

考研英语

阅读理解 高分宝典

(阅读·模拟卷)

胡敏 编著

60篇经典仿真范文 针对性强

15套试题精心设计 仿真度高

20个单项技能训练 强化12大命题原则

词汇注释准确到位 参考译文忠实通顺



新东方考研英语培训教材

胡 敏 / 编著

考研英语 阅读理解高分宝典

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第一部分

阅读理解题命题原则与应试对策

考生在复习备考时,会发现研究生英语试卷的阅读理解部分虽只有 20 道题,分数值却占总分的 40%,而这一部分正是考生的难点所在,所以能否在阅读理解这一部分取得理想的成绩,就成为考研英语成功的关键所在。如何突破阅读难关?怎样迅速提高阅读水平?能否找到一些切实可行的应试规律?面对考生提出的这些迫切的问题,笔者仔细研究了历年考题,结合自己多年的教学经验,针对考研考试大纲所考核阅读理解能力的八条要求,并分析回顾历年考研阅读理解题目的大致规律,总结归纳出考研阅读理解应试的十二大原则,希望能为正在求学之路上辛苦求索的学子们助一臂之力。

《英语考试大纲》在阅读部分要求考生能够读懂不同类型的文字材料(生词量不超过所读材料总词汇量的 3%),包括信函、书刊和杂志上的文章,还应能读懂与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) 理解主旨要义;
- 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。

一、应试总则

翻开考研英语试卷的阅读部分,考生首先应当掌握的最基本的应试总则可以概括为 12 个字:文章思路、圈点到位、重叠原文。事实上这

12 个字已经概括了阅读解题的全部过程。

“文章思路”是指考生首先应对文章总体的思路 and 结构有一个大概的了解,先不要急于去读题目,而是应当将文章从头到尾看一遍,弄清楚文章的中心意思,这一遍阅读的目的并不是要立即找到答题所需要的信息点。在阅读的时候还要有主次之分,文章的第一段是文章的灵魂和核心,也应当是第一遍阅读的重点所在。考生要尽量将第一段的每一句话都理解透彻,因为掌握了第一段,就已经基本了解掌握了整篇文章的内容,至于其他的段落可以加快速度,看得懂就看,看不懂就暂时跳过去,在不懂的地方做出记号,留待以后解决。读完文章并理清思路后就可以接着阅读试题,命题专家在设计考卷时,题目排列的次序与文章的布局基本是相吻合的,也就是说题目所需要的信息点在文章中应当是按顺序出现的,这一点对于基础差的考生相当重要,因为考生完全可以根据每篇文章题目的题干来推测文章大致的内容和思路。

有些考生在把握文章思路时常常会陷入困境,他们虽然也从头到尾把文章读了一遍,但还是搞不清文章到底在讲什么。如何扫清阅读理解中出现的盲点?笔者建议考生在第一遍阅读时注意以下几点:1. 文章中有些信息可以忽略,例如有关职务、头衔、社会地位等补充性说明;2. 第一遍阅读时,可暂时不管句中破折号后所提供的旁支信息;3. 复杂的难句看清主、谓、宾即可,其他辅助信息除非与解题有关,否则亦可暂时不管;4. 上下文中平行对称的地方经常内容相同,所以这些互相对照的内容也可帮助考生消除盲点;5. 做题时应注意:因为命题时要求选项部分的语言难度要低于文章语言的难度,所以读懂选项的语言常会帮助考生正确理解文章的内容。

第二步“圈点到位”,是就审题而言,实质上就是要求考生审题到位,弄清楚题目针对文章的什么内容提问。考生在读完题目后通常会返回到文章里去寻找答案,这时又会出现另一种情况,有些考生文章都看懂了,可就是找不到答案在哪里。出现这种情况的根本原因是考生没有审清题意,没有弄清楚题目要求考生在文章中寻找什么信息,因为绝大部分题目是针对文章的具体内容提问。所以只要考生审题到位,返回原文搜索答案时,即可圈点出相应的内容,从而缩小寻找范围,大大提高正确率。2000 年考研试题的 20 道阅读题中只有 4 道题目(3 道主旨题,1 道判断题)无法依据题干语言在原文中圈点,其他的 16 道题目均可根据题干命题语言在文中圈点出相应的内容,答案基本就在所圈语句的附近。所以只要能在掌握文章思路的基础上做到“圈点到位”,基本上所有的阅读题目都可以迎刃而解,特别是具体的细节题,可以说是手到擒来。

