

大学英语



4级标准阅读 精练600题

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STANDARD READING
OF CET-4:600

杨智敏 程绍华 主编



大连理工大学出版社





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前言

对于大多数语言学习者来说,“听、说、读、写”四项语言技能中,“读”可以说是最应该掌握的、也是最有用的的一项技能。不是每个人都有出国的机会、有跟外国人工作和聊天的场合以及用英文表达自己的需要,在信息和商业高度发达的今天,英文的文字信息随时会出现在我们的生活中——在各种各样的商品说明书上。同时,我们都需要查阅先进的信息,开阔视野,丰富和改进工作和生活,所以“读”就尤为重要。

为了提高广大考生的阅读能力,使他们能顺利通过考试,我们在本书中选编了 30 套,共计 600 题的阅读文章。其中有 1995 年 1 月到 2005 年 1 月四级考试的 22 套试题和 8 套模拟题。选编大量阅读真题是因为真题具有可信度、准确性和真实性,能把握考试的趋势,而这样的文章是考生在大学毕业后,应该达到的初级阅读水平,可以作为考生衡量自己阅读能力的一个量尺。

本书的主要编写板块如下:词汇点津——我们将考点词汇在原文中用序号标出,讲解时既给出文章中用法,让原句复现在例句中,又给出其他重要用法;篇章大意——给出每一段的段落大意,在指出每篇文章结构的同时,使大家领悟英文的篇章结构特点,从而在考试中,可以针对不同的试题,快速地确定相关信息所在的段落,准确地得出答案;难句突破——克服语法难点,突出重点语法现象;试题解析——分析试题类型、提示出题陷阱、指出应试技巧。

本书具有以下特点:

1. 题量大,信息量大,考生可以扎扎实实复习操作

本书所选材料为 1995 年 1 月四级考试的 22 套全真试题及另外 8 套全真模拟题,共 120 篇文章,600 道题。如此大的阅读题库为考生提供较为实惠的复习资料。

2. 真题真做,模拟练兵,科学分配

十年真题,效度高,具有真实性,能准确把握考试趋势。8 套全真模拟试题,一线教师精心选编,考前大练兵,最后在真题中检验个人模拟练习之效果。这种“真题——模拟——真题”的分配方法科学有效。

3. 在阅读中掌握四级词汇

将文章中出现的重点词汇用序号突出标注,在“词汇点津”部分将该词所在句子中的原文重现,并给出其他常用词义及例句,在语境中背单词,理解单词又能加深对篇章的理解,起到一箭双雕的作用。

4. 答案讲解精辟透彻,处处为考生着想

每个单元后加入“篇章大意”、“难句突破”和“试题解析”几个部分。“篇章大意”给出文章每一段段落大意;“难句突破”则对文章中的长难句作以具体分析解说;“试题解析”扫清阅读练习中的疑惑。各个板块紧密结合,逐步提高阅读能力。

我们的目的是为大家在阅读的乐趣和考试的压力间营造一个缓冲,使大家带着一份良好的心情和充分的准备,突破阅读考试大关。

在本书的编辑中,我们参考了一些相关的国内外资料,在此我们谨向作者表示感谢。董研研和杜晓冰参与了本书的校正,特此感谢。

本书不足之处,期望大家批评指正。

编 者

2005 年 1 月

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Unit 1

(2005 年 1 月)

Passage 1

Scratchy throats, stuffy noses and body aches all spell misery¹, but being able to tell if the cause² is a cold or *flu* (流感) may make a difference in how long the misery lasts.

The American Lung Association (ALA) has issued new guidelines on combating³ colds and the flu, and one of the keys is being able to quickly tell the two apart⁴. That's because the prescription drugs available for the flu need to be taken soon after the illness sets in. As for colds, the sooner a person starts taking over-the-counter remedy, the sooner relief⁵ will come.

