



新东方考研英语培训教材

印建坤○主編 刘敏 高黎○編著

河英理解精技10篇

- □ 追本溯源解决阅读难点,明确标注习题所模仿的真题对象
- 采用"剥洋葱式"句子结构分析法,快速攻克阅读长难句
- □ 按题材分类, 九大类别分章逐一突破
- □ 文章精选自考研命题源,长难度与真题高度一致

新东方考研英语培训教材

阅读理解 精读100篇

-■ 印建坤 ○主编 刘敏 高黎 ○编著 =-

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

考研英语阅读理解精读 100 篇 / 印建坤主编; 刘敏, 高黎编著. 一北京: 群言出版社, 2006. 4 ISBN 7-80080-571-9

I. 考... Ⅱ. ①印...②刘...③高... Ⅲ. 英语一阅读教学—研究生—人学考试—自学参考资料 Ⅳ. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2006)第 022424 号

责任编辑 李琴

封面设计 王 琳

出版发行 群言出版社

地 址 北京东城区东厂胡同北巷1号

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印 刷 北京航宇印刷厂

经 销 全国新华书店

版 次 2006年6月第1版 2006年6月第1次印刷

并 本 787×1092 1/16

印 张 19.75

字 数 420 千字

书 号 ISBN 7-80080-571-9

定 价 30.00 元

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削 PREFACE

考研英语阅读的复习方法

- ——考研英语阅读难吗?——难!!!
- ——真的难吗?——其实也不难。

有人会说,难者不会,会者不难。可我想说,考研阅读理解难或不难重要吗? 试卷简单,你就一定能考上?简单是相对于全国考生都简单,不是针对个人而言。试题的难度并不会影响我们最终能否实现我们的愿望。

那么,什么才会影响我们考研的最终结果呢?很显然,是考试的成绩。很多考生认为自己的英语水平是恒定的,至少不会经过一年的复习而有什么实质性的变化。因为他们坚信:英语作为一种语言,和中文一样,需要时间的磨炼,否则无法取得高分。而事实并非如此。一个没过四级的人,考研英语有可能会考 70 分;而 GRE 考满分的人,却也可能考研英语只得 40 分。考研英语的成绩和你的实际英语能力的确有一定关系,但并不完全是正比关系。通过研究历年真题,特别是 2005 年的真题,我们发现,即使考生能把阅读文章和题目全部翻译成中文,仍然有可能做错一大半的题目。

于是,我们开始困惑了。过去我们总是把不会解题归咎于自己因没背单词而读不懂文章,现在看来,问题并不是如此的浅显了。我们开始思考问题的根源……终于,我们得出结论:读懂文章只是正确解题的前提条件;要想正确解答考研英语阅读题,还需具备专门针对考研阅读的解题技能。那么,"专门针对考研阅读的解题技能"又从何而来呢?有没有一种解题技能既可以用于四六级,又可以用于考研呢?

事实证明每一个阶段的解题技能都不是通用的。每张试卷背后隐藏的是英语命题的本质。不同的人必然会有不同的逻辑思维,不同的逻辑思维必然导致不同的出题思路,不同的出题思路必然产生不同的解题方法。举个例子,好多同学喜欢读金庸的武侠小说,那我就问一个关于武林中的问题:这个世界上什么武功天下第一?如来神掌?降龙十八掌?或是打狗棒法?还是九阴真经?到底哪个才是战无不殆、天下无敌呢?相信这个问题没有人能回答。或许问题本身也已经让真正的"武林高手"耻笑了。因为每一种武功本身都有与自己相克的武功存在,开创这种武功的人是根据自己的逻辑思维来编创的。而有谁的逻辑可能完美无缺呢?同样的道理,四六级和考研等各种考试一直是由不同的老师命题,且多年来早已形成了专属于这种考试的逻辑思维方式。我们想在考研英语阅读中取得高分就必须分析命题者的思



维漏洞,从而找到各种题型的解题思路。

那么,如何来分析其思维漏洞呢?显然,我们无法通过在生活中接近命题者,观察其日常生活中的一言一行来寻找其逻辑漏洞;我们最有可能接近命题者的方式只能是也一定是真题!真题是命题者思维的最典型的反映。因此,我们可以通过研究真题来剖析他们的思维,找到我们想要的各种题型的解题方法。

因此,准备考研英语主要要做两件事情:一是读懂文章,这需要以单词和语法为基础;二是分析命题者的命题思路,从而掌握正确的解题思路。

考研英语单词

考研英语需要背哪些单词呢?

