

中国顶尖的四级老师——余浩 主编

# 大学英语 710分 四级考试

Test Bible of Reading  
for CET-4

## 阅读 胜经

历年真题详细解析，解题速成技巧全面揭秘

 NO.1

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教·育·出·版·中·心

## (一) Right

## 1. 第一种情况:题目是原文的同义改写

通常用同义词或同义结构。

## ➡【例 1】

【原文】Dyslexia first was recognized in Europe and the United States more than 80 years ago.

【译文】80 多年前在欧洲和美国首次发现读写困难症。

【题目】The first cases of dyslexia in Europe were discovered less than a century ago.

【译文】在欧洲首次发现读写困难症不早于一个世纪。

【解释】题目中 discover, less than a century ago 与原文中的 recognize, more than 80 years ago 是同义表达,因此答案应为 Right。

## ➡【例 2】

【原文】Dinosaurs are losing the ecological battle for survival, and biologists are at a loss to explain their demise.

【译文】恐龙失去了生存下来的生态竞争能力,生物学家不能解释它们的灭亡。

【题目】Biologists are unable to explain why dinosaurs are dying.

【译文】生物学家不能解释为什么恐龙灭亡。

【解释】题目中的 are unable to 与原文中的 are at a loss to 是同义词,题目中的 why dinosaurs are dying 与原文中的 their demise 是同义词,所以答案应为 Right。

## ➡【例 3】

【原文】Women could not take part and were forbidden, on pain of death, even to attend the Games.

【译文】妇女不能参加甚至被禁止出席这个运动会,否则将被处死。

【题目】The spectators, as well as the participants, of the ancient Olympics were male.

【译文】古代奥运会的观众和运动员都是男的。

【解释】题目中的 spectators 与原文中的 attend 是同义词,题目中的 participants 与原文中的 take part 是同义词,所以答案应为 Right。

## 2. 第二种情况:题目是根据原文中的几句话推断或归纳而成

这种情况有一定的难度。需要根据原文中的几句话作出推断或归纳。不推断不行,但有时有些同学会走入另一极端,即自行推理或过度推理。

## ➡【例 1】

【原文】However, research has shown that dyslexia is more common in males than in females, and it is found more often in persons who are left-handed.

【译文】但是研究表明,男性患读写困难症者多于女性,而且在左撇子中尤为常见。

【题目】Generally speaking, dyslexia is more common in left-handed males than in right-handed females.

【译文】通常来讲,患读写困难症的左撇子男性要比右撇子女性更为常见。

【解释】根据原文可得: 
$$\begin{array}{l} \text{男性} > \text{女性} \\ + \text{左撇子} > \text{右撇子} \\ \hline \text{左撇子男性} > \text{右撇子女性} \end{array}$$

故答案为 Right。

## ➡【例 2】

【原文】Before the widespread use of computers, the information either reached managers too late or was too expensive to be used. Today, the information provided by computers helps managers compare standards with actual results, find out problems, and take corrective action before it is too late to make changes.

## ➡【例2】

【原文】Since the Winter Games began, 55 out of 56 gold medals in the men's Nordic skiing events have been won by competitors from Scandinavia or the former Soviet Union.

【译文】自从冬奥会开始,在男子越野滑雪项目的56块金牌中的55块被来自北欧和前苏联的选手获得。

【题目】Only Scandinavians have won gold medals in the men's Winter Olympics.

【译文】只有北欧人获得了冬奥会男子项目中的金牌。

【解释】原文是北欧人和前苏联的选手获得了金牌,而且是获得了56块中的55块,还有1块不知道被谁获得。题目是只有北欧人获得了金牌。所以答案应为 Wrong。

## ➡【例3】

【原文】Apart from the Second World War period, the Winter Olympics were held every four years, a few months before the Summer Olympics. But in 1986 the IOC changed the schedule so that the summer and winter games would be held in different years. Thus, for the only time in history, the Lillehammer (Norway) Games took place just two years after the previous Winter Olympics which were held in Alvertville, France.

【译文】除了第二次世界大战期间,冬奥会每四年举行一次,在夏季奥运会之前的几个月。但在1986年,国际奥委会改变了安排,使得冬奥会和夏季奥运会能在不同的年份举行。因此,历史上第一次,在法国 Alvertville 冬奥会之后两年就举行了 Lillehammer (挪威) 运动会。

【题目】One Winter Olympics has succeeded another every four years since 1924 with a break only for the Second World War.

【译文】自从1924年,冬奥会每四年成功举行一次,其中只有一次例外,是因为第二次世界大战。

【解释】原文提到有两次例外。一次是第二次世界大战,一次是1986年国际奥委会做了一个改变。而题目说只有一次例外。所以答案应为 Wrong。

3. 第三种情况:原文为人们对于某样事物的理论或感觉,题目则强调是客观事实或已被证明

原文强调是一种“理论”或“感觉”,常有 feel, consider 及 theory 等词。题目强调是一种“事实”,常有 fact 及 prove 等词。

## ➡【例1】

【原文】But generally winter sports were felt to be too specialized.

【译文】但一般来说,冬季项目被感觉是很专门化的。

【题目】The Antwerp Games proved that winter sports were too specialized.

【译文】安特卫普运动会证明冬季项目是很专门化的。

【解释】原文中有 feel, 强调是“感觉”。题目中有 prove, 强调是“事实”。所以答案应为 Wrong。

## ➡【例2】

【原文】Another theory is that worldwide temperature increases are upsetting the breeding cycles of frogs.

