

# 全国硕士研究生入学考试 英语阅读理解强化训练

编著：李春尧 丁爱云

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安徽科学技术出版社

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# 前 言

2002 年全国硕士研究生入学英语考试大纲评价标准中对阅读理解的要求是:

考生应能读懂不同类型的文字材料(生词量不超过所读材料词汇量的 3%)。包括信函、书刊和杂志上的文章,还应能读懂于本人学习或工作有关的文献、技术说明和产品介绍等。根据所读材料,考生应能:

- 1) 理解主旨意义;
- 2) 理解文中的具体信息;
- 3) 理解文中的概念性含义;
- 4) 进行有关的判断、推理和引申;
- 5) 根据上下文推测生词的词义;
- 6) 理解文章的总体结构以及单句之间、段落之间的关系;
- 7) 理解作者的意图、观点或态度;
- 8) 区分论点和论据。

阅读理解共 20 题,每题 2 分,共 40 分。主要考察考生理解具体信息、掌握文章大意、猜测生词词义并进行推断等能力。

要想成为一个效率高的读者,不仅要具有丰富的词汇和语法知识,还要熟悉各种阅读方法与技巧,并能根据不同的阅读目的加以选用。为此,本书对各类文体的内容、特点、形式逐一作了介绍,讲解了各类文体在阅读时应注意的问题和应采取的方法技巧,使学生迅速准确抓住文章主题,把握段落大意,提高阅读理解能力。并分析了阅读理解的测试内容、题型设计,详细介绍了各类题型的提问形式、解题思路。

书中还提供了 100 篇具有典型代表意义的优秀短文以供考生进行阅读理解考前训练,并加以分析指导。作者希望,通过对该书的学习,考生能在阅读理解测试中顺利过关,取得好成绩。

作者



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# 第一章 文体分类

我们所阅读的文章,就体裁而论可分为记叙文、说明文、议论文、描写文和应用文。这些文章内容广泛,题材各异,涉及科技、政治、社会文化、历史、人物等。为帮助学生了解各类文体的写作方式和行文特点,本章特就各种文体的内容、特点、形式进行归纳,并对各类文体在阅读时应注意的内容和采取的方法及技巧作一些介绍,从而增强学生对所阅读的文章类别的判断力,迅速而又准确地抓住文章的主题,把握段落大意,得心应手地解答各类问题,提高学生的阅读能力和理解能力。

## 一、记叙文(Narrative)

叙述一件事或一系列事情或事件的文章就是记叙文。故事(真实的或虚构的)、人物传记、新闻、历史等都可归入这一类。一般情况下,记叙文应包括人物(who)、事件(what)、时间(when)、地点(where)和原因(why)五个要素。在阅读这类文章时,要特别注意文章中主人翁的特点、事件发生的时间、地点、主要情节和最后的结局。此外,还要留意主人翁同其他人物之间的关系等。

### Example 1

Robert Spring, a 19th century forger, was so good at his profession that he was able to make his living for 15 years by selling false signatures of famous Americans. Spring was born in England in 1813 and arrived in Philadelphia in 1858 to open a bookstore. At first he prospered by selling his small but genuine collection of early U. S. autographs (亲笔签名). Discovering his ability at copying handwriting, he began imitating signatures of George Washington and Ben Franklin and writing them on the title pages of old books. To lessen the chance of detection, he sent his forgeries (伪造物) to England and Canada for sale and circulation.

Forgers have a hard time selling their products. A forger can't approach a respectable buyer but must deal with people who don't have much knowledge in the field. Forgers have many ways to make their work look real. For example, they buy old books to use the aged paper of the title page, and they can treat paper and ink with chemicals.

In Spring's time, right after the Civil War, Britain was still fond of the Southern States, so Spring invented a respectable maiden lady known as Miss Fanny Jackson, the only daughter of General "Stonewall" Jackson. For several years Miss Fanny's financial problem forced her to sell a great number of letters and manuscripts belonging to her famous father. Spring had to work very hard to satisfy the demand. All this activity did not prevent Spring from dying in poverty, leaving sharp-eyed experts the difficult task of separating his forgeries from the originals.