The common cold and the flu are both caused by viruses⁶. More than 200 viruses can cause cold symptoms, while the flu is caused by three viruses—flu A, B and C. There is no cure for either illness, but the flu can be prevented by the flu vaccine (疫苗), which is, for most people, the best way to fight the flu, according to the ALA.

But if the flu does strike, quick action can help. Although the flu and common cold have many similarities⁷, there are some obvious signs to look for.

Cold symptoms such as stuffy nose, runny nose and scratchy throat typically develop gradually, and adults and teens often do not get a fever. On the other hand, fever is one of the characteristic features of the flu for all ages. And in general, flu symptoms⁸ including fever and chills, sore throat and body aches come on suddenly and are more severe than cold symptoms.

The ALA notes that it may be particularly difficult to tell when infants and preschool age children have the flu. It advises parents to call the doctor if their small children have flu-like symptoms.

Both cold and flu symptoms can be eased with over-the-counter medications as well. However, children and teens with a cold or flu should not take aspirin for pain relief because of the risk of Reye syndrome (综合症), a rare but serious condition of the liver and central nervous system.

There is, of course, no vaccine for the common cold. But frequent hand washing and avoiding close contact with people who have colds can reduce the likelihood⁹ of catching one.

1. According to the author, knowing the cause of the misery will help _____.

- A) shorten the duration of the illness
- B) the patient buy medicine over the counter
- C) the patient obtain cheaper prescription drugs
- D) prevent people from catching colds and the flu

2. We learn from the passage that _____.
- A) one doesn't need to take any medicine if he has a cold or the flu
 - B) aspirin should not be included in over-the-counter medicines for the flu
 - C) delayed treatment of the flu will harm the liver and central nervous system
 - D) over-the-counter drugs can be taken to ease the misery caused by a cold or the flu
3. According to the passage, to combat the flu effectively, _____.
- A) one should identify the virus which causes it
 - B) one should consult a doctor as soon as possible
 - C) one should take medicine upon catching the disease
 - D) one should remain alert when the disease is spreading
4. Which of the following symptoms will distinguish the flu from a cold?
- A) A stuffy nose.
 - B) A high temperature.
 - C) A sore throat.
 - D) A dry cough.
5. If children have flu-like symptoms, their parents _____.
- A) are advised not to give them aspirin
 - B) should watch out for signs of Reye syndrome
 - C) are encouraged to take them to hospital for vaccination
 - D) should prevent them from mixing with people running a fever

Passage 2

In a time of low academic¹ achievement by children in the United States, many Americans are turning to Japan, a country of high academic achievement and economic success, for possible answers. However, the answers provided by Japanese preschools are not the ones Americans expected to find. In most Japanese preschools, surprisingly little emphasis is put on academic instruction². In one investigation, 300 Japanese and 210 American preschool teachers, child development specialists, and parents were asked about various aspects³ of early childhood education. Only 2 percent of the Japanese respondents (答问卷者) listed "to give children a good start academically" as one of their top three reasons for a society to have preschools. In contrast, over half of the American respondents chose this as one of their top three choices⁴. To prepare children for successful careers in first grade and beyond, Japanese schools do not teach reading, writing, and mathematics, but rather skills such as persistence, concentration, and the ability to function⁵ as a member of a group. The vast majority⁶ of young Japanese children are taught to read at home by their parents.

In the recent comparison⁷ of Japanese and American preschool education, 91 percent of Japanese respondents chose providing children with a group experience as one of their top three reasons for a society to have preschools. Sixty-two percent of the more individually oriented (强调个性发展的) Americans listed group experience as one of their top three choices. An emphasis on the importance of the group seen in Japanese early childhood education continues into elementary school education.

Like in America, there is diversity⁸ in Japanese early childhood education. Some Japanese kindergartens have specific aims, such as early musical training or potential development. In large cities, some kindergartens are attached to universities that have elementary and secondary schools. Some Japanese parents believe that if their young children attend a

university-based program, it will increase the children's chances of eventually being admitted to top-rated schools and universities. Several more progressive programs have introduced free play as a way out for the heavy intellectualizing in some Japanese kindergartens.

