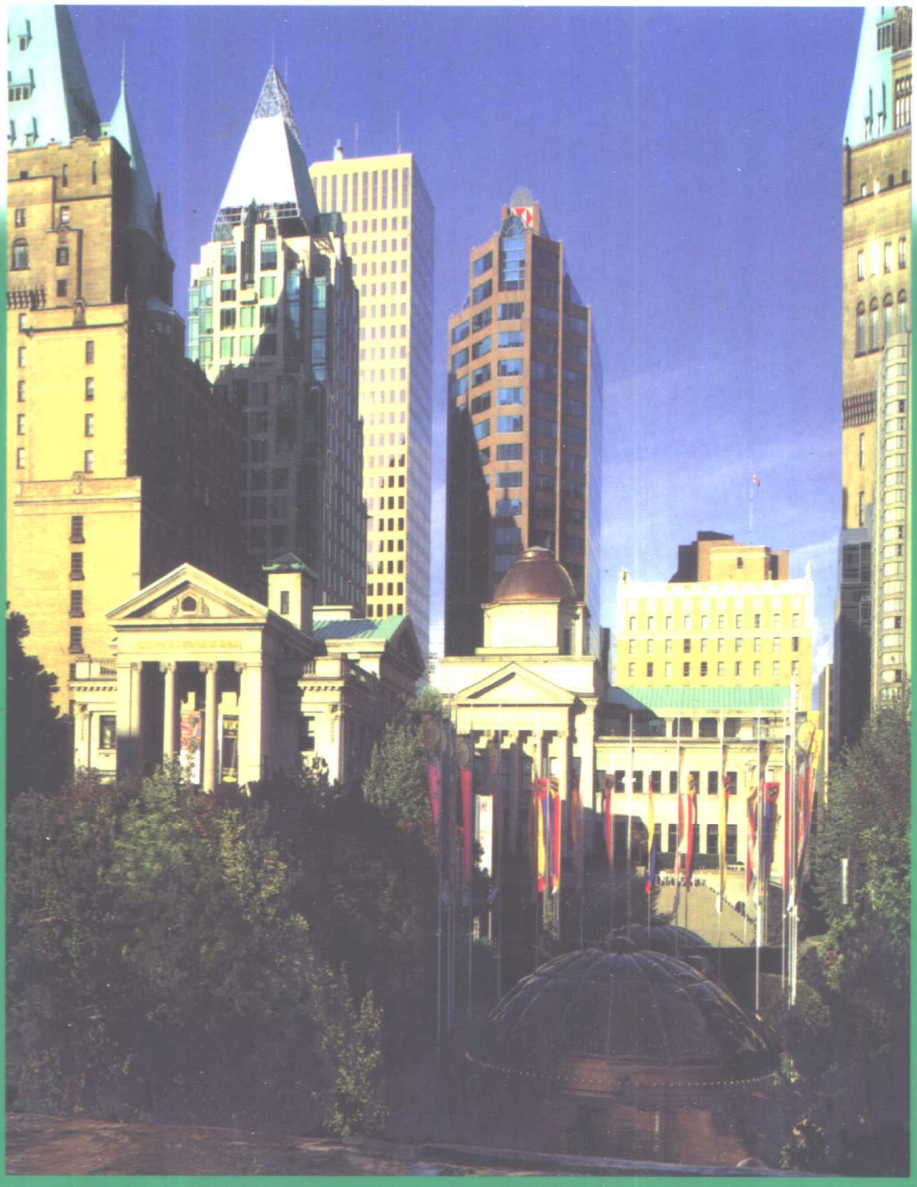
IELTS考试培训系列教材

IELTS

阅读模拟试题（普通类）

陆 军 何跃中 编著



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■前　　言

本书是根据多年 IELTS 应试教学的经验和实际应试的体会，参考国内外大量的有关书籍、资料和历届 IELTS 考试的试题，针对应试者的实际需要与难点编写而成的，期望读者在学习本书之后，能丰富自己的“应试知识库”，明显提高应试能力，大大增强 IELTS 考试的信心。

每套题都都包括三篇文章，其长度和难度都尽量适合 IELTS 考试的要求。通过本书的训练，考生可以熟悉阅读的题目和答题技巧。

本书力求为读者提供尽可能多的模拟阅读试题，使读者通过学习本书能掌握应试所需的大量阅读常用词汇，还可以训练应试者的阅读速度。

书中的阅读文章选自未来出国咨询公司外语培训部 IELTS 学习班的培训资料和报刊、杂志，经过严格的遴选，精心编写而成。更多的阅读试题和阅读训练资料可查询 http://www.21future.net.cn。

