

名校名师丛书

北京四中 毕勤 编

高中英语

阅读理解
专项训练分册

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外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS

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毕勤 编

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前言

本书是根据最新中学英语教学大纲和高考考试说明的要求,结合多年指导高考总复习的经验和当前高中生学习英语的实际情况编写的。

所选 100 篇短文,系历年教学资料和学生高考复习习题之精华,全部经过教学实践的检验,体裁多样,内容丰富,由浅入深。习题后附有参考答案,充分考虑到了不同层次学生的需要。

编者

1998 年 8 月

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Part 1

A

Confucius was born five hundred and fifty years before Christ. Unlike Jesus Christ, he did not bring words of God to the people. He was a clever teacher and a philosopher, looking for truth and wisdom. Most of his teaching was about life in this world.

Confucius was very keen to give people good rulers. Someone asked him, "What does a country need?" Confucius answered, "Enough food, a good army, and a good leader." The people then asked, "Which one is the most important?" Confucius answered, "An army is not very important. All men must die, so food is not the most important. But if the leader of the country is not good, then everything will be bad."

- (1) A philosopher is a person who _____.
A. does not like Jesus Christ
B. teaches people how to live in this world
C. seeks after truth and wisdom
D. is more clever than most of other people
- (2) According to Confucius, the most important thing in any country was _____.
A. the army
B. the ruler
C. life of the people
D. food
- (3) Jesus Christ _____.
A. was born more than half a century earlier than Confucius
B. taught people about God
C. did not tell people anything about God
D. was a philosopher sent by God

- (4) Confucius taught people all these things except _____.
A. how to live in the world
B. the importance of the leader of the country
C. any ideas about God
E. how to make good judgements
- (5) For Confucius a man _____.
A. could not escape death
B. would die if he didn't have a good ruler
C. was not important compared with food
D. ought to die if he considered food to be the most important for him

B

Daphne asked Jim, a friend of Walter's, for some extra help on her political science homework. On Friday, they agreed to meet at his dormitory study room at 8 Sunday night. It was 8:05 when Jim arrived. He wasn't on time as he usually is, because he had been out enjoying the spring weather after eating at McDonald's. But he wasn't worried, because he knew from Walter that Daphne was usually late. When Daphne hadn't arrived by 8:25, Jim was a little surprised. He decided to go to the dorm lounge (休息室) and watch his favorite Sunday night TV show. It started at 8:30, so he had to hurry. When he got to the lounge, Walter was just leaving. "Hey, Jim, your favorite TV show just finished. Where were you? It was fantastic!"

"What do you mean, Walter? It's 8:30, so I'm just in time to watch it!" Jim replied, looking a little confused.

"Didn't you change your watch last night?" Walter asked. Then he explained, "Last night you were supposed to move your

watch ahead one hour. We do this every year on the last Sunday in April. Then, on the last Sunday in October, everyone moves clock back an hour. We say 'spring ahead, fall back' to help us remember which way to change our clocks." Walter stopped to see if Jim had understood his explanation. "You don't do that in Indiana, I guess."

"No, we don't," Jim said, shaking his head. "In that case, I was over an hour late for my appointment with Daphne, not only five minutes late. Wow! She'll never let me forget this!"

- (1) What is the important idea of this story?
 - A. Daphne is usually late.
 - B. There are no time changes in Indiana.
 - C. Jim likes his favorite Sunday night TV show.
 - D. Jim was late because he didn't know about the time changes.
- (2) Why did Jim look confused when he learned the TV show had just finished?
 - A. Because he missed the fantastic TV show.
 - B. Because he thought he was just in time to watch his favorite TV show.
 - C. Because he was late for the show.
 - D. Because he forgot the time of the show.
- (3) All the citizens in the United States are supposed to move their watches ahead in spring and back in fall.
 - A. Certainly they are.
 - B. No, they are not.
 - C. No, those who live in Indiana do not do that.
 - D. Certainly they are besides those living in Indiana.
- (4) How did Jim feel after Walter told him about the time changes?

- A. He felt very upset that he hadn't kept his appointment with Daphne.
- B. He looked confused about the time changes.
- C. He was surprised that Daphne was over an hour late.
- D. He felt very glad that he didn't miss his favorite TV show.
- (5) Imagine you are going to a party at 2 p. m. on the last Sunday in April. If you forget about the time change, what time will you arrive?
- A. 1 p. m. B. 2 p. m. C. 3 p. m. D. 4 p. m.

C

Thirty children from China and eight from other countries and regions who won prizes in an international competition (竞赛) received their rewards (奖赏) in Beijing at the Great Hall of the People yesterday.

The nine-month 1989 Sea-Ball Cup International Children Drawing Competition started last April.

It received more than 6,000 works including 300 pieces of art from countries and regions outside China—the United States, the Soviet Union, the Philippines, Chili, Romania and Japan.