6. We learn from the first paragraph that many Americans believe _____.
 A) Japanese parents are more involved in preschool education than American parents
 B) Japan's economic success is a result of its scientific achievements
 C) Japanese preschool education emphasizes academic instruction
 D) Japan's higher education is superior to theirs
7. Most Americans surveyed believe that preschools should also attach importance to _____.
 A) problem solving
 B) group experience
 C) parental guidance
 D) individually-oriented development
8. In Japan's preschool education, the focus is on _____.
 A) preparing children academically
 B) developing children's artistic interests
 C) tapping children's potential
 D) shaping children's character
9. Free play has been introduced in some Japanese kindergartens in order to _____.
 A) broaden children's horizon
 B) cultivate children's creativity
 C) lighten children's study load
 D) enrich children's knowledge
10. Why do some Japanese parents send their children to university based kindergartens?
 A) They can do better in their future studies.
 B) They can accumulate more group experience there.
 C) They can be individually oriented when they grow up.
 D) They can have better chances of getting a first-rate education.

Passage 3

Lead deposits, which accumulated in soil and snow during the 1960's and 70's, were primarily the result of leaded gasoline emissions¹ originating² in the United States. In the twenty years that the Clean Air Act has mandated unleaded gas use in the United States, the lead accumulation world-wide has decreased significantly.

A study published³ recently in the journal *Nature* shows that air-borne leaded gas emissions from the United States were the leading contributor to the high concentration⁴ of lead in the snow in Greenland. The new study is a result of the continued research led by Dr. Charles Boutron, an expert on the impact of heavy metals on the environment at the National Center for Scientific Research in France. A study by Dr. Boutron published in 1991 showed that lead levels in *arctic* (北极的) snow were declining.

In his new study, Dr. Boutron found the ratios⁵ of the different forms of lead in the leaded gasoline used in the United States were different from the ratios of European, Asian and Canadian gasolines and thus enabled scientists to *differentiate* (分区) the lead sources. The dominant⁶ lead ratio found in Greenland snow matched that found in gasoline from the United States.

In a study published in the journal *Ambio*, scientists found that lead levels in soil in the

North-eastern United States had decreased markedly since the introduction of unleaded gasoline.

Many scientists had believed that the lead would stay in soil and snow for a longer period.

The authors of the *Ambio* study examined samples of the upper layers of soil taken from the same sites⁷ of 30 forest floors in New England, New York and Pennsylvania in 1980 and 1990. The forest environment processed and redistributed the lead faster than the scientists had expected.

Scientists say both studies demonstrate⁸ that certain parts of the *ecosystem* (生态系统) respond rapidly to reductions in atmospheric pollution, but that these findings should not be used as a license to pollute.

11. The study published in the journal *Nature* indicates that _____.

- A) the Clean Air Act has not produced the desired results
- B) lead deposits in arctic snow are on the increase
- C) lead will stay in soil and snow longer than expected
- D) the US is the major source of lead pollution in arctic snow

12. Lead accumulation world-wide decreased significantly after the use of unleaded gas in the US _____.

- A) was discouraged
- B) was enforced by law
- C) was prohibited by law
- D) was introduced

13. How did scientists discover the source of lead pollution in Greenland?

- A) By analyzing the data published in journals like *Nature* and *Ambio*.
- B) By observing the lead accumulations in different parts of the arctic area.
- C) By studying the chemical elements of soil and snow in Northeastern America.
- D) By comparing the chemical compositions of leaded gasoline used in various countries.

14. The authors of the *Ambio* study have found that _____.

- A) forests get rid of lead pollution faster than expected
- B) lead accumulations in forests are more difficult to deal with
- C) lead deposits are widely distributed in the forests of the US
- D) the upper layers of soil in forests are easily polluted by lead emissions

15. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that scientists _____.