【译文】另一种理论是全球气温的升高破坏了青蛙的产卵周期。

【题目】It is fact that frogs' breeding cycles are upset by worldwide increases in temperature.

【译文】一个事实是青蛙的产卵周期被全球气温的升高所破坏。

【解释】原文中有 theory, 强调是“理论”。题目中有 fact, 强调是“事实”。所以答案应为 Wrong。

4. 第四种情况:原文和题目中使用了表示不同范围、频率、可能性的词

原文中常用 many (很多), sometimes (有时) 及 unlikely (不太可能) 等词。题目中常用 all (全部), usually (通常), always (总是) 及 impossible (完全不可能) 等词。

## ➡【例1】

【原文】Snakes are sometimes poisonous.

【译文】蛇有时是有毒的。

## 2. 题目中若出现 must, only, all 及 always 等时, 答案一般不会是 Right

题目中出现这些词很常见, 95% 的答案都不是 Right。笔者只遇到过一次题目中出现了 must 而答案为 Right 的情况。题目中出现上述这些词, 答案是 Wrong 还是 Not Mentioned, 就不一定, 需要根据上面讲的规律再做判断, 一般答案是 Wrong 的比例更大一些。不看原文, 下面几个题目的答案都是 Wrong。

(1) Europeans learned **all** of what they knew of edible wild plants from Aborigines.

(2) Before the dry plate process short exposures could **only** be achieved with cameras held in the hand.

## 3. 答案选择有一定的规律

如下的较实用规律要作为解题技巧牢记在心:

(1) 三种答案 (Right/Wrong/Not Mentioned) 都要出现。

(2) 可以连续三题答案都一样, 如都是 Right, 但还没有过连续四题答案都一样。连续三题答案都一样的情况也不多见。

## 4. 要相信自己的第一感觉, 不要轻易改答案, 除非你非常肯定自己做错了答案

在考试中, 除非有特别强的理由, 否则不要轻易改答案, 人的第一感觉往往是正确的。很多同学都将正确的答案改错了。

## 5. 要注意上述规律和方法的运用, 不要钻牛角尖

这种题型本身有一定的缺陷, 即不严密。所以, 上述规律和方法若能理解就最好, 如不能理解, 就记住它们, 考试时, 照着做就可以了, 这些规律都经过实践的检验。



## 六、是非判断的例题讲解

### ➡【例 1】

### Dyslexia

As many as 20% of all children in the United States suffer from some form of the learning disorder called dyslexia.

Experts on dyslexia say that the problem is not disease. They say that persons with dyslexia use information in a different way. One of the world's great thinkers and scientists, Albert Einstein was dyslexic. Einstein said that he never thought in words the way that most people do. He said that he thought in pictures instead. The American inventor Thomas Edison was also dyslexic. Dyslexia first was recognized in Europe and the United States more than 80 year ago. Many years passed before doctors discovered that persons with the disorder were not mentally slow or disabled. The doctors found that the brains of persons with dyslexia are different. In most people, the left side of the brain—the part that controls language—is larger than the right side. In persons with dyslexia, the right side of the brain is bigger. Doctors are not sure what causes this difference. However, research has shown that dyslexia is more common in males than in females, and it is found more often in persons who are left-handed. No one knows the cause of dyslexia, but some scientists believe that it may result from chemical changes in a baby's body long before it is born. They are trying to find ways to teach persons with dyslexia. Dyslexic persons think differently and need special kinds of teaching help. After they have solved their problems with language, they often show themselves to be especially intelligent or creative.

1. One out of five American children suffers from dyslexia.

A. Right      B. Wrong      C. Not mentioned

2. Many great thinkers and scientists in the world are dyslexic.

A. Right      B. Wrong      C. Not mentioned

3. The first cases of dyslexia in Europe were discovered less than a century ago.

A. Right      B. Wrong      C. Not mentioned



4. The left side of the brain in a dyslexic person is bigger than the right side.  
A. Right            B. Wrong            C. Not mentioned
5. Generally speaking, dyslexia is more common in left-handed males than in right-handed females.  
A. Right            B. Wrong            C. Not mentioned
6. It is believed that dyslexia is related to the bad habits of a baby's mother.  
A. Right            B. Wrong            C. Not mentioned
7. Dyslexic people often turn out to be intelligent or creative once they have learned to handle language properly.  
A. Right            B. Wrong            C. Not mentioned

### 答案及详解:

1. 题目中的关键词是 one out of five 和 American children. 根据顺序出题的特点, 我们很快在原文第一段中找到答案, 其中 one out of five 是 20% 的同义改写, American children 是 all children in the United States 的同义改写, 因此该题的答案为 A. Right.

2. 题目中的关键词 great thinkers and scientists. 我们在第二段中找到答案所在句。但是通过对比我们发现, 原文中的限制词是 one of; 而题目中却是 many. 再快速阅读文中发现, 文中仅提到爱因斯坦和爱迪生为读写困难症的患者, 并未讲述除爱因斯坦和爱迪生以外的思想家和科学家的情况, 因此该题的答案为 C. Not Mentioned.

3. 题目中的关键词是专有名词 Europe, 我们很快在第二段第五行找到答案所在句。通过对比题目和答案所在句, 我们发现从 recognize → discover, more than 80 years ago → less than a century ago 都属于同义改写, 但唯一有差别的是文中提到的两个地方: Europe 和 the United States 在 80 多年前发现了读写困难症病例, 但题目中仅仅提到了 Europe. 对于这个问题, 我们可以进行如下推理: 设 A = Europe, B = the United States, 实际上这道题就变为这样一道推理题: 如果 A + B 正确, 那么 A 是否正确? 实际上很简单: A + B 成立 (正确) 的充分必要条件是 AUB 正确, 即 A 正确且 B 正确。经过这样的推理, 我们知道该题的答案应为 A. Right.

