

新T●EFL(iBT)丛书
总主编 萧春麟 顾大僖

TOEFL 阅读新技巧

上海交通大学出版社

新 TOEFL (iBT) 丛书

TOEFL 阅读新技巧

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内 容 提 要

本书是新 TOEFL (iBT) 系列丛书之一, 针对 TOEFL 网络语言考试设计编写。本书对 TOEFL 网考中阅读题型进行系统的分析、讲解和指导, 并进行有针对性的训练, 旨在全面提高读者的阅读能力, 更好地迎接 TOEFL 网络语言考试。

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前言

美国 ETS(教育考试服务中心)的 TOEFL(Test of English as a Foreign Language,在我国俗称“托福”),在历经半个世纪后,于 2005 年下半年彻底改型,推出了 iBT - TOEFL(Internet - based test TOEFL)网络语言考试。

什么是网络语言考试?要回答这个问题,我们有必要简短地回顾一下 TOEFL 的历史。TOEFL 是测量母语为非英语考生英语水平的考试。从测试学的观点看,它属水平测试。考生参加考试的主要目的是为了获得去英语国家,如美国、英国、加拿大、澳大利亚等国留学的资格。据 ETS 称,近 50 年来,全世界参加 TOEFL 考试的考生约 2 000 万余名,来自 165 个国家和地区的 4,500 多个考点。最近 20 年,平均每年约有 80 万多名考生参加 TOEFL 考试。

TOEFL 自 1964 年开考至今,经历了约四个阶段。上世纪 60 年代至 80 年代为第一阶段,以书面考试为主。考试由听力理解(Listening Comprehension),结构和书面表达(Structure and Written Expressions),以及阅读理解(Reading Comprehension)三部分组成。写作(Essay Writing)为参考分;口试(TSE, Test of Spoken English)另设,供考生根据需要进行选择。第二阶段是 80 年代末至 1995 年。TOEFL 逐步将写作(Essay Writing)作为必考部分,加上原来的三部分,一共是四部分。从 1995 年 8 月开始,TOEFL 对听力和阅读理解又做了调整,取消了听力理解部分的 statements,增加了 short conversations 的题量,但是总题量不变,还是 50 个。在阅读理解部分,删去词汇题,增加了阅读文章的数量和篇幅,但 50 个试题量也不变。此后到上世纪末,TOEFL 成功地把电脑和多媒体技术与试题反应理论(Item Response Theory)相结合,首创语言考试机考,即 TOEFL 机考(CBT: computer-based test)和电脑适应性考试(CAT: computerized adaptive test)。至今,全球除了在中国和其他少数几个国家外,TOEFL 都已废除了书面考试的形式,取而代之的是 TOEFL 的 CBT 和 CAT。

虽然 TOEFL 半个世纪来不断地得到调整、修改,但其本质仍然是以结构主义语言学为理论基础的分离式测试(discrete point test)。它的三大组成部分,听力理解、阅读理解、结构和书面表达的试题都是多项选择题,即单一的“四选一”试题。它把人的听、说、读、写等语言能力,人为地分开测量,使测试的信度和效度始终处于矛盾之中,顾此失彼。更使我们困惑的是,TOEFL 几乎完全忽略了考试的“真实性(authenticity)”和“互动性(interactiveness)”。明显的实例是,人们在真实的使用语言的交际中,不可能出现类似 TOEFL 结构和书面表达试题和阅读理解中词汇试题的情况。TOEFL 考试很少考虑考生的个性特点,几乎没有互动。有的 TOEFL 高分考生,口不能说,手不能写。因此,人们不得不对它的效度,尤其是它的结构效度产生怀疑。

