

2006全新备考

考研英语

历年真题详解

(1995 ~ 2005)

范佳程 主编

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考研英语历年真题详解

(1995 ~ 2005)

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修订版前言

承蒙广大读者的厚爱,本书自2000年首次出版以来,已经多次改版重印,因其内容详实,解析恰当,助考得力,受到了全国各地考生和考研辅导班的一致好评!值此本书全面修订、全新改版之际,本书主编真情寄语在考研征程中奋力拼搏的你:

“鉴古知今”。审慎地研究过去,是为了更好地把握未来!

从考试经验来看,做任何习题都不如演练真题,真题具有无可比拟的权威性和实战性。《2005年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语考试大纲(非英语专业)》与往年相比又有了重大变化(详见本书《新大纲》全面解读),因此,2005年的考研真题对2006年考研的同学来说无疑具有指挥棒、指南针的作用。而历年的真题对我们真正把握考研试题的考查范围、内容难度和命题规律一定具有拨云见日、如临其境的作用。以2005年的考研真题阅读理解部分为例,根据我们的研究,今年的文章来源跟往年有相同的地方。比方说,过去常常选文章的杂志《经济学家》(*The Economist*)今年仍然是一个重头戏。如第一篇文章和第四篇文章均选自《经济学家》杂志,而第三篇文章是讲全球变暖的,选自《新闻周刊》(*Newsweek*),这个杂志在去年也有文章被选作考题。纵观近几年的考研阅读理解试题,我们不难发现,有关政治、经济、教育、环保、心理学等方面的题材常有涉及,试想一下,在过去我们涉及到“大坝”这种问题,未来是否会出现像“厄尔尼诺”、“海啸”等人类关心的环境题材呢?这是考生们在复习阅读时要加以注意的。另外,从文章结构来看,今年每篇文章都分成五段,它符合历年的出题规律。几乎85%的题目在文章中都各自对应一段文字,一段文字中一般不会出两个题目。同样道理,仔细研究历年考研的翻译和作文题也会发现一些命题规律。只有掌握考试的规律性,你才能减少复习的盲目性,从而增加考试胜出的可能性!“知彼知己,百战不殆”!如果考生对考研的新动向一无所知,也不去做较深的研究,只是抱着一些长达五六十万字的“考研辅导”之类的图书去啃,那无疑是在“闭门造车”,其结果,即使不“南辕北辙”,也定会“顾此失彼”,最终“名落孙山”!

本书的编写旨在帮助考生了解自己,了解考试,最终超越自己,通过考试!

经过本次大规模的全面修订,全书的解析更加详尽、恰切、权威,内容更加充实、完备、精确!

本书的作者多年从事英语考研试题命题规律的研究,并且具有丰富的考研辅导经验,对《2005年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语考试大纲(非英语专业)》有精确独到的见解,也深知广大考生之所需。我们通力合作,精心编写了这本真切揭示考研命题规律、适合广大考生的倾心之作。它的意义不言自明!

最后,希望广大考生在使用本书时不要就题论题,而是要通过对历年真题的比较和书中详尽的解析,发现一些规律性的东西,使这些“过时”的资料为我所用,从而在考试中稳操胜券,轻松过关!

“长风破浪会有时,直挂云帆济沧海!”愿每一位有志青年都能顺利抵达成功的彼岸!

囿于编者水平,书中定有疏漏和不当之处,敬希广大读者批评指正。

如果在复习英语过程中遇到困难或对本书有一定的意见或建议,欢迎发送邮件至 jiacheng666@163.com,我们的老师会在第一时间为您解答。

编 者

2005年3月

目 录

1	2005 年考研大纲全面解读
5	2005 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题
13	2004 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题
21	2003 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题
29	2002 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题
37	2001 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题
45	2000 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题
53	1999 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题
61	1998 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题
69	1997 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题

77	1996 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题
85	1995 年 全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题
93	标准答案与解题思路

2005 年考研大纲全面解读

《2005 年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语考试大纲(非英语专业)》(以下简称《新大纲》)同以往的考试大纲相比,又有了明显的变化,值得广大考生关注。