4. 题目中的关键词是 bigger, 我们很快在第二段第九行找到答案所在句。该句题目属反义表达, 所以该题选 B. Wrong.

5. 题目中的关键词是 more common. 答案所在句在第二段第十句。对答案所在句必须进行逻辑分析, 我们才能得出正确结论。设 A = males, B = females, C = left-handed, D = right-handed. 根据答案

A > B

所在句前半句我们知道: A > B, 根据后半句我们知道, C > D, 于是我们进行如下推导:  $\frac{+C > D}{AC > BD}$  即

males > females

+ left-handed > right-handed

left-handed males > right-handed females 以上可知, 该题答案为 A. Right.

6. 题目中的关键词应为 bad habits 和 baby's mother, 但是通读全文, 我们只找到了无关信息 baby's body, 由此可见, 该题正确答案为 C. Not Mentioned.

7. 题目中的关键词是 intelligent or creative, 我们在全文最后一句找到答案, 通过对比, 我们知道: show themselves to be → turn out to be, solve → handle 等均属同义表达, 所以该题正确答案是 A. Right.

### 【例 2】

Named after an ex-Governor of New South Wales, Sydney is the state's capital city. Located on the south-east of Australia in the temperate zone, it enjoys a mild climate, averaging 14.5 hours of sunshine per day in summer and 10.25 hours in winter. It is also the largest, oldest, and perhaps most beautifully situated city in Australia. First established by the British as a convict settlement in 1788, it is a modern cosmopolitan city that has developed into one of the nation's major industrial, business, and manufacturing centres.

Sydney is home to nearly 4.4 million people (as of 1997). The suburbs reach out from the city centre and harbour some 55km to the north, 35km to the west and 30km to the south, creating a

metropolitan area of about 3000 square kilometres. The 57 square kilometer harbour is one of the largest in the world, and famous for the unmistakable 134 metres high arch of the Harbour Bridge and the graceful sails of the Opera House. It is a busy waterway with ferries, freighters, hydrofoils and pleasure craft.

Not far from the city centre are the attractive old residential suburbs of Balmain, Glebe, and Paddington, where many people live in smart terraced houses, art galleries, pubs, and restaurants abound in the cosy streets that tend to be quite narrow, whereas the suburbs surrounding the city's cosy streets that tend to be quite narrow, whereas the suburbs surrounding the city's colleges and universities consist mainly of family homes and multi-unit blocks—an ideal situation for students looking for a homestay, or to rent. Sydney's newer suburbs now have a large multicultural population, and local shopping centres reflect the influences of many cultures.

As well as scores of cinemas and theatres throughout the city and suburbs, there are numerous clubs which appeal to people of all ages, and cater for all tastes. Pubs are the venue for smaller modern bands, while the big-name popular music artists, both local and international, attract capacity audiences at the huge Entertainment Centre in the heart of the city.

In Sydney, a vast array of ethnic and local restaurants can be found to suit all palates and pockets. In summer, cafe patrons often sit outside at tables under umbrellas, and enjoy the passing parade of shoppers. Students who prefer to cook at home can choose from several large weekend markets, where fresh fruit, fish, and vegetables may be bought more cheaply than at the local supermarket. Sydney also has its own Chinatown.

In the heart of the city are several big department stores linked by enclosed over-the-street crossings and underground walkways. Most noticeable are the towering centre point complex and the Queen Victoria Building, both containing many shopping arcades, coffee shops and restaurants. Out of town, in the suburbs, there are huge regional shopping centres. At the weekend markets, bargains can be had when shopping for clothing as well as for a wide range of assorted goods.

Australia is recognised as one of the most sports-conscious nations in the world. Sydney boasts an impressive number of facilities for all types of indoor and outdoor sporting activities. Wherever one goes, there are golf courses, cricket pitches, football ovals, tennis and squash courts, and, of course, indoor and outdoor swimming pools. Avid ice-skating and ten-pin bowling fans will find that these activities are also popular and inexpensive.

- Sydney was first established as a settlement for convicted criminals.  
A. Right      B. Wrong      C. Not Mentioned
- Sydney Harbour is the largest in the world.  
A. Right      B. Wrong      C. Not Mentioned
- The streets of Paddington are not very wide and contain houses arranged in rows.  
A. Right      B. Wrong      C. Not Mentioned
- The Entertainment Centre is only for international popular music artists who attract large audiences.  
A. Right      B. Wrong      C. Not Mentioned
- There is now a greater variety of restaurants to choose from in Sydney than in the past.  
A. Right      B. Wrong      C. Not Mentioned
- Some department stores in Sydney are joined by walkways above and below the ground.  
A. Right      B. Wrong      C. Not Mentioned
- Australians are sports-minded people, but this is not realised by the rest of the world.  
A. Right      B. Wrong      C. Not Mentioned

答案及详解:

1. 题目中的关键词是 first, 对应原文的第二段, 其中有一句: First established by the British as a convict settlement in 1788, 是题目的同义表达, 答案为 Right.

题目: As well as to basic college residence fees, additional charges are usually made, but are describes as...