新世纪伊始,TOEFL 着手探索 iBT,即网考。经过近 5 年的调查研究,ETS 宣布,从 2005 年 8 月起,TOEFL 在全球试用、启用 iBT TOEFL,进而逐步推广。据 ETS 在 2004 年发表的研究报告“iBT/Next Generation TOEFL Information”称,从 2003 年 11 月至 2004 年 2 月,有 3,284 名受试者参加了 iBT 预试。他们分别来自北美、南美、亚洲、非洲和欧洲的 30 个国家和地区,约占这 30 个国家和地区 TOEFL 考生的 80%。这 3,284 名受试者的英语水平各异,具有广泛的代表性。每个受试者都参加了两种考试:iBT 和 CBT,考后又接受“网上问答卷”、“自评”、“试

后问答”等三项调查。调查统计表明,这些受试者都参加过 2002 年 7 月至 2003 年 6 月间的 TOEFL 考试。报告还公布了 iBT 预试受试者来自的国家和地区;TOEFL 机考、纸考和网考三种考分对照表;TOEFL 上述三种形式的听力理解、阅读理解和写作 3 部分考分的对照表;iBT 四部分评估数据:受试者总人数(N),平均分(Mean),标准差(SD),最低分(Minimum),最高分(Maximum),百分率排位(Percentile Rank);受试者英语语言能力显示图表。该报告还附有 iBT 各部分的样题。

表 1 TOEFL 网考、机考、纸考三种考分分段对照表

New Internet-based TOEFL Total	Computer-based TOEFL Total	Paper-based TOEFL Total
111 - 120	273 - 300	640 - 677
96 - 110	243 - 270	590 - 637
79 - 95	213 - 240	550 - 587
65 - 78	183 - 210	513 - 547
53 - 64	153 - 180	477 - 510
41 - 52	123 - 150	437 - 473
30 - 40	93 - 120	397 - 433
19 - 29	63 - 90	347 - 393
9 - 18	33 - 60	310 - 343
0 - 8	0 - 30	310

表 2 TOEFL 写作网考、机考、纸考三种考分分段对照表

New Internet-based TOEFL Writing	Computer-based Structure/Writing	Paper-based Structure and Written Expression
30	30	68
29	29	67
28	28	65 - 66
26	27	63 - 64
24	26	61 - 62
22	25	59 - 60
20	24	58
19	23	56 - 57
17	22	55
16	21	54
14	20	52 - 53
13	19	51
13	18	50
12	17	48 - 49
11	16	47
11	15	46
10	14	44 - 45
10	13	43
9	12	42

(续表)

New Internet-based TOEFL Writing	Computer-based Structure/Writing	Paper-based Structure and Written Expression
9	11	40 - 41
8	10	39
8	9	37 - 38
7	8	35 - 36
7	7	33 - 34
6	6	31 - 32
5	5	31
3	4	31
1	3	31
0	2	31
0	1	31
0	0	31

表3 TOEFL 听力理解网考、机考、纸考三种考分分段对照表

New Internet-based TOEFL Listening	Computer-based TOEFL Listening	Paper-based TOEFL Listening
30	30	67 - 68
30	29	66
29	28	65
28	27	63 - 64
27	26	62
26	25	60 - 61
25	24	59
23	23	58
22	22	56 - 57
21	21	55
19	20	54
18	19	53
17	18	52
16	17	51
15	16	50
14	15	49
13	14	48
12	13	47
11	12	46
10	11	45
9	10	44
7	9	42 - 43
6	8	41

(续表)

New Internet-based TOEFL Listening	Computer-based TOEFL Listening	Paper-based TOEFL Listening
5	7	40
4	6	38 - 39
2	5	36 - 37
1	4	34 - 35
1	3	32 - 33
0	2	31
0	1	31
0	0	31

表4 TOEFL 阅读理解网考、机考、纸考三种考分分段对照表

New Internet-based TOEFL Reading	Computer-based TOEFL Reading	Paper-based TOEFL Reading
30	30	67
29	29	66
28	28	64 - 65
28	27	63
27	26	61 - 62
26	25	59 - 60
24	24	58
23	23	57
21	22	56
20	21	54 - 55
19	20	53
17	19	52
16	18	51
15	17	50
14	16	48 - 49
13	15	47
12	14	46
11	13	44 - 45
10	12	43
9	11	41 - 42
8	10	40
7	9	38 - 39
6	8	36 - 37
5	7	34 - 35
4	6	32 - 33
3	5	31
1	4	31