这个问题有很多种不同的答案:有人说背考试大纲,有人说背考研词汇手册,还有人说背老师发的讲义。但大多数考生都会忽视真题。实际上,背历年真题阅读中的生词将对你大有裨益。笔者曾做过统计,2005年研究生考试中的所有单词(除极个别专业词汇外)在过去 10 年的阅读真题中几乎都出现过,且重考的频率极高,考查的也总是同样的意思。

那么, 考研复习中应如何记忆单词呢?

笔者建议考研复习时,可采取"化整为零"的方法记忆英语单词;而不建议一天背一百甚至几百个单词,这样不仅浪费宝贵的时间,效果也不会很明显——遗忘率极高。如果你计划一天背20个单词,那你可以把这20个单词分散在一天不同的3个时间段来记忆。早晨起床记6个,午饭后记6个,晚上睡觉前记8个。这样还不占用复习其他功课的时间。第二天再依此往复。其实考研英语所要求的词汇绝大多数是高中词汇,再加上不到800个四六级词汇,因此很快便可以轻松背完。但是在记忆过程中,必须注意及时的复习,即在第二天背单词前一定要复习前一天所记单词,在第三天背单词前一定要复习前两天所记单词,如此往复,到第三十天时你就把第一天的单词背了1次,复习了29次,到时你想忘都挺难。这样的单词记忆方法不仅不会影响你日常的工作学习,记忆效果也会更持久。

考研英语词组

考研复习中需要复习哪些词组呢?我们应主要复习的词组来源两大部分:—是真题阅读理解中考过的词组;二是每年考试大纲解析的完型填空解析部分所归纳的词组。

记忆方法同以上提到的单词记忆的方法。每天记忆 8~10 个词组为佳。

阅读文章长难句的方法: "剥洋葱式" 句子结构分析法

在考研英语中,长难句是我们读懂文章和做好翻译的主要障碍。要想读懂此类长难句就不能



按照普通的阅读方法从第一个词开始读,而应采用英、美人士常在潜意识中使用的"剥洋葱"句子结构分析法。具体分为如下四步:

第一步,确定句子有几个洋葱(一个完整的句子为一个"洋葱",有时只有一个句号却会有好几个完整的句子)。确定的方法是:

- 1. 看句中有没有 and, but 或 yet 等连词,如果有,说明它们前后的句子是独立的,有两个或 多个"洋葱",应该给每个"洋葱"单独剥皮;
- 2. 看句子里有没有特殊的标点符号,包括分号、冒号和破折号,如果有,说明它们前后的句子是独立的"洋葱";

第二步,给每个"洋葱"剥皮(每一个独立的语法结构就是"洋葱"的一层皮);

第三步,把"洋葱"的每层皮(句子的每个独立部分)翻译成中文;

第四步, 把众多简单的中文句子组合成中文长句。

例如: She, who is her mother's daughter, is a girl of beauty which is envied by Lily whose ugliness is so famous in New York where there are so many poors who have a lot of children forbidden to go to school in which they can study how to live in the tedious world, which we all know.

这个句子看起来很简单,但其实很多学生心中有千言万语却不知道从何说起。现在我们用 "剥洋葱法"来分析句子结构:

第一步,因为这个句子没有 and/but/yet, 也没有特殊的标点符号,所以这个句子只有一个洋葱;

第二步,句子按照语法剥皮,划分如下:① she is a girl ② of beauty ③ which is envied by Lily ④ whose ugliness is so famous in New York ⑤ where there are so many poors ⑥ who have a lot of children ⑦ for bidden to go to school ⑧ in which they can study ⑨ how to live in the tedious world ⑩ which we all know ⑪ who is her mother's daughter (插入语总是放到最后解决,翻译时可用括号扩起来);

