

新挑战英语系列

挑战MBA

入学英语

阅读理解

李怡葶 赵巳阳 编著

MBA

国防工业出版社

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前 言

MBA 是工商管理硕士(Master of Business Administration)的英文缩写,它是一个具有国际可比性的专业学位,一个非常有价值的、富有生命力的国际性学位,其目标是培养高层次务实型管理人才,目前是世界最为知名和被广泛认可的学位。MBA 在全球都很受欢迎。美国各高校商学院的 MBA 毕业生平均年薪在 10 万美元左右。我国受国际经济浪潮和全球化的影响,在未来的几十年里 MBA 的需求量也会迅速增加。尤其是我国在加入 WTO 之后,世界著名企业纷纷进入中国市场,然而由于民族文化等原因,它们在进入中国市场的同时也会需要大量的中国本地的人才来负责企业的运转。在这种情况下,既懂英语、又懂现代企业管理,并且还有一定工作经验的 MBA 人才便成了众多外企争相抢夺的高级人才。与此同时,中国经济也面临进一步发展的挑战,现代企业管理人才的需求量也必然上升,这为 MBA 提供了更多的就业机会。总之, MBA 在未未中国的人才市场上将会扮演越来越重要的角色。

在我国 MBA 入学考试中英语是必考的一门课,这和 MBA 的国际化定位是分不开的。我们无法想象一个国际型的 MBA 人才却不懂英语。然而,由于教育水平落后,实习机会少等原因,如何学好英语一直都是我国各类学生非常头疼的一个问题。因此,我们在此针对 MBA 入学考试英语的要求策划了这套书,希望给广大有志于 MBA 学习的读者有所帮助。

本书是新挑战英语系列丛书中的一本。新挑战英语系列中的每一个分册都精心设计了针对准备参加全国 MBA 联考英语考试考生的专题训练,一方面帮助考生在短期内达到考试大纲所规定的要求,以顺利通过考试,另一方面帮助具有相应水平的广大英语学习者提高英语能力。分册的全真试题完全吻合了考试的要求,不仅附有答案,而且对于重点难点问题给出了较为详尽的注释和说明,可供考生自测,以增强应试能力,并进行解题策略指导。新挑战英语系列针对 MBA 英语考试,突出了内容新、题型新、考试新的特点,紧密结合考试要求,严格按照各类英语考试对词汇的要求进行分类整理并汇编成册。作者以及其所精心挑选的试题均具有一定的权威性和专业性。在内容的选取上,丛书突出了适用性、广泛性和针对性的要求,并对于阅读试题做出了较为详尽的注释与说明,便于读者使用。在讲解上分为

IV

理解和重点解释,对英语考试也做出了客观的估计和预测。

本书重点是 MBA 英语考试中的阅读理解部分,内容包括解题方法、真题讲解和题目训练等,循序渐进、难易适度,力求读者能够通过本书的学习深入地掌握 MBA 英语入学考试阅读理解部分的要求。

編者

2004.6

内 容 简 介

本书是针对 MBA 英语考试专门编写的阅读分册。

本书共包括四章。第一章根据以往 MBA 英语考试中出现过的阅读理解题对文章进行了分类,并详细列举出针对各种题型的解题方法和技巧;第二章针对读者想要了解真题类型的心理,收录了近年来 MBA 英语阅读考试的真题和详尽解答;后两章编排了大量模拟试题和自测题,考生可以通过这两部分的练习熟悉试题环境,提高应试能力。

本书是广大参加 MBA 英语考试的考生首选复习用书,也可作为同等水平人员提高阅读水平的日常练习册。

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第一章 MBA 英语阅读之解题方法

第一节 MBA 英语阅读理解的文章分类

一、按照文章的题材分类

1. 人文社会学科

开始是以社会评论为主,这类题材对于参考人员来说比较难,这是因为考生缺乏相应的人文社会背景,不能理解一些特殊的英语表达方式。所以,这种类型的文章正在逐渐减少。

2. 经济、管理、科普等

这类文章是 MBA 考试阅读题材的重点。掌握一些有关的经济、管理等方面的专有名词很重要,因为词汇是阅读理解的基础。

此外,还有涉及当前热点问题的文章,但都是与经济密切结合的,如环保问题、新型技术、国际贸易以及加入 WTO 后的情况等一系列文章。

二、按照文章的写作方式分类

1. 说明文

作者对某一事物做描述性解释。包括它的特点、内容、性质等。出题方式则多以细节型题为主。做题时要抓住其中的细节问题来研读。如:

Accidents are caused, they don't just happen. Road accidents, for example, happen frequently after a family quarrel, and we all know people who are bothered with themselves and the world that they seem to cause accidents for themselves and others.

