

Practice on Newly Designed TOEFL
Reading Comprehension 申 丕 编著

新型

托福阅读测试



世界图书出版公司

**Practice on Newly Designed TOEFL
Reading Comprehension**

新型托福阅读测试

申 丕 编著

世界图书出版公司

北京 · 广州 · 上海 · 西安

1997

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

新型托福阅读测试/申丕编著. — 北京:世界图书出版公司北京公司,1997.6
ISBN 7-5062-3226-X

I.新… II.申… III.英语—高等教育—阅读教学—习题 IV.H31-44

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(97)第 13655 号

新 型 托 福 阅 读 测 试

申 丕 编 著

责任编辑 黄鲁

*

世界图书出版公司北京公司出版

北京朝阳门内大街 137 号

北京昌平百善印刷厂印刷

世界图书出版公司北京公司发行 各地新华书店和外文书店经售

*

1997 年 8 月第 1 版 开本:787×1092 1/16

1997 年 8 月第 1 次印刷 印张:13.5

印数:00001-10000 字数:300 千字

ISBN 7-5062-3226-X/H·225

定价:16.00 元

前 言

托福考试主要有三个部分:听力理解、语法结构书面解答和阅读理解。1988年5月又增加了作文。在这几个部分中考生普遍认为阅读理解是很关键的,尤其是1995年8月改题型之后,将原来的词汇测试内容融合到阅读理解文章中,从而加大了阅读理解的份量,也在一定程度上增加了阅读的难度。

选编这本书意在帮助广大考生适应这种阅读测试,在最短的时间内掌握阅读的技巧,取得理想成绩。

本书中的文章是从大量的阅读资料中精选出来的,内容涉及社会、政治、经济、人物、科学等诸多方面,每篇文章后均附生词注释,有些还附难句翻译,书后附有参考答案。

由于编者水平有限,书中缺点错误在所难免,衷心欢迎广大读者批评指正。

编者

1997年5月

目 录

Passages	(1)
Index	(200)
Answers	(209)

Passage 1

Questions 1–9

The ocean bottom—a region nearly 2.5 times greater than the total land area of the Earth—is a vast frontier that even today is largely unexplored and uncharted. Until about a century ago, the deep-ocean floor was completely inaccessible, hidden beneath waters averaging over 3,600 meters deep. Totally without light and subjected to intense pressures hundreds of times greater than at the Earth's surface, the deep-ocean bottom is a hostile environment to humans, in some ways as forbidding and remote as the void of outer space.

Although researchers have taken samples of deep-ocean rocks and sediments for over a century, the first detailed global investigation of the ocean bottom did not actually start until 1968, with the beginning of the National Science Foundation's Deep Sea Drilling Project (DSDP). Using techniques first developed for the offshore oil and gas industry, the DSDP's drill ship, the Glomar Challenger, was able to maintain a steady position on the ocean's surface and drill in very deep waters, extracting samples of sediments and rock from the ocean floor.

The Glomar Challenger completed 96 voyages in a 15-year research program that ended in November 1983. During this time, the vessel logged 600,000 kilometers and took almost 20,000 core samples of seabed sediments and rocks at 624 drilling sites around the world. The Glomar Challenger's core samples have allowed geologists to reconstruct what the planet looked like hundreds of millions of years ago and to calculate what it will probably look like millions of years in the future. Today, largely on the strength of evidence gathered during the Glomar Challenger's voyages, nearly all earth scientists agree on the theories of plate tectonics and continental drift that explain many of the geological processes that shape the Earth.

The cores of sediment drilled by the Glomar Challenger have also yielded information critical to understanding the world's past climates. Deep-ocean sediments provide a climatic record stretching back hundreds of millions of years, because they are largely isolated from the mechanical erosion and the intense chemical and biological activity that rapidly destroy much land-based evidence of past climates. This record has already provided insights into the patterns and causes of past climatic change—information that may be used to predict future climates.

1. The author refers to the ocean bottom as a “frontier” in line 2 because it

- (A) is not a popular area for scientific research
- (B) contains a wide variety of life forms

