

全国专业技术 职称英语 等级考试最新模拟题库

根据国家人事部'98最新《考纲》编写

吴光朗 主编

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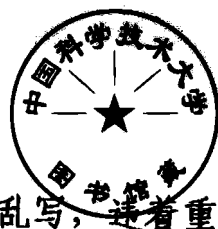
理工类

全国专业技术职称英语等级考试 最新模拟题库

(理工类)

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不得乱涂乱写，违者重罚

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应试指导

一、考试说明

全国专业技术职称英语等级考试分为四大类：综合与人文、财经、理工和卫生。各类考试除文章的内容有所侧重外，试卷的结构和难度基本上没有区别。每类考试各分 A、B、C 三种级别，其中 C 级最易，B 级及 A 级的难度相应递增。报考 C 级的人员需要有 4 000 左右的词汇量，略低于大学英语四级水平，报考 B 级的人员需要 5 000 左右的词汇量，相当于大学英语五级水平，而报考 A 级的人员需要 6 000 左右的词汇量，相当于大学英语六级水平。各级的考试题型、题数和分数如下：

级 别	词 汇		阅 读 理 解		完 成 句 子		选 择 填 空		概 括 大 意		完 形 填 空		合 计	
	题 量	分 值	题 量	分 值	题 量	分 值	题 量	分 值	题 量	分 值	题 量	分 值	题 量	分 值
C 级	20	20	15	45	5	15	20	20					60	100
B 级	20	20	25	50					5	10	10	20	60	100
A 级	20	20	25	50					5	10	10	20	60	100

二、应试技巧

全国专业技术职称英语等级考试是一种以阅读理解为主的测试，同时兼顾语法知识和词汇量。从考纲给的样题可以看出除词汇部分外，其余部分都直接与篇章阅读有关。因此，在准备考试时，应该把阅读理解能力的提高放在首位。但是阅读理解离不开语法知识和词汇量，这两方面的准备也十分必要，其中词汇的复习尤为重要。

与其他英语考试一样，是否熟悉考试题型和掌握解题技巧会直接影响考试的成绩。由于职称等级考试以阅读理解为主，而阅读理解是一个信息处理的过程，不需要对每一个单词都进行精确地理解，合理猜测和重点理解能够大大地提高阅读理解的质量。因此，掌握一些必备的应试技巧，将能给考生带来事半功倍的效果。

（一）词汇的准备

背词汇表是一种基本的词汇准备方法，但是背词汇表并不能解决全部问题，还需要懂得理解和应用词汇。词汇准备时，除背词外，还可以用以下技巧提高词汇准备的效果：

1. 构词法

许多英语单词，特别是较长和较难记的词，通常可由前缀、词根和后缀组成，就词义而言，前缀和词根是起关键作用的，后缀通常表示词性。通过砍头去尾，将较长的词变成较短的部分，不但容易记忆，而且利于理解。

例如：词根 -spect 表示 “look”。

expect — 前缀 ex- 表示 “out”。expect 有 “look out” 的意思，即 “期待，期盼”。

inspect — 前缀 in- 表示 “into, inside”。inspect 有 “look into” 的意思，即 “检查，视察”。

respect — 前缀 re- 表示 “again”。respect 有 “look again” 的意思，转义成 “尊敬”（不值一顾何谓尊敬）。

又如：词根 -cess 表示 “go”。

process — 前缀 pro- 表示 “forward”。process 有 “go forward” 的意思，转义成 “过程，处理”。

succession — 前缀 suc- 是 sub- 的变异，因 -cess 以 -c 开头，sub- 变成 suc-，表示 “next to”。succession 表示 “one after another in a sequence（连续，接续）”。值得注意的是 “success” 表示 “成功”，而 “successor” 表示 “继承人，接班人”，“successive” 表示 “连续的”。

excess — 前缀 ex- 表示 “out”。excess 有 “go out of” 的意思，即 “过度，超过”。

access — 前缀 ac- 是 ad- 的变异，因 -cess 以 -c 开头，ad- 变成 ac-，表示 “for, to”。access 表示 “go to”，因而有 “接近，通路” 的意思。

英语构词法的内容十分丰富，参考书也很多。读者可以选择一些容易记住的构词法知识，在词汇准备中加以运用，从而起到举一反三的效果。

2. 近义词辨别

近义词辨别在词汇准备中难度最大，原因在于词义的辨别需要考虑各种因素，如搭配关系、正式程度、词性、可数与不可数、词义的方向性、强调程度等。例如：

- (1) Language was originally an instinctive _____ to such internal needs as hunger and thirst and such outward forces as heat and wind and rain.

