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广东科技出版社

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前 言

近年的高考标准化考试中，阅读理解所占的比例比其余任何项目都重得多（占40%）；此外，“完形填空”一项（占25%），也同样要考核阅读理解的能力。两项合起来，更是占相当大的比重。究其原因，首先因为阅读理解能力是衡量和考核一个学生实际英语水平的较好项目，能比较全面地反映学生掌握语言的深度和广度，包括各种语言知识及分析、综合的能力；同时，也由于阅读能力构成外语实际交际能力的重要部分，它本身就是外语教学的一个终极目标。

在我国，大部分学生学外语的目的，主要就是用于阅读；而同时，阅读又是我国学生学习外语的主要手段。因此，阅读理解训练之重要，自不待言。

在阅读训练中，怎样能够做到抓住要领，达到事半功倍的效果，在较短的时间里得到比较显著的提高呢？我们编写这本《英语阅读理解精学》，就是为了解决这个问题。

文章都是由句子构成的。要理解文章的意思，首先必须看懂每个句子。但是，一篇文章中的句子，难度是很不一样的。我们往往发现一篇文章中有两三个难懂的句子，它们就是这篇文章中的“拦路虎”；我们阅读的时候，为能重点突破，把这些句子弄懂了，其余的内容便迎刃而解了。因此，我们搜集了一批“单句理解”题，首先加强这方面的训练。

解决了句子的问题后，就要注意段落的理解。对段落（或长句）来说，最重要的是把握住它的主要意思，就是main idea。这是由阅读达到理解的一个必要步骤。我们也

搜集了一些段落和长句，供读者进行训练。

此外，在近年各地的试题中，出现很多题型，有各种不同的要求；我们选择了其中常见的一些，如看图、计算、排顺序、选标题、猜词义等，本书都精选了若干题，读者仔细揣摩，便可“各个击破”。

希望你读完这本书之后，对阅读理解考试，能够做到胸有成竹。

由于时间仓促，水平有限，本书一定还有不少错误，敬请广大读者不吝赐教。

编者

1992.10.

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一、单句理解

【A】

从下列各句后的A, B, C和D四句中选择一个与原句意义最接近的答案。

1. One is never too old to learn.
 - A. When a person is old, he can't learn.
 - B. When a person can learn, he must be old.
 - C. Even though a person is old, he can still learn.
 - D. Never have we seen an old man who can still learn.
2. None of us are from Beijing.
 - A. Not all of us are from Beijing.
 - B. All of us are not from Beijing.
 - C. Not any of us is from Beijing.
 - D. We are all from Beijing.
3. Amy is the only one of Mrs. Chapman's four daughters that receives higher education.
 - A. Mrs. Chapman has four daughter and they all receive higher education.
 - B. Mrs. Chapman's four daughters are all university students except Amy.

- C. Mrs. Chapman has four daughters and Amy is one of them who receive higher education.
 - D. Amy receives higher education but her three sisters don't.
4. Three fourths of the students failed in the exam.
- A. Twenty-five percent of the students passed the exam.
 - B. Twenty-five percent of the students didn't pass the exam.
 - C. Seventy-five percent of the students didn't take the exam.
 - D. Seventy-five percent of the students passed the exam.
5. Nobody knew more about her than that.
- A. People knew a little about her.
 - B. People knew much about her.
 - C. People knew nothing about her.
 - D. Nobody knew her.
6. The police were not as light-hearted as Bashi.
- A. Bashi was cheerful but the police weren't.
 - B. Bashi was not cheerful but the police were.
 - C. Both Bashi and the police were cheerful.
 - D. Both Bashi and the police were not cheerful.
7. The air in quite a few big cities in the world used to be dirty.
- A. The air in very few big cities were dirty.

- B. The air in some big cities were dirty.
 - C. The air in many cities were not dirty.
 - D. The air in a considerable number of big cities were dirty.
8. Tom finished his work in no time.
- A. Tom finished his work just in time.
 - B. Tom did not finish his work in time.
 - C. Tom finished his work very soon.
 - D. Tom did not finish his work in a short time.
9. Day had now broken, and he cast his net for the last time.
- A. His net was broken and he threw it away.
 - B. His net was broken and he mended it for the last time.
 - C. It was a cloudy day he found it difficult to throw his net.
 - D. It was dawn, he threw his net for the last time.
10. He couldn't make himself heard.
- A. Others couldn't hear him.
 - B. He didn't want others to hear him.
 - C. Others didn't want to hear him.
 - D. There was something wrong his voice.
11. What is she after?
- A. What is next to her?
 - B. What is she looking at?

- C. What is in front of her?
D. What is she looking for?
12. It was not long before he passed away.
A. Not long ago he went away.
B. Soon he died.
C. Soon after he passed by.
D. A few minutes later he disappeared.
13. They are working on a big building.
A. They are making a picture of a big building.
B. They work in a big building every day.
C. They are going to work in a big building.
D. They are putting up a big building.
14. Her success is all the thanks I wanted.
A. I helped her, but she needn't thank me for her success.
B. She ought to thank me for helping her to succeed.
C. She needn't give me anything except her thanks.
D. All I wanted is her thanks for my help.
15. "There's no word from him," she says.
A. He cannot talk now.
B. He doesn't telephone her or write to her.
C. She has never heard him talk.
D. She refused to say anything about him.
16. I can't leave her by herself.
A. I can't let her stay at home.
B. I can't leave her.