2005 年《新大纲》的变化用“减一增二”(减听力,增加选择搭配和应用文写作)来概括最为恰当。“减一增二”之后,阅读理解继续巩固了它在考研英语中至高无上的地位,总分值从 50 分上升到 60 分(含“翻译”部分);而写作部分则继续保持了上升的势头,在写作字数上升到近 300 词的同时,分值也上升到了 30 分;这么多年以来,在题型和分值两方面都一直保持稳定的就只有英语知识运用,即完型填空了。在剖析“减一增二”的实质之前,我们先来了解一下新大纲所表现出来的其他方面的一些变化。

词汇部分

为了能够与国际化英语考试相接轨,《新大纲》词汇部分也做出了如下四个方面的修订:

(一)词汇数量有所增加。

2004 年英语考试大纲要求掌握的词汇总量为 5300 词,而《新大纲》将词汇表中的总词汇量增加到 5500 词。由于原来在旧大纲词汇表中列出的部分国家、州名和常见缩写等词汇,在《新大纲》中都转移至附录 3 中,而没有列入词汇表,所以大纲词汇的实际增量是大于 200 的。词汇表的增量部分可能是考核的重点所在,也应是考生复习的重点所在。

(二)词汇考查不再给出确定的词性以及中文释义。

这样就很大程度上无限量地增加了考试的词汇难度,在词汇考查的深度和广度上对考生提出了新的挑战,这样调整的目的是要考查考生在不同语境中规范、灵活使用词汇的能力。

(三)《新大纲》不再有对词组的明确的考查要求。

但这并不意味着不要求考生掌握词组,其目的是鼓励考生用读、写、译的实践代替单纯的词组记忆,以求考生在实际交流中能更准确、自如地运用词组。

(四)《新大纲》扩充了“附录 3”的内容,补充了常用前缀、后缀的条目。

词缀和词根的学习是步入英语学习高级境界的必由之路,合理地根据词根和词缀来猜测词义就是潜在的考查内容。增加了部分国家(或地区)、语言、国民及国籍表,洲名及常见缩写词。

英语知识运用部分

这么多年以来,在题型和分值两方面都一直保持稳定的就只有英语知识运用,即完型填空了。完型填空是给考生一篇语句连贯的短文(按照《新大纲》的规定在 240~280 字左右),

出题者有目的地在每隔一定数量的词语后去除一处词语,形成总共 20 处词语空缺,然后在相应的空缺处设置包括三个干扰项在内的四个备选答案,供考生做四选一的解答。它要求考生在整篇短文的大背景下,在充分阅读理解整篇文章,对整篇文章融会贯通的基础上去处理每一个具体的填空。因此,可以将完型填空的命题思路概述为:“完型填空主要测试考生结合上下文的综合理解能力和语言运用能力,即在阅读理解基础上对篇章结构、语法和词汇知识的运用能力。”

☞ 阅读理解部分

阅读能力的测试是任何一种考试的重心所在,是决定考研英语成败的杠杆。《新大纲》中阅读部分没有改变,仍然保持原有的 8 项要求,因为这些要求比较全面,可以考查学生的综合阅读能力。绝对不可掉以轻心,阅读是很重要的获取信息的途径,也是英语教学的重点,将它和我们熟悉的六级相比,考研阅读除了明显难于六级阅读外,我们还可以得出这样的结论:六级是在考阅读速度,而考研则更加侧重于阅读理解的准确性和彻底性,《新大纲》中则对阅读题材做了明确的规定,对体裁也给了很好的提示,比如一定不会去考记叙文。

“完型填段”属于新题型,做这种题时要注意三点:第一,这种题主要考查考生对文章内容一致性和连贯性思维的把握。整篇文章应该和第一段保持一致和连贯,所填的语段填入后要保持上下文的话题一致、语义连贯并符合思维逻辑,上文重复率最高的词在下文的空格中应有适当的语义重现。第二,大纲样题出题形式很多,有句中题、句尾题、句首题、段落题,而今年的考题通篇选段,全部是段落题。第三,既然是非等额的选项,也就是必有两个选项是干扰项,干扰项在结构上非常像正确答案,而且与正确答案的差别很小,所以在填每个空时,可能受到干扰项的干扰,一定要注意哪个更加接近原文的意思。另外,选项之间会存在着非常明显的连带规律。也就是说,前一个题目做错了,就会影响后面的题目。每道题目之间都有一种无形的联系,每做错一道题就会减少后面一个题做对可能性的概率。

