

新

刘决生 编著

高中 英语阅读 新编

适应英语新课程和高考英语新要求
提升英语阅读理解能力

- ◎ 精选全国各地高中英语最新真题、模拟题的阅读理解题
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- ◎ 传统客观题型、各地最新题型、填空新题型尽现测试热点
- ◎ 激发对阅读理解的兴趣，全方位提升英语综合运用能力

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前言

随着国家英语新课程的全面贯彻实施,英语阅读教学得到了更为量化的重视。根据国家英语新课程标准的要求,初三毕业五级水平的课外累计英语阅读量为 15 万词,高三毕业八级水平的课外累计英语阅读量为 36 万词。与之相适应的是,中学英语测试,尤其是高考与中考都加大了英语阅读题的分值比例,例如上海卷 2005 年高考英语就增加了一篇六选五的阅读新题。全国各地卷也纷纷增加对阅读理解的考查要求:浙江省 2005 年高考英语增加了一篇任务型阅读,阅读理解的篇数为 6 篇,分值为 50 分,占了英语总分的三分之一;湖南卷也增加了教育部考试中心公布的阅读理解主观新题型。

如何适应英语新课程和高考英语提出的新要求,在高中三年大幅度提升英语的阅读理解能力,同时赢得英语测试的高分呢?笔者从一位英语测试学专业研究者的视角出发,精心挑选了全国各地最新高中英语模拟试题的阅读理解部分,分成记叙文、说明文、议论文、应用文、阅读新题型五个模块。这些文章选材新颖、范围深广、形式多样:既有印度洋的海啸事件,又有探索火星的报道;既有对流行乐队的介绍,又涉及对宇宙黑洞概念的理解;既有对社会热点话题的议论,又有各种五彩缤纷的广告信息;既有阅读理解测试的传统客观题型,又有反映阅读理解测试的各地最新题型,尤其是填空题这种新题型。如果高中生能够有的放矢地阅读其中的文章,并且仔细推敲文章后的习题和答案,相信一定能唤起对英语阅读理解的兴趣,从而全方位地提升自己的英语综合运用能力。

在本书的编写过程中,王志、李滢、赵刚等几位老师提供了珍贵的阅读材料,上海科学技术出版社英语编辑室张晨老师自始至终给予支持和建议,在此一并致谢!由于本人水平有限,疏漏之处在所难免,欢迎读者在使用过程中提出批评、指正。

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2005 年 7 月

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第一部分 记叙文

Passage 1

I was in the southern most district in India when the tsunami (海啸) waves struck Madras on the morning of December 26.

I visited some of the affected areas. My uncle Boss who is involved in social work took me to a spot that stuck me most.

Kotilpadu, five days after the killer waves hit, was deserted except for a few residents coming from the relief camps to pick up some goods.

Most of the about 600 houses were severely damaged. A tractor was pulling down the damaged houses so that they did not fall later and cause more deaths.

Another tractor was pulling out the remains of the buildings—and sometimes decomposed (腐烂的) bodies—from a water channel running to the sea.

The channel separates the densely populated village from the mainland. On that day after Christmas, children were playing in the channel.

A good number of women were bathing, washing clothes and gossiping (闲聊) there. When the giant waves hit, the village people couldn't cross over to the mainland because of the channel in-between. This explains why most people who died in the village are women and children.

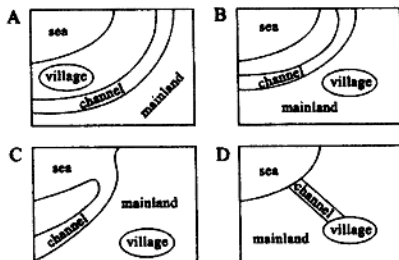
And there was an open place where a couple of days ago about 500 bodies were dumped for identification. The entire town and surrounding areas smelled of bodies.