A. treatment B. Performance C. Recognition D. reaction

该题中的四个选择都有 “做，行动” 的意思，根据空格后的 “to”，只有 D 可选择。reaction 与 to 连用。

- (2) Being objective and modest, a scientist must not _____ his views on others.

A. impose B. Put C. Take D. apply

该题选择 A。尽管 B 中的 “put” 似乎可用，但与 “impose”（强加）相比，就显得过于笼统。“impose” 也是一种 “put”，通常用于正式语气中。

- (3) Hopes of finding the missing climbers are now beginning to _____.

A. reduce B. Dim C. Fade D. faint

该题选择 C。简化该题，可以得出 “Hopes (reduce, dim, fade, faint)” 的选择，其中 reduce 和 fade 是动词，可考虑选择，dim 和 faint 是形容词，可以排除。reduce 表示数量上的减少，故不用。fade 表示颜色、光线、声音等的减弱，故可用。

- (4) The _____ of the factory is not up-to-date.

A. utility B. Equipment C. Facility D. engineering

该题选择 B。该题的动词是 is，主语用单数。尽管四个选择项都是单数，但只有 equipment 和 engineering 为不可数名词，utility（工具）和 facility（设施）都是可数名词，不适用于该题所指的工厂的整体情况，故不用。

(5) Twelve researchers _____ the team to carry out the task.

A. consisted of B. constituted
C. was made up of D. was formed by

该题选择 B。四个选择项都有“组成，构成”的意思，但 consist of, be made up of, 和 be formed by 都表示“由……构成”，即：前者由后者构成，前者为大的单位，后者为小的单位，如：The class consists of 12 students。class 为大，students 为小。而 constitute 则相反，即：小单位 constitute 大单位，如：12 students constitute the class。

(6) The judge said that he was _____ by the high standards of performance of the riders.

A. excited B. interested C. impressed D. touched

该题选择 C。impressed 表示“印象”，骑手们的高水平表演给裁判留下深刻的印象，强调的是“欣赏”这个概念。选择项 D 中的 touched 表示“感动”，强调的是“动感情”，故不适用于本句。

近义词的辨别经常需要多角度的考虑，只有通过大量的练习才能提高这方面的能力。

3. 短语词组

英语中短语词组非常丰富，也易于混淆。除硬背外，还可以通过理解构成词的意义，特别是介副词的意义，进行形象的理解。

例如：agree with — “with”具有“一起”的意思，因此表示“你这么想，我也这么想”。

agree on — “on”有“在……上”的意思，因此表示“在某个事情上的共识”，有双方都进行让步的含义。

agree to — “to”有“向……去”的意思，因此表示“（经说服）同意”。

（二）阅读理解

阅读理解部分的答题技巧分为篇章阅读技巧和问题阅读技巧。

1. 篇章阅读技巧

不要指望读过文章一二遍便能记住文章中所有的事实，或能立即说出文章内容的含义。没有人能做到这一点。文章相当于一个容器，里面装着许多信息，为文章后的几个问题提供回答的基础。因此阅读文章时重要的是对文章中的信息有个大概的理解，并将内容结构整理清楚，以备回答问题时能准确和有效地使用。

（1）句子理解

句子理解无疑是阅读理解的最基本步骤，但若每一个词都要理解，则要记住的东西太多了，以致理解的效果不佳。较好的办法是重点理解关键词，将其标出，如划底线等。由于关键词通常是句子中表达必要信息的词，所以多为实词，如名词、动词和形容词等。如果句子结构比较复杂，则应进行简化。简化的主要方法如下：

- **确定主语、谓语动词和宾语。**主、谓、宾各部分的关键词应尽量少，通常一两个词就行。

例如：In an advanced country with a well-fed population only about one in every 1,000

children dies during his or her 12th year.

