

大学英语



# 4级标准阅读 160篇

(第二版)

- 难句分析翻译：分析结构，破解方法
- 试题解析：切中题眼，点拨技巧
- 四级词汇聚焦：高频词汇，重点搭配
- 写作词语积累：句式结构，亮点词语

## CET-4 STANDARD READING 160

于桂敏 王艳秋 主编



大连理工大学出版社



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# 前 言

阅读是一种积极活跃的语言活动,是判断、思维和理解的综合过程。读者为了获取所需要的信息,就得运用各种技能对所读的内容进行分析、判断、推论,找出作者描述的事实和要表达的观点,掌握文章的中心思想以及了解作者对事物的态度等。阅读理解在大学英语四级考试中占有相当重的比例,但一直是学生失分较多的部分。这反映了两个突出的问题:一是学生没能很好地掌握英语阅读理解的技巧、策略和方法;二是英语语言功底不够深厚,阅读量少,对句子与篇章的理解不透彻。本书结合实例进行阅读理解分析,以期从解题思路、策略和文章理解方面提高读者的阅读理解水平和积累表达方式。

本书的编写目的是为了加强广大考生的英语阅读理解训练,从而促进其语言能力的提高。全书正文分为两大部分:第一部分介绍四级阅读考试的题型与技巧;第二部分 160 篇标准阅读文章,体验实考。具体地说:

第一部分精辟阐释了英语阅读的各项技能、要求及特点。

第二部分由 160 篇短文组成,选材广泛,体裁多样,内容丰富新颖,实用性强,涉及四级考试常考的题材,有助于锻炼读者的定时定量阅读能力、迅速摘取信息能力和概括推断能力。在每篇文章之后都附有难句分析翻译、试题解析、四级词汇聚焦、写作词语积累四个项目。旨在提供解题思路和应试点拨,从而使学生在增强应试能力的同时,提高阅读速度和阅读水平,也有助于学生增强阅读词汇和写作表达方式的积累。

本书主编:于桂敏、王艳秋;副主编:马志波、刘静、佟大明、徐瑾、张颖秋、常芳;参加编写工作的老师还有张志刚、巨积兰、任志起、程绍华、王玉平、刘艳杰、白玫、张艳秋、申英姬、苏畅、瞿冬梅、杨戈。本书在编写中参考了国内外有关资料,在此谨向相关作者表示衷心感谢。同时,由于时间仓促,水平有限,本书难免存在不足之处,恳请读者提出宝贵意见,批评指正。

编 者

2004 年 8 月

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## 题型与技巧

### 一、阅读理解测试题型、重点和难点

阅读理解题型主要有如下五种:

中心思想题——文章的主题思想、中心大意、标题;

事实细节题——与文章主题有关的事实或细节;

判断推理题——文章中没有用文字直接表达但暗含的观点;

作者态度题——文章中作者的意图、观点或态度;

猜测词义题——文章中某一单词、短语或某一句子的意义。

考查重点是细节题,大约占 50%。难点在于考查考生的概括能力和逻辑推理能力,能概括出文章大意、主要论点、作者态度、理解文章中隐含的深层含义,根据上下文进行合理的逻辑推理。

### 二、答题技巧

在做阅读理解题时要把握的一个最重要原则是:题干 + 正确选项 = 原文中的某一句或两句。也就是说,试题的题干和选项必然要与原文中某一部分(一个或两个句子、一个段落)相对应。在确定试题是就原文中哪一部分设题时,应该注意分析题干与选项是如何与原文中的信息——对应的,使用了哪些同义词语替换了原文中的信息词。只有当题干与选项中的信息与原文中的信息——对号入座时,才能确定这个答案是正确的;对不上的就不是正确选项。

#### (一)主旨大意题干扰项与正确选项的特点

##### 1. 干扰项特点:

- 1) 局部信息:涉及文章的某一重要细节,以偏概全。
- 2) 某一自然段的大意,而非整篇文章的中心思想,归纳不全。
- 3) 概括范围太宽,超出文章涉及的部分,归纳过头,包含没有涉及到的内容。
- 4) 与文章内容毫不相干。
- 5) 与文章内容相悖。

##### 2. 正确选项特点:

- 1) 含有抽象名词和概括性词语的选项往往是正确答案。
- 2) 答案往往在内容相近的选项中。
- 3) 较全面、有针对性地表达文章中心思想的选项一般是正确答案。