☞ 英译汉部分

《新大纲》中对于英译汉部分没有做任何实质上的调整,只是把它从原来阅读理解的 Part B 部分变成了 Part C,仍然是在一篇 400 字左右的短文中给出 5 个划线的句子,要求考生完整、通顺地将划线部分的句子译成汉语。此题主要是考查考生的词汇量、语法知识、阅读能力和汉语表达的综合运用技巧。《新大纲》依旧没有将英译汉设为独立的一道试题,而是作为阅读理解中的 C 部分出现,这说明了此部分主要还是测试考生的英文阅读理解能力,在用汉语表述原文所述内容时其准确性取决于对原文的正确理解,仅从这一点来看,考研英语译汉没有任何变化。

可是,《新大纲》出台后的一些变化还是对英译汉考题产生了一定的影响。首先,新大纲新增了部分新词,删去了一些简单或重复的单词。尤其令考生困惑的是,新大纲中的词汇没有给出词性以及词义,这样,在英译汉考试中也相应增加了考生对词汇在上下文篇章中的猜测难度。同时新大纲删去了固定搭配的短语,这并不意味着英译汉考题中不再考查短语,而

是难度增加了,考查考生是否能够在上下文中理解短语的含义。其次,新大纲对于语法的要求还是较高的,能够体现英语特色的从句、并列句仍然要求考生较好地掌握。由此可见,在英译汉试题中对于长、难句的分析仍旧是考试的重点,考生万万不可放松警惕,忽略对于基础句法的复习。

写作部分

从 2005 年起,写作将考查两篇文章。两篇文章各有侧重,双管齐下。主要变化来自于增加一篇应用文,其实,2003 和 2004 年的大纲都强调了要会写应用文,如书信、简历、摘要和备忘录,也就是说,写作方面并没有新题型出现。所谓的大纲变化在写作部分只是增加了写作数量,调整了分数而已。考查两篇文章的形式类似于雅思考试,已经不是什么新鲜事。

B 节写作仍然占 20 分,但要求的字数已经减少到 160~200 个词汇,可考查的题型分别为“简单提纲作文、图表作文、图画作文、情景作文”。按照历年考查的趋势,为了使写作能够尽量拉开分数档次,图画作文已经成为主流题型,连续考查了 6 次,分别是 1998 年的“如此承诺”,2000 年的“世界商业捕鱼简史”,2001 年的“爱心是一盏灯”,2002 年的“民族文化与世界文化”,2003 年的“温室花朵经不起风雨”,2004 年的“终点又是新起点”,主题变化多样,考法越来越成熟。

由于每年的大纲样题对考试都起到一种指导暗示作用,今年刚颁布的大纲样题又是图画作文,基本在预料之中,因此我们在复习中,依然要把图画作文作为重点。图画作文在命题上可以采取三维立体式,即提纲+图画+情景说明的组合,需要在审题和创作时面面俱到。在图画构造上又可以采取两图对比式,如 2000 和 2003 年考题。但万变不离其宗,语言第一位,结构第二位,内容第三位。



历年(1995~2005)考研真题试卷结构对比表

年度	试卷结构			题号	题目数量	计分
1995~2000	语法结构与词汇	A	语法结构	1-10	10	5
		B	改错	11-20	10	5
		C	词汇	21-40	20	10
	综合填空			41-50	10	10
	阅读理解(5篇文章)			51-70	20	40
	英译汉			71-75	5	15
	短文写作				1	15
2001	语法结构与词汇	A	语法结构	1-10	10	5
		B	词汇	11-30	20	10
	综合填空			31-50	20	10
	阅读理解(5篇文章)			51-70	20	40
	英译汉			71-75	5	15
	短文写作			76	1	20
2002~2004	听力理解			1-20	20	20
	英语知识运用			21-40	20	10
	阅读理解	A	4篇文章	41-60	20	40
		B	英译汉	61-65	5	10
	短文写作			66	1	20
2005	英语知识运用			1-20	20	10
	阅读理解	A	4篇文章	21-40	20	40
		B	完型填段	41-45	5	10
		C	英译汉	46-50	5	10
	短文写作	A(小作文)		51	1	10
		B(大作文)		52	1	20