简化成: one in every 1,000 — dies — 12th year

- 如有主从结构, 而从句表示限定或补充说明, 则从句可忽略。

例如: It reduces our power of staying well and of getting better if we fall ill.

简化成: reduce — staying well

- 如果主谓部分或主句部分没有表达实质性内容, 则在其他部分找关键词。

例如: (a) We can recognize aging by the gray hair, weakened muscle, wrinkled skin, loss of hearing, and other signs that it produces.

简化成: aging — gray hair, ...

(b) Researchers note that fat cells block body heat from escaping quickly.

简化成: fat cells — block — heat

(2) 段落和篇章结构的分析

段落和篇章结构的分析有助于减轻记忆负担, 突出重要信息, 从而提高阅读质量。

常见的分析方法有:

- 找出主旨句。许多段落都有主旨句, 一般位于句首, 也有在句末和句中的。主旨句是段落的中心, 包含段落的重要信息。
- 分析句子之间的关系。常见的句子之间的关系有定义、补充、过程、举例、比较等。分析这种关系的目的是对要理解的内容进行暂时的取舍, 以使信息更加突出, 便于记忆。例如, 如果已知前面句子的大概内容, 而接下来的句子是举例说明, 则例子部分可以较快地阅读, 不必记下例子中的具体内容。如果解题时需要这些具体内容, 到时返回阅读这一部分效果会更好。
- 猜词。阅读过程中难免会遇到生词, 对于陌生的词汇应该进行合理的猜测。猜测的办法通常用上下文语境, 构词法和语法分析等。猜词的能力实际上是阅读能力的表现, 越能容忍生词的存在而又能继续阅读下去, 阅读能力就会越强。因此在阅读时, 不必遇到生词就查找字典, 而应该尽量根据上下文等进行猜测, 使得阅读不中断, 增加对生词的容忍度。

2. 解答技巧

读懂文章是基础, 解答问题才是目的。如果说阅读文章可以稍微粗略的话, 阅读问题则需要精细。建议使用如下解答问题的技巧:

- 关键词的比较。找出选择项中的关键词是正确判断的重要技巧。关键词是能区别于其他选择项意思的词。如果句子较长, 则可采取缩句的办法找出各项中表达不同意思的词。

例如: In what way are our bodies like an old automobile as we age?

- A. More and more parts are likely to break down.
- B. Some parts are not likely to repair themselves.
- C. The bodies need less energy to function properly.
- D. The bodies lack energy to function properly.

这个问题中, A 和 B 是关于 parts 的好坏 (likely to break down 和 not likely to repair), C 和 D 是关于 bodies 与 energy 的关系。理清这些关系, 就比较容易从文章中找到证据。

关键词的确定实际上也是阅读理解的一部分。

- **找证据。**关键词理清清楚后，便需要从文章中找出证据来证明选择某项的理由。在上例中，文章中有这么一段文字与问题有关：

...This loss of the power to stay healthy happens at about the same rate in everybody. As we age, we tend to be like an old automobile — more and more things go wrong with us.

But old cars and radios do not repair themselves. Hen we are young, our bodies do...

选择项 A 中，parts 与第一段中的 things 呼应，break down 与 go wrong 呼应，因此应选择 A，而 C 和 D 中的 energy 文章没有涉及，故可排除这两项。值得注意的是，有些考生会将 energy 和 power 等同起来，因而将注意力浪费在 C 和 D 上。Energy 和 power 有时可以等同，但在这段文字中它们的所指是不一样的（注意这里的 power 后有个限定短语 to stay healthy）。energy 一般是指“能量”，而这里的 power 是指“能力”。这种概念界限不清的错误是学习外语中常见的错误，应努力避免。

（三）完成句子

完成句子部分要求考生在阅读文章之后填写问题中的空格。该部分涉及到阅读理解、语法知识和词汇量。主要技巧如下：

- **文章阅读。**文章是提供考生回答问题的基本信息，因此不必花太多的时间在阅读上。考生不应要求自己读懂每一个字，而只需掌握总体意思就行。
- **语法分析。**语法分析是通过分析问题句的语法组成部分，确定填入词的词性。如果填入词的词性错误，该句将不成句子。

语法分析的主要方法是简单分析句子成分，找出主语、谓语动词、宾语或表语，确定填入词的语法作用。例如：

A population explosion will to a lot of social problems.