完成题目之后就要检查所找到的答案是否正确,也就是阅读解题的第三个步骤“重叠原文”。设计阅读题时,选项通常是这样四种情况,假设选项内容是一个圆,文章内容也是一个圆,第一种情况是两者相距甚远,根本没有相交的地方,内容完全不一样,这种选项很容易就被排除掉;第二种情况是这两个圆相切,即只有很小一部分互相联系,但会有一部分考生选这个选项,因为选项的内容文中有所提及,有一定的迷惑性;第三种情况是这两个圆相交,有大部分内容重叠,考生往往会选择这种选项。较之前者,这种情况的迷惑性更大,也是最危险的干扰项;但只有符合第四种情况,即两个圆完全重合、内容完全相符的选项才是正确答案。因此在检查时,考生要做的就是将所选的选项与文章中相应的内容做比较,看其是否能与原文重叠。

在判断选项是否能重叠原文时,考生常常也会感到迷惑,无法判断选项是否与原文内容完全重叠,这是因为命题专家在设计考题时会使用一些语言来迷惑考生,从而测试考生的英语水平和阅读能力。一般说来,事实上命题专家最常用的有四种方式:“语言简化”、“反话正说”、“正话反说”和“关键词替换”。

“语言简化”是命题专家命题使用语言时所必须遵守的总则。在设置选项时,四个选项的长度及句法不应有太大差异,而选项所使用的语言难度必须低于文章本身的难度。这一点对考生大有帮助,因为考生可以利用选项来理解文章。这一原则几乎在所有的阅读试题中都有所体现,故此笔者在这里就不再列举。

“反话正说”的命题方式是指选项用肯定的方式来表述文中用否定方式所表述的内容。仅在 2000 年的考研试卷中,就有四道题目采用了这种命题方式。

例 1

“Few Americans attribute this solely to such obvious causes as a devalued dollar or the turning of the business cycle.”

The author seems to believe the revival of the U.S. economy in the 1990s can be attributed to the _____.

- [A] turning of the business cycle
- [B] restructuring of industry
- [C] improved business management
- [D] success in education

[2000 年 54 题]

V [答案选 D]

例 2

But in the past 100,000 years—even the past 100 years—our lives have been transformed but our bodies have not. We did not evolve, because machines and society did it for us.

The author argues that our bodies have stopped evolving because _____.

- [A] life has been improved by technological advance
- [B] the number of female babies has been declining
- [C] our species has reached the highest stage of evolution
- [D] the difference between wealth and poverty is disappearing

[2000 年 57 题]

V [答案选 D]

单项技能训练一

(A)

While often praised by foreigners for its emphasis on the basics, Japanese education tends to stress test taking and mechanical learning over creativity and self-expression. “Those things that do not show up in the test scores—personality, ability, courage or humanity—are completely ignored,” says Toshiki Kaifu, chairman of the ruling Liberal

Democratic Party's education committee. "Frustration against this kind of thing leads kids to drop out and run wild."

Which of the following is true according to the author?

- [A] Japanese education is praised for helping the young climb the social ladder.
 - [B] Japanese education is characterized by mechanical learning as well as creativity.
 - [C] More stress should be placed on the cultivation of creativity.
 - [D] Dropping out leads to frustration against test taking.
- [2000 年 65 题]

○ [答案解析]

[解题思路]

此题问的是作者的观点, A 项讲日本教育受赞扬的是它可以帮助年轻人在社会上往上爬, 与文中内容不符, 文中是说日本教育因其对基础的重视而受到表扬。而 B 选项中的“as well as creativity”与文中所说的“over creativity...”不符, 也不能选。D 项的逻辑恰好与原文相反, 作者在评论日本教育时批评其“完全忽略了考试成绩中无法表现的个性、能力、勇气和人性”, 作者用否定的方式表达出自己的意见。C 选项所说的是应“更多地强调培养创造性”, 所以答案为 C 选项。