(续表)

New Internet-based TOEFL Reading	Computer-based TOEFL Reading	Paper-based TOEFL Reading
0	3	31
0	2	31
0	1	31
0	0	31

纵观其样题,我们不难发现,首先,它比较成功地把传统语言测试中客观性试题运用到新网络 TOEFL 考试,并将其融入其中。iBT 考生报名注册后,上网应试答题。听力理解和阅读理解试题大多仍是客观性试题。与纸考、机考不同的是,考生可以在听和读的过程中记笔记。其二,它试图打破半个世纪来传统的英语测试把受试者的听、说、读、写语言能力诸技能人为地分离测量的模式,下一代 TOEFL 考试将采取综合式测量。新 TOEFL 对写作、口语能力的测量比较新颖。它要求考生在听完和读完以后,再用口语、书面语表述。其三,如果说上世纪 90 年代的机考是发展了始于 1964 年的纸考的话,那么,新一代 iBT 是运用国际互联网技术对 TOEFL 机考的又一发展。

我们认为,为了更客观、更全面、更完整、更科学地测量受试者的语言能力(language ability: language competence/language knowledge and strategic competence),语言测试必将从以“分离式试题”为主的传统测试,过渡到综合式的交际测试(integrative communicative test)。它除了要解决测试的信度和效度之间的矛盾之外,更需确立一个符合某个特定语言考试目的的构想效度,在此基础上使该考试的 usefulness 的 6 方面性质(reliability, construct validity, authenticity, interactiveness, impact, and practicality)趋于最佳平衡。

有专家称,中国目前有两种英语,一种称为“庙堂英语”,另一种叫做“江湖英语”。如果说,以前的 TOEFL 试题尚能用“江湖英语”应对的话,那么,面对新一代 TOEFL,考生如果没有一点真本事则很难考出理想的成绩。宋代文豪朱熹说过,“君子之学,不为则己,为则必要其成,故常百倍其功”。学习无捷径可循,真本事靠下工夫而得。当然,学习方法也很重要,好的方法可使下的工夫更有效,事半功倍。

为此,本套丛书和与此配套的网络练习,由从事英语教学和语言测试学研究几十年的专家、教授担纲、编写。在潜心研究了 iBT 考试的基础上,编写设计了这套以剖析综合式测试本质为纲,以提高交际功能为教学方法,以综合式任务型试题为题型的丛书,使新 TOEFL 的考生有方法可循,有网络试题可练,上网应试时能发挥最佳水平,稳操胜券。

新 TOEFL (iBT) 丛书共分四本分册,它们是《TOEFL - 听力新方法》、《TOEFL - 阅读新技巧》、《TOEFL - 口语新突破》和《TOEFL - 写作新思路》。

丛书由萧春麟、顾大僖教授担任总主编。本册《TOEFL - 阅读新技巧》由萧春麟教授主编,萧春麟、顾大僖、周孟华编写。

编者

2008 年 9 月

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第一章 iBT-TOEFL 阅读部分概述

iBT-TOEFL 的阅读理解,与其他三部分比较,变化较少。它继承了 TOEFL 机考中传统的“四选一”多项选择题、插入题、配对题和填表题等题型。阅读部分通常含 3 至 5 篇文章,每篇文章长约 700 词,含 12 至 14 个问题。答题时间为 60 至 100 分钟。考试目的是测试考生阅读理解美国大学基础课程教科书的能力。文章涉及地理、历史、文学、音乐、物理、化学、建筑、经济、心理学、生物学、天文学等传统学科,也涉及电脑科学、生命科学、生态学、环境保护、城市规划、航空航天等当代科学领域。理解能力与考生的知识面、词汇量等有直接的联系。