By definition, an accident is something you cannot predict or avoid, and the idea that used to be correct, that the majority of road accidents are caused by a minority of careless drivers, is not supported by insurance statistics. These show that most accidents involve ordinary motorists in a moment of carelessness or thoughtlessness.

It is not always clear, either, what sort of conditions make people more likely to have an accident. For instance, the law requires all factories to take safety prevention and most companies have safety committees to make sure the regulations are ob-

served, but still, every day in Britain, some fifty thousand men and women are absent from work due to an accident. These accidents are largely the result of human error or misjudgment—noise and tiredness, burdens or worry are possible factors which contribute to this. Doctors who work in factories have found that those who lead risk too much, usually people who have a high anxiety level, run three times the normal risk of accidents at work.

1. This passage is mainly about. _____.
 - A. the clear causes of accidents
 - B. human factors in the accidents
 - C. the ways to stop accidents
 - D. relationship between accidents and victims
2. According to insurance statistics _____.
 - A. most accidents are the result of carelessness
 - B. drivers should not be blamed
 - C. people should keep away from drivers
 - D. motorists are always dangerous
3. The phrase "to take safety prevention" (Para. 3) can be replaced by _____.
 - A. "to take safety measures"
 - B. "to be careful about one's behavior"
 - C. "to take safety into consideration"
 - D. "to pay attention to safety rules"
4. Which of the following statements is true?
 - A. Accidents cause more and more people in Britain to be absent from work.
 - B. Accidents in factories are mostly caused by people who drink too much.
 - C. Accidents never happen by themselves.
 - D. Accidents will happen again and again to the drivers.

参考答案:

1. A 2. A 3. A 4. C

2. 议论文

在此类文章中,作者阐明一个自己的看法、观点、理论或解释,没有对立面;或者文章后半段稍有不同意见,但都被作者反驳,不足为据。此类文章中,作者针对一个业已存在的主张提出自己的评价,不同意或不完全同意该主张,或者对已存在的主张做较大的补充,还要给出替代方案。评论的态度以反驳或攻击性的负评价较为多见。如:

Do you find getting up in the morning so difficult that it's painful? This might be called laziness, but Dr. Kleitman has a new explanation. He has proved that everyone has a daily energy cycle.

During the hours when you labor through your work you may say that you're "hot". That's true. The time of day when you feel most energetic is when your cycle of body temperature is at the peak. For some people the peak comes during the forenoon. For others it comes in the afternoon or evening. No one has discovered why this is so, but it leads to such familiar monologues as "get up, John! You'll be late for work again!" The possible explanation to the trouble is that John is at his temperature-and-energy peak in the evening. Much family quarreling ends when husbands and wives realize what these energy cycles mean, and which cycle each member of the family has.

You can't change your energy cycle; but you can learn to make your life fit it better. Habit can help. Dr. Kleptomania believes. Maybe you're sleepy in the evening but feel you must stay up late anyway. Counteract your cycle to some extent by habitually staying up later than you want to. If your energy is low in the morning but you have an important job to do early in the day, rise before your usual hour. This won't change your cycle, but you'll get up steam and work better at your low point.

Get off to a slow start which saves your energy. Get up with a leisurely yawn and stretch. Sit on the edge of the bed a minute before putting your feet on the floor. Avoid the troublesome search for clean clothes by laying them out the night before. Whenever possible, do routine working the afternoon and save tasks requiring more energy or concentration for your sharper hours.

1. If a person finds getting up early a problem, most probably _____.
 - A. he is a lazy person
 - B. he refuses to follow his own energy cycle
 - C. he is not sure when his energy is low
 - D. he is at his peak in the afternoon or evening
2. Which of the following may lead to family quarrels according to the passage?
 - A. Unawareness of energy cycles.
 - B. Familiar monologues.
 - C. A change in a family energy cycle
 - D. Attempts to control other's energy cycle.
3. If one wants to work more efficiently at his low point in the morning, he should _____.
 - A. help to keep your energy for the day's work
 - B. overcome his laziness
 - C. get up earlier than usual
 - D. go to bed earlier
4. You are advised to rise with a yawn and stretch because it will _____.
 - A. help to keep your energy for the day's work

- B. help you to control your temper early in the day
 - C. enable you to concentrate on your routine work
 - D. keep your energy cycle under control all day
5. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE?
- A. Getting off to work with minimum effort help save one's energy.
 - B. Dr. Kleptomania explains why people reach their peaks at different hours of day.
 - C. Habit helps one adapt to his own energy cycle.
 - D. Children have energy cycles too.