"All the paintings express children's longing for a peaceful world, their love for nature and dreams for the future," said Fan Zeng, the well-known Chinese painter and chairman of the evaluation commission (评委会) of the competition.

The Gold Prize was granted to five works, one of them is from the Soviet Union. Another 10 children were awarded the Silver Prize. "The prizewinning works are outstanding (杰出的) in the imagination and creativity (创造性)," Fan said. A Chinese boy at the age of five was the youngest prize winner, who won a Bronze

Prize.

Marjorie Michelle Villa, a Philippine girl at the age of thirteen, who won a Silver Prize, flew to Beijing for the award ceremony and gave a speech to an audience(听众) which included senior Chinese leaders and foreign diplomats (外交官) who received prizes on behalf of the winners from their countries.

(1) No children from _____ sent their paintings for the competition.

A. Asia B. Africa C. Europe D. America

(2) From their works we can see the children _____.

A. love their own countries

B. have a strong good feeling for peace and nature, and they dream of a happy future

C. are proud of their own paintings

D. are sure of their bright future

(3) A girl prize winner _____.

A. took a plane to Beijing to tell the Chinese leaders about her paintings

B. attended the ceremony and visited Beijing

C. was absent from the ceremony

D. was present and spoke at the ceremony

(4) The competition is _____.

A. a full success B. a successful experiment

C. a pleasant surprise D. a good imagination

(5) The best title for the passage is _____.

A. Boys and Girls Are Fond of Paintings

B. Children Are Praised for Their Love of Paintings

C. Children Painters Receive Their Prizes

D. Children Come to Beijing from Different Countries

D

Man's first real invention, and one of the most important inventions in history, was the wheel. All transportation (运输) and every machine in the world depend on it.

The wheel is the simplest yet perhaps the most remarkable (惊人的) of all inventions, because there were no wheels in nature——no living things was ever created (创造) with wheels. How, then, did man come to invent the wheel?

Perhaps some early hunters found that they could roll the heavy animal they had killed through the forest on logs more easily than they could carry it. However, the logs themselves weighed a lot.

It must have taken a great thinker some time in ancient times to imagine two thin pieces of log connected at their centers by a strong stick. This would roll along just as the logs did yet be much lighter and easier to move by hand. Thus the wheel and axle(轮轴) were invented, and with them the first cart.

(1) The wheel is important because _____.

- A. it was man's first real invention
- B. all transportation depends on it
- C. both B and A
- D. every machine depends on it

(2) The wheel is called _____.

- A. simple
- B. curious
- C. strange
- D. unusual

(3) It was remarkable of man to invent the wheel because _____.

- A. it led to many other inventions
- B. man had to use for it then
- C. there were no wheels in nature

- D. all of the above
- (4) The wheel was probably invented by _____.
- A. a group of early hunters
 - B. the first man on earth
 - C. a great thinker
 - D. the man who made the first cart
- (5) This passage says that the first wheel may have been a _____.
- A. round piece of stone
 - B. Heavy log
 - C. piece of metal
 - D. piece of log

E

It doesn't matter when or how much a person sleeps, but everyone needs some rest to stay alive. That's what all doctors thought, until they heard about Al Herpin. Al Herpin, it was said, never slept. Could this be true? The doctors decided to see this strange man themselves.

Al Herpin was 90 years old when the doctors came to his home in New Jersey. They thought for sure that he got some sleep of some kind. So they stayed with him and watched every movement he made. But they were surprised. Though they watched him hour after hour and day after day, they never saw Herpin sleeping. In fact, he did not even own a bed. He never needed one.

The only rest that Herpin sometimes got was sitting in a comfortable chair and reading newspapers. The doctors were puzzled by this strange continuous sleeplessness. They asked him many questions, hoping to find an answer. They found only one answer that might explain his condition. Herpin remembered some talk about his mother having been injured several days before he was born. But

that was all. Was this the real reason? No one could be sure.

Herpin died at the age of 94.

- (1) The main idea of this passage is that _____.
A. large numbers of people do not need sleep
B. a person who actually didn't need any sleep was found
C. everyone needs some sleep to stay alive
D. people can live longer by trying not to sleep
- (2) The doctors came to visit Herpin, expecting _____.
A. to cure him of his sleeplessness
B. to find that his sleeplessness was not really true
C. to find out why some old people didn't need any sleep
D. to find a way to free people from the need of sleeping
- (3) After watching him closely, the doctors came to believe that Al Herpin _____.
A. needed some kind of sleep
B. was too old to need any sleep
C. needed no sleep at all
D. often slept in a chair
- (4) One reason that might explain Herpin's sleeplessness was _____.
A. his mother's injury before he was born
B. that he had gradually got rid of the sleeping habit
C. his magnificent physical condition
D. that he hadn't got a bed
- (5) Al Herpin's condition could be regarded as _____.
A. a common one B. one that could be cured
C. very healthy D. a rare one

Part 2

A

Sometimes we can not believe our eyes. Now we are standing at the entrance of a tunnel, that is, where we go in, we can see the other end, where we come out. The entrance looks much bigger than the other end. If we go through the tunnel, we find that the ends are the same size. One is not bigger than the other.