I asked a reporter to cover this out-of-the-way fishing village too. The tsunami did not discriminate between fishing folk and urban people on the beach for a holiday. But at least this time, the dead were cared for better than the thousands of poor people who were killed by the floods around the turn of the century. I hope service organizations don't make the mistake of

keeping fishing folk away from the sea for a long time. The best thing they could do would be to give them fishing nets and boats and counsel them so that they could go back to the sea with confidence.

Life has to move on. A livelihood (生计) is the basic need for a life of dignity (尊严). I hope more people will help with the relief and rehabilitation.

- Which of the following words best describes the small village after the tsunami?
A. Deserted. B. Grief. C. Frightened. D. Panic.
- The underlined word "This" in the seventh paragraph probably refers to _____.
A. women bathing and gossiping there
B. children playing with water in the channel
C. the channel preventing them from crossing over
D. giant waves hitting villages without warning earlier
- From the passage, we learn the writer eventually tries to _____.
A. express his sympathy over the dead
B. describe the ruined village by tsunami
C. help to deliver fishing nets and boats
D. call on to aid villagers to move on with their life
- Which drawing shows the correct locations of the village, the channel, the sea and the mainland?



Passage 2

Skiing is my favorite sport, even though I have only skied for 4 days in my whole life! Last year my father promised that if my brother did well in his exams, he would take us to have a special holiday. When Victor got straight "A"s, Dad said, "How about a weekend visit to the Botanical Gardens?" But my mother said, "No, you promised it. I think you ought to keep your word." And, despite the expense, he did.

Victor's dream was to see some real snow. So we flew to Seoul (汉城), and then took a bus to Muju Resort. As it climbed through the mountains, we saw the snow on the trees, I was dying to get out and play with it. At last we reached the resort, and scrambled out of the bus quickly. No one in my family had ever touched snow before. We were all like little children: we picked it up, made snowballs, and threw them at each other.

Then I noticed that the tour guide was watching us, with a smile on his face. "I think we should go and check in" my Dad said. And so we did. Our room overlooked one of the ski slopes. The slopes were floodlit, and we watched people skiing until 10p.m. We couldn't wait to try it ourselves.

The next day we had our first skiing lesson and we found we couldn't even walk. Our instructor took us onto a gentle slope, and showed us some basic skills. If you want to go up hill, you have to stand sideways, and go up step by step. If you want to stop, you must point the tips of your skis together. But the tips mustn't cross, or you'll fall. To be honest, that first lesson wasn't a great success, and I spent a lot of time sitting down.

However, the next day, I definitely improved. I only fell over a few times, and I managed to do a few longer runs. Although it was very cold, I spent most of that holiday skiing.

But it was all over too soon. I have decided to do a part-time job this summer, and perhaps I can earn enough money for another super skiing holiday.

1. What made Father hesitate when it came to him to decide the destination

of their holiday?

- A. The excellent exam-results of her brother.
 - B. Her mother's mention of her father's promise.
 - C. The great attraction of the Botanical Gardens.
 - D. The expensive costs of the special holiday.
2. We can learn from the passage that ____.
- A. the slopes can be skied on even in the evening
 - B. the hotel we live in lies in the bottom of the mountains
 - C. the snow in Muju Resort is artificially made
 - D. the family behave like children in the resort
3. It can be concluded that the writer ____.
- A. complains a lot about her instructor
 - B. improves slowly during the skiing
 - C. feels great about herself after her first lesson
 - D. falls over all the times throughout the skiing
4. The passage is mainly about ____.
- A. a happy experience of a sporting holiday
 - B. a description of a beautiful resort in Seoul
 - C. some necessary skills needed for skiing
 - D. a heated discussion over the special holiday

Passage 3

Do you have Bright ideas? Ideas for inventions that change society or , at least, make life easier for somebody? Perhaps we all do sometimes, but we don't often make the idea a reality. Recently, in Britain there was a competition called British Designers for Tomorrow. The competition encouraged young people to carry out their bright ideas. There were two groups in the contest: Group One was school children under 16. Group two was for school children over 16. And there were 11 Prize-winners altogether.