### Questions

1. Why did Spring sell his false autographs in England and Canada?
  - A. There was a greater demand there than in America.
  - B. There was less chance of being detected there.
  - C. Britain was Spring's birthplace.
  - D. The prices were higher in England and Canada.
2. After the Civil War, there was a great demand in Britain for \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. Southern money
  - B. signatures of George Washinton and Ben Franklin
  - C. Southern manuscripts and letters
  - D. Civil War battle plans
3. Robert Spring spent 15 years \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. running a bookstore in Philadelphia
  - B. corresponding with Miss Fanny Jackson
  - C. as a forger
  - D. as a respectable dealer
4. According to the passage, forgeries are usually sold to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. sharp-eyed experts
  - B. persons who aren't experts
  - C. book dealers
  - D. owners of old books
5. Who was Miss Fanny Jackson?
  - A. The old daughter of General "Stonewall" Jackson.
  - B. A little-known girl who sold her father's papers to Robert Spring.
  - C. Robert Spring's daughter.
  - D. An imaginary person created by Spring.

### 内容提要

这篇文章的主人翁是 Robert Spring, 文章用三个自然段简要地叙述了他伪造签名和文件的生涯: 第一段交待了 Spring 的出生年月, 以及他擅长伪造名人签名, 题词, 文件, 成了一名伪造者的经过。第二段讲的是, 和其他伪造者一样, Spring 只能用他伪造的赝品去欺骗不懂行的人。第三段讲



述的是南北战争之后，他编造事实并伪造了很多名人的手稿和来往信件。

问题解答与分析

1. B

第一段最后一句，“To lessen the chance of detection, he sent his forgeries to England and Canada for sale and circulation.”正好说明了 Spring 为什么要把他伪造的亲笔签名送到英国和加拿大卖的原因。

2. C

第三段中“...after the Civil War, Britain was still fond of the Southern States, ...Spring had to work very hard to satisfy the demand.”这些句子说明了美国南北战争之后，英国人对美国战后保留下来的手稿和信件很感兴趣。

3. C

开头一段的第一句，“Robert Spring, a 19th century forger, was so good at his preffession that was able to make his living for 15 years by selling false signatures of famous Americans.”点出了 Spring 做了十五年的伪造者，与答案一致。

4. B

第二段中“A forger can’t approach a respectable buyer but must deal with people who don’t have much knowledge in the field.”说明伪造物常常都卖给那些不懂行的人。

5. D

在第三段中“...so Spring invented a respectable maiden lady known as Miss Fanny Jackson ...”这句话中，作者用了“invented”一词，表明 Fanny Jackson 小姐是 Spring 凭空编造的一个人。

Example 2

Elizabeth Blackwell was born in England in 1821, and emigrated to New York City when she was ten years old. One day she decided that she wanted to become a doctor. That was nearly impossible for a woman in the middle of the nineteenth century. After writing many letters seeking admission to medical schools, she was finally accepted by a doctor in Philadaphia. So determined was she, that she taught school and gave music lessons to earn money for her tuition.

In 1849, after graduation from medical school, she decided to further her education in Paris. She wanted to be a surgeon, but a serious eye infection forced her to abandon the idea.

Upon to the United States, she found it difficult to start her own practice because she was a woman. By 1857 Elizabeth and her sister, also a doctor, along with another female doctor managed to open a new hospital, the first for women and children. Besides being the first female physician and founding her own hospital, she also established the first medical school for women.

Questions

1. Why couldn’t Elizabeth Blackwell realize her dream of becoming a surgeon?

- A. She couldn't get admitted to medical school.
  - B. She decided to further her education in Paris.
  - C. A serious eye infection halted her quest.
  - D. It was difficult for her to start a practice in the United States.
2. What main obstacle almost destroyed Elizabeth's chances for becoming a doctor?
- A. She was a woman.
  - B. She wrote too many letters.
  - C. She couldn't graduate from medical school.
  - D. She couldn't establish her hospital.
3. All of the following are "firsts" in life of Elizabeth Blackwell, except \_\_\_\_.
- A. She became the first female physician.
  - B. She was the first woman surgeon.
  - C. She and several other women founded the first hospital for women and children.
  - D. She established the first medical school for women.