阅读理解部分的文章,如果从作者的写作目的来划分,有 3 类:论理;说明;叙述。如果以文章结构划分,有比较(共性、差异);因果;提出、解决问题等。然而,就试题本身而言,题目的类型有:Factual information questions(事实题);True or Not true questions(是非题);Inference questions(推断题);Author's purpose questions(作者写作目的题);Vocabulary questions(词意题);Reference questions(指代题);Insert text(插入题);Prose summary(大意题)及 Filling in a table(填表题)等。

第二章 iBT-TOEFL 阅读技能训练

要应对 iBT-TOEFL 阅读试题,考生需要培养以下 9 种技能:

- (1) 从上下文理解词语的意思和含意;
- (2) 从上下文找出指代关系(指代题);
- (3) 概括句子的意思;
- (4) 弄清句子在语篇中的逻辑关系(插入题);
- (5) 找出解题的相关事实;
- (6) 由文章的事实推理,找出一个“Not True”选择项;
- (7) 从作者的用词(语)推断作者的写作意图;
- (8) 找出支持段落、篇章要旨的要点(填表题);
- (9) 找出与要点相关的信息(相配题)。

下面我们就这 9 种阅读技能,举例说明。

(1) 从上下文理解词语的意思和含意

例 1

With Robert Laurent and William Zorach, direct carving enters into the story of modern sculpture in the United States. Direct carving—in which the sculptors themselves carve stone or wood with mallet and chisel—must be recognized as something more than just a technique. Implicit in it is an aesthetic principle as well that the medium has certain qualities of beauty and expressiveness with which sculptors must bring their won aesthetic sensibilities into harmony. For example, sometimes the shape or veining in a piece of stone or wood suggests, perhaps even dictates, not only the ultimate form, but even the subject matter.

The technique of direct carving was a break with the nineteenth-century tradition in which the making of a clay model was considered the creative act and the work was then turned over to studio assistants to be cast in plaster or bronze or carved in marble. Neoclassical sculptors seldom held a mallet or chisel in their own hands, readily conceding that the assistants they employed were far better than they were at carving the finished marble.

With the turn-of-the-century Crafts Movement and the discovery of nontraditional sources of inspiration such as wooden African figures and masks, there arose a new urge for hands-on, personal execution of art and an interaction with the medium. Even as early as the 1880's and 1890's, non-conformist European artists were attempting direct carving. By the second decade of the twentieth century, Americans—Laurent and Zorach most notably—had adopted it as their primary means of working.

Born in France, Robert Laurent (1890—1970) was a prodigy who received his education in

the United States. In 1905 he was sent to Paris as an apprentice to an art dealer, and in the years that followed he witnessed the birth of Cubism, discovered primitive art, and learned the techniques of woodcarving from a frame maker.

Back in New York City by 1910, Laurent began carving pieces such as *The Priestess*, which reveals his fascination with African, pre - Columbian, and South Pacific art. Taking a walnut plank, the sculptor carved the expressive, stylized design. It is one of the earliest examples of direct carving in American sculpture. The plank's form dictated the rigidly frontal view and the low relief. Even its irregular shape must have appealed to Laurent as **a break with** a long - standing tradition that required a sculptor to work within a perfect rectangle or square.

1. The word **medium** in line 4 could be used to refer to _____.
 (A) stone or wood (B) mallet and chisel
 (C) technique (D) principle
2. The word **dictates** in line 7 is closest in meaning to _____.
 (A) reads aloud (B) determines
 (C) includes (D) records
3. The word **witnessed** in line 21 is closest in meaning to _____.
 (A) influenced (B) studied
 (C) validated (D) observed
4. The phrase **a break with** in line 27 is closest in meaning to _____.
 (A) a destruction of (B) a departure from
 (C) a collapse of (D) a solution to

词语通常有字面意思和引申含意。做词语题时,考生首先要明白,解题的一个关键是上下文。现在,我们来分析以上4个试题。

题1,考生依据上文“the sculptors themselves carve stone or wood (雕塑家在stone or wood上雕塑)”很容易解题,选择项(A) stone or wood 为正确答案。当然,解题1还需要正确理解试题的意思,“第4行里的 medium 指什么?”考生应该知道 medium 意为“媒介物”,是一个泛义词,所以,它指的就是上文中提到的那两种雕塑家用的“媒介物”stone and wood。题2,3,4都属于认知题。考生懂得这些词语,并在文章的特定语境中,很容易找出对应的答案项:题2的 dictate - determine;题3的 witness - observe;题4的 a break with - a departure from。