第三步, 把每层皮分别翻译为中文;

- ① 她是个女孩
- ② 很美丽
- ③ 这种美丽被 Lily 妒忌
- ④ Lily 的丑陋在纽约很著名
- ⑤那里有很多穷人
- ⑥ 那些穷人有许多孩子
- ⑦这些孩子被禁止去学校上学
- ⑧ 在学校里他们可以学习
- ⑨ 如何在这样枯燥的世界生存
- ⑩ 前面所说的事情我们大家都知道
- ① 她是她妈妈的女儿



第四步,把这些简单的中文组合成长句,这个时候就变成简单的中文文字游戏了。

译文: 我们都知道: 她 (她妈妈的女儿) 是个美丽的女孩, 她的美丽被在纽约以丑出名的 Lily 所妒忌; 纽约那个地方有很多的穷人, 他们有许多孩子, 这些孩子没有上学的权利——他们 本可以在学校学到如何在这样枯燥乏味的世界生存。

本书框架

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单元数	14	16	15	16	9	13	11	2	4

本书特色

每篇文章后均明确标注出习题所模仿的真题对象。

文章来源

- 1. Economist
- 2. Newsweek
- 3. U.S. News & World Report
- 4. *TIME*

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> 印建坤 2006年2月

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第一章 经济类

Unit 1

Some of the concerns surrounding Turkey's application to join the European Union, to be voted on by the EU's Council of Ministers on December 17th, are economic—in particular, the country's relative poverty. Its *GDP* per head is less than a third of the average for the 15 pre-2004 members of the EU. But it is not far off that of one of the ten new members which joined on May 1st 2004 (Latvia), and it is much the same as those of two countries, Bulgaria and Romania, which this week concluded *accession* talks with the EU that could make them full members on January 1st 2007.

Furthermore, the country's recent economic progress has been, according to Donald Johnston, the secretary-general of the *OECD*, "stunning". GDP in the second quarter of the year was 13.4% higher than a year earlier, a rate of growth that no EU country comes close to matching. Turkey's inflation rate has just fallen into single figures for the first time since 1972, and this week the country reached an agreement with the IMF on a new three-year, \$10 billion economic programme that will, according to the IMF's managing director, Rodrigo Rato, "help Turkey... reduce inflation toward European levels, and enhance the economy's *resilience*".

Resilience has not historically been the country's economic strong point. As recently as 2001, GDP fell by over 7%. It fell by more than 5% in 1994, and by just under 5% in 1999. Indeed, throughout the 1990s growth oscillated like an electrocardiogram recording a violent heart attack. This irregularity has been one of the main reasons (along with red tape and corruption) why the country has failed dismally to attract much-needed foreign direct investment. Its stock of such investment (as a percentage of GDP) is lower now than it was in the 1980s, and annual inflows have scarcely ever reached \$1 billion (whereas Ireland attracted over \$25 billion in 2003, as did Brazil in every year from 1998 to 2000).

One *deterrent* to foreign investors is due to disappear on January 1st 2005. On that day, Turkey will take away the right of virtually every one of its citizens to call themselves a millionaire. Six *noughts* will be removed from the face value of the *lira*; one unit of the local currency will henceforth be worth what 1m is now—ie, about € 0.53 (\$0.70). Goods will have to be priced in both the new and old lira for the whole of the year, but foreign bankers and investors can begin to look forward to a time in Turkey when they will no longer have to *juggle* mentally with *indeterminate* strings of zeros.

注(1): 本文选自 Economist, 12/18/2004, P(age)115, 2~5P(aragraph);

注(2): 本文习题命题模仿对象:第1、3题分别模仿2004年真题Text 1第1、3题,第2题模仿2001年真题Text 1 第2题,第4题模仿1999年真题Text 2第2题,第5题模仿2002年真题Text 3第4题。

1. What is Turkey's economic situation now?

[A] Its GDP per head is far lagging behind that of

the EU members.

[B] Its inflation rate is still rising.