有的同学可能会答 registration fees, damage deposits, and power charges, 因为字数太多, 所以应首先怀疑是错误的。正确答案应为 minor。即附加费用被描述为是少量的、微不足道的。

#### 8. 答案绝大部分是分词短语或句子

所填答案绝大部分是分词短语对应原文相应句子宾语。也有少数题目的答案是形容词短语或副词短语或句子。

#### 9. 要特别注意顺序性

由于这种题型定位比较难, 所以要特别注意顺序性的运用。一道题若找了很长时间、很多段落也没有找到答案, 可能是因为题目中的关键词和原文中的相应词对应不明显, 答案位置已经过去了。可以选做下一道题。

这种题型比较难, 所以通常出现为一篇文章的第二种或第三种题型。它与前面的题型也构成顺序性, 即这种题型第一题的答案位置绝大部分应在前一种题型的最后一题的答案位置之后。



### 八、句子填空基础练习

#### American Families

1. Despite social and economic differences among Americans, many American families have certain characteristics in common. Both the husband and wife were born in the United States, and their forefathers came from Europe. They have completed high school, and they belong to the middle class. They have a car, a television set, a washing machine, a refrigerator, a telephone, etc. They own their own home and spend about 55% of their income for housing and food. Clothing accounts for almost 10% of their income, medical care 6%, transportation 8% and taxes 15%. The rest of their income is used for such items as insurance, savings, gifts and recreation.

2. Most families consist of a mother, a father, and, at most, two children living at home. There may be relatives—grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins living in the same community, but American families usually maintain separate households. This family structure is known as the “nuclear family”. It is unusual for members of the family other than the husband, wife, and children to live together.

3. Marriage in the United States is considered a matter of individual responsibility and decision. Young people frequently fall in love and marry even if their parents disagree. American marriages are usually based on romantic love, rather than on social class, education, or religion.

4. After their marriage the young couple is free to decide where to live and when to start a family. Most young couples set up their own household immediately. In the early 1970s only 1.5% of all married couples were not living on their own-independently and by themselves. Most married people practise some kind of birth control. They plan the number of children they are going to have and when their children will be born. The practice of limiting the size of families has general approval. The birth rate has been declining steadily in recent years.

1. There are \_\_\_\_\_ among many American families.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ are usually small.
3. Young Americans make their own decisions \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The birth rate \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 基础练习答案:

1. some similar features
2. Most American families
3. on marriage
4. has been dropping over the last few years

Quartz clocks continue to dominate the market because of the accuracy and reliability of the performance, also being inexpensive to produce on mass scale. The time keeping performance of the quartz clock has now been surpassed by the "Atomic clock".

Scientists discovered some time ago that atoms and molecules have “resonances” and that each chemical element and compound absorbs and emits “electromagnetic radiation” within its own characteristic “frequencies”. This we are told is highly accurate even over “Time and Space”. The development of radar and the subsequent experimentation with high frequency radio communications during the 1930s and 1940s created a vast amount of knowledge regarding “electromagnetic waves”, also known as “microwaves”, which interact with the atoms. The development of atomic clocks focused firstly on microwave resonances in the chemical Ammonia and its molecules. In 1957, “NIST”, the “National Institute of Standards and Technology”, completed a series of tests using a “Cesium Atomic Beam” device, followed by a second program of experiments by NIST in order to have something for comparison when working at the atomic level. By 1960, as the outcome of the programs, “Cesium Time Standards” were incorporated as the official time keeping system at NIST.

The "Natural frequency" recognized currently is the measurement of time, used by all scientists, and defines the period of "one second" as exactly "9,192,631,770 Oscillations" or "9,192,631,770 Cycles of the Cesium Atom's Resonant Frequency". From the "Macrocosm". Or "Planetary Alignment", to the "Microcosm", or "Atomic Frequency", the cesium now maintains accuracy with a degree of error to about "one-millionth of a second per year".

Much of modern life has come to depend on such precise measurements of time. The day is long past when we could get by with a timepiece (钟) accurate to the nearest quarter hour. Transportation, financial markets, communication, manufacturing, electric power and many other technologies have become dependent on super-accurate clocks. Scientific research and the demands of modern technology continue to drive our search for ever more accuracy. The next generation of Cesium Time Standards is presently under development at NIST's "Boulder Laboratory" and other laboratories around the world.

The only thing that should be remembered during all this technological development is that we should never lose the ability to tell the time approximately by natural means and the powers of deduction without requiring crutches (拐杖) to lean on.

Our concept of TIME and using it together with TECHNOLOGY still has room for radical reassessment in terms of man's evolutionary thinking regarding our view of the past, our onward journey into the future and our concept of time in relationship to universe.

- It is suggested that 5,000 – 6,000 years ago people in the \_\_\_\_\_ started to allot specific lengths of time to tasks.  
A. Middle East                                      B. North Africa  
C. Middle East and North Africa            D. Not given
- What has been used by Ancient Egyptians around 1.500 BC to measure passage of “hours”?  
A. “Shadow clock” or “sundial”.          B. Obelisks.  
C. Twilight hours.                                 D. Water clocks.
- “Water clocks” didn’t work by observing the \_\_\_\_\_ to calculate the passage of time.  
A. shadow      B. celestial bodies      C. obelisks      D. sand

4. \_\_\_\_\_ built the first “pendulum clock” as early as 1656.
  - A. Christian Huygens
  - B. NIST
  - C. Galileo Galilei and Christian Huygens
  - D. Galileo Galilei
5. What were water clocks mostly used to determine \_\_\_\_\_?
  - A. the minutes of the night
  - B. the hours of the day
  - C. the minutes of the day
  - D. the hours of the night
6. What was the error in Huygens’ mechanical clock, which was a massive leap in the development of maintaining accuracy?
  - A. It was “less than only one minute a day”.
  - B. It was totally unable to tell time exactly.
  - C. It was too expensive to produce on mass scale.
  - D. It was “less than 10 seconds a day”.
7. Why do the Quartz clocks continue to dominate the market?
  - A. They are cheap to produce.
  - B. They are accurate in performance.
  - C. They are reliable in performance.
  - D. All above.
8. Scientific research and the demands of modern technology continue to drive our search for examining time ever more \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Of all the clocks introduced in the passage, the one with the most accuracy is the \_\_\_\_\_ clock.
10. No matter how advanced the technology of measuring time will be, we should never lose the ability to tell the time approximately by \_\_\_\_\_.