主语 动词 宾语

填入词是一个以“l”开头的动词。根据填入词后面的“to”，填入词应是“lead”。

By the year 2000, today's d nations will have a total

主语 动词 宾语

population of 5 billion people, nearly four-fifths of the world population today.

填入词修饰 nations，应为形容词。根据文章以及首字母“d”，填入词应是“developing”。

从词性上看，动词、名词和形容词是重点考虑的词类。确定填入词的词性后，还要注意词尾部分。以上各类词的词尾部分要点如下：

词类	注意点
名词	1. 常见的名词词尾，如：-ment, -tion, -sion, -ure, -ity, -ing, -ance, -ence 2. 可数名词和不可数名词 3. 名词复数
动词	1. 时态。时态方面常犯的错误有：

	<p>一般现在时：第三人称单数没有加-s。</p> <p>一般过去时：没有加-ed 或用不规则变化形式。</p> <p>各种完成时态：没有使用过去分词，或涉及被动语态时因填入词前面有 been 而误认为进行时态，如：have been written 常误写为 have been writing。</p> <p>各种进行时态：没有使用现在分词。</p> <p>2. 语态。语态方面的难点是分不清主动语态和被动语态。主动和被动的区别是：</p> <p>将动词设为原形，确定所修饰的词与动词之间的关系。如果该词可作为原形动词的主语，则为主动语态；如果是宾语，则为被动语态。</p> <p>以 surprise 为例：</p> <p>The news interests the man. → The man is interested.</p> <p>The man interests us. → The man is interesting.</p> <p>3. 非谓语动词，如：现在分词和过去分词，不定式。非谓语动词常见的错误经常是因为语态问题引起。</p>
形容词	<p>1. 形容词常用来修饰名词或作表语。常见的形容词词尾有：-ful, -ic, -ive, -ous, -al, -able, -ible, -ant, -ent, -ing, -ed 等。</p> <p>2. 注意分词也可以作形容词用。使用分词时要注意语态的确定，确定办法参见上栏语态部分。</p>

（四）选择填空

C 级试卷中的选择填空题实际上是一般考试中的完形填空，是一种阅读理解能力和词汇及语法结构的综合测试。该题型有 20 题，要求从四个选择中确定正确的或最佳的答案。主要技巧如下：

1. 上下文阅读

上下文经常提供关键的词或信息，提示应该寻找的答案。上下文与填写的答案之间往往有某种联系，因此对表达概念关系的词，如表示并列、转折、对比、因果、顺序等，应予特别注意。

2. 句子结构

选择的词必须能使所在的句子结构完整，这需要有较好的语法基础。考虑句子结构时，重点应放在句型、语态、时态、及物和不及物、固定搭配等方面。

3. 词义辨别。参见上文“近义词辨别”的说明。

（五）概括大意

概括大意部分要求考生在阅读之后，根据段落意思填入一个词，完成段落大意。该部分的解题要点如下：

- 找出各句的关键词。具体方法参见上文阅读理解部分。
- 注意段落结构。常见的段落结构有举例、对比、说明、过程等。
- 根据提示确定概括大意。

例如：(原文) The long years of food shortage in this country have suddenly given way to

apparent abundance. Stores and shops are choked with food. Rationing (定量供应) is virtually suspended, and overseas suppliers (供应商) have been asked to hold back deliveries. Yet, instead of joy, there is wide-spread uneasiness and confusion. Why do food prices keep on rising when there seems to be so much more food about? Is the abundance only temporary, or has it come to stay? Does it mean that we need to think less now about producing more food at home? No one knows what to expect.

关键词: food shortage —— give way to —— abundance

stores —— choked with —— food

rationing —— suspended

suppliers —— hold back —— deliveries

yet, uneasiness

prices —— keep on —— rising

abundance —— temporary?

think less about —— producing more food?