- A) are puzzled by the mystery of forest pollution
- B) feel relieved by the use of unleaded gasoline
- C) still consider lead pollution a problem
- D) lack sufficient means to combat lead pollution

Passage 4

Exercise is one of the few factors¹ with a positive role in long-term maintenance of body weight. Unfortunately, that message has not gotten through to the average American, who would rather try switching to "light" beer and low-calorie bread than increase physical exertion². The Centers for Disease Control, for example, found that fewer than one-fourth of overweight³ adults who were trying to shed⁴ pounds said they were combining exercise with their diet.

In rejecting⁵ exercise, some people may be discouraged too much by caloric-expenditure

charts; for example, one would have to briskly walk three miles just to work off the 275 calories in one delicious Danish *pastry* (小甜饼). Even exercise professionals concede⁶ half a point here. "Exercise by itself is a very tough⁷ way to lose weight," says York Onnen, program director of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Still, exercise's supporting role in weight reduction is vital⁸. A study at the Boston University Medical Center of overweight police officers and other public employees confirmed that those who dieted without exercise regained almost all their old weight, while those who worked exercise into their daily routine maintained their new weight.

If you have been *sedentary* (极少活动的) and decide to start walking one mile a day, the added exercise could burn an extra 100 calories daily. In a year's time, assuming no increase in food intake, you could lose ten pounds. By increasing the distance of your walks gradually and making other dietary adjustments, you may lose even more weight.

16. What is said about the average American in the passage?
- They tend to exaggerate the healthful effect of "light" beer.
 - They usually ignore the effect of exercise on losing weight.
 - They prefer "light" beer and low-calorie bread to other drinks and food.
 - They know the factors that play a positive role in keeping down body weight.
17. Some people dislike exercise because _____.
- they think it is physically exhausting
 - they find it hard to exercise while on a diet
 - they don't think it possible to walk 3 miles every day
 - they find consulting caloric-expenditure charts troublesome
18. "Even exercise professionals concede half a point here." (Line 3, Para. 2) means "They _____."
- agree that the calories in a small piece of pastry can be difficult to work off by exercise
 - partially believe diet plays a supporting role in weight reduction
 - are not fully convinced that dieting can help maintain one's new weight
 - are not sufficiently informed of the positive role of exercise in losing weight
19. What was confirmed by the Boston University Medical Center's study?
- Controlling one's calorie intake is more important than doing exercise.
 - Even occasional exercise can help reduce weight.
 - Weight reduction is impossible without exercise.
 - One could lose ten pounds in a year's time if there's no increase in food intake.
20. What is the author's purpose in writing this article?
- To justify the study of the Boston University Medical Center.
 - To stress the importance of maintaining proper weight.
 - To support the statement made by York Onnen.
 - To show the most effective way to lose weight.

参考答案

Passage 1 A D C B A

Passage 2 C B D C D

Passage 3 D B D A C

Passage 4 B B B C D

Passage 1

词汇点津

1. misery

n. (C; U) 痛苦; 不幸; 悲惨 ▲ Scratchy throats, stuffy noses and body aches all spell *misery*...

2. cause

n. (C) 原因 ▲ ...being able to tell if the *cause* is a cold or...

vt. 引起; 促成 ▲ More than 200 viruses can *cause* cold symptoms...

n. (C) 目标; 理想 ▲ fight for the *cause* of world peace 为世界和平而战

3. combat

vt. 跟……作斗争, 抗击 ▲ ... new guidelines on *combating* colds and the flu...

vi. 搏斗; 斗争 (常与 with, against 连用); 为……奋斗 (for) ▲ *combat* with one's opponents 与对手斗争

n. (C; U) 格斗, 搏斗; 战斗 ▲ He was killed in *combat*.

4. apart

adv. 分开; 离开 ▲ ...one of the keys is being able to quickly tell the two *apart*.

5. relief

n. (U) (痛苦等的)减轻 ▲ ...the sooner a person starts taking over-the-counter remedy, the sooner *relief* will come.

n. (U) 救助, 救济 ▲ to send *relief* to flood victims 将救济物资运送给遭受水灾的灾民

6. virus

n. (C) 病毒 ▲ ... are both caused by *viruses*.

