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大学英语四级考试

快速阅读

总主编 王访访

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大学英语四级考试

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序

拒绝四六级考试复习备考的沉重负担,轻松搞定四六级考试是本套丛书编写的宗旨。

本系列丛书具有下列 5 大特点:

1. 针对性强:按试卷测试项分 8 个类别编撰,能让学生针对自己的弱项自由选择其中一项或几项,在短时间内进行强化训练,达到预期效果。

2. 语料新颖:本系列中的 16 本书均选自国内外最新材料。材料大多出自国外原版期刊和原版英语网站。

3. 短小精悍:将试卷复杂内容分解编撰成短小的单行本,符合考生心理需求,能让考生以轻松心情应对,在轻松之中将四六级备考之繁重任务各个击破。

4. 内容充实:本系列丛书短小精悍,却不失容量充足。四六级训练书籍通常为十套试卷,而本系列丛书每本的容量一般都超过 10 套:《作文与翻译》作文 30 篇,翻译 25 套;《快速阅读》10 套;《听力对话》12 套;《听力短文与填空》各 12 套;《外台英语新闻》42 篇;《选词填空》25 套;《简短回答》25 套;《仔细阅读》10 套 20 篇;《完形填空》15 套。

5. 实用性与前瞻性:认真分析最近两年的四六级考试真题试卷,可以发现听力短文的测试已经将外台英语新闻的内容纳入了测试范围,故本系列丛书专门编撰了《外台英语新闻》,以提高该书的针对性和实用性,强调英语新闻在大学英语听力测试中的地位。同时也凸显其前瞻性,英语新闻也是正在试点的大学英语四六级机考的主要内容。

愿“轻松搞定四六级考试”系列丛书助备考大学英语四六级的考生一臂之力,祝朋友们以轻松之心情快快搞定四六级考试!

编者

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快速阅读

Part I

命题特点与应试策略





一、命题特点

英语四级快速阅读(Skimming & Scanning)要求考生在 15 分钟内快速浏览一篇 1000 字左右的文章并完成随后的 10 道题目,其中前 7 题为选择题,后 3 题为填空题,主要测试考生在有限的时间内利用略读和寻读两种技能掌握文章主旨大意、快速查找特定信息的能力。通过分析历年真题,选择题和填空题呈现出如下常见考点和命题特点。

选择题的常见考点:

考点 1 数字信息

数字信息即时间、比例、人数、价格等,答案一般都是原文中数字的再现或经简单运算得出的数字信息,其中干扰项多为文中出现的数字。解题的关键在于利用题干中的关键信息迅速定位,找到与其相对应的数字。

考点 2 段落主题

段落主题即段落的主旨大意、中心思想,有时题干中会指定段落,有时则需要考生根据题干中关键词定位到某个或某些段落。其答案一般需要结合段落中其他内容归纳得出,个别时候也可从段落主题句中直接获取。

考点 3 方式或方法

方式或方法这类题目题干中一般会含有 by, the way 等表示方式方法的标志性词语,但原文中则经常没有这类明显的标志性词语,因此解题时不能将这类词语作为主要的定位线索词,而应该利用题干中其他关键信息词进行定位,找出原文中隐含的方式方法。

考点 4 举例或说明

作者经常会使用举例或列举的方法来论证观点或说明事实,针对这些地

方所设的题目有时是题干为事例,答案为相关观点或事实;有时是题干为观点或事实,答案为相关事例。定位原文时,要留意出现 as, such as, for example, for instance, take...as an example, Firstly..., Secondly..., Thirdly..., Finally..., On the one hand..., on the other hand...等表示举例或列举的标志性词语的地方。需要注意的是,有时原文中并不含有这类标志性词语,这时就需要考生利用题干提供的线索在原文中定位。此外,解释说明或补充说明也是考点经常出现的地方。文章中经常会对某人或某事物进行解释或补充说明,有时是通过破折号、冒号等特殊标点引出,有时是通过定语从句或同位语从句引出,因此在定位原文时要重点留意这些地方,答案往往就在特殊标点之后,或在定语从句或同位语从句中。