分析: 该段分两层意思。第一层有关 abundance, 第二层有关 price。

提示部分: F _____ Abundance and Price Rising

与段落第一层意思相对应, 本题可填入 Food。

(六) 完形填空

完形填空部分有十处空白, 每个空白处填入一个词, 填入词的第一个字母已经给出, 要求考生完成该词。一般地说, 填入的词可分为实词(名词、动词、形容词等)和虚词(连接词、介词、冠词等)。填入的实词多为上下文意思而确定, 而虚词常根据句子的语法结构来确定, 如果填入词是常与动词或形容词使用构成短语的副词或介词, 如 about, in, up, out, through 等, 则可根据动词短语或形容词短语来确定。因此, 完形填空时, 语法分析是很重要的。通过语法分析, 确定填入词的语法意义, 就比较容易地确定具体的填入词。

例如: (原文) The interest paid by stocks rises and falls w_(51) the economy. During times when the cost of living is rapidly becoming greater, s_(52) are usually a better investment than bonds. This is b_(53) they pay a much higher interest rate than d_(54) bonds under these conditions. When economic conditions are not good, h_(55) bonds are generally a better investment.

分析:

(51) rises and falls 均为不及物动词, 后面不需要宾语, 因此带有填空词部分可作状语修饰动词。根据下文 the cost of living — becoming greater 及 economic conditions are not good, 此处可理解为“随着经济变化”, 因此该词可填入“with”。

(51) 填空词作主语, 是一个名词, 与 bonds 相比较, 因此可填入“stocks”。

(52) 该词前后均为句子, 即各自都有自己的主语和谓语动词, 因此该词是一个关联词, 可填入“because”

- (53) 该词出现在比较从句中。比较从句 than 之后的部分，动词经常省略。如果省略动词，则填入词是一个形容词，修饰 bonds。如果是形容词，则这种 bonds 是某一类 bonds，并且区别于其他类别的 bonds。根据上下文，找不到对 bonds 进一步分类别的信息，因此该词不应是形容词，即该词不修饰 bonds。比较从句 than 之后的动词也可以不省略，但为了避免重复，经常使用 do 来替代，因此该处可填入 “do”。
- (54) 如果该词是形容词，则修饰 bonds，因此该词不应是形容词，理由参见(49)。该词之后的部分是一个结构完整的句子，而其前后构成结构完整的主从句，因此可以考虑该词是起连接关系的副词，修饰整个句子。根据上文，此处出现转折，因此可以填入 “however”。

与其他英语考试一样，职称英语等级考试主要是测试考生的英语基础，只凭一些应试技巧难以取得较好的成绩，关键在于打好基础。鉴于大部分专业技术人员备考时基本上以自学为主，我们总结了一些长期从事教学积累的经验，以供参考，希望读者能从中获得一些帮助或启发。由于我们的水平有限，书中难免有不足之处，希望读者批评指正。

林立

1998 年冬于厦门大学

C 级

Model Test 1

第一部分 词汇 (20 小题, 每小题 1 分, 共 20 分)

下面共有 20 小题，每个小题下面有四个选项。其中 1—10 题的每个句子中有一处空白，请从四个选项中选择一个正确答案填入句中的空白处；11—20 题的每个句中均有一个词或词组划有底横线，请从四个选项中选择一个与划线部分意义最相近的词或词组代替或解释句中的划线部分。答案一律涂在答题卡相应的位置上。

1. If the test taker finds an item to which an answer is not known, it may be _____ to leave it blank and go on with the test.
A. valuable B. advisable
C. considerable D. probable
2. _____ is known to the world, Mark Twain is a great American writer.
A. That B. Which
C. It D. As
3. This multiple-choice test _____ incomplete statements with several choices to complete them.
A. is composed of B. consists in
C. makes up D. sets out
4. Children are very curious _____.
A. at heart B. in person
C. on purpose D. by nature
5. Though the long term _____ cannot be predicted, the project has been approved by the committee.
A. affect B. effort
C. effect D. afford
6. In the advanced course students must take performance tests at monthly _____.
A. gaps B. length
C. distance D. intervals
7. _____ we have finished the course, we shall start doing more revision work.
A. For now B. Now that
C. Every since D. By now
8. Many people complain of the rapid _____ of modern time.
A. rate B. speed
C. pace D. growth