(B)

The attacks on ambition are many and come from various angles; its public defenders are few and unimpressive, where they are not extremely unattractive. As a result, the support for ambition as a healthy impulse, a quality to be admired and fixed in the mind of the young, is probably lower than it has ever been in the United States. This does not mean that ambition is at an end, that people no longer feel its stirrings and promptings, but only that no longer openly honored, and it is less openly professed. Consequences follow from this, of course, some of which are that ambition is driven underground, or made sly. Such, then, is the way things stand: on the left angry critics, on the right stupid supporters, and in the middle, as usual, the majority of earnest people trying to get on in life.

From the last paragraph the conclusion can be drawn that ambition should be maintained _____.

- [A] secretly and vigorously
- [B] openly and enthusiastically
- [C] easily and momentarily
- [D] verbally and spiritually

[2000 年 70 题]

■ [答案解析]

[解题思路]

“这并不意味着野心已经不存在了, 或人们感觉不到它的涌动和激励了, 只是因为人们不再公开赞美它了, 它因此也就得不到公开的表述了。”

支持公开承认做人要有雄心壮志, 因为在上文中作者已经指出, 野心应当“作为一种促进

因素,作为一种应该受到称赞,应该铭记在年轻人心中的品质”,正是由于野心不再公开受到尊敬和赞美,也就越来越得不到公开的承认,而 B 选项恰好从肯定的角度表述了作者的态度,是正确答案。

第三种常用的命题方式“正话反说”,是指文中用肯定方式表述,而选项用否定方式表述,两者意义相吻合。这一命题方式在近年的试卷中也可找到例证。

例 1

How many men would have considered the possibility of an apple falling up into the tree? Newton did because he was not trying to predict anything. He was just wondering. His mind was ready for the unpredictable. Unpredictability is part of the essential nature of research. If you don't have unpredictable things, you don't have research. Scientists tend to forget this when writing their cut and dried reports for the technical journals, but history is filled with examples of it.

The author asserts that scientists _____.

[A] shouldn't replace "scientific method" with imaginative thought

[B] shouldn't neglect to speculate on unpredictable things

[C] should write more concise reports for technical journals

[D] should be confident about their research findings

[1999 年第 68 题]

B [逢景敏王]

例 2

What this amounts to, of course, is that the scientist has become the victim of his own writings. He has put forward unquestioned claims so consistently that he not only believes them himself, but has convinced industrial and business management that they are true. If experiments are planned and carried out according to plan as faithfully as the reports in the science journals indicate, then it is perfectly logical for management to expect research to produce results measurable in dollars and cents. It is entirely reasonable for auditors to believe that scientists who know exactly where they are going and how they will get there should not be distracted by the necessity of keeping one eye on the cash register while the other eye is on the microscope. Nor, if regularity and conformity to a standard pattern are as desirable to the scientist as the writing of his papers would appear to reflect, is management to be blamed for discriminating against the "odd balls" among researchers in favor of more conventional thinkers who "work well with the team."

The author implies that the results of scientific research _____.

[A] may not be as profitable as they are expected

[B] can be measured in dollars and cents

[C] rely on conformity to a standard pattern

[D]are mostly underestimated by management

[1999 年第 70 题]

V [答案 D]

单项技能训练二

By the mid 1980s Americans had found themselves at a loss over their fading industrial competitiveness. Some huge American industries, such as consumer electronics, had shrunk or vanished in the face of foreign competition. By 1987 there was only one American television maker left, Zenith (Now there is none: Zenith was bought by South Korea's LG Electronics in July). Foreign-made cars and textiles were sweeping into the domestic market.

The loss of U. S. predominance in the world economy in the 1980s is manifested in the fact that the American _____.