#### (二)事实细节题干扰项与正确选项的特点

##### 1. 干扰项特点:

- 1) 照抄部分原文信息。
- 2) 含有原文没有的内容。
- 3) 与原文相矛盾的内容。
- 4) 张冠李戴的内容。
- 5) 偷梁换柱的内容:与原文内容一半相同,一半不同。
- 6) 与原句内容相似但过于绝对化。

## 2. 正确选项特点:

- 1) 照抄原文的不是答案,而同义替换的是正确答案。
- 2) 排除式题型中,含有概括性太强的词的选项一般来说都是错误的。而含有不肯定词的选项往往正确。
- 3) 事实细节题型的答案往往在两个意义相近或相反的选项中。

## (三) 推理含义题干扰项与正确选项的特点

## 1. 干扰项特点:

- 1) 编造信息:不是在文章或上下文逻辑的基础上进行推理而得出的结论。
- 2) 主次不分:虽然以文章所提供的事实为基础进行推理,但过度概括,概括的面太广。
- 3) 直接和间接不分:文章中明确而直接表达的内容不应是推理出来的内容。
- 4) 因果颠倒:原文中的原因当成了选项中的结果,或结果当成了原因。
- 5) 手段与目的的颠倒:原文中的手段当成了选项中的目的,或目的变成了选项中的结果。

## 2. 正确选项的特点:

- 1) 一般含义不肯定的,或主观的,或有新意的,是正确答案。
- 2) 如果四个选项全能凭常识判断,其中含义深刻的是答案;或四个选项中惟一个不是常识项的很可能是答案。
- 3) 选项是文章中明确或直接提到的,即使符合原文,也不是正确选项;根据原文中某一个或两个句子或某一段落推理出来的选项是答案。

## (四) 观点态度题干扰项与正确选项的特点

## 1. 干扰项的特点:

- 1) 文章中别人的观点与作者的观点相混淆。
- 2) 此类题中的中性词,如:neutral (中立的), indifferent (淡然的,不关心的), disinterested (漠不关心的), humorous (幽默的), impassive (冷漠的), ambivalent (矛盾的)一般多为干扰项。文章大多是反映与社会联系紧密的、多为人们所担心的现象,作者对这些现象或支持或批评、反对。

## 2. 正确选项的特点:

- 1) 选项中的褒义词一般多为正确答案。
- 2) 如果文章中提到不同的人的观点或态度,答案多为肯定或否定,一般不会是中性词。
- 3) 文章中出现的 claimed as, suppose, perceive as, considered as 等词语所表达的观点一般都与作者的观点态度相反。

## (五) 词义语义题干扰项与正确选项的特点

## 1. 干扰项的特点:

- 1) 所考查的词汇形似。
- 2) 含有该词常见含义。
- 3) 与该词义无关或相反。
- 4) 对句子的释义太宽或太窄。

## 2. 正确选项的特点:

- 1) 如果考查的是大家熟知的词,一定要考虑其在特定的上下文中的意义,含有该词常规含义的选项一般来说不是正确选项。
- 2) 考查句义的题,选项中含有绝对词(完全肯定或否定)的往往不是正确选项;使用不肯定语气词、或意义深刻的选项多为正确答案。

# Unit 1

## U1-1

(240 words)

There is much discussion today about whether economic growth is desirable. At an earlier period, our desire for material wealth may have been justified.

Now, however, this desire for more than we need is causing serious problems. Even though we have good intentions, we may be producing too much, too fast. Those who criticize economic growth argue that we must slow down. They believe that society is approaching certain limits on growth. These include the fixed supply of natural resources, the possible negative effects of industry on the natural environment, and the continuing increase in the world's population. As society reaches these limits, economic growth can no longer continue, and the quality of life will decrease.

People who want more economic growth, on the other hand, argue that even at the present growth rate there are many poor people in the world. These proponents of economic growth believe that only more growth can create the capital needed to improve the quality of life in the world. Furthermore, they argue that only continued growth can provide the financial resources required to protect our natural surroundings from industrialization. This debate over the desirability of continued economic growth is of vital importance to business and industry. If those who argue against economic growth are correct, the problems they mention cannot be ignored. To find a solution, economists and the business community must pay attention to these problems and discuss them with one another.