9. Children who are over-protected by their parents may become _____.
 A. hurt B. damaged
 C. spoiled D. harmed
10. You can't afford to let the situation get worse. You must take _____ to put it right.
 A. decisions B. directions
 C. steps D. sides
11. The Weather Bureau has repeatedly advised the people to take every care against the coming typhoon.
 A. protection B. prediction
 C. prevention D. precaution
12. The manufacturers hoped that the motor show would boost their car sales.
 A. add B. promote
 C. lift D. prompt
13. He couldn't drag himself away from the glittering camera shop.
 A. persuade B. pull
 C. manage D. attract
14. Our secretary has gone for good.
 A. gone to buy goods B. gone for a good reason
 C. gone to do something useful D. gone and will not come back
15. Before leaving home for work he had a quick look at the newspaper.
 A. glanced B. gazed
 C. stared D. peered
16. His temper was getting out of hand.
 A. out of control B. recessive
 C. unruly D. diminishing
17. The construction company ordered a large quantity of sand from its dealers.
 A. amount B. number
 C. size D. set
18. An underdeveloped economy is often marked by a severe shortage of many daily necessities.
 A. availability B. abundance
 C. lack D. provision
19. I don't think I am suited for this job.
 A. hired B. fit
 C. insisting D. migrating
20. Since there was no place to take shelter, we got very wet in the sudden downpour.
 A. sprayed B. soaked
 C. stained D. sticky

第二部分 阅读理解 (15 小题, 每小题 3 分, 共 45 分)

下面有三篇短文, 每篇短文后有五个问题, 每个问题都有四个备选答案。请仔细阅读短文并根据短文的内容从四个备选答案中选择一个最佳答案。答案一律涂在答题卡相应的位置上。

Passage 1

Man is a land animal, but it is also closely tied to the sea. Throughout history, the sea has served the needs of the man.

The sea has provided man with food, and a convenient way to travel to many parts of the world. Today, experts estimated that nearly $\frac{2}{3}$ of the world's population live within 80 kilometers of the sea coast. In the modern technological world, the sea offers many resources to help mankind survive. Resources on land are beginning to grow less. The sea, however, still offers hope to supply many of man's needs.

The riches of the sea yet to be developed by man's technology are impressive. Oil and gas explorations have existed for nearly 30 years. Valuable amounts of minerals, such as manganese, iron, nickel and copper exist on the ocean floor ready to be mined. Fish farming promises to be a good way to produce large quantity of food. The culture of fish and shell-fish is an ancient skill practised in the past mainly by oriental peoples.

Besides oil and gas, the sea may offer new sources of energy. Experts believe that the warm temperature of the ocean can be used in a way similar to the steam in a steam ship. Ocean currents and waves may possibly be used as a source of energy such as hydro-electric power.

Technology is enabling man to explore even deeper under the sea. The new under-sea technology is providing divers with diving suits and under-sea chambers that are kept at sea-level pressure. The development of strong new materials has made this possible.

The technology to harvest the sea continues to improve. By the year 2000, experts believe that the problems of exploring the food, minerals and energy sources of the sea will be largely solved.

21. Which of the following can be learned from the experts' estimation?
 - A. Over $\frac{2}{3}$ of the world's population live along the sea coast.
 - B. About 80 million people live along the sea coast.
 - C. About $\frac{1}{3}$ of the world's population live inland.
 - D. The world's population live within 80 kilometers of the sea coast.
22. Which of the following HASN'T man been able to do so far in the sea?
 - A. Exploring for gas.
 - B. Farming fish.
 - C. Cultivating shell fish.
 - D. Mining minerals.
23. What is NOT mentioned in the passage as a source of energy of the sea?
 - A. Oil and gas.
 - B. Warmth of the sea.