[A] TV industry had withdrawn to its domestic market

[B] semiconductor industry had been taken over by foreign enterprises

[C] machine-tool industry had collapsed after suicidal actions

[D] auto industry had lost part of its domestic market

[2000 年 52 题]

II [答案 D]

[解题思路]

“到 20 世纪 80 年代中期,面对其工业竞争力的日益衰退,美国人感到无计可施。一些大型的工业如电子消费品面对外国竞争已萎缩或消失。到 1987 年美国只剩下一个电视制造商:现在一个都没有了,7 月韩国的 LG 电子公司买下了 Zenith 公司。进口汽车和纺织品迅速占领了国内市场。”

文章说进口汽车占领国内市场,反过来就是国产汽车工业失去了一部分国内市场,D 选项与之内容一致。

“关键词替换”是出现最频繁的命题方式,几乎每年都有一些用这种方式设置的题目。

例 1

In the first year or so of Web business, most of the action has revolved around efforts to tap the consumer market.

We learn from the beginning of the passage that Web business _____.

[A]has been striving to expand its market

[B]intended to follow a fanciful fashion

[C]tried but in vain to control the market

[D]has been booming for one year or so

[1999 年 55 题]

V [答案 D]

例 2

This speeding up of life, says the Futurist, receives a new form of expression.

Futurists claim that we must _____.

[A] increase the production of literature

[B] use poetry to relieve modern stress

[C] develop new modes of expression

[D] avoid using adjectives and verbs

[2000 年 61 题]

○ [孝景敏王]

单项技能训练三

In any case, basic computer skills are only complementary to the host of real skills that are necessary to becoming any kind of professional.

According to the author, basic computer skills should be _____.

[A] included as an auxiliary course in school

[B] highlighted in acquisition of professional qualifications

[C] mastered through a life-long course

[D] equally emphasized by any school, vocational or otherwise

[1999 年 62 题]

Ⅴ [孝景敏王]

[解题思路]

auxiliary 替换 complementary。“关键词替换”这一方式不仅用于设置选项,还可以用于设置题干。

命题专家常常采用“语言简化”、“反话正说”、“正话反说”、“关键词替换”这四种方式设置考题,对考生进行干扰。考生在了解这些方式后,就可以反其道而行之,利用这四种命题方式来检查所选选项是否与原文重叠。

总则中笔者介绍了考研阅读理解应试的基本步骤,下面将就具体题型提出相应的应试原则。

二、主题原则

主旨题型又叫主题原则,主要针对文章主题设问,考查考生对通篇文章的理解和把握,但是要注意和下面这种题型区分开来。

笔者建议考生在做主题题型时遵循这样的原则:因为此类题干扰性最大,难度也最大,考生须读完全文才能准确把握文章主题。所以考生拿到这种题时,不要急于去找答案,不论其出现在什么位置都把它作为最后一道题来做,因为在做另外三道题时,无疑有助于加深对整个文章的理解。而且,事实上,首先做主旨题,考生往往还会回过头来核查答案,这样耗时间,做题效率低。

主题题型分为两种：

1. 明确的主题题型

此类题型位置较为固定，一般是第一个问题或最后一个问题，要求考生为文章选择合适的标题或是总结文章的中心思想。此类题型相对难度较小。

例 1

Why do so many Americans distrust what they read in their newspapers? The American Society of Newspaper Editors is trying to answer this painful question. The organization is deep into a long self-analysis known as the journalism credibility project.

Sad to say, this project has turned out to be mostly low-level findings about factual errors and spelling and grammar mistakes, combined with lots of head-scratching puzzlement about what in the world those readers really want.

But the sources of distrust go way deeper. Most journalists learn to see the world through a set of standard templates (patterns) into which they plug each day's event. In other words, there is a conventional story line in the newsroom culture that provides a backbone and a ready-made narrative structure for otherwise confusing news.

There exists a social and cultural disconnect between journalists and their readers, which helps explain why the "standard templates" of the newsroom seem alien to many readers. In a recent survey, questionnaires were sent to reporters in five middle size cities around the country, plus one large metropolitan area. Then residents in these communities were phoned at random and asked the same questions.

Replies show that compared with other Americans, journalists are more likely to live in upscale neighborhoods, have maids, own Mercedeses, and trade stocks, and they've less likely to go to church, do volunteer work, or put down roots in a community.

Reporters tend to be part of a broadly defined social and cultural elite, so their work tends to reflect the conventional values of this elite. The astonishing distrust of the news media isn't rooted in inaccuracy or poor reportorial skills but in the daily clash of world views between reporters and their readers.