1. What is the passage mainly about?
- A. The advantages and disadvantages of economic growth.
  - B. The present debate on economic growth.
  - C. The contradiction between economists and the business community.
  - D. The importance of the debate on economic growth.
2. According to those who argue against economic growth, we must slow down for the following reasons except that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. the world population is ever increasing
  - B. our natural environment is in danger of being destroyed by industry
  - C. more efforts should be made to improve the quality of our material life
  - D. the fixed supply of natural resources marks a point beyond which economic growth cannot continue
3. We may infer from the context the "proponents" in Paragraph 3 most probably means \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. people who argue for something
  - B. people who argue against something
  - C. disagreements
  - D. arguments in support of something
4. People who want more economic growth believe that continued economic growth \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. is essential to the well-being of society as a whole
  - B. can provide us with more natural resources for industrialization

- C. can protect our environment from being polluted by industry
- D. can solve many of our social problems today

5. We may infer from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the author is for economic growth
- B. the author describes the case as it is
- C. the author is against continued economic growth
- D. the author is worried about the problems caused by continued economic growth

## U1-2

(340 words)

"I smoke for my health", I proclaimed in a newspaper article published in 1979. Since I am a doctor, this advice attracted amused attention. I reasoned that smoking made me cough and thus prevented pneumonia; smoking made my heart go faster and eliminated the need for special exercise; smoking restrained my appetite and kept me trim. And then, at 51, I had a heart attack.

I knew the risk factors for early heart attacks include hypertension, diabetes, a family history of heart disease, high blood-cholesterol levels and smoking. The first four were in my favor, but I chose to smoke.

Strange how the evidence that linked smoking to heart disease appeared unclear to me, and how the same data now appear overwhelmingly convincing. Why stop now? Smokers who stop after their first heart attack have an 80-percent chance of living ten more years—if they don't, a 60-percent chance.

As a smoker, I always resented the fact that we smokers received only scorn from non-smokers. How could nonsmokers know that smoking was bad for the health if there were no smokers to prove it? Being a member of the experimental group, rather than the control group, deserves a certain measure of social appreciation. I've done my time. I'm now ready to be a control. I no longer smoke for my health. My health can't stand the help.

Will I miss the late-night trips to find a store that's still open and selling cigarettes? Will I miss searching through ashtrays (烟灰缸) to find the longest butt that is still smokable? Only time will tell. Not smoking may give me the time to find out.

Was it easy to stop? Sure. Here is all you have to do. First, experience a severe crushing pain under your breastbone as you finish a cigarette. Next, have yourself admitted to a coronary-care (心脏康复) unit and be stripped of your clothing and belongings. Finally, remain in the unit at absolute bed rest for four days while smoking is forbidden. This broke my habit. See if it works for you.

1. The writer used to believe all the following statements except that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. smoking benefits health
- B. cough does good to health
- C. smoking can take the place of physical exercise
- D. smoking helps prevent people from getting too fat

2. "The first four were in my favor" in Paragraph 2 most probably means \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the first four factors did me a favor
- B. I was NOT accompanied with the four factors
- C. I wouldn't be down with the four diseases

D. the four factors supported me

- 3. Which of the following is NOT true according to the passage?  
 A. The whole society should take more care of smokers.  
 B. The writer used to buy cigarettes late at night.  
 C. Non-smokers should be grateful to smokers.  
 D. The writer believes he will live longer provided he quits smoking.
- 4. The word "help" at the end of Paragraph 4 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. smoking cigarettes  
 B. control group  
 C. social appreciation  
 D. experimental group
- 5. Which of the following might be the best title for the passage?  
 A. I've Done My Time  
 B. My Fault  
 C. Why I Developed Heart Disease  
 D. Why I Quit Smoking

### U1-3

(349 words)

It is hard to get any agreement on the accurate meaning of the term "social class". In everyday life, people tend to have a different approach to those they consider their equals from those they consider higher or lower than themselves in the social scale. The criteria we use to "place" a new acquaintance, however, are a complex mixture of factors. Dress, way of speaking, area of residence in a given city or province, education and manners all play a part.