Neil Hunt was one of the prize-winners. It's important to be able to record sunshine accurately(准确地) when people study the weather. We need

to know how many hours of sunshine we have and how strong it is. Most sunshine recorders only record direct sunlight. Neil's is more accurate and this is very important for research into ways of using solar power. With his prize of £100, Neil plans to carry on inventing.

You can do so much with animation (动画片). Look at Simon West's idea for animated road signs. He uses pictures which appear to move as you go nearer to or farther from them. This isn't a new idea. But it is new to use these pictures on road signs. "We found that people were more likely to see moving signs." Said Simon. So now, you can really see rocks falling, trains moving, horses running or a car falling over the edge of a cliff. Quite a warning!

The ideas in the competition are so inventive that we are surprised that British industry doesn't ask more school children for suggestions. Perhaps this will be the start of "pupil power".

1. The writer holds that people seldom _____.
 - A. have bright ideas
 - B. turn their bright ideas into realities
 - C. make their life easier
 - D. think of inventing something
2. The organizers of the competition hoped the school children who took part in it would _____.
 - A. become good designers for future British
 - B. invent something for immediate use
 - C. design something useful for the next day
 - D. win as many prizes as they could
3. What's the use of Simon West's animated road signs?
 - A. To warn people to be careful while working.
 - B. To warn people of the danger ahead.
 - C. To add to the beauty of a city.
 - D. To help make a car trip more exciting.

4. The writer seems to be encouraging the British industry to ____.

- A. take better care of school children
- B. help school children in their studies
- C. stop asking school children for suggestions
- D. pay more attention to school children's inventive power

Passage 4

John H. Johnson was born in a black family in Arkansas City in 1918. His father died in an accident when John was six. He was reaching the high school age, but his hometown offered no high school for blacks.

Fortunately he had a strong-willed caring mother. John remembered that his mother told him many times, "Son, you can be anything you want really to be if you just believe." She told him not to depend on others, including his mother. "You have to earn success," she said. "All the people who work hard don't succeed, but the only people who do succeed are those who work hard."

These words, came from a woman with less than a third grade education. She also knew that believing and hard work don't mean everything. So she worked hard as a cook for two years to save enough to take her son, who was then 15, to Chicago.

Chicago in 1933 was not the promised land that black southerners were looking for. John's mother and stepfather could not find work. But here John could go to school, and here he learned the power of words—as an editor of the newspaper and yearbook at Du Sable High School. His wish was to publish a magazine for blacks.

While others discouraged him, John's mother offered him more words to live by: "Nothing beats a failure but a try." She also let him pawn (典当) her furniture to get the \$500 he needed to start the Negro magazine.

It is natural that difficulties and failures followed John closely until he became very successful. He always keeps his mother's words in mind: "Son, failure is not in your vocabulary!" Now John H. Johnson is one of the 400

richest people in America—worth \$150 million.

1. John's mother decided to move to Chicago because _____.
 - A. his father died when John was very young
 - B. life was too hard for them to stay on in their hometown
 - C. John needed more education badly
 - D. there were no schools for Negroes in their hometown
2. John's mother _____.
 - A. didn't believe in or depend on others
 - B. thought one could be whatever one wanted to be
 - C. believed one would succeed without working hard
 - D. thought no one could succeed without working hard
3. The sentence "Nothing beats a failure but a try" means _____.
 - A. if you try, you would succeed
 - B. a failure is difficult to beat, even if you try
 - C. a try is always followed by a failure
 - D. no failure can be beaten unless you try
4. The story mainly tells us _____.
 - A. how John H. Johnson became successful
 - B. about the mental (精神的) support John's mother gave him
 - C. about the importance of a good education
 - D. about the key to success for blacks

Passage 5

Hong Kong comedian Sun Xing said he came to Shanghai to work for "his wife". In fact, he came here to make new TV serials (连续剧). "people working with me are likely (可能的) to have a stomachache, for I am able to please them so much that they forget to eat." Sun joked.