限于水平和经验，错误和不当之处恳请广大读者批评指正。

编者

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Reading Test One

Reading Passage 1

You should spend about 20 *minutes on Questions* 1 *to* 13. *First, read the text below and answer Questions.*

RADAR

In 1943 Germany's submarines—the U-boats—were winning the Battle of the Atlantic. Large numbers of U-boats were waiting for Allied ships and were sending hundreds of them to the bottom of the ocean. The Germans lost submarines, but they were small and not easy to find. For every U-boat that the British and the American found and sank, they lost several ships to the submarines. Germany built U-boats as fast as she could, Britain began to get worried over the serious loss of shipping, and the Americans had great difficulty in sending enough men and war materials across the Atlantic.

Suddenly Germany's U-boat losses doubled in one month. The next month they almost doubled again. In three months nearly 100 U-boats were sunk, mostly in aircraft. What had happened?

Once before the U-boats had been in trouble because of aircraft. Before that, they had learnt to avoid danger from the air by staying below the surface during the daytime. They had to come up at night to change their batteries, but that was fairly safe at first. As soon as it became possible to fit radar in the British coastal command aircraft, there was a change radar allowed the planes to search large areas of the sea, to find a submarine even at night and in fog, and to attack before the U-boat could go under the water. The Germans began to lose U-boats to the se attacks. They guessed that the aircraft were using radar, and they succeeded in finding out the details of the type of set. German scientists quickly developed an instrument, which could pick up the radar signal and give the U-boat warnings.

The U-boat commanders were delighted. Their new instruments allowed them to come to the

surface at night and destroy allied ships, knowing that their instruments would warn them of radar-carrying aircraft. That is when they began to win the Battle of the Atlantic. Then in 1943 the British developed a new type of radar set which used a much shorter wavelength. In a few months it was so dangerous for a U-boat to come up that the Battle of the Atlantic was almost at an end.

That is only one example of the many uses of radar in war. What about its uses in peace? Every British motorist will tell you that radar is used most unfairly by the police to catch drivers who are accidentally going a little faster than the speed limit. "There you are," the motorist will say, "driving quite safely at 45 (72 kph) on a wide road almost in open country. Then a policeman steps out from nowhere and holds his hand up. You stop. He tells you that his radar has measured your speed as 48 in a built-up area.

Radar has made a great difference to the life of a ship's officer. The radar screen in the wheelhouse shows him every ship that is near him, every piece of land, every rock, every buoy. And he can see them clearly at night or in thick fog. He can measure their distance from his own ship, and he knows the speed of the other ships and the direction they are travelling in.

Radar is a great help to the pilot of an airliner too. Even in thick fog the officers in the control tower at the airport can see his aircraft. They know his exact position—height, distance, direction, speed. And they know the same things about every other aircraft in the area. They can "talk down" the pilot to the point where he can actually see the runway. With even more recent systems, using a combination of radar and other instruments on the aircraft and on the ground, the pilot can now land completely blind in perfect safety.

The airport usually had radar of more than one kind. A very narrow, pencil-like beam is used to discover the exact position of a particular aircraft. The aerial which sends out the signal and receives the reflected signal is pointed straight at the aircraft. A narrow beam of that kind is not suitable for searching over a wide area in order to find all aircrafts that are near the airport. So a separate rotating aerial is used for that purpose. The original radar combined these two things, as its English name showed (Radio Detection And Ranging).

Questions 1 to 3

These three questions are based on the information in the first three paragraphs of Reading Passage 1. *Please pick a MAXIMUM of ONE WORD from those paragraphs to fill in each blank, and write your answer on the answer sheet.*

1. In early 1940s, German submarines were battling in the _____.
2. Tens of German U-boats were sunk by _____.
3. Scientists in Germany developed an instrument to warn _____.

Questions 4 to 8

Circle the best choice to complete each of the following five sentences, and write the letter of your choice in the corresponding box on the answer sheet.

4. The Germans built U-boats as fast as they could because
   a. The British and the Americans feared U-boats.
   b. U-boats were easy to build.
   c. U-boats were helping the Germans sink many Allied ships.
5. How did radar initially affect the German U-boats?
   a. It enabled them to detect aircraft that also used radar.
   b. It caused many to be destroyed.
   c. It forced them to surface only at night.
6. The British used radar most effectively against the Germans
   a. on board aircraft.
   b. on board ships.
7. When the British developed a type of radar with a shorter wavelength
   a. the Germans began winning the Battle of the Atlantic.
   b. the Germans began to lose the Battle of the Atlantic.
8. Which of the following is not one of the peacetime uses of radar as described in the article?
   a. A method of detecting speeding motorists.
   b. A navigation device a board ships.
   c. A way of detecting fog at sea or in the air.