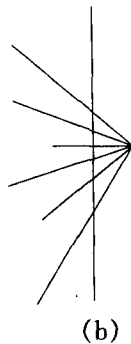
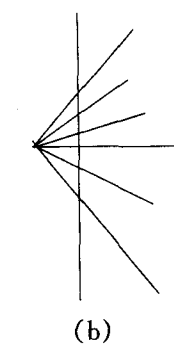
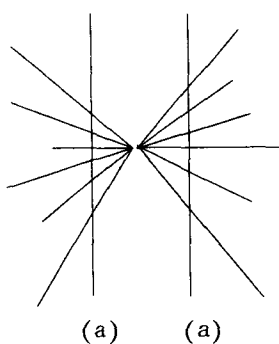
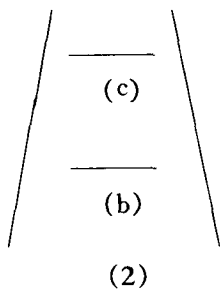
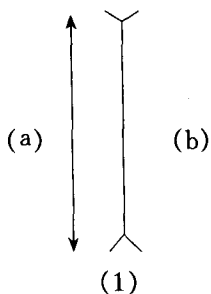
Now let us turn around and look through the tunnel from the other end. We find that the end near us looks big. The other end looks small. But we know that they are the same size.

Look at the lamp-posts (路灯柱) in the street. We know that one lamp-post is just like another. They are all equally high. But the artist who drew the picture has not made them at the same size. He has made the first one big and the second a little smaller. When they are nearer, they look bigger.

Now look at the first drawing below. Which is longer, (a) or (b)? Now check your answer. What do you find? Line (a) is the same as line (b). They are equal. Line (c) is the same as line (d). They are equal, too. Our eyes saw something that was not true. Why did our eyes tell us lies?

Now look at the third drawing carefully. Which way do lines (a) bend? Which way do lines (b) bend? Do not use a ruler. Try to decide.

Now look at the drawing and place a ruler by the four lines. What do you find? They are all the same. They are all straight. They do not bend. Our eyes told us lies once more.



(3)

- (1) When we are standing at one end of a tunnel, we can see that the other end _____.
- A. looks more longer B. doesn't look smaller
C. looks smaller D. is not the same size
- (2) A tunnel is usually _____.
- A. not the same size at each end
B. the same size at each end
C. big at the entrance and small at the other end.
D. smaller at one end
- (3) When you check something, _____.
- A. you are certainly able to find if it is true
B. you must examine in order to learn whether something is correct

- C. you can't know if something is right
D. you must think it over
- (4) The lines in the second drawing are _____.
A. the same but those in the first drawing are not
B. not the same but those in the first drawing are
C. the same and those in the first drawing are the same, too
D. different

B

Beekkeepers know that bees find their way by means of the sun. But what do they do on a cloudy day?

They can still sense where the sun is in the sky by means of polarized light (偏光), which is invisible to humans. This is the light that can be seen better from one direction than from others. Even behind the clouds, the sun still sends it down.

Ultraviolet light (紫外线)—the same invisible rays—guides bees, too. And the huge compound (复合) eyes of bees make out the shape of familiar trees and houses. They find their way by the colors of flowers—all but one color. Bees are color blind to red.

- (1) Bees can be guided by _____.
A. all colors
B. the sun as well as clouds
C. nothing but the color of red
D. the sunlight
- (2) _____ polarized light _____ ultraviolet light is invisible to us.
A. Neither ... nor ... B. Both ... and ...
C. Not only ... but also ... D. Either ... or ...
- (3) Bees can find out different shapes of trees and houses _____.

- A. by means of the sun
 - B. with their compound eyes
 - C. by their sense of touch
 - D. with their wings
- (4) According to the passage, _____ can be seen by bees.
- A. no colors
 - B. all the colors
 - C. just the color of red
 - D. every color except red
- (5) Which of the following titles best gives the general idea of the passage?
- A. How Bees Find Their Way?
 - B. What Strange Animals
 - C. What Do Bees Live On?
 - D. Bees And Beekeepers

C

The New York City Visitors Bureau(局) says jazz(爵士) musicians and other entertainers(演艺者) first called New York the Big Apple fifty years ago.

At that time jazz musicians earned(挣得) money by performing in many cities and towns across America. They usually played their music in a different town each night. But the performers would like to play in New York City best of all. New York was the place with the best-paid jobs, the most money to earn, and a great number of people for jazz music. A performer was not considered successful until he was successful in New York. The early jazz musicians described each town and city in America as an apple on a tree. Naturally they called New York City the Big Apple. Later a night club in