- [C] Its economy grows faster than any EU member.
 [D] Its economic resilience is very strong.
 We can infer from the second paragraph that ______.
 [A] Turkey will soon catch the average GDP level of the 15 pre-2004 EU members
 [B] inflation rate in Turkey used to be very high
 [C] Turkey's economy will keep growing at present rate
 [D] IMF's economic program will help Turkey join the EU
 The word "oscillated" (Line 3, Paragraph 3) most probably means ______.
 [A] fell
- author implies that _____.
- [A] its stock is far less than that of other countries
- [B] it does not have much influence on Turkey's economic progress
- [C] steady GDP growth will help Turkey attract more foreign direct investment
- [D] Turkey's economic resilience relies on foreign direct investment
- 5. We can draw a conclusion from the text that
 - [A] foreign investment environment in Turkey will become better
 - [B] Turkey's citizens will suffer heavy loss due to the change of the face value of the lira
 - [C] the local currency will depreciate with the removal of six noughts from the face value
 - [D] prices of goods will go up

KEX2: CBDCV

篇章剖析

[B] climbed

[C] developed [D] swang

本文介绍了土耳其的经济状况。第一段将土耳其的经济状况和其他几个欧盟新成员国的经济状况进行了对比,说明土耳其的经济状况并非如人们担心的那样糟糕;第二段对土耳其这几年的经济增长情况进行了简要介绍;第三段说明土耳其的经济缺乏弹性以及由此带来的影响;最后一段说明妨碍投资者的一个因素即将消失。

词汇注释

GDP 国内生产总值(gross domestic product)
accession [æk'seʃən] n. 添加, 增加
OECD 经济合作与发展组织 (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development)
resilience [rɪ'zɪlɪəns] n. 弹回; 有弹力, 恢复力
oscillate ['psɪleɪt] vi. 振荡
electrocardiogram [ɪlektrəʊ'kɑ:dɪəʊgræm] n. 【医】
心电图, 心动电流图(略作 ECG)

4. Speaking of Turkey's foreign direct investment, the

inflow ['Inflau] n. 流人, 流人物
deterrent [dɪ'tɜ:rənt] n. 阻碍物
nought [nɔ:t] n. 无,零
lira ['lɪərə] n. 里拉
juggle ['dʒʌgl] v. (常与 with 连用)玩杂耍
indeterminate [ˌɪɪndɪ'tɜ:mɪnɪt] adj. (在程度、体积、
性质或数量上)不确定的

难句突破

But it is not far off that of one of the ten new members which joined on May 1st 2004 (Latvia), and it is much the same as those of two countries, Bulgaria and Romania, which this week concluded accession talks with the EU that could make them full members on January 1st 2007.

上体句式 It is not far off that and it is much the same as those.

结构分析 这是一个并列句, 在第一个并列分句里有一个 which 引导的定语从句修饰 new members, 在第二个





并列分句里有一个 which 引导的非限定性定语从句修饰 Bulgaria and Romania, 还有一个 that 引导的定语从句, 修饰 accession talks。

旬子译文 但是和 2004 年 5 月 1 日加入欧盟的十个新成员国之——拉脱维亚相比,土耳其差得并不算太远,与保加利亚和罗马尼亚相比则相差无几。这两个国家本周刚刚完成加入欧盟的谈判,并将在2007 年 1 月获得完全成员的地位。

题目分析

- 1. C 细节题。根据文章第二段, 土耳其的经济发展"十分惊人"。接着在第二行, 作者以数据说明土耳其本年度 第二季度的 GDP 增长"no EU country comes close to matching", 可见其经济发展速度超过任何欧盟成员。
- 2. B 推理题。根据文章第二段"土耳其的通货膨胀率自 1972 年以来首次跌进个位数"可知,以前的通货膨胀率 都在两位数甚至更多,是非常高的数字。
- 3. D 语义题。这个词的意思可以根据文中第三段所用的明喻判断出来。文中说,整个 1990 年代, 土耳其的 GDP 增长就好像 "急性心脏病突然发作时的心电图一样",可见 GDP 增长时高时低,峰谷之间的差异较大,所以 oscillated 最有可能的意思就是"摆动,震荡",只有 swang 意思与之相符。
- 4. C 推理题。根据文章第三段, GDP 的不规律性是导致土耳其难以吸引外国直接投资的主要原因, 可见稳定的 GDP 增长有助于土耳其吸引更多的外国直接投资。
- 5. A 推理题。文章第二段介绍了土耳其快速的经济增长。第三段分析了无法吸引急需的外国直接投资的主要原因之一:经济发展不规律性。文章最后一段介绍了一个新情况:抑制国外投资的一个因素有望消除。并在文章末尾提到:外国银行家和投资人现在可以期待今后在土耳其再不用快速心算一串串数不清的零了。由此可见,土耳其的外国投资环境将得到改善。