Questions 9 to 13

Put in each blank a phrase from the passage:

9. U-boats were so effective for the Germans because they were sending hundreds of Allied ship to _____ the ocean.
10. How did the Germans solve the problem that Britain's initial use of radar created? They quickly developed an instrument which _____ and gave the U-boat warning.
11. How did the British overcome the German's methods of avoiding detection? The developed a new type of radar set which used a _____.
12. The word "Radar" comes from Radio _____.
13. How does the airport use the radar of a very narrow, pencil-like beam? It is used to discover the _____ of a particular aircraft.

Reading Passage 2

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 14 to 31.

Computers: Machines That Can Think

Suppose you are manufacturer of bicycles. You are trying to decide whether or not to build a larger factory or to buy more machines. You could just say to yourself, "Business has been good. We've sold a lot of bicycles recently, so I think we ought to enlarge our plant."
Or you could consider the following questions: How much would the changes cost? Can the bicycle-riding population be expected to increase or decrease? Many such questions would have to be answered, but there is a limit to the number of questions the human mind can think about.
In a situation like this, you would need a computer. Because of its "memory" and speed, a computer can consider more factors than a person can. Computers have only been in use since 1946, but they have already changed the lives of millions of people. Computers can do simple computations—add, subtract, multiply, and divide—with lightening speed and perfect accuracy. They can multiply two 10-digit numbers in 1/1000 second, a problem that

would take an average man five minutes to do with a pencil and paper. Some computers can work 500000 times faster than a man.

Computers can gather a wide range of information for many purposes. In business and industry the computer prepares factory inventories, keeps track of sales trends and production needs, mails dividend checks, and makes out company payrolls. It can also keep bank accounts up to date and make out electric bills.

Computers can also store facts and pour them out whenever they are needed. For example, they can tell you what brand of canned goods is the most popular in a particular supermarket or what kind of weather we will have tomorrow. If you are planning a trip by plane, the computer will find out what route to take and what seat is available.

Besides gathering and storing information, the computer can also solve complicated problems that once took months for men to do.

All the developed countries of the world have computers, and the developing countries are increasingly aware that computers will play a big part in their economic advancement. Without special training, it is impossible to understand exactly how a computer does its work. Nevertheless, many people without scientific training use computers in their daily lives. In some developed countries, computers are teaching young children for part of the school day. In business, industry, science, medicine and education, computers play an important part in almost every type of operation. The future will bring major advances in computer technology and applications, which will aid man in his efforts to improve his world.

Even though computers are taking over some of the tasks that were once accomplished by our own brains, computers are not replacing us—at least not replacing yet. Our brains are a lot more complex than a computer. How we use them is for us, not the computer, to decide.

Questions 14 to 20

Questions 14 *to* 20 *are based on Reading passage* 2. *Complete the following statements according to the passage with NO MORE than THREE WORDS*:

Computers have been in use for only ___14___ years. However, they have already made changes in the lives of at least one ___15___ people. Computer can add, subtract, multiply and divide with ___16___ speed and ___17___ accuracy. Computers can store

information and also ___18___ when they are needed. Computers teach some children for part of their ___19___. ___20___ and applications will aid man in his efforts to improve his world.

Questions 21 to 31

Answer the following questions by filling in each of the blanks given based on the information of Reading Passage 2 with TWO WORDS at most.

21. Why do we need to use a computer when considering a complicated problem?

A computer can consider _____ than a person can.

22 – 24.

What can a computer do considering the simple computation?

It can add, _____, _____ and _____.

25. In what kind of countries are computers being used now?

All developed countries and most _____.

26 – 30.

Computers play an important part in almost every type of operation in _____, _____, _____, _____ and _____.

31. Will the computers replace human beings?

_____.

Reading Passage 3

You should spend about 20 minutes on Questions 32 to 42.

Better Living With Machinery

Although we live in a wonderful age of computers, my contact with thinking machines has been limited to the lowest order—automatic vending machines. I have known many of them well, but never have I trusted one deep down. Though some have been reliable in a rude sort of way, others have been unpredictable, overbearing downright villains.