## Passage 1

**Directions:** In this part, you will have 15 minutes to go over the passage quickly and answer the questions on Answer Sheet 1. For questions 1–7, choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D. For questions 8–10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.

### Modern Marriage in America

#### New marriage

The wedding of the 20th century, in 1981, celebrated a marriage that turned out to be a huge bust. It ended as badly as a relationship can: scandal, divorce and, ultimately, death and worldwide weeping.

So when the firstborn son of that union, Britain’s Prince William, set in motion the wedding of this century by getting engaged to Catherine Middleton, he did things a little differently. He picked someone older than he is (by six months), who went to the same university he did and whom he’d dated for a long time. Although she is not of royal blood, she stands to become the first English Queen with a university degree, so in one fundamental way, theirs is a union of equals. In that regard, the new couple reflects the changes in the shape and nature of marriage that have been rippling throughout the Western world for the past few decades.

In fact, statistically speaking, a young man of William’s age—if not his royal English heritage—might be just as likely not to get married, yet. In 1960, the year before Princess Diana, William’s mother, was born, nearly 70% of American adults were married; now only about half are. Eight times as

many children are born out of wedlock. Back then, two-thirds of 20-somethings were married; in 2008 just 26% were. And college graduates are now far more likely to marry (64%) than those with no higher education (48%).

### Why marriage is wanted

When an institution so central to human experience suddenly changes shape in the space of a generation or two, it's worth trying to figure out why. This fall the Pew Research Center, in association with TIME, conducted a nationwide poll exploring the contours of modern marriage and the new American family, posing questions about what people want and expect out of marriage and family life, why they enter into committed relationships and what they gain from them. What we found is that marriage, whatever its social, spiritual or symbolic appeal, is in purely practical terms just not as necessary as it used to be. Neither men nor women need to be married to have sex or companionship or professional success or respect or even children—yet marriage remains revered and desired.

And of all the transformations our family structures have undergone in the past 50 years, perhaps the most profound is the marriage differential that has opened between the rich and the poor. In 1960 the median household income of married adults was 12% higher than that of single adults, after adjusting for household size. By 2008 this gap had grown to 41%. In other words, the richer and more educated you are, the more likely you are to marry, or to be married—or, conversely, if you're married, you're more likely to be well off.

The question of why the wealth disparity between the married and the unmarried has grown so much is related to other, broader issues about marriage: whom it best serves, how it relates to parenting and family life and how its voluntary nature changes social structures. The marrying kind

In 1978, when the divorce rate was much higher than it is today, a TIME poll asked Americans if they thought marriage was becoming obsolete. Twenty-eight percent did.

Since then, we've watched that famous royal marriage and the arrival of Divorce Court. We've tuned in to Family Ties (nuclear family with three kids) and Modern Family (nuclear family with three kids, plus gay uncles with an adopted Vietnamese baby and a grandfather with a Colombian second wife and dorky stepchild). We've spent time with Will and Grace, who bickered like spouses but weren't, and with the stars of Newlyweds: Nick & Jessica, who were spouses, bickered and then weren't anymore. We've seen some political marriages survive unexpectedly (Bill and Hillary Clinton) and others unpredictably falter (Al and Tipper Gore).

We've seen the rise of a \$40 billion-plus wedding industry, flames fanned by dating sites, and reality shows playing the soul-mate game—alongside the rise of the prenup, the postnup and, most recently, divorce insurance. We care about marriage so much that one of the fiercest political and legal fights in years is being waged over whom the state permits to get married. We've seen a former head of state's child (Chelsea Clinton) marry after living with her boyfriend and a potential head of state's child (Bristol Palin) have a child before leaving home. So, as we circle back around to witness another royal engagement, where are we on the marriage question? Less wedded to it. The Pew survey reveals that nearly 40% of us think marriage is obsolete. This doesn't mean, though, that we're pessimistic about the future of the American family; we have more faith in the family than we do in the nation's education system or its economy. We're just more flexible about how family gets defined.

Even more surprising: overwhelmingly, Americans still venerate marriage enough to want to try it. About 70% of us have been married at least once, according to the 2010 Census. The Pew poll found that although 44% of Americans under 30 believe marriage is heading for extinction, only 5% of those in that age group do not want to get married. Sociologists note that Americans have a rate of marriage—and of remarriage—among the highest in the Western world. (In between is a divorce rate higher than that of most countries in the European Union.) We spill copious amounts of ink and spend copious amounts of

money being anxious about manage, both collectively and individually. We view the state of our families as a symbol of the state of our nation, and we treat marriage as a personal project, something we work at and try to perfect. "Getting married is a way to show family and friends that you have a successful personal life," says Andrew Cherlin, a sociologist at Johns Hopkins University and the author of *The Marriage-Go-Round: The State of Marriage and the Family in America Today*. "It's like the ultimate merit badge."