Sun has played the role of Master Shen in the TV serials "Fairly Wife", and many Shanghainese have since known and liked him. Instead of giving his own name, he had Master Shen printed on name-card together with a

cartoon of himself: a smiling face with dark glasses and very short hair.

Though he is a Hong Kong citizen, Sun is able to speak perfect putonghua. Born and brought up in Beijing, he moved to Hong Kong at ten. In 1986, he came out of 3,600 contestants (竞争者) in the competition for "Mr. TV" held by Hong Kong's Asian TV station. In recent years, Sun is living and trying to develop in Taiwan.

According to Sun, his understanding of stages performance comes from ten-year-long experience in work and life, though he has had no regular training in acting. "Life is hard for me. I have worked as a porter, waiter, postman, salesman." Sun recalled. "At the age of 14, I was employed as an office boy in my mother's factory." Once he was hurt by sulfuric acid (硫酸), but he showed no sign of pain, because he did not want to worry his mother. Having tasted various hardships, Sun learned how to find happiness in life.

Sun is not good-looking, but he is able to make all kinds of funny movements in front of the camera. That's why all directors agree that he is very special.

After the return of Hong Kong to the motherland, Sun planned to develop his stage work more in the mainland. Not long ago, He got in touch with Qiong Yao, a well-known Taiwan writer, to make a TV program for the mainland. Besides, he has joined hands with famous actors and actress in Hong Kong, Taiwan and the mainland to wait for more TV plays.

1. Sun Xing is ____ now.

- A. an ordinary-looking player B. husband of Fairly Wife
C. a successful director D. a well-known actor

2. The underlines, Sun's joke, probably means that "to work with him ____".

- A. is a great pleasure for you
B. will never make you feel hungry
C. may bring stomachaches to you
D. can cause you to forget everything

3. It can be learnt from the passage that ____.

- A. Sun had an experience of hardship
 - B. most people in mainland are tired of Sun
 - C. Sun is a born clever man
 - D. it's too easy for Sun to find cooperators
4. Sun often goes back and forth among mainland, Hong Kong, and Taiwan to ____.
- A. get in touch with more important persons
 - B. do more business for more money
 - C. make more TV plays
 - D. write more and better TV plays

Passage 6

I always felt sorry for the people in wheelchair. Some people, old and weak, cannot get around by themselves. Others seem perfectly healthy, dressed in business suits. But whenever I saw someone in a wheelchair, I only saw a disability, not a person.

Then I fainted at Euro Disney due to low blood pressure. This was the first time I had ever fainted, and my parents said that I must rest for a while after First Aid. I agreed to take it easy but, as I stepped toward the door, I saw my dad pushing a wheelchair in my direction! Feeling the color burn my cheeks, I asked him to wheel that thing right back to where he found it.

I could not believe this was happening to me. Wheelchairs were fine for other people but not for me, as my father wheeled me out into the main street, people immediately began to treat me differently.

Little kids ran in front of me, forcing my father to stop the wheel chair suddenly. Bitterness set in as I was thrown back and forth. "Stupid kids—they have perfectly good legs. Why can't they watch where they are going?" I thought. People stared down at me, pity in their eyes. Then they would look away, maybe because they thought the sooner they forgot me the better.

"I'm just like you!" I wanted to scream. "The only difference is you've got legs, and I have wheels."

People in wheelchairs are not stupid. They see every look and hear each word. Looking out at the faces, I finally understood: I was once just like them. I treated people in wheelchairs exactly the way they did not want to be treated. I realized it is some of us with two healthy legs who are truly disabled.