参考译文

土耳其加入欧盟的申请将于 12 月 17 日在欧盟部长会议上进行表决,围绕该申请进行的一些讨论集中在该国的经济问题,尤其是该国的相对贫困问题。其人均 GDP 还不足 2004 年之前欧盟 15 国人均 GDP 的三分之一。但是和 2004 年 5 月 1 日加入欧盟的十个新成员国之——拉脱维亚相比,土耳其差得并不算太远,与保加利亚和罗马尼亚相比则相差无几。这两个国家本周刚刚完成加入欧盟的谈判,并将在 2007 年 1 月获得完全成员的地位。

不但如此,用经合组织(经济合作和发展组织)秘书长唐纳德·约翰斯顿的话来说,该国最近的经济发展"十分惊人"。本年度第二季度的 GDP 比去年增长了 13.4%,这样的增长速度是任何欧盟成员国都无法匹敌的。土耳其最近的通货膨胀率自 1972 年以来首次降至个位数。本周,该国刚刚同国际货币基金组织新达成一项经济项目协议,为期 3 年,总额 100 亿美元。按照国际货币基金执行总裁罗德里戈·莱托的说法,这一项目将会"帮助土耳其……把通货膨胀率降到欧盟水平,并且增加其经济弹性。"

历史上该国经济并没有很强的韧性。仅在 2001 年,它的 GDP 下降幅度超过 7%。而 1994 年下降幅度超过 5%,1999 年的下滑幅度仅比 5%略低。的确,整个 20 世纪 90 年代,该国的经济走势就好像急性心脏病发作时的心电图一样上下波动。这种发展的不规律性是阻碍该国引进急需的外国直接投资的主要障碍之一(另外还有官僚作风和腐败问题)。目前这类投资总额(占 GDP 的百分之一)比 20 世纪 80 年代的时候还要少,每年的外资流入量很少能够达到 10 亿美元(爱尔兰仅 2003 年一年就吸引外资超过 250 亿美元,而巴西从 1998 年到 2000年每年的外资流入量都达到了这个数字)。

从 2005 年 1 月 1 日起,曾经影响外国投资者的负面因素之一有望消除。届时,几乎所有土耳其公民都无权自称为百万富翁。里拉的面值将减少 6 个 0;这样,当地货币的 1 个货币单位将和现在的 100 万里拉等值——也就是 0.53 欧元(0.70 美元)左右。商品将在一整年内用新旧里拉同时定价,但外国银行家和投资人现在可以期待今后在土耳其再不用快速心算一串串数不清的零了。



Unit 2

Charlie Bell became chief executive of McDonald's in April. Within a month doctors told him that he had colorectal cancer. After stockmarket hours on November 22nd, the fast-food firm said he had resigned; it would need a third boss in under a year. Yet when the market opened, its share price barely dipped then edged higher. After all, McDonald's had, again, shown how to act swiftly and decisively in appointing a new boss.

Mr Bell himself got the top job when Jim Cantalupo died of a heart attack hours before he was due to address a convention of McDonald's *franchisees*. ① Mr Cantalupo was a McDonald's *veteran* brought out of retirement in January 2003 to help remodel the firm after sales began falling because of dirty restaurants, indifferent service and growing concern about junk food. He devised a recovery plan, backed by massive marketing, and promoted Mr Bell to chief operating officer. When Mr Cantalupo died, a rapidly convened board confirmed Mr Bell, a 44-year-old Australian already widely seen as his *heir apparent*, in the top job. The convention got its promised chief executive's address, from the firm's first non-American leader.