考点5 组织机构的观点或行为

组织机构的观点或行为这类题目往往会针对文中涉及的某项组织或机构的观点、态度、措施或行为进行设题,解题时要注意利用题干或选项中给出的该组织或机构的名称进行定位。

考点6 重要逻辑关系

重要逻辑关系包含两个方面,一类是表示并列、递进、转折的逻辑关系。这类题目的题干中一般不含有表示并列、递进或转折关系的标志性词语,因此无法识别题目的设题处,但由于这些地方属于设题的高发点,因此考生在利用题干中关键词语定位原文的同时,应重点留意出现 and, or, but, however, even, not only...but also, not...but, on the other hand 等表示并列、递进或转折关系的标志性词语的地方。另一类是条件、因果等逻辑关系。这类题目的题干或选项中经常会含有体现该逻辑关系的连接词或短语,定位原文时,要留意 if, because, so, so that, in order that 等表示逻辑关系的连接词。但需要注意的是,题干或选项可能会对原文中的逻辑关系进行转换,因此定位时要多方面考虑。

填空题的命题特点:

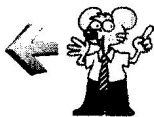
特点1 题干的句子结构与原文没有明显区别

题干的句子结构与原文的句子结构在句式上没有大的不同,只是个别词

语进行了转换,这类题目的答案一般为原文中的原词或经简单词性转换后的变体。

特点2 题干句子是原文的同义转述或细节归纳

题干句子是原文的同义转述或细节归纳,即题干的句子是原文中一处、两处或多处细节内容的归纳,在用词或句式上均有变化,如主动语态和被动语态的转换、简单句变复杂句等,这类题目的答案可能为原文中原词或需要进行词性上的转换,有时也可能需要进行结构上的转换。



二、应试策略

根据英语四级快速阅读的命题特点,考生在考试的过程中可以通过以下方法来提高解题的“速度”和“准度”。

策略1 速读小标题

在篇幅相对比较短的阅读理解考试当中可以直接用题目当中的关键词定位,但是面对长篇累牍的快速阅读考生首先应当留意文章当中的小标题。快速阅读其实是一种积极主动地查找相关信息的能力,小标题的作用如同字典前面的目录,可以帮助考生宏观地把握文章框架,迅速寻找到有效信息的范围。

在快速阅读当中,第一步工作应该用题干去对应小标题,先确定大的范围,然后在确定的小标题项下查读。避免重复阅读无关信息,提高查读的针对性。

策略2 科学运用阅读技巧

(1) 略读选答

做英语阅读理解题时,首先应浏览一遍所提问题及其选项,然后带着这些

问题有目的、有针对性地阅读文章。一方面,把较简单的客观理解题做好;另一方面,把与问题相关的词语、句子划出来,为准确理解难句、解答难题做好准备。

略读(skimming)是要求读者有选择地进行阅读,可跳过某些细节,以求抓住文章的大概,从而加快阅读速度。考生在略读时应注意下列技巧:

①要利用印刷细节,如文章的标题、副标题、小标题、斜体词、黑体词、脚注、特殊标点符号等,对文章进行预测略读(preview skimming)。预测略读要了解作者的思路、行文方式(模式),以便把握大意,有关的细节及其相互关系。

②以一般略读速度(200~250wpm)阅读文章开头的一、二段,力求抓住文章大意、背景、作者的行文风格、口吻或语气等。

③阅读段落的主题句和结论句。抓住主题句就掌握了段落大意,然后略去细节不读,以求得略读速度。

④注意转折词和序列词。转折词如 however, moreover, in addition 等;序列词如 firstly, secondly 等。

(2) 查读解难

查读(scanning)同略读一样,也是一种快速阅读技巧。运用查读可获得具体信息,提高阅读效率。考生在查读时可运用下列技巧:

①利用章节标题和说明。首先看看文章大标题和小标题,确定哪些部分包含自己所需要的信息,或者哪一部分包含哪些信息,这样可以直接阅读那个部分,进行寻找。

②抓提示词。找到包含所需信息的部分查读。这时,要留心与那个具体信息有关的提示词。

策略3 巧用常识排谬

除了运用正确的阅读技巧,还可以利用自己平时积累的常识来判断,这样既可大大缩短做题的时间,又能提高做题的正确性。因此,平时就要注意各科知识和生活经验的累积,为做题排谬提供可靠的依据。

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快速阅读

Part II

快速阅读模拟训练



Test 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.