But if marriage is no longer obligatory or even—in certain cases—helpful, then what is it for? It's impossible to address that question without first answering another: Who is marriage for? The new marriage gap To begin to answer that question, it might be useful to take a look at the brief but illustrative marriage of golfer Greg Norman and tennis star Chris Evert, who married in June 2008 and divorced 15 months later. From all reports, their union had many of the classic hallmarks of modern partnerships. The bride and groom had roughly equal success in their careers. Being wealthy, sporty and blond, they had similar interests. She was older than he, and they'd had other relationships before. (She'd had two previous spouses and he one.) Plus, they'd known each other a while, since Evert's newly minted ex-husband, Andy Mill, was Norman's best friend.

Apart from the interest the union generated in the tabloids, this is typical of the way many marriages start. Modern brides and grooms tend to be older and more similar. In particular, Americans are increasingly marrying people who are on the same socioeconomic and educational level. Fifty years ago, doctors commonly proposed to nurses and businessmen to their secretaries. Even 25 years ago, a professional golfer might marry, say, a flight attendant. Now doctors tend to cleave unto other doctors, and executives hope to be part of a power couple.

The change is mostly a numbers game. Since more women than men have graduated from college for several decades, it's more likely than it used to be that a male college graduate will meet, fall in love with, wed and share the salary of a woman with a degree. Women's advances in education have roughly paralleled the growth of the knowledge economy, so the slice of the family bacon she brings home will be substantial.

Women's rising earning power doesn't affect simply who cooks that bacon, although the reapportioning of household labor is a significant issue and means married people need deft negotiation skills. Well-off women don't need to stay in a marriage that doesn't make them happy; two-thirds of all divorces, it's estimated, are initiated by wives. And not just the Sandra Bullock types who have been treated shabbily and have many other fish on their line but also Tipper Gore types whose kids have left home and who don't necessarily expect to remarry but are putting on their walking boots anyway.

1. The engagement of Britain's prince William with Catherine Middleton was different in that \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. she was older than he was  
 B. they had dated for a long time  
 C. theirs is a union of equals though she is not of royal blood  
 D. they went to the same university
2. Who was Princess Dianna?  
 A. Prince William's mother.  
 B. Prince William's e-wife.  
 C. A woman born in 1970.  
 D. A child born out of wedlock.
3. When was two-thirds of 20-somethings married?  
 A. In 2008.      B. In 1960.      C. In 1981.      D. Now.
4. What was the joint research by Pew Research center and TIME aimed at?  
 A. Modern divorce rate.  
 B. Transformation of ideas on marriage.



- C. Modern American marriage and family.  
D. Modern household income.
5. The wealth disparity between the married and unmarried \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. has decreased  
B. has nothing to do with marriage  
C. is related to whom marriage seines  
D. is a result of economic depression
6. The 1978 TIME poll revealed that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. 28% thought of marriage as obsolete  
B. the divorce rate was much higher than it is today  
C. modern family meant nuclear family  
D. homosexual marriage was acceptable
7. The example of the marriage of golfer Greg Norman with tennis star Chris Evert indicates \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. marriage can be brief but illustrative  
B. they married and divorced 15 months later  
C. equal success in career is no guarantee of successful marriage  
D. who marriage is for is the issue at heart
8. Though people still \_\_\_\_\_, neither men nor women see it as aprerequisite of sex, companionship, professional success, respect or children.
9. The more money you have, the more \_\_\_\_\_ you have received, the more likely you are to marry or to be married.
10. Two thirds of all divorces were estimated to have been \_\_\_\_\_ by female because well-off women don't have to stay in wedlock if they didn't feel happy.

答案:

Passage 1

1~7 NO YES YES NO NOT GIVEN NO NOT GIVEN

8. small collection of amber fossils

9. to show its worth

10. coniferous trees

Passage 2

1~7 C A B A D A D 8. accurately 9. atomic 10. nature

试题详解

1. C 文中指出: At best, historians know that 5,000 - 6,000 years ago, great civilizations in the Middle East and North Africa started to examine forms of clock-making instead of working with only the monthly and annual calendar... but it has been suggested that the intention was to maximize time available to achieve more as the size of the population grew. 中东和北非的一些民族在五六千年前就开始研制钟表了。随着人口的增长。钟表的研制是为了最大程度地利用时间。故 C 选项正确。
2. A 文中指出: Another ancient Egyptian "shadow clock" or "sundial" has been discovered to have been in use around 1,500 BC, which allowed the measuring of the passage of "hours". The sections were divided into ten parts, with two "twilight hours" indicated, occurring in the morning and the evening. For it to work successfully then at midday or noon, the device had to be turned 180 degrees to measure the afternoon hours. 在段落一开始, 就指出古埃及人使用的计时装置为 shadow clock or sundial, 影钟或日晷, 故答案应为 A。
3. B 文中指出: Water clocks were among the earliest timekeeping devices that didn't use the observation of the celestial bodies to calculate the passage of time. 可见水钟不是借助观察天体来测量时间的最早的计时器之一。因此, 正确选项应该为 B。



## 第二部分

### 单项选择阅读理解



#### 四、阅读理解解题方法一览

四级阅读理解部分的完成既要考虑正确率,又要考虑速度。因此,必须有正确的阅读方法。本文拟从大的方面进行介绍。这些方法经过笔者的教学反复检验,证明行之有效,特奉献给各位读者。

