

# TEM

## 英语专业四级考试 阅读理解综合训练与解析

主 编 孙 慧

副主编 寻建英 尹 燕

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## 前言

阅读理解是英语专业四级考试一个非常重要的组成部分。与其他题型相比,阅读理解所占的篇幅最长,分数比例也最大(占总分的20%)。如果考生的阅读理解能力得不到提高,就很难做到快速阅读、准确理解、熟练推理,也就很难获取阅读理解的基本分数。为了帮助考生切实提高阅读理解能力,掌握限时阅读、理解的真功夫,我们组织了一批常年工作在教学第一线、富有经验的教师,在对历年考题进行分析统计的基础上,编写了本书。

为了保证本书的有效性和实用性,我们做了大量的编写前的准备工作。这些工作包括在学生中做问卷调查,进行需求分析;反复学习领会《高等学校英语专业教学大纲》;深入研究历年真题中阅读理解部分的难度变化和命题趋势,以求按照大纲的要求,紧扣最新的命题思路和命题热点,反映最新的命题方向,向考生提供最有效的训练素材。在前期准备工作的基础上,我们着手编写本书。在编写中,力求突出以下特点:

题材宽泛,综合性强。本书选用的题材均是历年真题中所涉及的、复现频率高的、有代表性的题材。根据分析统计的结果,我们将这些不同题材的文章按比例分布在各个单元中,使每一个单元更具有综合性、仿真性,也就更具有实效性。

选材准确,命中率高。本书在语言素材的录用上不仅力求新颖,更注意了准确性,主要体现在语言的规范性、语言的难易度、文章本身的命题潜力等技术指标。通过对这些技术指标的控制,本书已基本达到了与真题不相上下的水平,具有较高的预测性和命中率。

讲解详实,利于自学。为了便于考生自学,本书对书中所包含

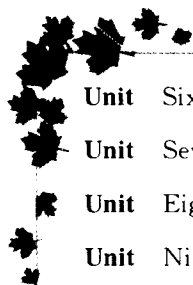
的 20 个单元,80 篇文章均一一做了详尽的解释和分析,对文中所出现的难点、疑点也做了注释。这样做不仅适合考生自学,也可提供教师在教学中参考。

在编写本书的过程中,我们本着精益求精,为考生负责的精神,严把质量关。对每一篇文章,每一个选项都认真琢磨,反复推敲,直至准确无误。尽管这样,书中仍有诸多纰漏和不尽人意之处,切望考生和教师能不吝赐教。

**编 者**



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# Unit One

*In this section there are four passages followed by questions or unfinished statements, each with four suggested answers marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that you think is the best answer. Mark your answers on your answer sheet.*

## Text A

The test of a great book is whether we want to read it only once or more than once. Any really great book we want to read the second time even more than we wanted to read it the first time; and every additional time that we read it we find new meanings and new beauties in it. A book that a person of education and good taste does not care to read more than once is very probably not worth much. Sometimes ago there was a very clever discussion going on regarding the art of the great French novelist, Zola; some people claimed that he possessed absolute genius; others claimed that he had only talent of a very remarkable kind. The battle of argument brought out some strange extra vagances of opinion. But suddenly a very great critic simply put this question; "How many of you have read, or would care to read, one of Zola's books a second time?" There was no answer; the fact was settled. Probably no one would read a book by Zola more than once; and this is positive proof that



there is not great genius in them, and no great mastery of the highest form of feeling. Shallow or false any book must be, that, although bought by a hundred thousand readers, is never read more than once. But we cannot consider the judgment of a single individual infallible<sup>†</sup>. The opinion that makes a book great must be the opinion of many. For even the greatest critics are apt to have certain dullness, certain inappreciations. Carlyle, for example, could not endure Browning; Byron could not endure some of the greatest of English poets. A man must be many sided to utter a trustworthy estimate of many books. We may doubt the judgment of the single critic at times. But there is no doubt possible in regard to the judgment of generations. Even if we cannot at once perceive anything good in a book which has been admired and praised for hundreds of years, we may be sure that by trying, by studying it carefully, we shall at last be able to feel the reason of this admiration and praise. The beat of all libraries for a poor man would be a library entirely composed of such great works only, books which have passed the test of time.