Think Twice Before Signing Up for That Medical Credit Card

If you are like most people, you have probably used a credit card to pay some of your medical bills. With rising health costs and gaps¹ in insurance coverage, it's almost unavoidable.

Patients pay about \$45 billion worth of health care costs with plastic², according to a report from McKinsey & Company. By 2015, that number could more than triple(三倍) to an estimated \$150 billion. And big finance companies and medical providers have taken note³.

Companies like GE Money, Citibank and JPMorgan Chase have issued medical credit cards or lines of credit intended to⁴ be used specifically for elective health care expenses not covered by insurance, including certain dental procedures, laser surgery, some plastic surgery and even veterinary (动物疾病的) care.^① The cards are not used for continuing medical care or emergency room visits.

The issuers market these cards not so much to consumers but to doctors, dentists and other health care providers, who in turn⁵ offer them to patients as a payment option⁶. Patients like medical credit cards because payments for care can be spread out over many months and the cards can be used at multiple⁷ providers. The providers have embraced⁸ them as a way of offloading billing headaches and expenses.

But even as medical credit cards become increasingly popular, they are getting more scrutiny(监视). Critics and patient advocates⁹ claim that aggressive¹⁰ and misleading marketing strategies can lead to serious headaches for consumers.

In extreme cases, medical providers and associations marketing the cards have been accused of receiving financial rewards for signing up patients or of faking¹¹ financial information to make it easier for patients to qualify for cards.

More commonly, critics say, patients may be led to assume¹² that their providers are simply offering payment plans, not a credit card with all the potential fees, interest rate increases and the impact on credit scores that can involve.^②

“These cards may be best suited to people who already have financial resources.” said Mark Rukavina, executive director of the Access Project, a consumer advocacy group in Boston, and co-author of a study on medical debt. “But it’s usually people with limited resources who sign up.”

Consumer complaints concerning aggressive marketing strategies prompted¹³ the New York attorney general, Andrew M. Cuomo, to start an investigation into medical credit cards earlier this year. In Minnesota, the state attorney general, Lori Swanson, has filed lawsuits (诉讼) against two chiropractors (按摩疗法医生) whose staff is accused of signing up patients for medical credit cards without their knowledge.^③

A medical credit card is “one payment option among several a provider may offer and represents a very small component of health care financing for elective procedures.” said Stephen White, a spokesman for CareCredit, a medical credit card issued by GE Money. “Benefits to consumers include the ability to plan, budget¹⁴ and pay for certain elective health care procedures over time.”

Whether you view these cards as a convenient way to pay medical expenses or just another way for credit card companies to collect interest and fees, here are some things to consider if your provider approaches¹⁵ you.

ASK FOR ALTERNATIVES First, try to negotiate a lower fee with your provider; he may be more flexible than you think. Then ask about payment options. Your doctor may well offer a payment plan of his or her own, without the high interest rates often charged by a medical credit card company.

“I encourage people to negotiate with¹⁶ their provider, then get an extended payment plan directly from that office with a monthly payment and time period you are comfortable with,” said Mr. Rukavina. “I think most providers are willing to

work for patients in this way.”

If you do opt for a payment plan, ask whether you will be paying the provider directly or a third party. If there's a third party involved, you may well wind up¹⁷ with a medical credit card. If you choose to sign up for it, be sure you've read through the terms carefully and that you understand the interest rates and late payment fees.

If your income is low enough, be aware that you may qualify for a public assistance program, especially for dental costs.