大的阅读方法有三种:1)先读文章后做题;2)先看问题再读文章;3)读文章和做题交叉进行。

##### 1. 先读文章后做题

先速读文章,力求弄懂:1)作者在说什么内容;2)这些内容有什么中心事物和人的代表?(A、B、C还是X、Y、Z)作者对他们态度如何?(正或负);简而言之,先读文章后做题是为了:(1)了解文章主题和大意;(2)弄清文章重要事实与细节的位置和意义。因此,根据四级阅读理解考试出题原则,阅读时可以圈划:①主题句;②转折信号词:but, however, yet等;③原因信号词:because, for等;④例证信号词:for example, for instance等;⑤表示比较的信号词:初级(better, more...);高级(best, most...等);⑥唯一性(only, solely, unique等);⑦数字年代等。速读完文章后,看问题。根据题干或选项中的线索(主要是关键词)回原文定位,仔细阅读相关句,与其意义相符的选项为正确答案。这种先读文章后做题的方法对全局性的问题(如主旨题、推论题)或含有考点较多的文章较为适用。例如:

A rapid means of long-distance transportation became a necessity for the United States as *settlement* (新拓居地) spread ever farther westward. The early trains were impractical curiosities, and for a long time the railroad companies met with troublesome mechanical problems. The most serious ones were the construction of rails able to bear the load, and the development of a safe, effective stopping system. Once these were solved, the railroad was established as the best means of land transportation. By 1860 there were thousands of miles of railroads crossing the eastern mountain ranges westward to the Mississippi. There were also regional southern and western lines.

The high point in railroad building came with the construction of the first transcontinental system. In 1862 Congress authorized two western railroad companies to build lines from Nebraska westward and from California eastward to a meeting point, so as to complete a transcontinental crossing linking the Atlantic seaboard with the Pacific. The Government helped the railroads generously with money and land. Actual work on this project began four years later. The Central Pacific Company, starting from California, used Chinese labor, while the Union Pacific employed crews of Irish labourers. The two groups worked at remarkable speed, each trying to cover a greater distance than the other. In 1869 they met at a place called Promontory in what is now the state of Utah. Many visitors came there for the great occasion. There were joyous celebrations all over the country, with parades and the ringing of church bells to honor the great achievement.

The railroad was very important in encouraging westward movement. It also helped build up industry and farming by moving raw materials and by distributing products rapidly to distant markets. In linking towns and people to one another it helped unify the United States.

本文是一篇说明文,介绍修建横贯美国大陆的铁路的情况。如果在阅读时,把表示最高级和数字的词划出来,下列问题做起来就比较容易了:

1. The major problems with America's railroad system in the mid 19 th century lay in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. poor quality rails and unreliable stopping systems
  - B. lack of financial support for development
  - C. limited railroad lines
  - D. lack of a transcontinental railroad
2. The construction of the transcontinental railroad took \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. 9 years
  - B. 7 years
  - C. 4 years
  - D. 3 years

Anyone closely involved in patents and inventions soon learns that most “new” ideas are, in fact, as old as the hills. It is their reduction to commercial practice, either through necessity or dedication, or through the availability of new technology, that makes news and money. The basic patent for the theory of magnetic recording dates back to 1886. Many of the original ideas behind television originate from the late 19th and early 20th century. Even the Volkswagen rear engine car was anticipated by a 1904 patent for a cart with the horse at the rear. . . .

1. Georges Valensi's patent lasted until 1971 because \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. nobody would offer any reward for his patent prior to that time  
 B. his patent could not be put to use for an unusually long time  
 C. there were not enough TV stations to provide colour programmes  
 D. the colour TV receiver was not available until that time
2. The passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. an approach to patents  
 B. the application for patents  
 C. the use of patents  
 D. the access to patents

这篇文章共有六段，全文没有中心思想句。除了最后一段，各段没有段落主题句。前四段每一段只有一个句子。分别讲了发明者如何处理他的发明、专利的意义，专利权的长短等。通过分析，我们看到这四段是为第五段作准备的。第五段是说由于发明通过专利的形式由国家保管，并且专利是有的期限的，所以有可能获取过期的专利，这一段就是比较详细地介绍了如何取得过期的专利。而第六段说获取过期专利的好处：只有利用这些过期的专利才能让它焕发生命，获得赢利。可见这篇文章主要讲如何获取过了专利期限的旧专利。比较四个选择项，D项 The passage is mainly about the access to patents 正是这个意思。



## 二、主旨大意题真题在线及答案解析

### Passage 1

Faces, like fingerprints, are unique. Did you ever wonder how it is possible for us to recognize people? Even a skilled writer probably could not describe all the features that make one face different from another. Yet a very young child—or even an animal, such as a pigeon—can learn to recognize faces. We all take this ability for granted.

We also tell people apart by how they behave. When we talk about someone's personality, we mean the ways in which he or she acts, speaks, thinks and feels that make that individual different from others.

Like the human face, human personality is very complex. But describing someone's personality in words is somewhat easier than describing his face. If you were asked to describe what a “nice face” looked like, you probably would have a difficult time doing so. But if you were asked to describe a “nice person”, you might begin to think about someone who was kind, considerate, friendly, warm, and so forth.

There are many words to describe how a person thinks, feels and acts. Gordon Allport, an American psychologist, found nearly 18,000 English words characterizing differences in people's behavior. And many of us use this information as a basis for describing, or typing his personality. Bookworms, conservatives, military types—people are described with such terms.

People have always tried to “type” each other. Actors in early Greek drama wore masks to show the audience whether they played the villain's (坏人) or the hero's role. In fact, the words “person” and “personality” come from the Latin “persona”, meaning “mask”. Today, most television and movie actors do not wear masks. But we can easily tell the “good guys” from “bad guys”, because the two types differ in appearance as well as in actions.