### 内容提要

这是一篇人物小传,全文用了三个自然段叙述了主人翁 Elizabeth Blackwell 的有关情况:她的出生年月、出生地、移居地、她的志向及其为之所付出的努力。

### 问题解答与分析

1. C.

本文第二段中的最后一句“...but a serious eye infection forced her to abandon the idea”解释了她未能实现自己想当一名外科医生的愿望的原因,与 C 相符。

2. A

第一段中第三句话“That was nearly impossible for a woman in the middle of the nineteenth century.”和 A 一致。

3. B

第二段中已经讲到了她因为眼疾未能成为一名外科医生。而第三段又讲述了她经过自己的努力奋斗实现了她一生中的三个“第一”,因此 B 应是正确答案。

## 二、说明文(Expositon)

说明文是采用记叙形式说明某一事物的性质、构成、用途、使用方法等,或解释与探讨各种问题。比如要讲解桥梁是怎样建造的,企业是怎样管理的,交通事故是怎样发生的,某一难题是怎样解决的,我们就需要用说明文。说明文的主要特征是客观明了,条理清楚,通俗易懂。阅读这类文章时应抓住两点:①被说明事物的基本概念和特征。②该事物与另一事物之间的关系和区别。此外,在阅读时,还要注意一些重要的数据、事实,如距离、面积、重量、温度等。

### Example 1

Plastics are materials which are softened by heat and set into lasting form when shaped in a mold. Some are natural; Some are semisynthetic, the result of chemical action on a natural substance; some are synthetic, built up from the constituents of oil or coal. All are based on the chemistry of carbon, with its capacity for forming chains. The molecules that compose them (monomers) link together in the setting or curing process to form chains (polymers), which give plastics their flexible strength. Some plastics retain their ability to be softened and reshaped; like wax, they are thermoplastic. Others set permanently in the shapes they are given by heat and pressure; like eggs, they are thermosetting.

From industrial beginnings in the nineteenth century, plastics have struggled through a hundred and twenty years of glory, failure, disrepute and suspicion on the slow road to public acceptance. Now, at last, one can positively say that plastics are appreciated and enjoyed for what they are; that they make modern life richer, more comfortable and convenient, and also more fun. Plastics are warm materials, sympathetic to the human touch, and their transformation into things that come into contact with human beings is entirely appropriate.

The fact that there are plastics antiques comes as a shock to most people. How can a material that seems so essentially twentieth-century, and one that is so much associated with cheap, disposable products, have a history at all? It is a young technology, and a great part of the fun of collecting plastics is that beautiful pieces of historical interest can still be found very cheaply.

### Questions

1. Which of the following is necessary to create any type of plastics?

A. Carbon	B. Eggs
C. Oil	D. Coal
2. Plastics that harden into permanent shapes are called \_\_\_\_\_.

A. chained	B. thermoplastic
C. monomeric	D. thermosetting
3. What historical information does the second paragraph give about plastics?

A. They originated primarily as road-surfacing materials.
B. They have come into general use very gradually.
C. Their popularity was at its height at the time of the Industrial Revolution.
D. The earliest types were soft and did not last very long.
4. Why does the author mention antiques in the third paragraph?

- A. Some plastic objects are now considered antiques.
- B. Plastics replicas of valuable antiques are relatively common.
- C. Young collectors prefer real antiques to plastic objects.
- D. Dealers use inexpensive plastic part to repair valuable antiques.

