



张鑫友 大学英语应试系列

大学英语四级考试

挑战 极限

阅读理解

主编 张鑫友



应试指导
解题技巧
模拟训练
试题解析



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★张鑫友大学英语应试系列

大学英语四级考试挑战极限

——阅读理解

主 编 张鑫友

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前 言

《大学英语四级考试挑战极限》是根据最新《大学英语教学大纲》和全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会最近几年已公布的各种新题型而设计和编写的一套系列丛书。全套丛书共分5册：《大学英语四级考试挑战极限——听力理解》、《大学英语四级考试挑战极限——写作范文》、《大学英语四级考试挑战极限——阅读理解》、《大学英语四级考试挑战极限——词汇结构》及《大学英语四级考试挑战极限——模拟试题》。前四册书分别为大学英语四级考试几种题型的单项训练，最后一册书是前四册书的综合，即大学英语四级考试的综合模拟试题。

本册为《大学英语四级考试挑战极限——阅读理解》，是根据四级考试中出现的阅读题、翻译题、简答题和完形填空题这四种题型而设计、编写的。本书共分三个部分：第一部分是“应试指导”，精辟到位地介绍了各类题型的解题技巧，易懂实用；第二部分为十二套“模拟训练”题，每套题都包括四篇文章阅读、五句翻译、一篇简答和一篇空形填空；第三部分为“答案与解析”，给出第二部分十二套模拟训练题的答案，并进行了详细的分析。

值得一提的是，模拟训练题中的短文，其长度和难易度与四级考试相当，用于考前强化训练，效果良好。并且本书介绍了简答题的最新形式，并配以了模拟训练和解答。因此，我们相信本

书一定有助于广大读者熟悉题型以及解题技巧，提高阅读理解能力，轻松备考。

编 者

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第一部分 应试指导

本书名为《大学英语阅读理解》，实际上包括大学英语四级考试中的阅读理解、翻译、简短回答和完形填空四种题型。这四种题型从内容和测试目的来看均属阅读理解的范围，都是测试考生对一篇文章的理解，只是所测试的程度和题目的表现形式不同罢了。正是基于这一点，本书从实际出发，把它们广义地统称为“阅读理解”，即学生阅读一篇文章或一段短文后，对文章意义进行一般的或深层次的理解，并据此完成一定形式的试题。下面就如何在大学英语四级考试中解答这四种题型作一简要的介绍。

一、阅读理解题的解题技巧

狭义的“阅读理解”是指大学英语四级考试中的 Reading Comprehension 这种题型。这种题型主要测试考生通过阅读获取信息的能力，具体包括：掌握所读材料的主旨和大意的能力；了解表明主旨和大意的事实与细节的能力；理解字面的意思，并进行推理和判断的能力；掌握上下文逻辑关系的能力等。在考试中，该题型一般有 4 篇短文，总阅读量为 1300 词左右，文后共有 20 个单项选择题，考生必须在 35 分钟内读完短文并完成全部试题。因此，这就要求考生具有较强的阅读能力，阅读时既有质量又有速度。阅读能力的培养并非一朝一夕之事，考生应在平时多下功夫。如不断

扩大自己的词汇量,词汇量大,阅读时遇到的生词就少,理解起来也就相对容易;又如,应养成良好的阅读习惯,熟悉并掌握一些基本的阅读技巧,只有这样才能提高阅读的速度和理解的准确性;此外,大量的阅读实践也是十分必要的。就考试而言,平时的学习和积累至关重要,同时对出题思路、题目类型和解题技巧的了解以及考试前的强化训练也是非常重要的。下面我们就来谈谈阅读理解题的考题类型和解题要点。

1. 有关主题思想的考题

这类考题主要考核学生在语篇水平上进行归纳、综合与分析的能力,要求学生在阅读中抓住主要信息,把握文章中心思想或段落大意,题目通常采用以下形式:

- 1) This passage is mainly about ____.
- 2) The author's purpose in writing the passage is to ____.
- 3) The major point discussed in the passage is ____.
- 4) The best title for the passage would be ____.
- 5) The passage tells us ____.
- 6) What is the passage mainly about?
- 7) Which of the following best explains the main idea of the passage?

