

100

大学英语 1-4 级阅读训练

PASSAGES

WITH TESTS

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华东师范大学出版社

## 本书简介

这是一本实用性甚强的英语阅读技能训练书。学生用它，能使平时学习与最终应试紧密联系起来。教师用它，既能作为理想的学生阅读能力定期测验题，又可省选材和编题之劳累。

本书精选的英语短文百篇，具有如下特点：内容新而涉及面广；语言规范，全部书稿经美国专家审校过，深浅程度，据《大学英语教学大纲》分级。本书的编排也十分巧妙：既使阅读理解力的提高与阅读技巧的掌握相互促进，又使有指导、有要求的阅读活动与熟悉大学英语阅读考试题型结合。

读者若在理解的基础上有兴趣将这百篇短文用作英译汉练习，也将得益匪浅。

大学英语 1—4 阅读训练

### 100 PASSAGES (with Tests)

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## 使用说明

- 一、本书最好由任课教师统管,用作四周一次的阅读理解能力测验题,也可由学生据要求自练自测之用。
- 二、本书分四个级次,一个级次为一个学期:第一级供大学一年级第一学期用,第二级供第二学期用;第三、四级分别供大学二年级第一、二学期用。每一级有五套(自)测题(Reading Passages: SET ONE—FIVE; Cloze Tests: 1—5)。
- 三、为使学生既免东翻西找之累,又有临场实考之感,本书作了如下特殊编排:25套选择题的备选项集中逆序编排,供学生按“裁剪线”裁下使用;每套备选题标明时限和得分标准;书后附有供裁下使用的答卷。
- 四、练习或测验开始前,齐线裁下一套备选项;再裁下一页“答卷”并填妥姓名、学号 and 与指定短文相应的级次和套次。圈选答案宜用铅笔,以便“答卷”可用数次。
- 五、答完一套试卷,应在“TIME: \_\_\_\_\_”中记下实耗时间。
- 六、将自己选定的备选项与答案核对,计算得分并填入“SCORE: \_\_\_\_\_”中。
- 七、明订戒律:“不得先查答案,再作练习”但可先阅备选项再读短文。

## 编者的话

我们受华东师范大学出版社委托，根据《大学英语教学大纲》1—4级水平要求编制成本书，作为探索大学英语课外读物编写路子的初步成果。本书精选了英语短文100篇；据此编写了20套阅读理解试题（每级5套，每套5篇短文，其中一篇供完型填空用）。

在短文筛选上，我们力求做到：

1) 内容新而广——从最近问世的英美原版书籍中精选，内容涉及人文学科和科普知识。

2) 语言规范——绝大多数选用原文或维护原文风格，个别词汇超越《大纲》者，宁以黑体标明并列词汇表备查也不予删换；个别非删繁就简不可者，也均经专家审校。

在编题方面力求做到：

1) 训练与应试挂钩——使阅读活动成为一种有指导、有要求的，自觉的阅读技能培训，并使之与熟悉大学英语四级考试题型相关联。

2) 能力与技巧结合——使阅读活动既提高学生的阅读速度和理解力，又帮助他们掌握阅读技巧，使能力与技巧相互促进，应试时相得益彰。

3) 可靠而有效——所编试题，均经专家审校；经过编者所教班级使用，证明能有效地提高学生的阅读（即对信息的分析、归纳、综合和推断）能力。

4) 使用方便——备选项（选择题）集中逆序编排，供学

生按“裁剪线”撕下使用；书后备有“答卷”(ANSWER SHEET)。

承蒙华东师范大学大学外语教学部朱宝雄副教授审阅了本书部分书稿，又承美籍专家 Donald K. Springen 和 Phyllis J. Springen 审阅了全部书稿，谨此致以谢意。

在本书选编过程中，承蒙本书责任编辑和有关人士的热情帮助和大力协作，谨此致谢。

最后，我们诚恳地希望本书使用者和大学英语教学同行不吝赐教或指正书中疏误，以备本书重印时加以修正。

编者

1989年12月

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一、阅读理解与完型填空短文百篇

100 Passages

for

Reading Comprehension and Cloze Tests

### 短文页次查对表

Band	SET & GLOZE No.	Item	Reading Comprehension	Close Test
1	ONE	/ 1	3	7
	TWO	/ 2	8	12
	THREE	/ 3	13	18
	FOUR	/ 4	19	23
	FIVE	/ 5	25	29
2	ONE	/ 1	30	35
	TWO	/ 2	36	40
	THREE	/ 3	41	47
	FOUR	/ 4	47	53
	FIVE	/ 5	54	59
3	ONE	/ 1	61	65
	TWO	/ 2	66	71
	THREE	/ 3	72	77
	FOUR	/ 4	78	83
	FIVE	/ 5	84	89
4	ONE	/ 1	90	95
	TWO	/ 2	96	101
	THREE	/ 3	102	107
	FOUR	/ 4	108	114
	FIVE	/ 5	115	121