参考答案:

1. D 2. A 3. C 4. A 5. B

3. 记叙文

在此类文章中主要是以叙述的口气来介绍或写实。文章中并不加入作者的某些观点。通过考察阅读,检测考生从文章里摘取信息的综合能力,这包括判断、推理、总结归纳等语言能力,并要求考生能够根据上下文内容合理的猜测和判断某个词的含义。如:

Because there are only about 1000 pandas left in the world, China is desperately trying to clone the animal and save the endangered species. That's a move similar to what a Texas A&M University researcher has been undertaking for the past five years in a project called "Noah's Ark".

Dr. Duane Kraemer, a professor in Texas A&M's College of Veterinary Medicine and a pioneer in embryo(胚胎) transfer work and related procedures, said he salutes the Chinese effort and "I wish them all the best success possible. It's a worthwhile project, certainly not an easy one, and it's very much like what we're attempting here at Texas A&M—to save animals from extinction".

Noah's Ark is aimed at collecting eggs, embryos, semens(精子) and DNA of endangered animals and storing them in liquid nitrogen. If certain species should become extinct, Kraemer says there would be enough of the basic building blocks to reintroduce the species in the future.

It is estimated that as many as 2000 species of mammals, birds and reptiles will become extinct over the next 100 years. The panda, native only to China, is in danger of becoming extinct in the next 25 years.

This week, Chinese scientists said they grew an embryo by introducing cells from a dead female panda into the egg cells of a Japanese white rabbit. They are now trying to implant the embryo into a host animal.

The entire procedure could take from three to five years to complete. "The nuclear transfer of one species to another is not easy, and the lack of available panda

eggs could be a major problem,"Kraemer believes.

"They will probably have to do several hundred transfers to result in one pregnancy. It takes a long time and it's difficult, but this could be *groundbreaking* science if it works. They are certainly not putting any live pandas at risk, so it is worth the effort," adds Kraemer, who is one of the leaders of the Missypriority Project at Texas A&M, the first-ever attempt at cloning a dog.

"They are trying to do something that's never been done, and this is very similar to our work in Noah's Ark. We're both trying to save animals that face extinction. I certainly applaud their effort and there's a lot we can learn from what they are attempting to do. It's a research that is very much needed."

1. The aim of "Noah's Ark" Project is to _____.
 - A. salute the Chinese efforts in saving pandas
 - B. implant embryo into a host animal
 - C. introduce cells from a dead female panda into the egg cells of a Japanese white rabbit
 - D. save endangered animals from extinction
2. How long will the Chinese panda-cloning project take?
 - A. 3 to 5 years.
 - B. 1 year.
 - C. 25 years.
 - D. 2 years.
3. The word "groundbreaking" (paragraph 7) can be interpreted as _____.
 - A. pioneering
 - B. essentially new
 - C. epoch-making
 - D. evolutionary
4. What could be the main problem in cloning pandas according to Professor Kraemer?
 - A. Lack of host animals.
 - B. Lack of available panda eggs.
 - C. Lack of funds.
 - D. Lack of qualified researchers.

参考答案:

1. C 2. D 3. A 4. A 5. B

阅读理解在英语考试中比较重要。MBA 联考的英语考试中阅读理解的难度介于大学英语四级和六级考试之间,虽然难度并不高,但要拿高分并不容易。做阅读理解最需要的是耐心和细心。答题时,可以采用“倒推法”。先看题目和选项,然后看文章,这样可以有针对性地阅读,阅读的同时把关键的地方用铅笔勾出来,这样既可以节省时间,也有利于突出重点,再看题目的时候,便能够很准确地找到问题的答案。阅读理解题的所有问题的答案都要依据原文,做题时,要努力找出作者的思路 and 观点,明白作者所要表达的思想 and 传递的信息。