Yet within weeks executives had to think about what to do if Mr Bell became too ill to continue. Perhaps Mr Bell had the same thing on his mind: he usually introduced Jim Skinner, the 60-year-old vice-chairman, to visitors as the "steady hand at the wheel". Now Mr Skinner, an expert on the firm's overseas operations, becomes chief executive, and Mike Roberts, head of its American operations, joins the board as chief operating officer.

Is Mr Roberts now the new heir apparent? Maybe. McDonald's has brought in supposedly healthier choices such as salads and toasted sandwiches worldwide and, instead of relying for most of its growth on opening new restaurants, has turned to upgrading its 31,000 existing ones. America has done best at this; under Mr Roberts, *like-for-like* sales there were up by 7.5% in October on a year earlier.

The new team's task is to keep the *revitalisation* plan on course, especially overseas, where some American brands are said to face political hostility from consumers. This is a big challenge. Is an *in-house* succession the best way to tackle it? Mr Skinner and Mr Roberts are both company veterans, having joined in the 1970s. Some recent academic studies find that the planned succession of a new boss *groomed* from within, such as Mr Bell and now (arguably) Mr Roberts, produces better results than looking hastily, or outside, for one. McDonald's smooth handling of its serial misfortunes at the top certainly seems to prove the point. ②Even so, everyone at McDonald's must be hoping that it will be a long time before the firm faces yet another such emergency.

注(1): 本文选自 Economist, 11/27/2004, P64~65, 2P, 1C(olumn);

注(2): 本文习题命题模仿对象:第1题模仿2000年真题Text 1第1题,第2题模仿1995年真题Text 1第2題,第 3题模仿2002年真题Text 2第2選,第4题模仿1998年真题Text 2第2题,第5题模仿1999年真题Text 1 第4题。

- The main reason for the constant change at the top of McDonald is ______.
 - [A] the board's interference
 - [B] the falling sales

- [C] the health problems of the chief executives
- [D] the constant change of its share price
- 2. Which of the following was NOT a cause of the





falling sales of McDonald?

- [A] the change of the chief executive
- [B] people's concern about junk food
- [C] dirty restaurant
- [D] indifferent service
- 3. The phrase "heir apparent" (Line 6, Paragraph 2) in the article most probably means
 - [A] someone who has the same ideas, aims and style with a person
 - [B] someone who has the unalienable right to receive the family title
 - [C] someone who is appointed as a heir of a person
 - [D] someone who is likely to take over a person's position when that person leaves

- 4. In terms of succession at the top, McDonald
 - [A] has had to made rather hasty decisions
 - [B] prefers to appoint a new boss from within
 - [C] acts in a quick and unreasonable way
 - [D] surprises all the people with its decisions
- Toward McDonald's reaction to emergencies at the top, the writer's attitude can be said to be _____.
 - [A] indifferent
 - [B] doubtful
 - [C] objective
 - [D] praiseful

KEK2: CYDBD

篇章剖析

本篇文章介绍了麦当劳高层人事接替的情况,是一篇说明文。第一段介绍了查里·贝尔辞去麦当劳首席执行官一事;第二段追溯了他如何成为麦当劳首席执行官;第三段介绍了麦当劳现任首席执行官如何接任;第四段分析了下一位可能的继任者;最后一段对这种内部接任的方式进行了总结。

词汇注释

colorectal [ˌkəʊlə'rektəl] adj. 【解】结肠直肠的 franchisee [ˌfræntʃaɪ'ziː] n. 特许经营人 veteran ['vetərən] n. 老资格; 老手 heir apparent 有继承权的人; 公认的继任者

like-for-like adj. 同类的
revitalization [riː ˈvaɪtəlaɪ ˈzeɪʃən] n. 振兴; 复兴
in-house [ɪn ˈhaus] adj. 内部的
groom [qruːm] vt. 训练

难句突破

① Mr Cantalupo was a McDonald's veteran brought out of retirement in January 2003 to help remodel the firm after sales began falling because of dirty restaurants, indifferent service and growing concern about junk food.

Mr Canalupo was a McDonald's veteran.