## Band 1

### SET ONE Reading Comprehension Passages

**Directions:** There are 4 reading passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions. For each question there are four suggested answers marked A), B), C) and D). You should choose the ONE best answer. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a pencil.

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage:

#### Passage 1

What is colour? Why do some objects look red, others green, others blue?

Colour is caused by **reflected** light rays. We see colour because objects reflect light. Something that is red reflects **mostly** red light. It reflects a little green or blue light, too, but we do not see it. In the same way, a green object reflects mostly green light. White objects reflect all colours of light. Black objects do not reflect any light.

What happens to the colours of light that are not reflected? They are **absorbed** by the object. The darker the colour, the less light is reflected and the more light is absorbed. Light that is absorbed is turned

into heat. For this reason, dark-coloured clothes are warmer in the sunlight than lighter-coloured clothes.

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage:

### Passage 2

City people usually think they are a lot **smarter** than country people. They often laugh at simple country ways. But people do not laugh at country music. It is one of the most **popular** kinds of music in the United States today.

Perhaps it is so popular because it is about simple but strong human feelings and events — love, **sadness**, good times, and bad times. It tells real-life stories and sounds the way people really talk. As life becomes more and more **complicated**, it is good to hear music about ordinary people.

Country, sometimes called **country-western** comes from two kinds of music. One is the **traditional** music of the people in the **Appalachian** Mountains in the **eastern** United States. The other is traditional **cowboy** music from the West. The singers usually play **guitars**, and in the 1920s they started using electric guitars.

At first city people said country music was low class. It was popular mostly in the South. But during World War II, thousands of **Southerners** went to the **Northeast** and **Midwest** to work in the factories. They took their music with them. Soldiers from the rest of the country

went to army camps in the South. They learned to like country music. Slowly it became popular all over the country.

Today country music is popular everywhere in the United States and **Canada** — in small towns and in **New York City**, among black and white, and among **educated** and uneducated people. About 1,200 radio stations **broadcast** country music twenty-four hours a day. English stars sing it in British English, and people in other countries sing it in their languages. The music that started with cowboys and poor Southerners is now popular all over the world.

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage:

### Passage 3

Strange things happen to time when you travel, because the earth is divided into twenty-four time **zones**, one hour **apart**. You can have days with more or fewer than twenty-fours, and weeks with more or fewer than seven days.

If you make a five-day trip across the **Atlantic** Ocean, your ship enters a different time zone every day. As you enter each zone, the time changes one hour. Traveling west, you set your clock back; traveling east, you set it ahead. Each day of your trip has either twenty-five or twenty-three hours.

If you travel by ship across the **Pacific**, you cross the

international date line. By **agreement**, this is the point where a new day begins. When you cross the line, you change your **calendar** one full day, **backward** or **forward**. Traveling east, today becomes yesterday; traveling west, it is tomorrow.

Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage:

#### Passage 4

The **computer** is a wonderful machine. It is the most important **invention** since the **type** of engine used in cars. Today it has the greatest **effect** on science, industry, and business, but it is being used more in education and medicine. By the end of this century it will touch the lives of everyone, even people in **distant** villages. It is a **revolutionary** invention.

The oldest kind of computer is the **abacus**, used in China since the sixth century. In the seventeenth century an adding machine was invented, but the first large, modern computer was built in 1937. A few years later a computer could do 5,000 additions per second. Now the **computations** are so fast that they are measured in **nanoseconds**.

Today most computers are stored-**program** computers; that is, they have a memory. They are getting smaller and smaller, and computing faster and faster. Even in a large computer, the part that does the actual computing is about the size of the end of a finger.

Computers can do all kinds of work. When someone buys something in a **department** store, **information** about the **sale** goes into a computer. A scientist can talk to the computer about the rocks, and the computer answers the questions. A doctor can talk to the computer and explain what is wrong with a patient. If the doctor asks why, the computer goes through its stored information and explains exactly why.