### 内容提要

这篇文章说明了塑料的性能,种类和用途,一百多年来塑料工业的缓慢发展以及塑料现在所受到的人们的普遍欢迎,并解释了塑料制品为什么能作为古玩被收藏的原因。

### 问题解答与分析

1. A

根据文章第一段的第三句话,“All are based on the chemistry of carbon, with its capacity for forming chains.”“所有塑料的制造都是以碳的化学变化为基础的,因为碳有形成链的能力。”便可很容易地选出正确答案(A)。

2. D

第一段的最后一句“permanently in the shapes and they are thermosetting.”与题中的 permanent shapes 是吻合的,故答案应当是 D。

3. B

第二段所阐述的中心思想:“塑料从刚问世时被人们怀疑到今天受到普遍欢迎,经历了一个缓慢的过程。”就是该题答案,所以应选 B。

4. A

本文第三段的首句“The fact that there are plastics antiques comes as a shock to most people.”有些塑料制品现在已被看作古董这一事实,使众多的人感到震惊。”这句话正是作者在该段要阐述的主题,故答案应是 A。

### Example 2

Honeybees cannot live alone. Their body structure and instincts equip them for life in a colony or community, where they have a complex social organization and the various duties are divided among the individuals according to physical fitness and age. An individual worker bee cannot reproduce itself. While it may continue to live if forcibly isolated from its mates, it fails to care for itself adequately, and soon dies. Most insects have the ability to hibernate in winter, but the honeybee seems to have lost this. Since at low temperatures the bee will die, it must have the ability to make its own environment, so far as temperature is concerned. This makes a colony necessary to the bees in winter, so that they may collectively warm each other. Efficiency, if not necessity, demands that the work of the colony be divided, and such a division of labour tends to enhance the need to maintain the colony. The physical structure of the honeybee is further suited for the defense of the entire colony rather than for its own defense. The bee's barbed sting is used only once and is made more effective by the fact that it is left behind in the victim. With the loss of the sting, however, the



bee dies. This kind of defensive weapon is not of service to the individual, but to the community.

### Questions

1. According to the passage, bees are fitted for communal life by virtue of their \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. flexibility and initiative.
  - B. intelligence and sensitivity.
  - C. independence and endurance.
  - D. instincts and form
2. According to the passage, a worker bee may survive for a short time even if it is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. deprived of its sting.
  - B. denied access to oxygen.
  - C. isolated from other bees.
  - D. exposed to a wide range of temperature.
3. It can be inferred from the passage that at one time bees had the ability to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. increase their activity in lower temperatures.
  - B. leave cold climates during winter.
  - C. remain dormant through periods of cold weather.
  - D. construct insulated hives.
4. According to the passage, bees differ from most other communities of insects in their need to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. reproduce in large numbers
  - B. control the temperature where they live.
  - C. divide the work of their colonies.
  - D. have a complex defense system.
5. According to the passage, the honeybee's sting is particularly effective because it \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. has many potential uses
  - B. can kill several victims at once.
  - C. is located in the rear of the bee's body.
  - D. remains with the bee's victim

### 内容提要

这篇科普文章从四个方面解释和说明了为什么蜜蜂必须群居生活：①蜜蜂的身体结构和本能决定它们不能单独生活，只能群居。②在群居生活中，蜜蜂进行工作分工，如果单独生活，则会很快死去。③冬天蜜蜂只有群居在一起，才能互相取暖，不然就会在低温时死亡。④蜜蜂身上的倒刺对单个的蜜蜂毫无用处，但却是一种群体防卫的有效武器。

掌握和理解了本文所阐述的这四个要点，再回答问题时，就得心应手了。

## 问题解答与分析

### 1. D

文章开头的第二句“Their body structure and instincts equip them for life in a colony or community...”就解释了蜜蜂的身体结构和本能使它们适宜群居生活的原因。该题答案 D 中的 form 一词与文中的 structure 是同义词,意为“结构”,故正确答案为 D。

### 2. C

文章第四句“while it may continue to live if forcibly isolated from its mates, it fails to care for itself adequately, and soon dies.”中 if 引导的条件句及 soon dies 和“question”中的 may survive for a short time 及答案 C 是一致的,故答案应选 C。