在解这类题目时,我们应先把文章迅速地浏览一遍,找出各段的主题句。主题句往往概括了该段落的基本内容。在英语文章中,主题句经常出现在段首,当然有时也会出现在段中或段尾。如果该短文没有主题句或者无法确定主题句,考生则应根据文章中提到的人物、地点、事件、有关观点等确定文章的话题范围,从而进一步归纳出文章的主题。确定主题之后,考生就应仔细阅读每个选项。有些选项的说法与文章不相符,肯定不是正确答案。有些选项概括得太泛,有些又太窄,太泛或太窄的说法也都不可能是正确答案,因为反映文章主题思想的句子一定是既有概括性又不失

具体。

2. 推理、判断题

这类考题要求学生在理解文章字面意思的基础上进行一定的推理和判断,理解文章字里行间的含义。常见的题目形式有:

- 1) It can be inferred from the passage that ____.
- 2) It can be concluded from the passage that ____.
- 3) We can safely conclude from the passage that ____.
- 4) The author implies that ____.
- 5) We can safely say from the passage that ____.
- 6) The passage suggests that ____.
- 7) What does the author imply by saying...?
- 8) The author believes that ____.
- 9) It can be seen from the passage that ____.
- 10) The passage is most likely a part of ____.

这类题目一般无法在文章中直接找到答案,难度稍大,但只要仔细推敲、分析还是可以正确解答的。考生需注意的是一定要根据原文提供的信息来进行推理和判断,不能想当然地以个人的想法为依据。

3. 有关事实、细节的考题

这类题目在四级考试中占有相当大的比例,旨在考查学生对重要事实与细节的辨认能力。题目形式多种多样,常见而典型的有:

- 1) Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE?
- 2) Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage?
- 3) All of the following are true except ____.
- 4) The reason for... is ____.
- 5) What...?

6) Why...?

一般说来,解这类题目时,考生只要针对题目查找原文,找到相关的句子,即可解决问题,但选择项一般不是文中的原话。有时也需要进行综合判断,一些有关数字的题目还需要进行推算。另外,对问何者为 true 或者 not true 之类的是非题,首先要注意审题,不要把题目看错了。

4. 有关作者的态度、语气等的考题

这类题目主要考查学生对作者的态度、语气等的把握是否正确,即在语篇水平上对文章内容的理解是否正确,通常采用以下问题:

- 1) The author's attitude towards... is ____.
- 2) The tone of the author is ____.
- 3) What is the general tone of the article?
- 4) The tone of the author is one of ____.
- 5) The attitude of... towards... is generally one of ____.

这类题目的选择项中常出现下列单词: approving, concerned, critical, defensive, disappointed, disgusted, doubtful, enthusiastic, friendly, hostile, humorous, indifferent, indignant, ironic, light-hearted, matter-of-fact, negative, neutral, objective, optimistic, pessimistic, positive, questioning, sarcastic, satirical, serious, subjective, suspicious, sympathetic 等,考生应理解其确切含义。

考生在解这类题目时,要注意作者的措辞,从整体上把握文章的基调。有时文章中的某一句话就能提供足够的解题信息。

5. 有关词汇和长句、难句的理解题

词汇及长句、难句的理解也是常考的内容。常考的词主要有三种类型:一是考生不认识但可以通过上下文猜出意思的词;二是考生曾经学过但在特定的上下文中有特定解释的词;三是代词,即

要求考生正确理解某个指代关系。长句和难句结构复杂,生词较多,理解上有一定的困难,所以也经常成为出题的对象。这类考题典型的提问方式有:

- 1) The word "... " probably means ____ .
- 2) The word "... " could best be replaced by ____ .
- 3) What does the word "... " refer to?
- 4) By saying "... ", the author means ____ .
- 5) When the author says "... ", he means ____ .
- 6) Which of the following is closest in meaning to the sentence "... "?