In Greece, after the sixth century B. C., there was a growing conflict between the peasants and the landed aristocrats, and a gradual decrease in the power of the aristocracy when a kind of "middle class" of traders and skilled workers grew up. The population of Athens, for example, was divided into three main classes which were politically and legally distinct. About one-third of the total were slaves, who did not count politically at all, a fact often forgotten by those who praise Athens as the nursery of democracy. The next main group consisted of resident foreigners, the "metis", who were freemen, though they too were allowed no share in political life. The third group was the powerful body of "citizens", who were themselves divided into sub-classes.

In the late Middle Ages, however, the development of a money economy and the growth of cities and trade led to the rise of another class, the "burghers(公民)" or city merchants and mayors. These were the predecessors of the modern middle classes. Gradually high office and occupation assumed importance in determining social position, as it became more and more possible for a person born to one station in life to move to another. This change affected the towns more than the country areas, where remnants of feudalism lasted much longer.

With the break-up of the feudal economy, the increasing division of labor, and the growing power of the town burghers, the commercial and professional middle class became more and more important in Europe, and the older privileged class, the landed aristocracy, began to lose some of its power.

- 1. The first paragraph is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. how to define the term "social class"  
 B. much alternation in people's social class  
 C. the complexity of evaluating a person's social class

- D. the way we tell which social class a person belongs to
2. In Paragraph 1, "criteria" most probably means \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. standards of judgment B. criticism  
 C. methods D. characteristic
3. According to the passage, which of the following statements is NOT true?  
 A. In a sense, social mobility can be attributed to the growth of trade.  
 B. Slaves in ancient Greece were not politically significant.  
 C. The new class made up of traders and officers of the late Middle Ages made the development of a money economy possible.  
 D. The modern middle classes are the successors of the "burghers" of the late Middle Ages.
4. The Greek aristocracy's power in the sixth century B. C. declined because of \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. the slaves  
 B. the foreign residents  
 C. the conflict between the peasants and the landed aristocrats  
 D. the growth of a new middle class in the sixth century B. C.
5. The best title for the passage might be \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Social Classes B. Changes in Social System  
 C. The Evolution of Human Society D. The Criteria to Classify Social Groups

## U1-4

(278 words)

The human brain contains 10 thousand million cells and each of these may have a thousand connections. Such enormous numbers used to discourage us and cause us to dismiss the possibility of making a machine with human-like ability, but now that we have grown used to moving forward at such a pace we can be less sure. Quite soon, in only 10 or 20 years perhaps, we will be able to assemble a machine as complex as the human brain, and if we can we will. It may then take us a long time to render it intelligent by loading in the right software (软件) or by altering the architecture but that too will happen.

I think it is certain that in decades, not centuries, machines of silicon (硅) will arise first to rival and then exceed their human ancestors. Once they exceed us they will be capable of their own design. In a real sense they will be able to reproduce themselves. Silicon will have ended carbon's long control. And we will no longer be able to claim ourselves to be the finest intelligence in the known universe.

As the intelligence of robots increases to match that of humans and as their cost declines through economies of scale, we may use them to expand our frontiers, first on earth through their ability to withstand environments harmful to ourselves. Thus, deserts may bloom and the ocean beds may be mined. Further ahead, by a combination of the great wealth this new age will bring and the technology it will provide, the construction of a vast, man-created world in space, home to thousands or millions of people, will be within our power.

1. In what way can we make a machine intelligent?  
 A. By making it work in such environments as deserts, oceans or space.  
 B. By working hard for 10 or 20 years.

- C. By either properly programming it or changing its structure.  
D. By reproducing it.
2. What does the writer think about machines with human-like ability?  
A. He believes they will be useful to human beings.  
B. He believes that they will control us in the future.  
C. He is not quite sure in what way they may influence us.  
D. He doesn't consider the construction of such machines possible.
3. The word "carbon" in Paragraph 2 stands for \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. intelligent robots                      B. a chemical element  
C. an organic substance                  D. human beings
4. A robot can be used to expand our frontiers when \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. its intelligence and cost are beyond question  
B. it is able to bear the rough environment  
C. it is made as complex as the human brain  
D. its architecture is different from that of the present ones
5. It can be inferred from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. after the installation of a great number of cells and connections, robots will be capable of self-reproduction  
B. with the rapid development of technology, people have come to realize the possibility of making a machine with human-like ability  
C. once we make a machine as complex as the human brain, it will possess intelligence  
D. robots will have control of the vast, man-made world in space