1. The author once ____ when she was healthy.
 - A. laughed at disabled people
 - B. looked down upon disabled people
 - C. imagined herself sitting in a wheelchair
 - D. saw some healthy people moving around in wheelchairs
2. Facing the wheelchair for the first time, the author _____.
 - A. felt curious about it
 - B. got ready to move around in it right away
 - C. refused to accept it right away
 - D. thought it was ready for his father
3. The experience of the author tells us that “_____”.
 - A. life is the best teacher
 - B. people often eat their bitter fruit
 - C. life is so changeable that nobody can foretell
 - D. one should not do to others what he would not like others do to him
4. Which is the best title for this passage?
 - A. How to Get Used to Wheelchairs
 - B. The Wheels Are as Good as Two Legs
 - C. People with Two Legs Are Truly Healthy
 - D. The Difference between Healthy People and the Disabled

Passage 7

Feeling hopeless and sick at heart, Tom turned away. For a quick moment his eyes met those of the cook, and he saw there a light of such hatred and fear that no words could describe.

The cook moved quietly closer. He whispered to Tom in a rough voice,

"Don't be too clever. Mark my words." And he went away.

Tom's thoughts did not stay focused on the cook and his words. His friend was in trouble. How could he help him? He decided to slip away as soon as possible in search of information that would clear Jay of all doubts and bring the true criminal to justice.

He had noticed a piece of old sailcloth (帆布) lying on the ship floor. With this and a length of string (绳子) he made a package which looked very much like the one the police had seized. His plan was to step to the shore and hand it over just as the cook had ordered Jay to, hoping in this way to learn the truth about the criminal's activities. He could then persuade the police of his friend's innocence.

By now it was dark. Taking the blankets out of Jay's empty bed, Tom piled them up in his own bed in the shape of a sleeping figure. How real it looked! With the blanket pulled up high around the figure's head he could almost believe he saw it breathing. Pleased with this, Tom moved quietly to the door.

He was about to open it when he felt the handle turning the other way. Someone was outside and about to come in. Had his plan failed? Slipping quickly back behind the door as it opened, Tom waited.

It was the cook who was leaning forward now over the figure in the bed. His arm swung up and a long knife plunged down.

1. The main cause of Tom's worry was that he _____.
 - A. failed to save his friend out of trouble
 - B. knew the truth about the criminal
 - C. knew his friend was in trouble
 - D. felt such hatred and fear of the cook
2. Paragraph Five of the passage mainly describes _____.
 - A. Tom's hope to catch an intruder (闯入者)
 - B. the unknown sleeping figure in Jay's bed
 - C. the danger Tom faced in Jay's empty bed
 - D. what Tom did to carry out his plan

3. Tom's plan was to ____.
- A. help his friend slip away
 - B. pretend to know the plan of the criminal
 - C. find out Jay was not the criminal
 - D. pretend to bring the true criminal to justice
4. If asked, Tom would probably say, "I risked danger because ____".
- A. I wanted to help the police
 - B. I knew my friend was innocent
 - C. I knew the cook was a murderer
 - D. I wasn't to dismiss the criminal's plan

Passage 8

A qualified doctor who rarely practised but instead devoted his life to writing. He once said, "Medicine is my lawful wife, and literature is my lover." Russian writer Anton Pavlovich Chekhov (契诃夫), was a great playwright (剧作家) and one of the masters of the modern short story.

When Chekhov entered the Moscow University Medical School in 1879, he started to publish hundreds of comic short stories to support his family. After he graduated, he wrote regularly for a local daily newspaper.

As a writer he was extremely fast, often producing a short story in an hour or less. Chekhov's medical and science experience can be seen through the indifference (冷漠) many of his characters show to tragic events. In 1892, he became a full-time writer and published some of his most memorable stories.

Chekhov often wrote about the sufferings of life in small town Russia. Tragic events controlled his characters who were filled with feelings of hopelessness and despair.

It is often said that nothing happens in Chekhov's stories and plays. He made up for this with his exciting technique for developing drama within his characters. Chekhov's works combined the calm attitude of a scientist and doctor with the sensitivity (敏感) of an artist.