**This** then would be the most important guide for us in the choice of reading. We should read only the books that we want to read more than once, nor should we buy any others, unless we have some special reason for so investing money<sup>‡</sup>. The second fact demanding attention is the general character of the value that lies hidden within all such great books; they never become old; their youth is immortal. A great book is not apt to be comprehended by a young person at the first reading except in a superficial way. Only the surface, the narrative, is absorbed and enjoyed. No young man can possibly see at first reading the



qualities of a great book. Remember that it has taken humanity in many cases hundreds of years to find out all that there is in such a book. But according to a man's experience of life, the text will unfold new meaning to him. The book that delighted us at eighteen, if it be a great book, will delight us much more at twenty-five, and it will prove like a new book to us at thirty years of age. At forty we shall re-read it, wondering why we never saw how beautiful it was before. At fifty or sixty years of age the same facts will repeat themselves. A great book grows exactly in proportion to the growth of the reader's mind. It was the discovery of this extraordinary fact by generations of people long dead that made the greatness of such works as those of Shakespeare, of Dante, or of Goethe. Perhaps Goethe can give us at this moment the best illustration. He wrote a number of little stories in prose, which children like, because to children they have all the charm of fairy-tale. But he never intended them for fairy-tales; he wrote them for experienced minds. A young man finds very serious reading in them; a middle-aged man discovers an extra-ordinary depth in their least utterance; and an old man will find in them all the world's philosophy, all the wisdom of life. If one is very dull, he may not see much in them, but just in proportion as he is a superior man, and in proportion as his knowledge of life has been extensive, so will he discover the greatness of the mind that conceived them.

1. Why did the writer mention Shakespeare, Dante, and Goethe in this passage?

- A. Because they have written many great books which are well-known.
- B. Because the greatness of their works has been tested by





- generations of people.
- C. Because they are world-famous and well-known, which is convincing.
- D. Because young people can only understand their works by reading them several times.
2. Which of the following is the MOST suitable title for this passage?
- A. The Test of a Great Book.
- B. Choosing the Right Books to Read.
- C. Appreciating Books at Different Ages.
- D. Why Great Books Are Great.
3. According to the writer, is there great genius in Zola's works?
- A. Yes, because a great many people have bought his books.
- B. Yes, but the greatness cannot be appreciated at first reading.
- C. No, because no one wants to read his books more than once.
- D. No, because his books have not been tested by generations.
4. The writer mentioned Carlyle to illustrate that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. a man must be many sided to make a trustworthy estimate of many books
- B. we won't be able to make a sound judgment of books until we read it several times
- C. even the greatest critics may have tendency to make wrong judgment of books
- D. the really great books must pass the test of time



5. What does the italicized word “**this**” mean in the second paragraph?
- A. The word means that we should read only the books that we want to read more than once.
  - B. The word means the best of all libraries.
  - C. The word means whether the book is a bestseller.
  - D. The word means whether the book has passed the test of time.

### Text B

People who don't remember their dreams can learn to recall them. In general, more introverted, psychologically oriented people naturally remember their dreams. Practical, concrete thinkers probably won't. It also helps to get enough sleep so you have time to dream. If you want to remember more, try to keep the REM state<sup>③</sup> going by lying still and keeping your eyes closed while you repeat the dream scenario in your head to solidify it in your memory. Cartwright even suggests giving it a title, like “My Date with Brad Pitt<sup>④</sup>”. Keep a notebook by your bed and write down what's in your head as soon as you wake up.

Why should you care what happens in your head at night? Although there's lots of disagreement about the psychological function of dreams, researchers in recent years have come up with some tantalizing theories. One possibility is that dreaming helps the mind run tests of its Emergency Broadcast System, a way to prepare for potential disaster. So, for example, when new mothers dream about losing their babies, they may actually be rehearsing what they would do or how they would react if their worst fears were realized. There's also evidence that





dreaming helps certain kinds of learning. Some researchers have found that dreaming about physical tasks, like a gymnast's floor routine, enhances performance. Dreaming can also help people find solutions to elusive problems. "Anything that is very visual may get extra help from dreams," says Deirdre Barrett, assistant professor at Harvard Medical School and editor of the journal *Dreaming*. In her book *The Committee of Sleep*, she describes how artists like Jasper Johns and Salvador Dali found inspiration in their dreams. In her own research on problem solving through dreams, Barrett has found that even ordinary people can solve simple problems in their lives (like how to fit old furniture into a new apartment) if they focus on the dilemma before they fall asleep.