When early humans began farming, it was a revolutionary change in human life. It was hundreds of thousands of years later that people developed a writing **system**. In less than fifty years people have developed computers that can do most of the things humans can do. This could be a frightening development.

### **CLOZE 1 Cloze Test Passage**

**Directions:** There are 20 blanks in the following passage. For each blank there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should choose the ONE answer that best fits into the blank. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a pencil.

I live in a small village called Henfield — there are about 500 people here. I love it because it's quiet and life is (1) and easy. You never have to (2) in shops or banks. The village is (3) — people look (4) it and don't (5) their rubbish in the streets. The

(6) is clean too because there's not much heavy (7) .  
It's (8) more friendly here than in a city. Everyone  
knows everyone and (9) someone has a problem there  
are (10) people who can help.

There (11) many things I don't like about Hen-  
field. (12) thing is that there isn't (13) to do  
in the evenings — we haven't got any cinemas or theatres.  
The (14) problem is that people in small (15)  
always talk (16) each other and (17) knows (18)  
everyone is doing. But I (19) prefer village life  
(20) life in a big city.

Band 1

## SET TWO Reading Comprehension Passages

**Directions:** There are 4 reading passages in this part.  
Each passage is followed by some questions. For each ques-  
tion there are four suggested answers marked A), B),  
C) and D). You should choose the ONE best answer.  
Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet  
with a pencil.

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage:

### Passage 1

The first true piece of sports **equipment** that man  
invented was the ball.

In ancient **Egypt**, as everywhere, **pitching** stones was a favourite children's game. But a **badly** thrown rock could hurt a child. Looking for something less dangerous to throw, the **Egyptians** made what were probably the first balls.

At first, balls were made of grass or leaves held together by **vines**. Later they were made of pieces of animal skin sewed together and **stuffed** with **feathers** or **hay**.

Even though the Egyptians were **warlike**, they found time for **peaceful** games. Before long they had developed a number of ball games, each with its own **set** of rules. Perhaps they played ball more for **instruction** than for fun. Ball playing was thought of mainly as a way to teach young men the speed and skill they would need for war.

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage:

### **Passage 2**

The year 2000 is less than twenty years away, a very short time in the history of the world. But in that short time the world will reach a population of 6.2 **billion**, almost 2 billion more people than there are today. **Unfortunately**, the greatest **growth** will be in the cities of the poorest nations.

The population **figures** seem almost **unbelievable**. There will be 60 cities in the world with populations of more than 5 million. Forty-five of them will be in the third

world. There will be 22 cities with populations of over 20 million and almost 300 cities with over one million people each. **Mexico City** will have 31 million people; **Tokyo**, 24 million; and **Cairo**, 13 million.

Third world cities are already **overcrowded**. But city workers earn two to ten times as much as people in the country. So thousands of more people arrive every year. The governments must provide electricity, water, schools, health services, and land for houses. But poor countries do not have the money to do this. As cities grow larger, the problems increase.

However, some **social** scientists believe the problems are not **hopeless**. People move to cities because they want to change and improve their lives. When they can find jobs, they work hard. They build nice houses when they have the money and send their children to school. These hardworking people help build a better society for the whole country.

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage:

### **Passage 3**

We cannot feel speed. But our senses let us know that we are moving. We see things moving past us and feel that we are being shaken.

We can feel **acceleration**, and increase in speed. But we notice it for only a short time. For instance, we feel it during the **takeoff** run of an airplane.



We feel the plane's acceleration because our bodies do not gain speed as fast as the plane does. It seems that something is **pushing** us back against that seat. Actually, our bodies are trying to stay in the same place, while the planes is carrying us forward.

Soon the plane reaches a steady speed. Then, because there is no longer any change in speed, the feeling of forward **motion** stops.

Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage:

#### **Passage 4**

Mrs Peters had learned to play the piano when she was at school, but when she had begun to work, she had lived in a very small flat, and there had been no room for a piano. She was sad about this, but there was nothing she could do about it, **however** much she tried.

Then, when she was twenty-three, she married, and she and her husband went to live in a bigger flat. "I'm going to buy myself a nice little piano now," Mrs Peters said to her husband, "and I'm going to begin to practise again."

Her husband was happy, because he liked listening to the piano.

So Mrs Peters saved some ~~money~~, and her husband helped her, and her parents gave her a generous amount of money for her birthday and ~~told her to buy whatever~~ she wanted with it, so she soon ~~had~~ enough for a ~~small~~ piano. She went to a shop in her town and said, "I'll choose