- (C) attracts courageous explorers
 - (D) is an unknown territory
2. The word "inaccessible" in line 3 is closest in meaning to
- (A) unrecognizable
 - (B) unreachable
 - (C) unusable
 - (D) unsafe
3. The author mentions outer space in line 7 because
- (A) the Earth's climate millions of years ago was similar to conditions in outer space
 - (B) it is similar to the ocean floor in being alien to the human environment
 - (C) rock formations in outer space are similar to those found on the ocean floor
 - (D) techniques used by scientists to explore outer space were similar to those used in ocean exploration
4. Which of the following is true of the Glomar Challenger?
- (A) It is a type of submarine.
 - (B) It is an ongoing project.
 - (C) It has gone on over 100 voyages.
 - (D) It made its first DSDP voyage in 1968.
5. The word "extracting" in line 13 is closest in meaning to
- (A) breaking
 - (B) locating
 - (C) removing
 - (D) analyzing
6. The Deep Sea Drilling Project was significant because it was.
- (A) an attempt to find new sources of oil and gas
 - (B) the first extensive exploration of the ocean bottom
 - (C) composed of geologists from all over the world
 - (D) funded entirely by the gas and oil industry
7. The word "strength" in line 21 is closest in meaning to
- (A) basis
 - (B) purpose
 - (C) discovery
 - (D) endurance
8. The word "they" in line 26 refers to
- (A) years
 - (B) climates
 - (C) sediments
 - (D) cores
9. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage as being a result of the

Deep Sea Drilling Project?

- (A) Geologists were able to determine the Earth's appearance hundreds of millions of years ago.
(B) Two geological theories became more widely accepted by scientists.
(C) Information was revealed about the Earth's past climatic changes.
(D) Geologists observed forms of marine life never before seen.

生词注释

vast 广大的
uncharted 未制入图中的
unexplored 未被探知的
inaccessible 达不到的
hostile 不友好的
remote 遥远的
sample 样品
sediment 沉淀
global 全球的
maintain 保持
vessel 船

log 把... 记入航海日志
core 岩心, 核
geologist 地质学家
on the strength of 因为
plate 板块
tectonics 构造学
yield 产生
isolate 隔离
erosion 侵蚀
endurance 忍耐

难句翻译

Deep-ocean sediments provide a climatic record stretching back hundreds of millions of years, because they are largely isolated from the mechanical erosion and the intense chemical and biological activity that rapidly destroy much land-based evidence of past climates.

因为深海沉积物大都处在远离机械侵害和远离受强化学与生物活动破坏的陆地气候遗迹区, 所以它们为我们提供了一份亿万年前的气候记录。(Lines 25-28)

Passage 2

Questions 1–12

Basic to any understanding of Canada in the 20 years after the Second World War is the country's impressive population growth. For every three Canadians in 1945, there were over five in 1966. In September 1966 Canada's population passed the 20 million mark. Most of this surging growth came from natural increase.

5 The depression of the 1930's and the war had held back marriages, and the catching-up process began after 1945. The baby boom continued through the decade of the 1950's, producing a population increase of nearly fifteen percent in the five years from 1951 to 1956. This rate of increase had been exceeded only once before in Canada's history, in the decade before 1911, when the prairies were being settled. 10 Undoubtedly, the good economic conditions of the 1950's supported a growth in the population, but the expansion also derived from a trend toward earlier marriages and an increase in the average size of families. In 1957 the Canadian birth rate stood at 28 per thousand, one of the highest in the world.

After the peak year of 1957, the birth rate in Canada began to decline. It continued 15 falling until in 1966 it stood at the lowest level in 25 years. Partly this decline reflected the low level of births during the depression and the war, but it was also caused by changes in Canadian society. Young people were staying at school longer; more women were working; young married couples were buying automobiles or houses before starting families; rising living standards were cutting down the size of families. It 20 appeared that Canada was once more falling in step with the trend toward smaller families that had occurred all through the Western world since the time of the Industrial Revolution.

Although the growth in Canada's population had slowed down by 1966 (the increase in the first half of the 1960's was only nine percent), another large population wave 25 was coming over the horizon. It would be composed of the children of the children who were born during the period of the high birth rate prior to 1957.

1. What does the passage mainly discuss?

- (A) Educational changes in Canadian society
- (B) Canada during the Second World War
- (C) Population trends in postwar Canada
- (D) Standards of living in Canada

2. According to the passage, when did Canada's baby boom begin?

- (A) In the decade after 1911

- (B) After 1945
 - (C) During the depression of the 1930's
 - (D). In 1966
3. The word "five" in line 3 refers to
 - (A) Canadians
 - (B) years
 - (C) decades
 - (D) marriages
 4. The word "surging" in line 4 is closest in meaning to
 - (A) new
 - (B) extra
 - (C) accelerating
 - (D) surprising
 5. The author suggests that in Canada during the 1950's
 - (A) the urban population decreased rapidly
 - (B) fewer people married
 - (C) economic conditions were poor
 - (D) the birth rate was very high
 6. The word "trend" in line 11 is closest in meaning to
 - (A) tendency
 - (B) arm
 - (C) growth
 - (D) directive
 7. The word "peak" in line 14 is closest in meaning to
 - (A) pointed
 - (B) dismal
 - (C) mountain
 - (D) maximum
 8. When was the birth rate in Canada at its lowest postwar level?
 - (A) 1966
 - (B) 1957
 - (C) 1956
 - (D) 1951
 9. The author mentions all of the following as causes of declines in population growth after 1957 EXCEPT
 - (A) people being better educated
 - (B) people getting married earlier
 - (C) better standards of living
 - (D) couples buying houses

