately

20. ^{At}At the present time, experiments are being conducted in _____.

~~A.~~ controlling weather

B. determining density of pressure groups

C. satellites

~~D. 30-day "outlooks"~~

Part B Translation from English into Chinese

(15 minutes)

Directions: In this part, there are five items which you should translate into Chinese, each item consisting of one or two sentences. These sentences are all taken from the Reading Passages you have just read in Part A.

Your are allowed 15 minutes to do the translation. You can refer back to the passages so as to identify their meanings in the context.

1. (Passage 1, Lines 12-14)

My experience in England taught me that while British and American English are quite similar, there are also some noticeable differences between them.

2. (Passage 1, Lines 23-25)

An Englishman may ask if you want white coffee or white tea. In contrast, an American asks if you want your coffee or tea with milk.

3. (Passage 2, Para. 2, Lines 1—4)

In their determination to read Dickenson's life in terms of a traditional romantic plot, biographers have missed the unique pattern of her life—her struggle to create a female life not yet imagined by the culture in which she lived.

4. (Passage 3, Para. 1, Lines 6—7)

This automatic perception of the position of your muscles in relation to the object is your muscular sense in action.

5. (Passage 4, Para. 3, Lines 2—5)

With the use of electronic instruments and earth satellites, enormous gains have taken place recently in identifying and tracking storms over regions which have but few meteorological stations.