AVOID THE HARD SELL “Some patients report feeling pressured by their clinics to use the card to pay for procedures or treatments they may not need or can't afford.” Ms. Swanson said. That's no surprise, since these cards are intended, at least in part, to drive more business to dentists, chiropractors, plastic and eye surgeons, weight loss programs and other providers.

But the intense marketing can lead to unethical behavior, according to Ms. Swanson.

One of the lawsuits filed by her office claims that staff members at a clinic told patients they were not signing up for a credit card but rather just going through a credit check. Instead, Ms. Swanson charges, the staff members submitted applications in the patients' names and faked patient's yearly income information to make sure they qualified.

If you sense you're being pushed, that things are moving too quickly, remember that you don't have to sign up for anything on the spot¹⁸. Take a day or two to read through materials thoroughly and research your options.

BEWARE THOSE TEASER RATES Almost all medical credit cards claim zero percent financing. This is what makes them attractive: you can spread out your payments and pay no interest.

But it is important to read the fine print. As with most credit cards marketed this way, the zero percent rate lasts only for an initial promotional period, usually from six to 24 months. Once that time is up, you will start to pay interest—sometimes high interest.

For GE's CareCredit, for instance, rates jump to 26.99 percent. (The com-

pany does offer a fixed rate of 14.9 percent for extended periods up to 60 months.)

High interest isn't your only concern. Be sure to check your minimum payment, advised Ms. Swanson. If you pay only the minimum, your payments may extend beyond the zero percent financing period, and you'll end up with¹⁹ the higher rate.

What's more, if you make just one late payment or go over the initial promotion period, some cards will charge you a high interest rate additionally on the original balance, Ms. Swanson noted. That can suddenly add hundreds of dollars to your bill.

PAY AS YOU GO Some providers will charge your medical card for an entire multivisit procedure, like a dental implant, all at once. If you change providers midway through, or do not go through the entire procedure for some other reason, it can be difficult and time-consuming to get a refund, warned Mr. Rukavina.

If you are entering into a treatment or procedure that will take more than one visit, make sure your provider is billing you by the visit, not in a lump sum²⁰.

- What could be the amount of medical costs paid with credit card by 2015?
A) \$45 billion. B) \$150 billion. C) \$135 billion. D) \$450 billion.
- The medical credit card issued by Citibank can not be used for _____.
A) certain dental procedures B) some plastic surgery
C) emergency room visits D) medical care for pets
- What do the patient advocates say about the medical credit card?
A) It has brought about a revolution in people's spending habits
B) The number of the cards in circulation is strictly controlled.
C) It has gained in popularity among the ordinary people.
D) The marketing strategy of the cards is tending to spread quickly.
- In the opinion of Mark Rukavina, who are more appropriate to sign up for the cards?
A) People with a good cash flow.
B) People who are lack of money.

- C) The jobless men who are honest and trustworthy.
D) The private businessmen who are deeply involved in debt.
5. Why is the staff of two chiropractors charged?
A) They charged the patients some additional payment for treatment.
B) They forced the patients to apply for medical credit cards.
C) They provided the credit card companies with false information.
D) They took liberty with signing up patients for medical credit cards.
6. What does the author advise the low-income patients to do?
A) Apply for government assistance.
B) Sign up for a medical credit card.
C) Ask for an extended payment plan.
D) Negotiate a bargain price with the provider.
7. What's the purpose for the hard sell of medical credit cards by some clinics?
A) To receive financial rewards for signing up patients.
B) To ensure prompt payment of medical treatment.
C) To get more customers and raise revenues.
D) To make it more convenient to charge for medical care.
8. Most credit cards are marketed with zero percent rate which lasts only for _____.
9. According to Ms. Swanson, in order to avoid ending up with a higher rate, it is necessary to check _____.
10. Mr. Rukavina suggests that, when people enter into a treatment that will take more than one visit, they'd better not pay _____.

Test 2

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.

Teaching Work Values to Children of Wealth

Steven D. Hayworth, chief executive of Gibraltar Private Bank and Trust, is