10. It can be inferred from the passage that before the Industrial Revolution
- (A) families were larger
 - (B) population statistics were unreliable
 - (C) the population grew steadily
 - (D) economic conditions were bad
11. The word "It" in line 25 refers to
- (A) horizon
 - (B) population wave
 - (C) nine percent
 - (D) first half
12. The phrase "prior to" in line 26 is closest in meaning to
- (A) behind
 - (B) since
 - (C) during
 - (D) preceding

生词注释

impressive 给人印象深刻的

surge 汹涌

depression 萧条

baby boom 生育高峰

exceed 超越

prairie 大草原

settle 定居

expansion 扩张, 膨胀, 伸长

derive 获得

trend 倾向

peak 顶峰

decline 下降

horizon 地平线

compose of 组成, 构成

prior to 在先的, 重要的

dismal 忧郁的

难句翻译

It appeared the Canada was once more falling in step with the trend toward smaller families that had occurred all through the Western world since the time of the Industrial Revolution.

自工业革命以来发生在西方世界的家庭渐小的趋势中, 加拿大似乎又一次落在了后面。

(Lines 20-22)

Passage 3

Questions 1–9

Are organically grown foods the best food choices? The advantages claimed for such foods over conventionally grown and marketed food products are now being debated. Advocates of organic foods—a term whose meaning varies greatly—frequently proclaim that such products are safer and more nutritious than others.

5 The growing interest of consumers in the safety and nutritional quality of the typical North American diet is a welcome development. However, much of this interest has been sparked by sweeping claims that the food supply is unsafe or inadequate in meeting nutritional needs. Although most of these claims are not supported by scientific evidence, the preponderance of written material advancing such claims makes it difficult
10 for the general public to separate fact from fiction. As a result, claims that eating a diet consisting entirely of organically grown foods prevents or cures disease or provides other benefits to health have become widely publicized and form the basis for folklore.

Almost daily the public is besieged by claims for “no-aging” diets, new vitamins, and other wonder foods. There are numerous unsubstantiated reports that natural vita-
15 mins are superior to synthetic ones, that fertilized eggs are nutritionally superior to unfertilized eggs, that untreated grains are better than fumigated grains, and the like.

One thing that most organically grown food products seem to have in common is that they cost more than conventionally grown foods. But in many cases consumers are misled if they believe organic foods can maintain health and provide better nutritional
20 quality than conventionally grown foods. So there is real cause for concern if consumers, particularly those with limited incomes, distrust the regular food supply and buy only expensive organic foods instead.

1. The word “Advocates” in line 3 is closest in meaning to which of the following?
 - (A) Proponents
 - (B) Merchants
 - (C) Inspectors
 - (D) Consumers
2. In line 4 the word “others” refers to
 - (A) advantages
 - (B) advocates
 - (C) organic foods
 - (D) products
3. The “welcome development” mentioned in line 6 is an increase in

- (A) interest in food safety and nutrition among North Americans
 - (B) the nutritional quality of the typical North American diet
 - (C) the amount of healthy food grown in North America
 - (D) the number of consumers in North America
4. According to the first paragraph, which of the following is true about the term "organic foods"?
- (A) It is accepted by most nutritionists.
 - (B) It has been used only in recent years.
 - (C) It has no fixed meaning.
 - (D) It is seldom used by consumers.
5. The word "unsubstantiated" in line 14 is closest in meaning to
- (A) unbelievable
 - (B) uncontested
 - (C) unpopular
 - (D) unverified
6. The word "maintain" in line 19 is closest in meaning to
- (A) improve
 - (B) monitor
 - (C) preserve
 - (D) restore
7. The author implies that there is cause for concern if consumers with limited incomes buy organic foods instead of conventionally grown foods because
- (A) organic foods can be more expensive but are often no better than conventionally grown foods
 - (B) many organic foods are actually less nutritious than similar conventionally grown foods
 - (C) conventionally grown foods are more readily available than organic foods
 - (D) too many farmers will stop using conventional methods to grow food crops
8. According to the last paragraph, consumers who believe that organic foods are better than conventionally grown foods are often
- (A) careless
 - (B) mistaken
 - (C) thrifty
 - (D) wealthy
9. What is the author's attitude toward the claims made by advocates of health foods?
- (A) Very enthusiastic
 - (B) Somewhat favorable
 - (C) Neutral

(D) Skeptical

生词注释

organically 有机地
conventionally 传统地
advocate 倡导
proclaim 正式宣布
nutritious 营养的
spark 引起, 引燃
inadequate 不充分的
preponderance 优势
fiction 虚构之事
folklore 民间传说

besiege 包围
no-aging 抗衰老的
vitamin 维生素
unsubstantiated 未列举事实支持的
superior to 优于
synthetic 人工合成的
fumigate 以烟熏消毒
proponent 提倡者
thrifty 节俭的
neutral 中性的

难句翻译

As a result, claims that eating a diet consisting entirely of organically grown foods prevents or cures disease or provides other benefits to health have become widely publicized and form the basis for folklore.