Whatever the function of dreams at night, they clearly can play a role in therapy during the day. The University of Maryland's Clara Hill, who has studied the use of dreams in therapy, says that dreams are a "back door" into a patient's thinking. "Dreams reveal stuff about you that you didn't know was there," she says. The therapists she trains to work with patients' dreams are, in essence, heirs to Freud<sup>®</sup> using dream imagery to uncover hidden emotions and feelings. Dreams provide clues to the nature of more serious mental illness. Schizophrenics, for example, have poor-quality dreams, usually about objects rather than people. Cartwright has been studying depression in divorced men and women, and she is finding that "good dreamers", people who have vivid dreams with strong story lines, are less likely to remain depressed. She thinks that dreaming helps diffuse strong emotions. "Dreaming is a mental-health activity," she says.



People often deal with traumatic events through dreams. Tufts University psychiatrist Ernest Hartmann, author of *Dreams and Nightmares*, analyzed dreams from the same group of people before and after September 11<sup>®</sup> (none of them lived in New York). He found that the later dreams were not necessarily more negative, but they were more intense. “The intensity is a measure of emotional arousal,” he says. For people suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), dream content can be a marker of the level of distress, says psychiatrist Thomas Mellman of the Howard University School of Medicine, who studies PTSD. Dreams that mimic the real-life trauma indicate that the patient may be “stuck” in the experience. He thinks one way to help people move past the memory is through an “injury rehearsal”, where they imagine a more positive scenario.

All this has led to a rethinking of Freud’s great insight, that dreams are a “**royal road**” to the unconscious. Mapping that royal road is a daunting task for scientists who are using sophisticated imaging techniques and psychological studies in an attempt to synthesize what we know about the inner workings of the mind and the brain. Dreaming, like thinking, is what makes us human—whether we’re evoking old terrors or imagining new pleasures. “We dream about unfinished business,” says Domhoff. And, if we’re lucky, we wake up with a little more insight to carry the day.

6. According to the passage, how do you keep the REM state going?
- A. Write down your dream on your notebook.
  - B. Get enough time to sleep and dream.
  - C. Solidify the dream scenario in your memory.



- D. Keep calm and recall the dream detail in your memory.
7. Which of the following is NOT discussed in the passage?
- A. People can learn to remember their dreams.
  - B. Dreaming helps the mind do tests of its Emergency Broadcast System.
  - C. The biology of dreaming is discussed.
  - D. Dream can help doctors treat illness during the day.
8. What does the italicized word "royal road" mean in the last paragraph?
- A. shortcut
  - B. short road
  - C. even road
  - D. splendid way
9. The best title for the passage is \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. How We Use Dreams
  - B. What Dreams is Made of
  - C. The Psychological Function of Dreaming
  - D. How We Learn to Remember Dreams
10. What can you infer from the last paragraph?
- A. Dream always gives us royal road to success.
  - B. Sometimes dream can lead us to success in business.
  - C. Dreaming frequently is a good thing.
  - D. We can't succeed without dreaming.

### Text C

For a given nation, to live means to pursue its own interests and to realize its rights of survival and development. **To let live** refers to respecting the interests and rights of other nations. This simple and clear truth was summed up by our ancestor based on the same simple and clear fact that we have inhabited, and will continue to inhabit, a planet that is diverse in



all aspects.

Superficially, few people find it hard to fathom the truth, or even deny it. In reality, however, there are countless cases that disquiet us. International wars, border **skirmishes** and racial conflicts, which unfortunately become the fabric of our daily discourse, have provided the evidence that this principle has not yet been fully accepted and really understood<sup>⑦</sup>. So, it's still necessary to elaborate on the idea.

No country can really enjoy safety and prosperity without paying attention to others' living rights and conditions. As a matter of fact, the relationship between nations constitutes an important part of the history of human civilization. For those countries that fail to establish normal relations with their neighbors, the problem lies in the fact that they don't quite understand the necessity of letting others live.

How to handle international relations is an art, which is what diplomacy is all about. The highest purpose of diplomacy is to create and maintain a harmonious, at least a harmless, international circumstance in which a nation exists. Here, flexibility is indispensable. As a Malay proverb says, "A diplomat should be yielding and supple as a liana that can be bent but not broken." To yield implies that a nation must acknowledge that its neighboring nations have an equal right to exist and pursue their interests.

Peace is what all of us are seeking. But the way to gain peace is rather sophisticated. Peace requires more knowledge, wisdom and farsightedness than war. It takes all considerate means to nurture a peaceful environment. But it only employs a few random verbal or physical actions to ignite a conflict.