A particularly fearsome machine was stationed in the building where I work. This machine vended, or claimed it did, hot coffee (with cream and sugar, cream only, sugar only, or

black), hot chocolate, and three kinds of soft drinks, all in paper cups. It also made its own change. But the machine's outrages against the dignity of man were almost endless.

It gave out the three soft drinks at random for several days, and then began charging for a cup of coffee, flipped an empty cup onto the floor, and poured the coffee down its own drain. Another time, it accepted a quarter for hot chocolate and gave in return a cup of coffee (sugar only) and five cents' change. The machine soon became even bolder. It poured a cup of coffee, and then dropped its heavy nozzle into the full cup, splashing the customer's suit. Subsequently, with its nozzle missing, it sprayed the next unsuspecting customer from head to foot.

Bitter outcries led to the removal of that machine. It was replaced by one concentrated on coffee and hot chocolate and didn't fool around with soft drinks. But this was not a dumb machine. Nine times out of ten it would perform properly. The tenth time, it would serve weak coffee, or a short portion, or mix in a little hot chocolate. Sometimes it would go on a brief kick, handing out only hot water. Then it would seem to reform for a while. In its own subtle way the machine was working on the nerves of all of us.

Later it began to short-change an occasional customer who put a quarter into it. Finally it took to stealing money, not always, not even often, just a dime here and a quarter there, without returning anything. Some of the robbed customers would leave notes saying. "This monster owes me ten cents," and sign their names. Others would just grumble and kick the machine and then walk, or limp, back to their work.

The machine's keeper, who visited it every day or so, was a good, honest man. He would go around, apologetically settling accounts with the people who had left notes. But not everyone left notes, and some of the machine's insults couldn't be paid for with money, anyway.

One morning a long-suffering customer cautiously dropped in a quarter for coffee. The machine gurgled strangely and handed out a cup of coffee and twenty-one nickels in change. The customer kept his head. Coolly he tested the machine by dropping in two nickels and getting another cup of coffee. The machine clicked and returned the two nickels. It had happened. The machine, with all its schemes, had given itself a nervous breakdown.

As the word spread, the victims of this machine (and the earlier one) gathered around it

and put in nickels, dimes and quarters. The machine returned most of them, usually with a little extra amid cheering and good fellowship. Customers lined up and drank three and four cups of coffee in a row. Rarely has there been such a scene of joyous revenge.

To keep the occasion on a high plane, somebody provided a box for the deposit of the mad machine's payoffs. The machine's keeper later accepted this money, while agreeing of course, that it was no more than simple justice that the coffee was free. He didn't get his machine under control until afternoon. For the better part of the day I stood there, sipping coffee and watching the thing make fool of itself.

Questions 32 to 36

Complete the following statements with NO MORE than THREE WORDS in each blank:

32. But the machine's outrages against the _____ were almost endless.
33. Once the first machine accepted a dime for a cup of coffee, it gave out an _____ onto the floor.
34. Sometimes the second machine would go on a brief kick, handing out _____.
35. "Later it began to short-change an occasional customer…" means accepted the money _____ returning anything.
36. The machine, with all its schemes, had given itself a _____.

Questions 37 to 42

Fill in the following blanks with a MAXIMUM of TWO WORDS in each:

37. The first machine was replaced because _____ led to the removal of that machine.

38 — 39.

Some of the second machine would serve _____ and _____.

40. Some of the rotted customers would _____ by saying "This monster owes me ten cents".
41. The reason why the customers lined up and drank three and four cups of coffee in a row is that the machine would return the money and usually with a _____.
42. The keeper of the machine agreed that the coffee _____ when he came to know what was happening.

Reading Test Two

Reading Passage 1

You should spend about 20 *minutes on Questions* 1 *to* 13. *First, read the text below and answer Questions.*

The Story of Jazz

Music comes in many forms; most countries have a style of their own. Poland has its polkas. Hungary has its czardas. Brazil is famous for the bossa nova, Caribbean countries for the meringue, and Argentina for the tango. The US is known for jazz, a completely original type of music that has gained worldwide popularity.

Jazz is America's contribution to popular music. In contrast to classical music, which follows formal European traditions, jazz is spontaneous and a free-form. It bubbles with energy, expressing the moods, interests, and emotions of the people. Brash, uninhibited, exciting, it has a modern sound. In the 1920's jazz sounded like America. And so does it today.