解词汇题时,考生可以依据构词法进行猜测,也可根据上下文所提供的信息寻找答案。代词的指代关系也应在上下文中确定。在理解长句和难句时,应首先找出句子的主干部分,弄清句子的结构。其中的生词,若影响理解,就要设法猜测其含义;若无关紧要,不影响理解,则可弃之不理。

以上我们对阅读解中的考题进行了粗略的分类。需要说明的是这几类题目并不是各自独立、互不相干的,所以考生在解题时要根据实际情况,灵活地运用各种阅读方法和解题技巧。

下面我们以大学英语四级考试全真试题中的两篇阅读理解为例,来具体地看看这种题型的解题方法。

Passage One

A rapid means of long-distance transportation became a necessity for the United States as settlement (新拓居地) spread ever farther westward. The early trains were impractical curiosities, and for a long time the railroad companies met with troublesome mechanical problems. The most serious ones were the construction of rails able to bear the load, and the development of a safe, effective stopping system. Once these were solved, the railroad was established as the best means of land transportation. By

1860 there were thousands of miles of railroads crossing the eastern mountain ranges and reaching westward to the Mississippi. There were also regional southern and western lines.

The high point in railroad building came with the construction of the first transcontinental system. In 1862 Congress authorized two western railroad companies to build lines from Nebraska westward and from California eastward to a meeting point, so as to complete a transcontinental crossing linking the Atlantic seaboard with the Pacific. The Government helped the railroads generously with money and land. Actual work on this project began four years later. The Central Pacific Company, starting from California, used Chinese labor, while the Union Pacific employed crews of Irish labourers. The two groups worked at remarkable speed, each trying to cover a greater distance than the other. In 1869 they met at a place called Promontory in what is now the state of Utah. Many visitors came there for the great occasion. There were joyous celebrations all over the country, with parades and the ringing of church bells to honor the great achievement.

The railroad was very important in encouraging westward movement. It also helped build up industry and farming by moving raw materials and by distributing products rapidly to distant markets. In linking towns and people to one another it helped unify the United States.

1) The major problems with America's railroad system in the mid 19th century lay in ____.

- A) poor quality rails and unreliable stopping system
- B) lack of financial support for development
- C) limited railroad lines
- D) lack of a transcontinental railroad

2) The building of the first transcontinental system ____.

- A) brought about a rapid growth of industry and farming in the west
 - B) attracted many visitors to the construction sites
 - C) attracted labourers from Europe
 - D) encouraged people to travel all over the country
- 3) The best title for this passage would be ____ .
- A) Settlement Spread Westward
 - B) The Coast-to-Coast Railroad: A Vital Link
 - C) American Railroad History
 - D) The Importance of Trains in the American Economy
- 4) The construction of the transcontinental railroad took ____ .
- A) 9 years B) 7 years C) 4 years D) 3 years
- 5) What most likely made people think about a transcontinental railroad?
- A) The possibility of government support for such a task.
 - B) The need to explore Utah.
 - C) The need to connect the east coast with the west.
 - D) The need to develop the railroad industry in the west.

第1题答案为A。这是一个有关细节的问题。针对该问题,考生迅速地浏览全文便可发现,第一段的第三句话已告诉我们,当时最严重的问题是没有能承载重负荷的铁轨和安全、有效的制动系统,所以正确答案是A。

第2题答案为A。该题要求考生辨认文中的一个重要细节,问的是第一条横贯美国大陆的铁路的建成起了什么作用。我们带着问题找到文章的第三段就可以知道,这条铁路在鼓励人们向西部迁移方面起了很重要的作用,它解决了原材料和产品的运输问题,促进了西部工农业的发展,所以正确答案为A。

第3题答案为B。该题考的是文章的主旨,即中心思想。综观全文我们可以发现,文章用很大的篇幅描写了第一条横贯美国大陆的铁路的建设情况并指出了它在经济等方面所起的作用,因

此最合适的题目应该是 B。A 项只是原文第一句话中提到的一点,根本不是文章的中心话题。C 项也不对,因为文章尽管与美国铁路的发展有关,但并不是全面地论述美国铁路的发展史。D 项也欠妥,因为文章只着重谈了 *transcontinental railroad* 这一条铁路对西部发展所起的作用,并不是总述铁路对美国经济发展的重要性。

第 4 题答案为 D。这道题要求考生仔细阅读原文并进行推算。文章第二段指出,美国国会于 1862 年授权两家铁路公司建设该铁路,实际的建造工作 4 年后才开始,并于 1869 年结束,故正确答案为 D。