结构分析 这是一个复杂句,表语 veteran 后面有一个过去分词短语 brought out of retirement 作后置定语,这个定语还带有自己的两个状语,一个是不定式短语作目的状语,另外一个是 after 引导的时间状语从句,这个从句中还有一个 because of 引导的原因状语。Bring sb. out of retirement 的意思是"返聘"。

句子译文 坎塔卢波在麦当劳工作过多年,2003年1月被返聘回公司帮助公司进行改革,当时公司餐厅卫生出现问题,服务态度差,顾客对"垃圾食品"不断质疑,业绩下降。

② Even so, everyone at McDonald's must be hoping that it will be a long time before the firm faces yet another such emergency.

Everyone must be hoping that,...

结构分析 这是一个复合句, 句中包含一个由 that 引导的宾语从句, 宾语从句中又含有一个由 before 引导的 状语从句。这个句子的难点在 before 这个词的理解上。通常 before 可以译为"才"。例如: It had been



two days before I realized the problem. (过了两天我才意识到这个问题。)

行子译文 即便如此,相信麦当劳上下一定还是希望不要在近期又面临这类紧急情况。

题目分析

- 1. C 细节题。文章第一段提及 Charlie Bell 辞职的原因是他患了直肠癌;接着又在第二段说他升任总裁是因为他的前任在准备讲演时因为心脏病突发而去世。这样,麦当劳在一年内就不得不寻找第三位总裁。可见麦当劳高层频繁更换人员是因为这些总裁的健康出了问题。
- 2. A 细节题。可参见文章第二段第三行 because of...后面的部分。
- 3. D 语义题。根据上下文, Charlie Bell 被 Jim Cantalupo 提拔为首席运营官之后, 被广泛视为是他的 heir apparent, 接着作者在第四段发问, 现任的首席运营官会不会是现任总裁的 heir apparent 呢? 显然, 这个词组的意思应该是"接替某人职位"的人。
- 4. B 推理题。根据文章, 三位总裁都是麦当劳内部储备的管理人才, 而且下一位继任者也可能内定, 这种内部 选定继任者的办法帮助麦当劳在一连串不幸事件发生后能够平稳交接。可见麦当劳更愿意从内部任命新 老板。
- 5. D 推理题。作者在第一段末评论麦当劳的行动时说道:"麦当劳仍又显示了其在任命新老板方面的快速决断能力。"在文末对麦当劳的内部接任方式进行总结时,作者引用某些学术研究的成果,认为这种方式的效果更好,并以"麦当劳高层在发生一连串的不幸事件后能够平稳地交接似乎清楚地证明了这一点"来加以说明。可见作者对于麦当劳处理高层突发事件的反应是持赞许态度的。

参考译文

查里·贝尔于4月出任麦当劳的首席执行官。上任不到一个月,医生就告诉他患了直肠癌。在11月22日股市交易结束之后,麦当劳宣布了他的辞职消息;该公司一年内将迎来第三位老板。然而,当股市开盘时,该公司的股价略有下降后又再次上扬。麦当劳仍又显示了其在任命新老板方面的快速决断能力。

贝尔先生本人是在吉姆·坎塔卢波死于心脏病突发之后得到这一高层职位的。当时坎塔卢波正准备几个小时之后在麦当劳特许经销商会议上致词。坎塔卢波在麦当劳工作过多年,2003年1月被返聘回公司帮助公司进行改革。当时公司餐厅卫生出现问题,服务态度差,顾客对"垃圾食品"不断质疑,业绩下降。他制定了一项以大规模营销为核心的振兴计划,提拔贝尔先生为首席运营官。坎塔卢波先生去世后,董事会很快开会确定任命贝尔先生为公司领导人的人选,贝尔先生时年44岁,澳大利亚人,早就被公认为公司的继任者。第一位非美籍领导人作为首席执行官在会议上如期进行了讲演。

然而,短短几周之内,公司高层就不得不考虑这么一个问题:如果贝尔先生病重无法继续工作该怎么办?也许,贝尔先生也考虑到了这个问题:他向来访者介绍 60 岁的副总裁吉姆·斯金纳时总是称他为"掌舵能手"。现在公司的海外经营专家斯金纳先生成了公司首席执行官,主管公司美国业务的麦克·罗伯茨则加入董事会成为首席运营官。