7. similarity

n. (C) 类似, 类似处 ▲ Although the flu and common cold have many *similarities*, there are some obvious signs to look for.

8. symptom

n. (C) 症状, 征兆 ▲ ... flu *symptoms* including fever and chills, sore throat and body aches...

9. likelihood

n. (U) (亦用 a likelihood) 可能, 可能性 ▲ ... reduce the *likelihood* of catching one.

篇章大意

文章可以分为三部分:

(1) 第一、二段谈到准确区分普通感冒和流感对缩短遭受痛苦的时间有益。

(2) 第三至第五段简单讲述两种感冒的发病原因及主要征兆。

(3) 第六至第八段讲到相关的建议。

难句突破

1. There is no cure for either illness, but the flu can be prevented by the flu vaccine (疫苗), which is, for most people, the best way to fight the flu, according to the ALA. (Line 2, Para. 3)

[结构分析] “either illness”是指前文提到的“The common cold and the flu”;句中引导非限制性定语从句的“which”指代“the flu vaccine”;不定式“to fight the flu”是“the best way”的定语。“for most people”为插入语,将“which is the best way to fight the flu, according to the ALA.”断开,使我们在理解句子时有一定困难,尤其当句子较长时。

[参考译文] 根据美国肺研究协会的报告,普通感冒和流感都无法治愈,但流感可以通过注射疫苗进行预防。对于大多数人来说,这是抗击流感的最佳方法。

2. However, children and teens with a cold or flu should not take aspirin for pain relief because of the risk of Reye syndrome (综合症), a rare but serious condition of the liver and central nervous system. (Line 2, Para. 7)

[结构分析] 注意“because of”后接名词性短语, 不接从句; “a rare but serious condition of the liver and central nervous system”是“Reye syndrome”的同位语, 用来说明“Reye syndrome”的。

[参考译文] 然而, 患普通感冒或流感的儿童和青少年不应服用阿司匹林止痛, 因为这将得有 Reye 综合症的危险——一种罕见但很严重的肝脏及中枢神经疾病。

►► 试题解析

1. A 细节题。根据文章第一句的后半句“but being able to tell if the cause is a cold or flu (流感) may make a difference in how long the misery lasts.”, 可得答案为 A)。
2. D 推理题。依据第二段可判断 A) 项说法不正确; 由第七段可判断 B) 不正确; 同时可知不是“delayed treatment of the flu”会对肝脏和中枢神经带来损害, 而是“take aspirin for pain relief”, 因此 C) 不对; 从第七段第一句“Both cold and flu symptoms can be eased with over-the-counter medications as well.”, 可判断 D) 正确。
3. C 细节题。依据第二段第二行“one of the keys is being able to quickly tell the two apart. That's because the prescription drugs available for the flu need to be taken soon after the illness sets in.”, 可知: 在确定了患的是流感后, 马上要做的就是吃药。故 C) 正确。
4. B 细节题。由第五段第二句“On the other hand, fever is one of the characteristic features of the flu for all ages.”就可判断 B) 正确。
5. A 推理题。涉及孩子的相关内容出现在后三段。出现似流感的症状后去打疫苗徒劳无用, 因为疫苗起的是预防作用, 因此首先排除 C); D) 项也是预防措施, 且说法与文章有出入; B) 中提到的 Reye 综合症是我们绝对要避免的。避免它的前提是不能给孩子服用阿司匹林。这正是文中的建议, 故 A) 正确。