2005 年全国硕士研究生入学考试英语试题

Section I Use of English

Directions: Read the following text. Choose the best word(s) for each numbered blank and mark A, B, C or D on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

The human nose is an underrated tool. Humans are often thought to be insensitive smellers compared with animals, 1 this is largely because, 2 animals, we stand upright. This means that our noses are 3 to perceiving those smells which float through the air, 4 the majority of smells which stick to surfaces. In fact, 5, we are extremely sensitive to smells, 6 we do not generally realize it. Our noses are capable of 7 human smells even when these are 8 to far below one part in one million.

Strangely, some people find that they can smell one type of flower but not another, 9 others are sensitive to the smells of both flowers. This may be because some people do not have the genes necessary to generate 10 smell receptors in the nose. These receptors are the cells which sense smells and send 11 to the brain. However, it has been found that even people insensitive to a certain smell 12 can suddenly become sensitive to it when 13 to it often enough.

The explanation for insensitivity to smell seems to be that the brain finds it 14 to keep all smell receptors working all the time but can 15 new receptors if necessary. This may 16 explain why we are not usually sensitive to our own smells—we simply do not need to be. We are not 17 of the usual smell of our own house, but we 18 new smells when we visit someone else's. The brain finds it best to keep smell receptors 19 for unfamiliar and emergency signals 20 the smell of smoke, which might indicate the danger of fire.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. A. although | B. as | C. but | D. while |
| 2. A. above | B. unlike | C. excluding | D. besides |
| 3. A. limited | B. committed | C. dedicated | D. confined |
| 4. A. catching | B. ignoring | C. missing | D. tracking |
| 5. A. anyway | B. though | C. instead | D. therefore |
| 6. A. even if | B. if only | C. only if | D. as if |
| 7. A. distinguishing | B. discovering | C. determining | D. detecting |
| 8. A. diluted | B. dissolved | C. dispersed | D. diffused |
| 9. A. when | B. since | C. for | D. whereas |
| 10. A. unusual | B. particular | C. unique | D. typical |
| 11. A. signs | B. stimuli | C. messages | D. impulses |
| 12. A. at first | B. at all | C. at large | D. at times |
| 13. A. subjected | B. left | C. drawn | D. exposed |
| 14. A. ineffective | B. incompetent | C. inefficient | D. insufficient |
| 15. A. introduce | B. summon | C. trigger | D. create |
| 16. A. still | B. also | C. otherwise | D. nevertheless |
| 17. A. sure | B. sick | C. aware | D. tired |
| 18. A. tolerate | B. repel | C. neglect | D. notice |
| 19. A. available | B. reliable | C. identifiable | D. suitable |
| 20. A. similar to | B. such as | C. along with | D. aside from |

Section II Reading Comprehension

Part A

Directions: Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D.

Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

Text 1

Everybody loves a fat pay rise. Yet pleasure at your own can vanish if you learn that a colleague has been given a bigger one. Indeed, if he has a reputation for slacking, you might even be outraged. Such behaviour is regarded as "all too human", with the underlying assumption that other animals would not be capable of this finely developed sense of grievance. But a study by Sarah Brosnan and Frans de Waal of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, which has just been published in *Nature*, suggests that it is all too monkey, as well.

The researchers studied the behaviour of female brown capuchin monkeys. They look cute. They are good-natured, cooperative creatures, and they share their food readily. Above all, like their female human counterparts, they tend to pay much closer attention to the value of "goods and services" than males.

Such characteristics make them perfect candidates for Dr. Brosnan's and Dr. de Waal's study. The researchers spent two years teaching their monkeys to exchange tokens for food. Normally, the monkeys were happy enough to exchange pieces of rock for slices of cucumber. However, when two monkeys were placed in separate but adjoining chambers, so that each could observe what the other was getting in return for its rock, their behaviour became markedly different.