### 3. C

回答这个问题应看懂文章第 5 句“Most insects have the ability to hibernate in winter, but the honeybee seems to have lost this.”该句最后一个词 this 指得是“the ability to hibernate in winter”(冬眠的能力)。答案 C 中的“dormant”也为冬眠之意。此外,应注意本题中用了过去时“had”,说明蜜蜂过去曾有此能力,言外之意是“现在没有这种能力了。”弄明白这一点,该题的答案也就一目了然了。

### 4. B

回答这个问题应看懂这一句话“This makes a colony necessary to the bees in winter, so that they may collectively warm each other.”这一句话的第一个单词“This”指代的是上文中的“蜜蜂与其它大多数昆虫的不同之处在于它已经丧失了冬眠的能力,因而需要控制住处的温度”。而紧随其后便出现了“这就使蜜蜂在冬天群居在一起成为不可缺少的条件,因为群居在一起他们可以相互取暖。”这样一句话。所以 B 应是正确答案。乍一看, C 似乎也是正确的答案。但文中已指出,分工是效率的需要,而不是绝对的必要,因此, C 不是最佳答案。

### 5. D

读到本文倒数第三句,就应发现 D 是正确答案。

## 三、议论文(Argumentation)

议论文力图证明一个观点或信念,并批驳与之相反的观点,以达到说服别人的目的。因此,议论文一般是由论点(Argument),论据(Supporting Ideas)和结论(conclusion)三个要素组成。在阅读这类文章时,首先要抓住文章的论点(一般情况下一篇议论文只有一个论点,常放在文章的第一段),其次是论据(论据是由事实、理由、例子、数据等构成的),最后是结论。

作者往往会在文章的第一段阐明自己的主张——论点。最后用某种结论性的话来结束话题。通常文章的结尾就是文章开头所提问题的答案。

除此之外,还应注意作者对他人的错误论点的反驳以及与所持论点有关的人物、时间、事实等。

### Example 1

I heard many parents complaining that their teen-age children are rebelling. I wish it were so. At your age you ought to be growing away from your parents. You

should be learning to stand on your own two feet. But take a good look at the present rebellion. It seems that teen-agers are taking the same way of showing that they disagree with their parents. Instead of striking out boldly on their own, most of them are clutching at one another's hands for reassurance.

They claim they want to dress as they please. But they all wear the same clothes. They set off in new directions in music. But somehow they all end up huddled round listening to the same record. Their reason for thinking or acting in thus-and-such a way is that the crowd is doing it. They have come out of their cocoon--into a larger cocoon (蚕茧).

It has become harder and harder for a teen-ager to stand up against the popularity wave and to go his or her own way. Industry has firmly carved out a teen-age market. These days every teen-ager can learn from the advertisements what a teen-ager should have and be. And many of today's parents have come to award high marks for the popularity of their children. All this adds up to a great barrier for the teen-ager who wants to find his or her own path.

But the barrier is worth climbing over. The path is worth following. You may want to listen to classical music instead of going to a party. You may want to collect rocks when everyone else is collecting records. You may have some thoughts that you don't care to share at once with your classmates. Well, go to it. Find yourself. Be yourself. Popularity will come--with the people who respect you for who you are. That is the only kind of popularity that really counts.

### Questions

1. The author's purpose in writing this passage is to tell \_\_\_\_
  - A. readers how to be popular with people around.
  - B. teen-agers how to learn to decide things for themselves.
  - C. parents how to control and guide their children.
  - D. people how to understand and respect each other.
2. According to the author, many teen-agers think they are brave enough to act on their own, but, in fact, most of them \_\_\_\_
  - A. have much difficulty understanding each other.
  - B. lack confidence.
  - C. dare not cope with problems single-handed.
  - D. are much afraid of getting lost.
3. Which of the following is Not true according to the passage?
  - A. There is no popularity that really counts.
  - B. What many parents are doing is in fact hindering their children from finding

their own paths.