(2) 从上下文找出指代关系(指代题)

例2

Volcanic fire and glacial ice are natural enemies. Eruptions at glaciated volcanoes typically destroy ice fields, as **they** did in 1980, when 70 percent of Mount Saint Helens ice cover was demolished. During long dormant intervals, glaciers gain the upper hand cutting deeply into volcanic cones and eventually reducing them to rubble. Only rarely do these competing forces of heat and

could operate in perfect balance to create a phenomenon such as the steam caves at Mount Rainier National Park.

1. What does the word **they** in line 2 refer to?

- (A) fields (B) intervals
(C) eruptions (D) enemies

指代题是 TOEFL 的传统试题。它要求考生具备较强的逻辑性和语境意识。本题的代词 **they** 只能指前文的 **eruptions**, 因为下文的 **did** 指 **destroyed ice fields**, 其他 3 个选择项都不合适。

例 3

Rent control is the system whereby the local government tells building owners how much they can charge their tenants in rent. In the United States, rent controls date back to at least World War II.

In 1943 the federal government imposed rent controls to help solve the problem of housing shortages during war time. The federal program ended after the war, but in some locations, a landlord generally cannot raise rents on apartments as long as the tenants continue to renew their leases. In places such as Santa Monica, California, rent controls are more recent. **They** were spurred by the inflation of the 1970's which, combined with California's rapid population growth, pushed housing prices as well as rents to record levels. In 1979 Santa Monica's municipal government ordered landlords to roll back their rents to the levels charged in 1978. Future rents could only go up by two-thirds as much as any increase in the overall price level.

1. The word **They** in line 6 refers to _____.

- (A) the tenants (B) their leases
(C) places (D) rent controls

例 3 第 6 行的代词 **they** 指的是本文的关键词语 **rent control**。读了前文, 我们应该较容易排除 (A) **the tenants** 和 (C) **places** 两个选项。选项 (B) **their leases** 与下文的 **were spurred by the inflation of the 1970's** 不符, 因此, **they** 只能指 (D) **rent controls**。

例 4

Then, in 1950 the Census Bureau radically changed its definition of "urban" to take account of the new vagueness of city boundaries. In addition to persons living in incorporated units of 2,500 or more, the census now included **those** who lived in unincorporated units of that size, and also all persons living in the densely settled urban fringe, including both incorporated and unincorporated areas located around cities of 50,000 inhabitants or more. Each such unit, conceived as an integrated economic and social unit with a large population nucleus, was named a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA).

Each SMSA would contain at least (a) one central city with 50,000 inhabitants or more, or

(b) two cities having shared boundaries and constituting for general economic and social purposes, a single community with a combined population of at least 50,000, the smaller of **which** must have a population of at least 15,000. Such an area included the country in which the central city is located, and adjacent counties that are found to be metropolitan in character and economically and socially integrated with the county of the central city. By 1970, about two-thirds of the population of the United States were living in these urbanized areas, and of that figure more than half were living outside the central cities.

1. The word **those** in line 3 refers to _____.
 (A) boundaries (B) persons
 (C) units (D) areas
2. The word **which** in line 10 refers to a smaller _____.
 (A) population (B) city
 (C) character (D) figure

考生凭借语境就可弄清它们的指代关系。第1题的指示代词 *those* 只能指 *persons*, 而不可能指 (A) *boundaries*, (B) *units* 或 (D) *areas*; 第2题的 *which* 是指 *city*, 而不是其他。

为了训练、巩固“从上下文理解词语的意思和含意”和“从上下文找出指代关系”两项技能, 请做 Ex. 1 – Ex. 5。

(3) 概括句子的意思

例 5

One distinctive feature of the planet Jupiter is the Great Red Spot, a massive oval of swirling reddish-brown clouds. **Were Earth to be juxtaposed with the Great Red Spot, our planet would be dwarfed in comparison, with a diameter less than half of the Great Red Spot.** The Spot's clouds, most likely tinted red as a result of the phosphorus that they contain, circulate in a counterclockwise direction. The outer winds require six Earth days to complete the circumference of the Great Red Spot, a length of time indicative of the vastness of the Great Red Spot.