第4天

detached 不偏不倚的  
doubtful 不敢肯定的  
tolerant 忍让的

suspicious 怀疑的  
compromising 妥协的

B

indifferent 不感兴趣的, 不偏不倚的  
concerned 关注的  
pessimistic 悲观的  
confident 有信心的  
interested 感兴趣的  
contemptuous 鄙视的

unconcerned 不关心的  
worried 担忧的  
depressed 沮丧的  
optimistic 乐观的  
impressed 有深刻印象的  
hostile 有敌意的

C

subjective 主观的  
persuasive 说服人的  
opinionated 固执己见的  
impersonal 不带个人感情的  
factual 实事求是的

personal 有个人观点的, 感情的  
biased 带偏见的  
objective 客观的  
informative 提供信息的  
impartial 不偏袒的

D

formal 正式的  
polite 拘束的  
casual 随便的

reverent 恭敬的  
informal 非正式的  
familiar 熟悉的

总结:

在判断作者观点态度时, 应注意:

(1) 有时作者先介绍某一种观点, 接着又在后面提出了相反的观点。要正确判断作者的态度或观点, 必须将上下文联系起来看。

(2) 必须注意文章中所陈述的内容并不都代表作者的观点, 应加以区别判断。

(3) 作者也可通过使用词汇的手段来暗示自己对文中某一具体问题所持的态度和观点。这时, 要仔细琢磨文中所用词汇的特点, 弄明白作者的真实意图和倾向。

(4) 利用文章的中心思想和题材结构推断作者的态度。科技文章一般坚持实事求是的客观态度; 议论则是表明对某件事情的主观看法, 或赞成或反对或表扬或批评。



四、态度评价题真题在线及答案解析

Passage 1

The biggest safety threat facing airlines today may not be a terrorist with a gun, but the man with the portable computer in business class. In the last 15 years, pilots have reported well over 100 incidents that could have been caused by electromagnetic interference. The source of this interference remains unconfirmed, but increasingly, experts are pointing the blame at portable electronic devices such as portable computers, radio and cassette players and mobile telephones.

RTCA, an organization which advises the aviation (航空) industry, has recommended that all airlines ban (禁止) such devices from being used during "critical" stages of flight, particularly take off and landing. Some experts have gone further, calling for a total ban during all flights. Currently, rules on using these devices are left up to individual airlines. And although some airlines prohibit passengers from using such equipment during take off and landing, most are reluctant to enforce a total ban, given that

A center analysis of US Census data nationwide found that between 1995 and 1996, a greater percentage of single, female-headed households were earning money on their own, but that average income for these households actually went down.

But for many, the fact that poor people are able to support themselves almost as well without government aid as they did with it is in itself a huge victory.

"Welfare was a poison. It was a *toxin* (毒素) that was poisoning the family," says Robert Rector, a welfare-reform policy analyst. "The reform is changing the moral climate in low-income communities. It's beginning to rebuild the work *ethic* (道德观), which is much more important."

Mr. Rector and others argued that once "the habit of dependency is cracked," then the country can make other policy changes aimed at improving living standards.

3. From the passage, it can be seen that the author \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. believes the reform has reduced the government's burden  
 B. insists that welfare reform is doing little good for the poor  
 C. is over enthusiastic about the success of welfare reform  
 D. considers welfare reform to be fundamentally successful

### 答案解析

1. A 依据文章开头 The biggest safety threat facing airlines today may not be a terrorist with a gun, but the man with the portable computer in business class... 以及文章最后一段开头句 the fact that aircraft... raises the risk that terrorists may use radio systems in order to damage navigation equipment. 可看出作者态度很明确, 故选 A。  
 2. C 四选项的含义分别为: A. 乐观的; B. 批评的; C. 客观的; D. 任意的, 武断的。  
 3. D 作者的观点明显表现在第一段 While still in its early stages, welfare reform has already been judged a great success in many states..., 当然第六段也可看出作者的观点。



### 五、标题题

猜测文章标题题目的问题比较简单:

Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?

The best title for this passage would be \_\_\_\_\_.

做这种题和做文章主题大意题是一样的, 只要抓住文章中心思想, 就不难选对答案。所不同的是猜测文章大意题的选项往往是一个句子, 或较长的词组, 因而较易理解, 较易和文章的中心思想对上; 而猜测文章标题的选项只有几个词, 是对文章中心思想的高度概括, 因而较难理解。一般说来, 一篇阅读理解文章要么出现猜测文章标题的问题, 要么出现猜测文章大意题, 不可能两种问题同时出现, 因此, 我们还是放在最后, 等做完这篇阅读理解的所有问题后再做, 这样我们可以依靠前几题提供的线索来判断。

#### 1. 注意文章中心思想句和段落主题句

The origin of America's colour problem today lies in a great crime against humanity, committed long ago. The black population is a little over twenty million, or one-tenth of the whole. Nine tenths of the black people are the offsprings of Africans brought to American as slaves in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Nearly all their offsprings were kept in legal slavery in the south until 1865. The background of complaints cannot easily be wiped out, and it has been kept alive by unpleasant memories from a more recent period. During the last hundred years of British rule steady and increasing flow of Africans were carried across the Atlantic to the West Indies and the American mainland, there to be sold as slaves. The ships were designed so as to provide space for the greatest possible number of human beings on the westward journey, and to carry freight on the return. The colonies protested constantly against this immoral activity but their attempts to stop it were in vain. The census of 1790 reported a