C. It is not necessarily bad for a teen-ager to disagree with his or her classmates.

D. Most teen-agers claim that they want to do what they like to, but they are actually doing the same.

4. The author thinks of advertisements as \_\_\_\_.

A. convincing

B. influential

C. instructive

D. authoritative

5. During the teen-age years, one should learn to \_\_\_\_

A. differ from others in as many ways as possible.

B. get into the right season and become popular.

C. find one's real self.

D. rebel against parents and the popularity wave.

### 内容提要

作者写这篇议论文的目的是告诉十几岁的少年,应学会如何去处理和决定自己的问题和事情。

文章开门见山地点出了这个年龄段的孩子开始出现同父母顶撞——对抗的现象是正常的,因为他们到了要求独立的年龄。这时,多数的孩子都认为自己可以勇敢地去决定自己的事情,但他们又缺乏勇气。他们要求自己要有个性,应该与众不同,但又很难去摆脱大众化对他们的影响。造成这种现象的根源在于现代化工业为他们提供的市场以及广告对他们产生的影响等等。这些都为那些想寻找自己发展道路的孩子筑起了一个很高的屏障。而努力去攀越这个屏障是值得的,并且这个自我发展的道路也是值得走下去的。少年要有自己的主见,只有这样,才能找到“真正的我。”

弄懂了文中作者的观点、看法,再回答本文所提出的问题就不难了。

### 问题解答与分析

1. B

读懂了本文最后一段中“You may…”三个排比句和紧随其后的“Well, go to it. ”, “Find yourself. ”, “Be yourself. ”三个祈使句,便可发现该题的正确答案应是 B。

2. B

文章的第一段最后一句“Instead of striking out boldly on their own, most of them are clutching at one another's hands for reassurance.”与答案 B 一致。

3. A

本题所给的四个答案只有 A 的内容未在文章里提及,并且与文章最后一句话的意思相反,因此,本题的正确答案应是 A。

4. B

本文第三段的第三句话“These days every teen-ager can learn from the advertisements what a teen-ager should have and be.”的意思和该题答案 B(广告对十几岁的孩子是有影响的)相符。故正确答案应为 B。

5. C

第一段的第三、四句及最后一段的倒数第二、三、四句充分表达了作者赞成少年寻找真正自我的观点。因此,该题的正确答案是非 C 莫属。



## Example 2

The case for college has been accepted without question for more than a generation. All high school graduates ought to go, says conventional wisdom and statistical evidence, because college will help them earn more money, become “better” people, and learn to be more responsible citizens than those who don’t go.

But college has never been able to work its magic for everyone. And now that close to half our high school graduates are attending, those who don’t fit the pattern are becoming more numerous, and more obvious. College graduates are selling shoes and driving taxis; college students interfere with each other’s experiments and write false letters of recommendation in the intense competition for admission to graduate school. Others find no stimulation in their studies, and drop out—often encouraged by college administrators.

Some observers say the fault is with the young people themselves—they are spoiled and they are expecting too much. But that is a condemnation of the students as a whole, and doesn’t explain all campus unhappiness. Others blame the state of the world, and they are partly right. We have been told that young people have to go to college because our economy can’t absorb an army of untrained eighteen-year-olds. But disappointed graduates are learning that it can no longer absorb an army of trained twenty-two-year-olds, either.

Some adventuresome educators and campus watchers have openly begun to suggest that college may not be the best, the proper, the only place for every young person after the completion of high school. We may have been looking at all those surveys and statistics upside down, it seems, and through the rosy glow of our own remembered college experiences. Perhaps college doesn’t make people intelligent, ambitious, happy, liberal, or quick to learn things—maybe it is just the other way around, and intelligent, ambitious, happy, liberal, quick-learning people are merely the ones who have been attracted to college in the first place. And perhaps all those successful college graduates would have been successful whether they had gone to college or not. This is heresy to those of us who have been brought up to believe that if a little schooling is good, more has to be much better. But contrary evidence is beginning to mount up.

### Questions

1. According to the author \_\_\_\_.

- A. people used to question the value of college education
- B. people used to have full confidence in higher education