这类试题比较模式化, 请看:

Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence? **Incorrect** answer choices change the meaning in important ways or leave out essential information.

- (A) The density of the Great Red Spot is much higher than that of the Earth.
- (B) If the diameter of the Great Red Spot were doubled, it would equal that of the Earth.
- (C) By placing the Earth next to the Great Red Spot, one could see that the Earth has a much smaller diameter.
- (D) Because the Earth is close to the Great Red Spot, Earth is influenced by its huge size.



考生首先要理解原句的结构和意思。该句为虚拟语气,前半部分, Were Earth to be juxtaposed with the Great Red Spot, 是条件状语从句,表达了作者的一种假设——“假如把地球与那个大红点相比较。”后半部分是主句,是作者的推理——“我们星球的直径还不到大红点的一半。”因此,选项(C)为正确答案。选项(B)与原文意思相矛盾;而(A)、(D)项缺失原句的基本意思——比较地球和大红点的大小,地球小得多。

通过上例,我们不难看出这类试题选项的特点:正确答案项是原句意思的改写,且与原句乃至原段落的基本意思相符;其他三项为干扰项,它们或与原句意思相矛盾,或缺失原句的基本意思。

为了训练、巩固“概括句子的意思”的技能,请做 Ex. 6 - Ex. 15。

(4) 弄清句子在语篇中的逻辑关系(插入题)

第四类阅读试题要求考生把一个句子插入文章中标有黑色正方形■记号处。一般每个试题有四个标有黑色正方形■记号,点击每个记号,试题中的句子会自动插入。考生必须根据语篇的逻辑关系,找出该句的最佳插入处。

例 6

The origins of the game of chess are not known with certainty, and traditional stories in a number of cultures claim credit for developing the game. (A) ■ One legend claims that chess was invented during the Trojan Wars. (B) ■ According to another legend, chess was developed to depict the battle between two royal brothers for the crown of Persia. (C) ■ In a third legend, chess was the creation of the mythical Arab philosopher Sassa. (D) ■

Look at the four squares ■ that indicate where the following sentence can be added to the passage.

When one brother was killed, the remaining brother had the game invented to explain the tragic events to his mother.

Click on a square ■ to add the sentence to the passage.

插入题的解题思路是,弄清被插入的句子在哪一处与上下文在逻辑上结合得最紧密。以上面试题为例,句子插入后,与上下文在逻辑上最适合处是(C),因为句子提到“one brother and the remaining brother”,而选项(C)的前文中也提到与此相关的内容“two royal brothers”。而其他三处的前文与句子内容毫不相干。这类试题是一种全新的题型,虽然曾在 TOEFL 机考中用过,但是 TOEFL 机考在中国大陆从未实施。因此,对我国考生来说,难度较大。此类试题归纳起来有三种:

1) 被要求插入的句子是段落的主题句(topic sentence)。请看下例。

例 7

(A) ■ The Korean Warrior kite is usually constructed of four or five spars tied together in the center. (B) ■ The spars form a sturdy frame for a rectangular cover whose center is pierced by a

circular hole several inches in diameter. (C) ■ The surface of the cover is often decorated with stripes and designs reminiscent of the sun. (D) ■ This kite is especially suited for flying in strong winds.

Look at the four squares ■ that indicate where the following sentence can be added to the passage.

Kite design varies around the world.

Click on a square ■ to add the sentence to the passage.