## U1-1

### ▶▶▶ 难句分析翻译

1. *These proponents of economic growth believe that only more growth can create the capital needed to improve the quality of life in the world.* 这些支持者相信只有更快的经济增长才能创造提高所有人生活水平所需要的财富。

[结构分析] 句子的主语是 *these proponents*, *that* 引导一个宾语从句, *needed to...* 是过去分词短语做 *capital* 的定语。

2. *This debate over the desirability of continued economic growth is of vital importance to business and industry.* 关于是否有必要使经济持续增长的争论对于商业和工业都是至关重要的。

[结构分析] 句子的主语是 *debate*, *over the desirability...* 是介词短语做 *debate* 的定语, *of vital importance to...* (对于……至关重要) 做全句的表语。

### ▶▶▶ 试题解析

1.B [解题思路] 中心思想题。文章的第一句是主题句: *There is much discussion today about whether economic growth is desirable.* 此句开门见山地点明了关于经济增长存在的两种不同观点。文章重点介绍了赞成者和反对者的主要论点, 因此 B 项符合题意。

[应试点拨] 采用演绎法的文章语篇主题句常位于文章的开头, 通过文章首句可了



解全文的思路和走向。

2. C [解题思路] 事实细节题。题意出现在第二段第三句话: *Those who criticize economic growth argue that we must slow down.* 紧接着说明其原因是“持续的经济增长会使社会达到某些极限”, 包括 *the fixed supply of natural resources, the possible negative effects of industry on the natural environment, and the continuing increase in the world's population.* 只有 C 项是文章中未提及的, 为本题的正确答案。

[应试点拨] 细节题关键在于找准题意在文章中所处的位置, 答案一般在此处或前后句中都能直接找到。但有时题目中会有意避开文章的原词, 而使用其同义词、近义词或解释, 需仔细对照原文与选项, 再做出判断。

3. A [解题思路] 词义推断题。A 项意为“为赞成某事而辩论的人”; B 项意为“为反对某事而辩论的人”; C 项意为“不同的意见”; D 项意为“支持某事物的言论”。分析该词所在的结构可知其在句中做主语, 而且谓语是“相信”, 动作的发出者只能是人, 所以可排除 C、D 两项。再结合上文线索可判断出 *these proponents* 指代的是前一句的主语 *people who want more economic growth*, 即赞成经济增长的人。因此 A 项正确。

[应试点拨] 判断词义除了需要有一定的词汇量之外, 还应注意词或词组在段落和文章中会受到特定的语境, 即上下文的影响。因此, 要根据上下文, 结合对句子和段落的理解来判断词义。

4. A [解题思路] 事实细节题。根据第三段第二句和第三句可知, 经济增长的支持者认为只有更快的经济增长才能创造更多的财富以提高所有人的生活水平, 并为保护自然环境免受工业化的破坏提供财力资源。B 项和 D 项文中未提及, 而 C 项表述不准确, 文中并未表示经济增长能直接保护环境使其免受污染。所以只有 A 项符合题意。

5. B [解题思路] 作者态度题。文章一开始就指出关于经济增长有两种不同意见, 接着具体介绍各自的论点。纵观全文, 作者的介绍很客观, 几乎没有个人观点。因此 B 项为正确答案。

[应试点拨] 推断作者的态度要注重对文章的深层理解, 不仅要读懂原文, 还要领会作者的语气和言外之意, 即 *read between the lines*, 并结合对语篇的综合理解来做出推断。

## 四级词汇聚焦

- ① **justify** ['dʒʌstɪfaɪ] *vt.* 证明……正当有理, 为……辩护

[例句] *They were justified in turning down our proposal.* 他们拒绝我们的建议是有道理的。

- ② **intention** [ɪn'tenʃən] *n.* 意图, 目的

[搭配] *have good intentions* 有良好的意愿; *have the intention of...* 有……打算; *without intention* 无意

[例句] *He went to Paris with the intention of learning French.* 他抱着学法语的目的去了巴黎。

## 写作词语积累

- |                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. material wealth 物质财富 | 2. at the present growth rate 以目前的增长速度 |
| 3. slow down 减慢速度       | 4. be of vital importance to 对于……至关重要  |