在 MBA 联考的阅读理解试题中,有一种题型是笔答题,这其实也是变相的阅读理解题。做题时,要注重文章中的细节,尤其是文中的人物、事件、内容以及一些有特殊用法或者特别标点符号的地方,这些都是出题的关键地方,一定要谨慎。

第二节 MBA 英语阅读理解中常考到的语言现象

阅读题中常考到的语言现象是在阅读原文或寻找答案时要重点予以关注的地方。MBA 阅读中涉及到的语言现象主要有以下几种：引号、举例、转折、定义、列举、比较和因果等。

一、引号

文章里加引号的词组或句子，一般是作者引用别人的语言。它们既可以表示纯粹引用，也可以表示强调。引号一般涉及细节问题，在做题的时候可以根据分析确定到底是纯粹引用还是表示强调。

二、举例

举例也是常考到的一种语言现象，这在原文中一般都有标志性词语，如：for example, for instance, such as 等。这一语言现象在原文中常用到的结构为“概述 + for example”。但有时，原文直接举例而不出现 for example 等词。例如：

It is said that eighteenth-century house showed great interior improvements over their predecessors. Windows were made larger and shutters removed. Large, clear panes replaced the small leaded glass of the seventeenth century. Doorways were larger and more decorative. Fireplaces became decorative features of rooms. Walls were made of plaster or wood, sometimes elaborately paneled. White paint began to take the place of blues, yellows, greens and lead colors, which had been popular for walls in the earlier years.

此例说明的论点为“eighteenth-century house showed great interior improvements over their predecessors”，后面跟着 6 个例子，中间却没有“for example”这个提示词。因为是先概述，后做具体分析，所以例子的目的仍然是为了说明概述部分。

三、转折

转折表明叙述方向发生了改变。凡是文章前 4 行或每段首尾句出现以 but, however, nevertheless, rather than, on the other hand 等为提示词的转折时，一般要么有考题与之相对应，要么揭示了文章主题。这里要注意的是，but 只有在文章前 4 行或每段首尾句出现时才重要，而其他几个只要出现就必须重视。but, however, nevertheless 三个词一般均为考点，但三个词成为考点的比率却有不同：nevertheless 作为考点的比率最高，其次是 however 和 but。以下几个词虽不翻译成“但是”，但实际上也有明显转折的意思，应该加以关注：in fact, indeed, actually, practically, virtually, on the other hand。

四、定义

文章中有时会对某一个新的、不易理解的或容易引起混淆的难词、概念进行解释或下定义。

下定义的方式多种多样,概括起来主要有以下几种:

1. that is

以“that is”形式出现时,一般在句中做插入语。

2. 同位语

同位语与插入语有区别——只有加在两个逗号之间并对第一个逗号以前的名词进行解释的词汇、短语或句子才是同位语。

3. A—B

“——”(破折号)即使在中文中也表示解释或说明。如果遇到两个“——”夹在一个句子之间的情况,可以把这两个“——”当作两个逗号来处理。例如:

“Proponents of organic foods—a term whose meaning varies greatly—frequently proclaim that such products are safer and more nutritious than others.”完全可以看作“Proponents of organic foods, a term whose meaning varies greatly, frequently proclaim that such products are safer and more nutritious than others.”

4. 平行结构

在“A and B、A or B 和 A, or B”的结构中,“and, or”所连接的两个名词“A, B”必须在词义、结构、词性上尽量保持一致。如果“A and B”中的 A 和 B 都是名词,那么它一定是平行结构;但是如果 A 和 B 都是动词时,一定要审视一下是否为平行结构,因为如果 A 和 B 都是动词时,“and”很可能表示递进关系。

五、列举

一般而言,文章中连续提到三个以上的现象叫做列举。有些列举并不是连续的,较难把握。对于连续性的列举,一般都要加以关注。列举的形式很多,一般有名词列举、句子式列举、分散式列举等。在下文中会重点对分散式列举进行讲解。

六、比较

文章中,尤其是段落首尾句如果出现同级比较、比较级、最高级时,一般要加以注意。尤其是最高级的情况常涉及考题。

七、因果

文章中,尤其是段落首尾句(主要是全文首尾句)出现因果关系时,常涉及考题。如:thus, therefore, since, hence 等。例如:

Martha Graham's territory of innumerable dances and a self-sufficient dance technique is a vast but closed territory, since to create an art out of one's experience alone is ultimately a self-limiting act.