Passage 2

►► 词汇点津

1. **academic**
adj. 教学的; 学术的 ▲... low academic achievement by children...
2. **instruction**
n. (U; C) 教育, 指导 ▲... little emphasis is put on academic instruction.
n. (常用 pl.) 说明 ▲Read the instructions on the packet. 看一下袋子上的说明。
3. **aspect**
n. (C) 方面 ▲... various aspects of early childhood education.
n. (C) 样子, 外表, 面貌 ▲the aspect of the whole area 全地区的面貌
4. **choice**
n. (C) 选择, 抉择 ▲... one of their top three choices.
n. (C) 被选中的人或物 ▲Which is your choice?
5. **function**
vi. 活动; 运行; 发挥作用 ▲... the ability to function as a member of a group.
n. (U) 职责, 职能; 功能; 作用 ▲The function of a chairman is to lead and control meetings. 主席的职责是引导并控制会议。

6. majority

n. (通常用 *a majority*, *the majority*) 多数; 半数以上 ▲ *The vast majority of young Japanese children...*

n. (U) 法定年龄 ▲ *He will reach his majority next year.* 明年他将到成年年龄。

7. comparison

n. (U) 比较, 对照 ▲ *In the recent comparison of Japanese and American preschool education...*

8. diversity

n. (U) (亦用 *a diversity*) 差异, 多样性 ▲ *Like in America, there is diversity in Japanese early childhood education...*

篇章大意

文章可以分为两部分:

(1) 第一、二段通过美国与日本学前教育的两次比较, 指出了日本学前教育的主要特点。

(2) 第三段谈到日本学前教育的多样性。

难句突破

1. *In a time of low academic achievement by children in the United States, many Americans are turning to Japan, a country of high academic achievement and economic success, for possible answers. (Line 1, Para. 1)*

[结构分析] 句子以较长的介词短语作状语开首。介词短语“in the United States”是“children”的定语, 介词短语“by children in the United States”是“low academic achievement”的定语; “of low academic achievement by children in the United States”是“a time”的定语; “a country of high academic achievement and economic success”是“Japan”的同位语, 将句子“many Americans are turning to Japan for possible answers.”断开, 造成理解困难。

[参考译文] 在美国, 孩子们的学业成绩居高不下, 很多美国人转向日本——学生成绩优秀、经济发达的国家, 寻求可行的解决办法。

2. *Some Japanese parents believe that if their young children attend a university-based program, it will increase the children's chances of eventually being admitted to top-rated schools and universities. (Line 4, Para. 3)*

[结构分析] 句子中有从句套从句的现象, 应注意理解。“that”引导的是宾语从句; “if”从句的主句是“it will increase the children's chances of... universities”, 其中“it”指的是“if”条件状语从句中谈到的情况。

[参考译文] 一些日本家长认为, 年幼的孩子参加与大学有联系的课程, 将增加被一流学校和大学录取的可能性。

试题解析

6. C 推理题。依据第一段第三行“However, the answers provided by Japanese preschools are not the ones Americans expected to find. In most Japanese preschools, surprisingly little emphasis is put on academic instruction.”, 可推断 C) 项符合题意。

7. B 细节题。解题依据在第二段, 尤其是“Sixty-two percent of the more individually oriented Americans listed group experience as one of their top three choices.”。B) 正确。

- 8.D 细节题。根据第一段第四行“In most Japanese preschools, surprisingly little emphasis is put on academic instruction.”和第一段的第十行“To prepare children for successful careers in first grade and beyond, Japanese schools do not teach reading, writing, and mathematics, but rather skills such as persistence, concentration, and the ability to function as a member of a group.”，D)为正确答案。
- 9.C 细节题。解题的关键在于文章最后一句话“Several more progressive programs have introduced free play as a way out for the heavy intellectualizing in some Japanese kindergartens.”中“a way out of the heavy intellectualizing”的理解。C)项符合文中意思。
- 10.D 细节题。解题依据为最后一段中的“...if their young children attend a university-based program, it will increase the children's chances of eventually being admitted to top-rated schools and universities.”。D)为正确答案。