第 5 题答案为 C。该题是一道推理题,考查考生根据上下文作出正确推断的能力。A 项和 B 项在文中找不到依据,D 项也明显不是正确的推论,只有 C 项正确。文章第一句话已指出,随着新的居住地不断向西扩展、延伸,快捷的长途运输工具成为急需解决的问题,由此可推出正确答案是 C。

Passage Two

Where do pesticides (杀虫剂) fit into the picture of environmental disease? We have the power to make our streams fishless and our gardens and woodlands silent and birdless. Man, however much he may like to pretend the contrary, is part of nature. Can he escape a pollution that is now so thoroughly distributed throughout our world?

We know that even single exposure to these chemicals, if the amount is large enough, can cause extremely severe poisoning. But this is not the major problem. The sudden illness or death of farmers, farm workers, and others exposed to sufficient quantities of pesticides are very sad and should not occur. For the population as a whole, we must be more concerned with the delayed effects of absorbing small amounts of the pesticides that invisibly pollute our world.

Responsible public health officials have pointed out that the biologi-

cal effects of chemicals are cumulative (累积的) over long periods of time, and that the danger to the individual may depend on the sum of the exposures received throughout his lifetime. For these very reasons the danger is easily ignored. It is human nature to shake off what may seem to us a threat of future disaster. "Men are naturally most impressed by diseases which have obvious signs," says a wise physician, Dr Rene Dubos, "yet some of their worst enemies slowly approach them unnoticed."

1) Which of the following is closest in meaning to the sentence "Man, however much he may like to pretend the contrary, is part of nature." (Para. 1)?

- A) Man appears indifferent to what happens in nature.
- B) Man acts as if he does not belong to nature.
- C) Man can avoid the effects of environmental pollution.
- D) Man can escape his responsibilities for environmental protection.

2) What is the author's attitude towards the environmental effects of pesticides?

- A) Pessimistic.
- B) Indifferent.
- C) Defensive.
- D) Concerned.

3) In the author's view, the sudden death caused by exposure to large amounts of pesticides ____.

- A) is not the worst of the negative consequences resulting from the use of pesticides
- B) now occurs most frequently among all accidental deaths
- C) has sharply increased so as to become the centre of public attention
- D) is unavoidable because people can't do without pesticides in farming

4) People tend to ignore the delayed effects of exposure to chemicals because ____.

- A) limited exposure to them does little harm to people's health

- B) the present is more important for them than the future
C) the danger does not become apparent immediately
D) humans are capable of withstanding small amounts of poisoning
- 5) It can be concluded from Dr Dubos' remarks that _____.
A) people find invisible diseases difficult to deal with
B) attacks by hidden enemies tend to be fatal
C) diseases with obvious signs are easy to cure
D) people tend to overlook hidden dangers caused by pesticides

第1题答案为B。学生解题时应首先抓住该句的主干部分——Man is part of nature。这个句子的主谓语之间插入了一个让步从句,理解 pretend the contrary 中的 contrary 是相对什么而言的是解题的关键。这个从句的意思是“however much he may like to pretend that he is not part of nature”。理解了整个句子的意思后我们就可确定B项为正确答案。

第2题答案为D。作者没有在文中直接表明自己的态度,但综观全文我们不难断定,作者对杀虫剂污染环境这一问题是很关心、很担忧的。作者在文中描写了杀虫剂对环境的破坏,并且指出人们不仅要看到大剂量杀虫剂的危害,更应该关注小剂量杀虫剂进入人体后累积起来所造成的更大的危害。显然正确答案是D。

第3题答案为A。针对问题查找原文,我们可以很快发现,文章的第二段讲的是一次性接触大剂量的杀虫剂可以引起严重后果,但这并不是最主要的问题,人们更应该关注小剂量杀虫剂对人体潜在的危害及对世界的慢性污染。这也就是说,作者认为一次性接触大剂量杀虫剂而引起的死亡并不是最严重的问题。B、C、D三项所述内容在文中都找不到依据。

第4题答案为C。这是一个有关文章的细节并要求学生作出适当推断的问题。文章第三段的前半部分告诉我们,化学制品的生物作用是长期积累的结果,它们对人体的危害取决于人在一生