According to the passage, which of the following most influenced Martha Graham's dance and techniques?

- A. Her own experiences. B. Exotic and idyllic themes.
C. Familiar classical stories. D. The works of St. Denis and Duncan.

原文中的 since 表示因果关系,因此答案为 A。

第三节 MBA 英语阅读理解的结构类型和基本解题策略

MBA 阅读理解的文章虽然题材涉及到很多的人文社会和经济管理的方方面面,但大多数文章的出题类型都可以划分到以下几个结构大类中。不管属于哪种题型,作者都会通过文中的一些语言来表达自己的写作观点和态度。这些语言称为中心句,是需要着重关注和挖掘的地方。这些中心句作为文章的点睛之笔,也是寻找作者观点的突破口。

一、选标题或中心思想型

这种题型一般出现的较多。文章的标题实际就是文章的中心思想。对于中心思想的概括题目,也是要在理解文中每一段的基础上,判断出作者的态度、观点和写作目的等。

例文 1

Promptness is important in American business, academic, and social settings. The importance of punctuality is taught to young children in school. Tardy slops and the use of bells signal to the child that punctuality and time itself are to be respected.

People who keep appointments are considered dependable. If people aerate to job interviews, appointments, or classes, they are often viewed as unreliable and irresponsible. In the business world, "time is money" and companies may fine their executives for tardiness to business meetings. Of course, it is not always possible to be punctual. Social and business etiquette also provides revealing on the telephone if one is going to be more than a few minutes late for schedule appointments is considered polite and is often expected. Keeping a date of a friend waiting beyond ten to twenty minutes is considered rude. On the other hand, arriving thirty minutes late to some parties is acceptable.

Respecting deadlines is also important in academic and professional circles. It is expected that deadlines for class assignments or business reports will be met. Students who hand in assignments late may be surprised to find that the professor will lower their grades or even refuse to grade their work. Whether it is a question of arriving on time or of meeting a deadline, people are culturally conditioned to regulate time.

1. The best title for this passage is _____.

- A. Promptness B. Time

C. Deadlines

D. Etiquette

这篇文章从一开始,就有了点睛之笔——快速反应机制在美国的商界、学术界以及社会的各方面都很重要。下面的各段基本上都是围绕这个主题(或叫中心句)在展开论述。后面的第一个题目就是问文章的标题。从给出的4个选项中可以很快选出正确答案是A,因为其他三个答案都是文章的分论点,是围绕中心句展开的。

例文 2

He saw the station in a new light. Here was a mass of human beings, some black, some white, and some brown like himself. Here they mixed with one another, yet each mistrusted the other with an unnatural fear. Each treated the other with suspicion, each move in a narrow, haunted pattern of its own manufacture. One must challenge these things the speaker had said in one's own way. Yet how in one's way? How was one to challenge? Slowly it dawned upon him. Here was his chance, with the legend "Europeans Only" neatly painted on it in white. For one moment it symbolized all the challenge to his rights as a man. There it stood, a perfectly ordinary wooden railway bench, like hundreds of thousands of others in South America. That bench, now had concentrated in it all the evils of system, he could not understand. It was the obstacle to him and humanity. If he sat on it he was a human in a human society. He almost had visions of fighting the pernicious system if only he sat on that bench. Here was his chance. He, Karalee, would challenge.

What is this passage about?

第一遍读这篇文章,就会了解文章的大概意思,但是对主人公的行为还有些迷惑,这是因为对文章的细节部分读得不够明白,再读第二遍时,应该有意识对文中关键一句 "Here was his chance with the legend "Europeans Only" neatly painted on it in white." 做一下分析,并联系上下文,就会了解文章的中心意思。可以回答为: It describes a brown man who is suffered racism how to challenge himself.

概括中心思想题。这种题要求考生确认文章或段落的中心思想,考察考生对文章的整体理解和概括能力。考生在读完一篇短文后,应当能够快速判断出作者对所涉及问题的态度、见解和写作目的。

例文 3

Millions of Americans run to the bank or visit automated teller machines when they need cash. They need cash. They use credit cards when they want to buy clothes, VCRs, or television sets.

But there is an underclass—people with low incomes and no credit history who visit their neighborhood pawnshop when they need cash or a loan.

An estimated 20 percent of the US population has no bank account, more than half of this group do not have credit cards and cannot get bank loans.

"These people are borrowing an average of \$50," said John P. Casey of Swarth-