In the world of capuchins, grapes are luxury goods (and much preferable to cucumbers). So when one monkey was handed a grape in exchange for her token, the second was reluctant to hand hers over for a mere piece of cucumber. And if one received a grape without having to provide her token in exchange at all, the other either tossed her own token at the researcher or out of the chamber, or refused to accept the slice of cucumber. Indeed, the mere presence of a grape in the other chamber (without an actual monkey to eat it) was enough to induce resentment in a female capuchin.

The researchers suggest that capuchin monkeys, like humans, are guided by social emotions. In the wild, they are a cooperative, group-living species. Such cooperation is likely to be stable only when each animal feels it is not being cheated. Feelings of righteous indignation, it seems, are not the preserve of people alone. Refusing a lesser reward completely makes these feelings abundantly clear to other members of the group. However, whether such a sense of fairness evolved independently in capuchins and humans, or whether it stems from the common ancestor that the species had 35 million years ago, is, as yet, an unanswered question.

21. In the opening paragraph, the author introduces his topic by _____.

- A. posing a contrast
- B. justifying an assumption
- C. making a comparison
- D. explaining a phenomenon

22. The statement "it is all too monkey" (Last line, Paragraph 1) implies that _____.

- A. monkeys are also outraged by slack rivals
- B. resenting unfairness is also monkeys' nature
- C. monkeys, like humans, tend to be jealous of each other
- D. no animals other than monkeys can develop such emotions

23. Female capuchin monkeys were chosen for the research most probably because they are _____.

- A. more inclined to weigh what they get
- B. attentive to researchers' instructions
- C. nice in both appearance and temperament
- D. more generous than their male companions

24. Dr. Brosnan and Dr. de Waal have eventually found in their study that the monkeys _____.
- A. prefer grapes to cucumbers
B. can be taught to exchange things
C. will not be cooperative if feeling cheated
D. are unhappy when separated from others
25. What can we infer from the last paragraph?
- A. Monkeys can be trained to develop social emotions.
B. Human indignation evolved from an uncertain source.
C. Animals usually show their feelings openly as humans do.
D. Cooperation among monkeys remains stable only in the wild.

Text 2

Do you remember all those years when scientists argued that smoking would kill us but the doubters insisted that we didn't know for sure? That the evidence was inconclusive, the science uncertain? That the anti-smoking lobby was out to destroy our way of life and the government should stay out of the way? Lots of Americans bought that nonsense, and over three decades, some 10 million smokers went to early graves.

There are upsetting parallels today, as scientists in one way after another try to awaken us to the growing threat of global warming. The latest was a panel from the National Academy of Sciences, enlisted by the White House, to tell us that the Earth's atmosphere is definitely warming and that the problem is largely man-made. The clear message is that we should get moving to protect ourselves. The president of the National Academy, Bruce Alberts, added this key point in the preface to the panel's report: "Science never has all the answers. But science does provide us with the best available guide to the future, and it is critical that our nation and the world base important policies on the best judgments that science can provide concerning the future consequences of present actions."

Just as on smoking, voices now come from many quarters insisting that the science about global warming is incomplete, that it's OK to keep pouring fumes into the air until we know for sure. This is a dangerous game: by the time 100 percent of the evidence is in, it may be too late. With the risks obvious and growing, a prudent people would take out an insurance policy now.

Fortunately, the White House is starting to pay attention. But it's obvious that a majority of the president's advisers still don't take global warming seriously. Instead of a plan of action, they continue to press for more research—a classic case of "paralysis by analysis".

To serve as responsible stewards of the planet, we must press forward on deeper atmospheric and oceanic research. But research alone is inadequate. If the Administration won't take the legislative initiative, Congress should help to begin fashioning conservation measures. A bill by Democratic Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, which would offer financial incentives for private industry, is a promising start. Many see that the country is getting ready to build lots of new power plants to meet our energy needs. If we are ever going to protect the atmosphere, it is crucial that those new plants be environmentally sound.

26. An argument made by supporters of smoking was that _____.
- A. there was no scientific evidence of the correlation between smoking and death
B. the number of early death of smokers in the past decades was insignificant
C. people had the freedom to choose their own way of life
D. antismoking people were usually talking nonsense
27. According to Bruce Alberts, science can serve as _____.
- A. a protector
B. a judge
C. a critic
D. a guide
28. What does the author mean by "paralysis by analysis" (Last line, Paragraph 4)?
- A. Endless studies kill action.
B. Careful investigation reveals truth.
C. Prudent planning hinders progress.
D. Extensive research helps decision-making.