把句子插入 (A) 处, 作为段落的 topic sentence, 随后以 Korean Warrior kite 为例描述各种风筝。

2) 被要求插入的句子是一个例子, 用来说明某个观点。请看下例。

例 8

Cheese is made from the curd of milk. (A) ■ Although there are literally thousands of varieties, which differ according to the method of preparation and quality of milk, they can be divided into three main classes. (B) ■ Soft cheeses are those with rinds and very soft, creamy centers. Of these, Brie and Camembert are perhaps the most famous. (C) ■ Blue-veined cheeses have been injected with a penicillin mold, which creates the characteristic blue veins. (D) ■ Pressed cheeses are those placed in a mold and firmly pressed. There are uncooked pressed cheeses, such as Cheddar, and cooked pressed cheeses, such as Gruyere.

Look at the four squares ■ that indicate where the following sentence can be added to the passage.

Roquefort, for example, is a well-known blue-veined cheese from France.

Click on a square ■ to add the sentence to the passage.

很明显, Roquefort 是 blue-veined cheese 的一个例子, 应该插入 (D) 处。

3) 被要求插入的句子作为段落的小结, 或整篇文章的总结, 或起承上启下的作用。请看下例。

例 9

(A) ■ In the areas of extreme conditions, people have found functional ways to use limited resources. (B) ■ A case in point is the desert dwellers who, for thousands of years, have sheltered themselves in extremely functional buildings. (C) ■ These buildings are constructed of one of the most readily available, dependable, and inexpensive materials we know of on earth: mud, the ideal insulator. (D) ■

Look at the four squares ■ that indicate where the following sentence can be added to the passage.

This material absorbs heat during the day and slowly releases it at night.

Click on a square ■ to add the sentence to the passage.

本例题的答案应该是(D),因为被插入句子中的“this material”指(D)前句中的“mud, the ideal insulator”,它插入(D)处,起到了承上启下的作用,后文一定会叙述 mud 所具有的 insulator 的种种性质及特点。

为了训练、巩固“弄清句子在语篇中的逻辑关系”的技能,请做 Ex. 16 – Ex. 21。为了巩固“概括句子的意思”和“弄清句子在语篇中的逻辑关系”的技能,请做 Ex. 22。为了巩固上述四项技能,请做 Ex. 23。

(5) 找出解题的相关事实

“找事实”是一种相当传统的题型。半个多世纪来,TOEFL 考试的阅读理解部分都有此类试题。考生只要读懂问题,从文章的相关部分找到相关事实,解题就比较容易。请看下例。

例 10

Crescent-shaped Lake Baikal, in Siberia, is only the ninth largest lake in area at 385 miles (620 km) in length and 46 miles (74 km) in width, yet it is easily the largest body of fresh water in the world. It holds one-fifth of the world's total fresh water, which is more than the total of all the water in the five Great Lakes; it holds so much fresh water in spite of its less-than-impressive area because it is by far the world's deepest lake. The average depth of the lake is 1,312 feet (400 meters) below sea level, and the Olkhon Crevice, the lowest known point, is more than 5,250 feet (1,600 meters) deep.

Lake Baikal, which is today located near the center of the Asian peninsula, is most likely the world's oldest lake. It began forming 25 million years ago as Asia started spitting apart in a series of great faults. The Baikal Valley dropped away, eventually filling with water and creating the deepest of the world's lakes.

1. What is stated in paragraph 1 about the shape of Lake Baikal?
(A) It is wider than it is long. (B) It is circular in shape.
(C) Its width is one-half of the length. (D) It is shaped like a new moon.
2. It is indicated in paragraph 1 that the area of Lake Baikal _____.
(A) is less than the area of 8 other lakes
(B) is one-ninth the area of Siberia
(C) is greater than the area of any other freshwater lake
(D) is equal to the area of the five Great lakes
3. According to paragraph 1, Lake Baikal _____.
(A) holds one-fifth of the world's water (B) holds five times the water of the Great Lakes
(C) holds one-ninth of the world's water (D) holds 20 percent of the world's fresh water
4. According to paragraph 1, the Olkhon Crevice is _____.
(A) outside of Lake Baikal (B) 400 meters below sea level