Passage 3

词汇点津

1. **emission**
n. (光、热等的) 散发; 发射, 喷射 ▲... gasoline emissions originating in the United States.
2. **originate**
vi. 起源, 发生 ▲... gasoline emissions originating in the United States.
vt. 引起, 使开始 ▲The use of steam originated many other reforms.
3. **publish**
vt. 公布, 发表 ▲A study published recently in the journal Nature...
vt. 出版, 发行: This company publishes children's books.
4. **concentration**
n. (U) 浓缩, 浓度 ▲... the high concentration of lead in the snow in Greenland.
n. (U) 专心, 集中(注意力) ▲This the-
- sis will need all your concentration. 这篇论文需要全神贯注才能读懂。
5. **ratio**
n. (C) 比率; 比值 ▲... the ratios of the different forms of lead...
6. **dominant**
adj. 有统治权的, 占优势的, 支配的 ▲The dominant lead ratio found in Greenland snow matched that found in gasoline from the United States.
7. **site**
n. (C) 地点, 场所 ▲... soil taken from the same sites...
8. **demonstrate**
vt. 证明; 说明 ▲... both studies demonstrate that...
vt. 示范, 展示, 演示 ▲He demonstrated how to use the new machine.

篇章大意

文章可以分为三部分:

- (1) 第一段讲到污染引起铅的积存。现在这种积存量在全球范围内大幅度减少。
- (2) 第二段至第六段指出研究表明铅积存量在减少, 原因是不含铅汽油的使用及生态系统的作用。
- (3) 第七段告诫说, 不能因为生态环境有减少污染的能力就给铅污染开绿灯。

难句突破

Scientists say both studies demonstrate that certain parts of the ecosystem(生态系统) respond rapidly to reductions in atmospheric pollution, but that these findings should not be used as a license to pollute. (Para. 7)

[结构分析] 动词“say”后面有两个宾语从句“both studies demonstrate that... in atmospheric pollution”和“that these findings should not be used as a license to pollute.”。

[参考译文] 科学家们说, 两项研究表明, 生态系统的某些部分会迅速做出反应以减少大气带来的铅污染, 但这些发现不应成为给铅污染放行的通行证。

试题解析

11. D 推理题。解题依据第二段第一句中“... shows air-borne leaded gas emissions from the United States were the leading contributor to the high concentration of lead in the snow in Greenland.”。若不了解地理知识的话, 也可以从同一段中“arctic(北极的)”一词判断“Greenland”地处北极地区。选择 D)。
12. B 细节题。解题依据是第一段第二句, “the Clean Air Act”是关键。“Act”意为“法案”。选项 B) 正确。
13. D 细节题。根据第三段可判断答案为 D)。
14. A 细节题。第六段最后一句“The forest environment processed and redistributed the lead faster than the scientists had expected.”是这道题的答案, 因此 A) 正确。
15. C 推理题。由最后一段可知, 虽然大自然能消化一部分铅污染, 但不能因为这一点就无视铅污染问题, 故选项 C) 符合文章内容。

Passage 4

词汇点津

1. **factor**
n. (C) 因素, 要素 ▲ Exercise is one of the few *factors* with a positive role in long-term maintenance of body weight.
2. **exertion**
n. (U) 实施, 运用 ▲ ... increase physical *exertion*.
3. **overweight**
adj. 过重的, 超重的 ▲ ... one-fourth of *overweight* adults...
n. 超重 ▲ Shopkeepers rarely give *overweight*. 店家少有给过量的。
4. **shed**
vt. 去年; 除掉 ▲ ... trying to *shed* pounds...
vt. 流; 滴; 落 ▲ *shed* tears.
5. **reject**
vt. 拒绝; 不接受 ▲ In rejecting exercise, some people may...
6. **concede**
vt. 承认, 退让 ▲ Even exercise professionals *concede* half a point here.
7. **tough**
adj. 困难的; 费力的 ▲ Exercise by itself is a very *tough* way...
adj. 难切难吃的 ▲ This meat is *tough*. 这肉咬不动。
8. **vital**
adj. 极为重要的, 关系重大的 ▲ Still, exercise's supporting role in weight reduction is *vital*.
adj. 充满生命力的, 生气勃勃的 ▲ *vital* energies 生命力