29. According to the author, what should the Administration do about global warming?

- A. Offer aid to build cleaner power plants.
- B. Raise public awareness of conservation.
- C. Press for further scientific research.
- D. Take some legislative measures.

30. The author associates the issue of global warming with that of smoking because _____.

- A. they both suffered from the government's negligence
- B. a lesson from the latter is applicable to the former
- C. the outcome of the latter aggravates the former
- D. both of them have turned from bad to worse

Text 3

Of all the components of a good night's sleep, dreams seem to be least within our control. In dreams, a window opens into a world where logic is suspended and dead people speak. A century ago, Freud formulated his revolutionary theory that dreams were the disguised shadows of our unconscious desires and fears; by the late 1970s, neurologists had switched to thinking of them as just "mental noise"—the random byproducts of the neural-repair work that goes on during sleep. Now researchers suspect that dreams are part of the mind's emotional thermostat, regulating moods while the brain is "off-line." And one leading authority says that these intensely powerful mental events can be not only harnessed but actually brought under conscious control, to help us sleep and feel better. "It's your dream," says Rosalind Cartwright, chair of psychology at Chicago's Medical Center. "If you don't like it, change it."

Evidence from brain imaging supports this view. The brain is as active during REM(rapid eye movement) sleep—when most vivid dreams occur—as it is when fully awake, says Dr. Eric Nofzinger at the University of Pittsburgh. But not all parts of the brain are equally involved; the limbic system (the "emotional brain") is especially active, while the prefrontal cortex(the center of intellect and reasoning) is relatively quiet. "We wake up from dreams happy or depressed, and those feelings can stay with us all day," says Stanford sleep researcher Dr. William Dement.

The link between dreams and emotions shows up among the patients in Cartwright's clinic. Most people seem to have more bad dreams early in the night, progressing toward happier ones before awakening, suggesting that they are working through negative feelings generated during the day. Because our conscious mind is occupied with daily life we don't always think about the emotional significance of the day's events—until, it appears, we begin to dream.

And this process need not be left to the unconscious. Cartwright believes one can exercise conscious control over recurring bad dreams. As soon as you awaken, identify what is upsetting about the dream. Visualize how you would like it to end instead; the next time it occurs, try to wake up just enough to control its course. With much practice people can learn to, literally, do it in their sleep.

At the end of the day, there's probably little reason to pay attention to our dreams at all unless they keep us from sleeping or "we wake up in a panic," Cartwright says. Terrorism, economic uncertainties and general feelings of insecurity have increased people's anxiety. Those suffering from persistent nightmares should seek help from a therapist. For the rest of us, the brain has its ways of working through bad feelings. Sleep—or rather dream—on it and you'll feel better in the morning.

31. Researchers have come to believe that dreams _____.

- A. can be modified in their courses
- B. are susceptible to emotional changes
- C. reflect our innermost desires and fears
- D. are a random outcome of neural repairs

32. By referring to the limbic system, the author intends to show _____.

- A. its function in our dreams
- B. the mechanism of REM sleep
- C. the relation of dreams to emotions
- D. its difference from the prefrontal cortex

33. The negative feelings generated during the day tend to _____.
 A. aggravate in our unconscious mind B. develop into happy dreams
 C. persist till the time we fall asleep D. show up in dreams early at night
34. Cartwright seems to suggest that _____.
 A. waking up in time is essential to the ridding of bad dreams
 B. visualizing bad dreams helps bring them under control
 C. dreams should be left to their natural progression
 D. dreaming may not entirely belong to the unconscious
35. What advice might Cartwright give to those who sometimes have bad dreams?
 A. Lead your life as usual. B. Seek professional help.
 C. Exercise conscious control. D. Avoid anxiety in the daytime.

Text 4

Americans no longer expect public figures, whether in speech or in writing, to command the English language with skill and gift. Nor do they aspire to such command themselves. In his latest book, *Doing Our Own Thing: The Degradation of Language and Music and Why We Should, Like, Care*, John McWhorter, a linguist and controversialist of mixed liberal and conservative views, sees the triumph of 1960s counter-culture as responsible for the decline of formal English.