罗伯茨先生是不是新的继任者呢?也许。麦当劳在全球推出了更加健康的食品,比如沙拉和烤三明治,改变了以增开新店为主的企业发展战略,开始关注改进现有的31,000家连锁快餐店的经营状况。在罗伯茨先生的努力下,美国公司在这方面做得最好;美国麦当劳10月的同期销售额比1年前增长了7.5%。

新团队的任务就是坚持振兴计划,尤其是海外业务,据说某些美国品牌在海外遭遇到了消费者的政治敌意。这是一个巨大的挑战。内部接任是不是迎接这种挑战的最佳方式呢? 斯金纳先生和罗伯茨先生都是 20 世纪 70 年代就加入公司的资深管理人员。最近的一些学术研究发现,内定的新老板——比如贝尔先生和现在(还未最终宣布)的罗伯茨先生——按计划接任会比草率任命一个新老板或者从外部聘请新老板效果更好。麦当劳高层在发生一连串的不幸事件后能够平稳地交接似乎清楚地证明了这一点。即便如此,相信麦当劳上下一定还是希望不要在近期内又面临这类紧急情况。



Unit 3

The annual review of American company board practices by Korn/Ferry, a firm of *headhunters*, is a useful indicator of the health of corporate *governance*. This year's review, published on November 12th, shows that the Sarbanes-Oxley act, passed in 2002 to try to prevent a repeat of corporate collapses such as Enron's and WorldCom's, has had an impact on the *boardroom—albeit* at an average implementation cost that Korn/Ferry estimates at \$5.1m per firm.

Two years ago, only 41% of American firms said they regularly held meetings of directors without their chief executive present; this year the figure was 93%. But some things have been surprisingly unaffected by the *backlash* against corporate scandals. For example, despite a growing feeling that former chief executives should not sit on their company's board, the percentage of American firms where they do has actually edged up, from 23% in 2003 to 25% in 2004.

Also, disappointingly few firms have split the jobs of chairman and chief executive. Another survey of American boards published this week, by A.T. Kearney, a firm of consultants, found that in 2002 14% of the boards of S&P 500 firms had separated the roles, and a further 16% said they planned to do so. But by 2004 only 23% overall had *taken the plunge*. A survey earlier in the year by consultants at McKinsey found that 70% of American directors and investors supported the idea of splitting the jobs, which is standard practice in Europe.

Another disappointment is the slow progress in abolishing "staggered" boards—ones where only one-third of the directors are up for reelection each year, to three-year terms. Invented as a defence against takeover, such boards, according to a new Harvard Law School study by Lucian Bebchuk and Alma Cohen, are unambiguously "associated with an economically significant reduction in firm value".

Despite this, the percentage of S&P 500 firms with staggered boards has fallen only slightly—from 63% in 2001 to 60% in 2003, according to the Investor Responsibility Research Centre. And many of those firms that have been forced by shareholders to abolish the system are doing so only slowly. Merck, a pharmaceutical company in trouble over the possible side-effects of its arthritis drug Vioxx, is allowing its directors to run their full term before introducing a system in which they are all reelected (or otherwise) annually. Other companies' staggered boards are entrenched in their corporate charters, which cannot be amended by a shareholders' vote. Anyone who expected the scandals of 2001 to bring about rapid change in the balance of power between managers and owners was, at best, naive.

注(1): 本文选自 Economist, 11/13/2004, P67~67, 4~9P;

注(2): 本文习题命题模仿对象:第1题模仿1998年真题Text 1第2题,第2、3题分别模仿2002年真题Text 2第 2题和Text 5第3题,第4题模仿2004年真题Text 4第2题,第5题模仿1999年真题Text 1第4题。

- 1. The Sarbanes-Oxley act is most probably about
 - [A] corporate scandal
 - [B] corporate management
 - [C] corporate cost

- [D] corporate governance
- 2. The word "backlash" (Line 3, Paragraph 2) most probably means
 - [A] a violent force