- C. I can't go away from her.
D. I can't let her go away.
17. He had been afraid of this all along.
A. He had been afraid of all this.
B. He had been afraid of this all together.
C. He had been afraid of this all the time.
D. He had been afraid of this all the way.
18. Einstein cared little for money.
A. Einstein paid little attention to money.
B. Einstein asked for a little money.
C. Einstein earned very little money.
D. Einstein worried about his money.
19. He lived the rest of his life in the United States.
A. He lived and rested in the United States.
B. He lived a quiet life in the United States.
C. He lived in the United States with his family.
D. He lived in the United States till he died.
20. When he became tired of riding he started to walk.
A. He was tired he began to walk.
B. He had had enough of riding and began to walk.
C. He walked a long way and became tired.
D. He did not like riding because it made him tired.

21. Jane failed to come yesterday.
- A. Jane didn't succeed yesterday.
 - B. Jane failed and didn't come yesterday.
 - C. Jane didn't come yesterday.
 - D. Jane did come yesterday.
22. Mr. Wang said, "Li may have missed the last bus."
- A. Mr. Wang knew Li had missed the last bus.
 - B. Mr. Wang wasn't sure whether Li had caught the last bus.
 - C. Li had certainly missed the last bus.
 - D. Li can't have caught the last bus.
23. Last week no one but he went there.
- A. Only he went there last week.
 - B. Last week he didn't go there.
 - C. Last week few people went there, but he did.
 - D. Last week a few people went there, and he went there too.
24. The news of her death caused little surprise.
- A. We were not surprised when we knew she had died.
 - B. We knew she had died and were surprised.
 - C. Her death did surprise us a little.
 - D. We were greatly surprised when we heard she had died.

25. They wish Bob had come to New York with them.
- A. They're pleased that Bob came to New York with them.
 - B. They expect Bob to come to New York with them.
 - C. They are sorry that Bob isn't coming to New York with them.
 - D. They're sorry that Bob didn't come to New York with them.
26. We couldn't find the cinema until after the film began.
- A. We went to the wrong cinema.
 - B. We missed the film.
 - C. We came to the cinema on time.
 - D. We were late for the film.
27. Cathy is difficult to work with.
- A. Cathy works with difficulty.
 - B. Cathy finds it difficult to work with others.
 - C. It is difficult to work with Cathy.
 - D. Cathy has difficulty with her work.
28. That would be far better.
- A. It would be a great improvement.
 - B. It's not good here.
 - C. It would work better at long distances.
 - D. The farther away it is, the better.
29. You'll answer for your rudeness.

- A. You'll explain why you are so rude.
 - B. You must answer if you don't want to be rude.
 - C. You are to be paid for your rudeness.
 - D. You'll be punished for your rudeness.
30. Crops have never been worse.
- A. Crops were better before.
 - B. Crops are better now than ever before.
 - C. Crops were never good.
 - D. Crops are never poor.
31. They are both alike.
- A. The two boys are both alike.
 - B. Both of them are alike.
 - C. Both them are as well as alike.
 - D. They both are as well as alike.
32. You might have offered him a drink. In fact, ____.
- A. you didn't offer him a drink
 - B. you'd be wrong to offer him a drink
 - C. there's still time for you to offer him a drink
 - D. you offered him a drink
33. I could have gone by bus and so saved a lot of money. From this sentence we understand that the speaker ____.
- A. wouldn't have saved much money if he had taken the bus
 - B. would have gone by bus if he had saved

money for the fare

C. travelled by bus, and it didn't cost him much

D. would have spent less money if he had travelled by bus

34. Peter has hardly worked since April. This means that since April ____.

A. Peter has been fully employed

B. Peter has worked very well

C. Peter has done very little work

D. Peter hasn't worked at all

35. She would eat nothing but small pieces of bread and butter. This sentence means that she ____.

A. ate small pieces of bread and butter but didn't like them

B. ate only some small pieces of bread and butter

C. didn't eat anything, not even the bread and butter

D. wouldn't touch the bread and butter, but she ate other things

36. Mr. Bridges is by far the richest man I know. From this sentence it is clear that Mr. Bridges ____.

A. is the richest man in my country

B. is one of many very rich men I knew

C. is richer than all his friends

- D. is much richer than anyone else I know
37. I've persuaded Tom to become the new secretary of the club. From this sentence we know that ____.
- A. the speaker is considering Tom for the job of secretary
 - B. the speaker asked Tom to be the secretary and Tom agreed
 - C. Tom is wondering whether to accept the job of secretary
 - D. Tom has begged to become secretary of the club
38. At the factory he likes people to let him have his own way. The person described in this sentence ____.
- A. doesn't like it when people tell him what to do
 - B. often needs the help of other people in his work
 - C. doesn't accept help from people he dislikes
 - D. likes people to think all good ideas are his own
39. If I'd known about Josie's illness, I wouldn't have missed seeing her. From this sentence we understand that ____.
- A. I saw Josie, and I knew she was ill
 - B. I didn't know Josie was ill, but I saw her

C. I didn't see Joste although I knew she was
visiting him from Dallas and would be in Dallas.

D. I didn't know Joste was ill and I didn't
see her here.

40. Mr. Brown is a hard-working teacher.

A. He works hard.

B. His work is hard.

C. Teaching is always hard work.

D. The work he gives us is very difficult.

41. Some students are no good at all at English
pronunciation.

A. Some students are good at pronunciation.

B. Some students can pronounce English very
well.

C. Some students cannot pronounce English
very well.

D. Some students cannot punctuate English
very well.

42. Put this curtain on the right window.

A. Don't put it on the dark window.

B. Don't put it on the left window.

C. Don't put it on the window.

D. Don't put it near the window.

43. We took the ball to the children.

A. A ball was carried to the children.

B. We told the children about a ball.

C. A ball was given to the children.