The origins of this music are as interesting as the music itself. Jazz was invented by American Negroes, or blacks, as they are called today, who were brought to the Southern states as slaves. They were sold to plantation owners and forced to work long hours in the cotton and tobacco fields. This work was hard and life was short. When a Negro died his friends and relatives formed a procession to carry the body to the cemetery.

A band often accompanied the procession. On the way to the cemetery the band played slow solemn music suited to the occasion. But on the way home the mood changed. Spirits lifted. Everybody was happy. Death had removed one of their numbers, but the living was glad to be alive. The band played happy music, improvising on both the harmony and the melody of the tunes presented at the funeral. This music made everyone want to dance. It was an early form of jazz. But there were other influences, too.

Music has always been important in Negro life. Coming mainly from West Africa, the Blacks who were brought to America already possessed a rich musical tradition. This music centred on religious ceremonies in which dancing, singing, clapping, and stamping to the beat of a drum were important forms of musical and rhythmic expression. As these people settled in to their new life in the plantations of the South, music retained its importance. In the fields, they made up work songs. Singing made the hard work go faster and as the people were converted to Christianity, they composed lovely spirituals, which have become a permanent part of American music.

Another musical form that contributed to jazz was the blues. Blue songs always describe something sad, an unhappy love affair, a money problem, and bad luck. To this day, the expression "feeling blue" means being sad or depressed.

In fact, there was hardly any activity or social event that could not be set to music. Weddings, births, christenings, funerals, picnics, and parades—all had their musical accompaniment.

After the American Civil War (1860 - 1865), the Negroes had gained their freedom and were ready for a new type of music, one that would preserve their musical traditions but be fast and happy to express their new-found freedom. They wanted something they could play as professional musicians for both black and white audiences. Jazz was the answer. It combined themes from Negro work songs, spirituals and blues, set to a fast beat, with the musicians improvising as they went along, like the funeral marching bands. To be good, a musician had not only to remember his part but also to be able to invent new variations on the spur of the moment.

Jazz belongs to the people, but popular taste is changeable. Jazz had to keep up to date. Over the last half century it has changed many times in form, style, and tempo. Each change added something new.

Questions 1 to 5

Choose the best answer:

1. Jazz got its start from

a) The music played by Negro slaves working in cotton and tobacco fields.

b) Negro bands accompanying funeral processions in the Southern states of the U.S..

c) American energy, moods, interests, and emotions.

d) Both a and c.

2. Base on what this article says, it is reasonable to conclude that

a) without slavery jazz would never have developed.

b) negroes used jazz to honour their dead.

c) jazz is the only music that uses improvisation.

d) negroes were essential to the development of jazz.

3. Which of the following is not often described in blues songs?

a) an unhappy love affair

b) a money problem

c) bad luck

d) Christianity

4. Which of the following terms best describes the role of the Southern plantations in the evolution of Negro musical customs?

a) destructive

b) oppressive

c) influential

d) nurturing

5. The major impact of the American Civil War on jazz was that

a) it gave Negroes the freedom to become professional musicians with audiences made up of blacks and whites.

b) it freed Negroes from their peasant life so that their music could include subjects other than work, religion, and the "blues".

c) it made jazz the music of the people.

d) it gave Negroes a newly found freedom to receive special training in musical composition.

Questions 6 to 13

Answer the following questions:

6 - 7.

Jazz was invented by _____ or _____.

8. The slaves made up work songs in the fields because singing made the hard work _____.

9. Early jazz was played on their _____ from the funeral.

10 - 11.

The expression "feeling blue", in the sixth paragraph, means _____ or _____.

12 - 13.

When did the Negroes begin to want a new type of music?

It was after the _____ _____.

Reading Passage 2

You should spend about 20 *minutes on Questions* 14 *to* 28.

Monday Morning Feeling

That Monday morning feeling could be a crushing pain in the chest, which leaves you sweating and gasping for breath. Recent research from Germany and Italy shows that heart attacks are more common on Monday mornings and doctors blame the stress of returning to work after the weekend break.

The risk of having a heart attack on any given day should be one in seven, but a six-year study coordinated by researchers at the Free University of Berlin of more than 2,600 Germans revealed that the average person had a 20 percent higher chance of having a heart attack on a Monday than on any other day.

Working Germans are particularly vulnerable, with a 33 percent higher risk at the beginning of the working week. Non-workers, by comparison, appear to be no more at risk on a Monday than any other day [1].

A study of 11,000 Italians identified 8 a.m. on a Monday morning as the most stressful time for the heart, and both studies showed that Sunday is the least stressful day, with fewer heart attacks in both countries.