C. Steam.

D. Ocean waves.

24. After reading the passage, you probably have got the impression that _____.

A. In the near future man will not have to worry about energy sources.

B. In the near future man will probably be able to get minerals from the sea.

C. The sea remains a mystery to man.

D. The problems of exploring the sea will hardly be solved.

25. What does the passage mainly tell us?

A. How the sea helps mankind survive.

B. How people explore the sea.

C. New technology in sea exploration.

D. The resources of the sea.

Passage 2

Most of us like silver. We search clouds for silver linings, lend an ear to silver-tongued speakers and find silver hair splendid. Some ancient people called silver "white gold". The two metals were used in the earliest coins. They are neighbors in the periodic table of elements. Only silver can match gold's ability to bend and stretch. You can draw one grain of silver into 400 feet of wire, or beat it into leaf nearly 150 times thinner than this paper. And, like gold, silver is permanent wealth in the hand.

Silver has still more advantages. Nothing else reflects light so well and uniformly. Even the thinnest sheet will reflect 95 percent of the light cast on it. Silver concentrates sun rays on solar collectors, backs the best mirrors and protects the heat-reflecting gold films on office windows. Silver will enable oxygen to kill bacterial. Hospitals clean their drinking water with silver-treated carbon materials.

No metal—not even copper—conducts heat and electricity so efficiently as silver. Silver-oxide batteries power hearing aids, submarines and satellites. Small round plates of silver switch current from wire to wire in car lights, telephones and computers.

Silver is also used to produce rainfall as well as photographs. Silver goes into use so rapidly that for many years mines have not met world demand, estimated at more than 11,000 tons in 1981. Two-thirds of this amount came out of the earth. We made up the difference by recycling old coins, computer wiring panels, used photographic materials and other silver scrap. Happily, we can reuse our old silver almost endlessly because little metal is lost at each transformation.

26. Why did some ancient people call silver "white gold"?

A. Because the color of silver is white.

B. Because there is a large demand for silver in the world market.

C. Because the mining of silver is as difficult as gold.

D. Because silver bears some features of gold.

27. Which of the statement is NOT mentioned in the passage?
- A. Silver is the best metal to conduct electricity.
 - B. Silver is the best metal to carry heat.
 - C. Silver is the best metal to reflect light.
 - D. Silver is poisonous enough to kill bacteria.
28. Silver has been used in many respects, but it is NOT used in whatever form ____.
- A. by people hard of hearing
 - B. for making coat linings
 - C. in warships
 - D. in offices
29. In the last paragraph, the phrase "make up the difference" means "_____".
- A. to provide what is lacking
 - B. to make the same metal
 - C. to produce a different material
 - D. to cause the difference
30. It was estimated that in 1981, about _____ tons of silver was produced by mines.
- A. 3,700
 - B. 7,300
 - C. 11,000
 - D. 22,000

Passage 3

Earthquakes may rightly be ranked as one of the most destructive forces known to man: since records began to be written down, it has been estimated that earthquake-related fatalities (死亡) have numbered in the millions, and that earthquake-related destruction has been beyond calculation. The greater part of such damage and loss of life has been due to falling down of buildings and the effects of rock slides, floods, fire, disease, gigantic sea waves, and other phenomena resulting from earthquakes, rather than from the quakes themselves.

The great majority of all earthquakes occur on two specific areas, along the coasts of the Pacific Ocean and from the East Indies to the Atlas Mountains. But they may, however, happen anywhere at any time. This element of the unknown has for centuries added greatly to the fear and horror surrounding earthquakes, but in recent times there have been indications that earthquake prediction may be possible. By analyzing changes in animal behavior, patterns of movements in the earth's surface, and other unusual phenomena, scientists have shown increasing success in predicting when and where earthquakes will strike. As a result, a worldwide earthquake warning network is already in operation and has helped to prepare for the vast destruction that might otherwise have been totally unexpected.

It is doubtful that man will ever be able to control earthquakes and do away with the destructiveness altogether, but as how and why earthquakes happen become better understood, man will become more and more able to deal with their possible destruction before it occurs.

31. According to the passage, earthquake-related destruction ____.
- A. can be recorded down
 - B. cannot be calculated