Blaming the permissive 1960s is nothing new, but this is not yet another criticism against the decline in education. Mr. McWhorter's academic speciality is language history and change, and he sees the gradual disappearance of "whom", for example, to be natural and no more regrettable than the loss of the case-endings of Old English.

But the cult of the authentic and the personal, "doing our own thing", has spelt the death of formal speech, writing, poetry and music. While even the modestly educated sought an elevated tone when they put pen to paper before the 1960s, even the most well regarded writing since then has sought to capture spoken English on the page. Equally, in poetry, the highly personal, performative genre is the only form that could claim real liveliness. In both oral and written English, talking is triumphing over speaking, spontaneity over craft.

Illustrated with an entertaining array of examples from both high and low culture, the trend that Mr. McWhorter documents is unmistakable. But it is less clear, to take the question of his subtitle, why we should, like, care. As a linguist, he acknowledges that all varieties of human language, including non-standard ones like Black English, can be powerfully expressive—there exists no language or dialect in the world that cannot convey complex ideas. He is not arguing, as many do, that we can no longer think straight because we do not talk proper.

Russians have a deep love for their own language and carry large chunks of memorized poetry in their heads, while Italian politicians tend to elaborate speech that would seem old-fashioned to most English-speakers. Mr. McWhorter acknowledges that formal language is not strictly necessary, and proposes no radical education reforms—he is really grieving over the loss of something beautiful more than useful. We now take our English "on paper plates instead of china". A shame, perhaps, but probably an inevitable one.

36. According to McWhorter, the decline of formal English _____.
 A. is inevitable in radical education reforms
 B. is but all too natural in language development
 C. has caused the controversy over the counter-culture
 D. brought about changes in public attitudes in the 1960s

37. The word "talking" (Line 5, Paragraph 3) denotes _____.
 A. modesty B. personality C. liveliness D. informality
38. To which of the following statements would McWhorter most likely agree?
 A. Logical thinking is not necessarily related to the way we talk.
 B. Black English can be more expressive than standard English.
 C. Non-standard varieties of human language are just as entertaining.
 D. Of all the varieties, standard English can best convey complex ideas.
39. The description of Russians' love of memorizing poetry shows the author's _____.
 A. interest in their language B. appreciation of their efforts
 C. admiration for their memory D. contempt for their old-fashionedness
40. According to the last paragraph, "paper plates" is to "china" as _____.
 A. "temporary" is to "permanent" B. "radical" is to "conservative"
 C. "functional" is to "artistic" D. "humble" is to "noble"

Part B

Directions: In the following text, some sentences have been removed. For Questions 41 ~ 45, choose the most suitable one from the list A ~ G to fit into each of the numbered blank. There are two extra choices, which do not fit in any of the gaps. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (10 points)

Canada's premiers (the leaders of provincial governments), if they have any breath left after complaining about Ottawa at their late July annual meeting, might spare a moment to do something, together, to reduce health-care costs.

They're all groaning about soaring health budgets, the fastest-growing component of which are pharmaceutical costs.

41.

What to do? Both the Romanow commission and the Kirby committee on health care—to say nothing of reports from other experts—recommended the creation of a national drug agency. Instead of each province having its own list of approved drugs, bureaucracy, procedures and limited bargaining power, all would pool resources, work with Ottawa, and create a national institution.

42.

But "national" doesn't have to mean that. "National" could mean interprovincial—provinces combining efforts to create one body.

Either way, one benefit of a "national" organization would be to negotiate better prices, if possible, with drug manufacturers. Instead of having one province—or a series of hospitals within a province—negotiate a price for a given drug on the provincial list, the national agency would negotiate on behalf of all provinces.

Rather than, say, Quebec, negotiating on behalf of seven million people, the national agency would negotiate on behalf of 31 million people. Basic economics suggests the greater the potential consumers, the higher the likelihood of a better price.

43.

A small step has been taken in the direction of a national agency with the creation of the Canadian Co-ordinating Office for Health Technology Assessment, funded by Ottawa and the provinces. Under it, a Common Drug Review recommends to provincial lists which new drugs should be included. Predictably, and regrettably, Quebec refused to join.