其结果是,全部由有机栽培的食品组成的食谱能防病、治病,或对健康有其他益处的说法广为流传并成为基本信条。(Lines 10-12)

Passage 4

Questions 1–10

There are many theories about the beginning of drama in ancient Greece. The one most widely accepted today is based on the assumption that drama evolved from ritual. The argument for this view goes as follows. In the beginning, human beings viewed the natural forces of the world, even the seasonal changes, as unpredictable, and they sought through various means, to control these unknown and feared powers. Those measures which appeared to bring the desired results were then retained and repeated until they hardened into fixed rituals. Eventually stories arose which explained or veiled the mysteries of the rites. As time passed some rituals were abandoned, but the stories, later called myths, persisted and provided material for art and drama.

Those who believe that drama evolved out of ritual also argue that those rites contained the seed of theater because music, dance, masks, and costumes were almost always used. Furthermore, a suitable site had to be provided for performances, and when the entire community did not participate, a clear division was usually made between the "acting area" and the "auditorium". In addition, there were performers, and, since considerable importance was attached to avoiding mistakes in the enactment of rites, religious leaders usually assumed that task. Wearing masks and costumes, they often impersonated other people, animals, or supernatural beings, and mimed the desired effect—success in hunt or battle, the coming rain, the revival of the Sun—as an actor might. Eventually such dramatic representation were separated from religious activities.

Another theory traces the theater's origin from the human interest in storytelling. According to this view, tales (about the hunt, war or other feats) are gradually elaborated, at first through the use of impersonation, action, and dialogue by a narrator and then through the assumption of each of the roles by a different person. A closely related theory traces theater to those dances that are primarily rhythmical and gymnastic or that are imitations of animal movements and sounds.

1. What does the passage mainly discuss?
 - (A) The origins of theater
 - (B) The role of ritual in modern dance
 - (C) The importance of storytelling
 - (D) The variety of early religious activities
2. The word "they" in line 4 refers to
 - (A) seasonal changes
 - (B) natural forces

- (C) theories
 - (D) human beings
3. What aspect of drama does the author discuss in the first paragraph?
 - (A) The reason drama is often unpredictable
 - (B) The seasons in which dramas were performed
 - (C) The connection between myths and dramatic plots
 - (D) The importance of costumes in early drama
 4. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a common element of theater and ritual?
 - (A) Dance
 - (B) Costumes
 - (C) Music
 - (D) Magic
 5. The word "considerable" in line 15 is closest in meaning to
 - (A) thoughtful
 - (B) substantial
 - (C) relational
 - (D) ceremonial
 6. The word "enactment" in line 15 is closest in meaning to
 - (A) establishment
 - (B) performance
 - (C) authorization
 - (D) season
 7. The word "they" in line 16 refers to
 - (A) mistakes
 - (B) costumes
 - (C) animals
 - (D) performers
 8. According to the passage, what is the main difference between ritual and drama?
 - (A) Ritual uses music where as drama does not
 - (B) Ritual is shorter than drama
 - (C) Ritual requires fewer performers than drama
 - (D) Ritual has a religious purpose and drama does not
 9. The passage supports which of the following statements?
 - (A) No one really knows how the theater began.
 - (B) Myths are no longer represented dramatically.
 - (C) Storytelling is an important part of dance.
 - (D) Dramatic activities require the use of costumes.
 10. Where in the passage does the author discuss the separation of the stage and the

audience?

(A) Lines 8-9

(B) Lines 12-14

(C) Lines 19-20

(D) Lines 22-24

生词注释

assumption 臆测

ritual 仪式

veil 遮掩

retain 保存

abandon 放弃

rite 仪式

mask 面具

costume 服装

participate 参与

auditorium 大礼堂

assume 承担

enactment 演出;法规

impersonate 扮演

mime 比手划脚地表演

representation 表现形式

elaborate 使...精致

rhythmical 有韵律的

gymnastic 形体的,体操的

难句翻译

Those measures which appeared to bring the desired results were then retained and repeated until they hardened into fixed rituals.

那些好象能够带来所求结果的办法,便得以保留和重复,直到它们形成固定仪式。(Lines 5-7)