This is an explosive situation for any industry, particularly a declining one. Here is a troubled business that keeps hiring employees whose attitudes vastly annoy the customers. Then it sponsors lots of symposiums and a credibility project dedicated to wondering why customers are annoyed and fleeing in large numbers. But it never seems to get around to noticing the cultural and class biases that so many former buyers are complaining about. If it did, it would open up its diversity program, now focused narrowly on race and gender, and look for reporters who differ broadly by outlook, values, education, and class.

What is the passage mainly about?

[A] Needs of the readers all over the world.

[B] Causes of the public disappointment about newspapers.

[C] Origins of the declining newspaper project.

[D] Aims of a journalism credibility project.

[2001 年 59 题]

8 [答案解析]

例 2

If you intend using humor in your talk to make people smile, you must know how to identify shared experiences and problems. Your humor must be relevant to the audience and should help to show them that you are one of them or that you understand their situation and are in sympathy with their point of view. Depending on whom you are addressing, the problems will be different. If you are talking to a group of managers, you may refer to the disorganized methods of their secretaries; alternatively if you are addressing secretaries, you may want to comment on their disorganized bosses.

Here is an example, which I heard at a nurses' convention, of a story which works well because the audience all shared the same view of doctors. A man arrives in heaven and is being shown around by St. Peter. He sees wonderful accommodations, beautiful gardens, sunny weather, and so on. Everyone is very peaceful, polite and friendly until, waiting in a line for lunch, the new arrival is suddenly pushed aside by a man in a white coat, who rushes to the head of the line, grabs his food and stomps over to a table by himself. "Who is that?" the new arrival asked St. Peter. "Oh, that's God" came the reply, "but sometimes he thinks he's a doctor."

If you are part of the group which you are addressing, you will be in a position to know the experiences and problems which are common to all of you and it'll be appropriate for you to make a passing remark about the inedible canteen food or the chairman's notorious bad taste in ties. With other audiences you mustn't attempt to cut in with humor as they will resent an outsider making disparaging remarks about their canteen or their chairman. You will be on safer ground if you stick to scapegoat like the Post Office or the telephone system.

If you feel awkward being humorous, you must practice so that it becomes more natural. Include a few casual and apparently off-the-cuff remarks which you can deliver in a relaxed and unforced manner. Often it's the delivery which causes the audience to smile, so speak slowly and remember that a raised eyebrow or an unbelieving look may help to show that you are making a lighthearted remark.

Look for the humor. It often comes from the unexpected. A twist on a familiar quote "If at first you don't succeed, give up" or a play on words or on a situation. Search for exaggeration and understatements. Look at your talk and pick out a few words or sentences which you can turn about and inject with humor.

The best title for the text may be _____.

[A] Use Humor Effectively

- [B] Various Kinds of Humor
[C] Add Humor to Speech
[D] Different Humor Strategies
V [答案解析]

[2002 年 45 题]

单项技能训练四

(A)

Being a man has always been dangerous. There are about 105 males born for every 100 females, but this ratio drops to near balance at the age of maturity, and among 70-year-olds there are twice as many women as men. But the great universal of male mortality is being changed. Now, boy babies survive almost as well as girls do. This means that, for the first time, there will be an excess of boys in those crucial years when they are searching for a mate. More important, another chance for natural selection has been removed. Fifty years ago, the chance of a baby (particularly a boy baby) surviving depended on its weight. A kilogram too light or too heavy meant death almost certain. Today it makes almost no difference. Since much of the variation is due to genes, one more agent of evolution has gone.

There is another way to commit evolutionary suicide: stay alive, but have fewer children. Few people are as fertile as in the past. Except in some religious communities, very few women have 15 children. Nowadays the number of births, like the age of death, has become average. Most of us have roughly the same number of offspring. Again, differences between people and the opportunity for natural selection to take advantage of it have diminished. India shows what is happening. The country offers wealth for a few in the great cities and poverty for the remaining tribal peoples. The grand mediocrity of today—everyone being the same in survival and number of offspring—means that natural selection has lost 80% of its power in upper-middle-class India compared to the tribes.

For us, this means that evolution is over; the biological Utopia has arrived. Strangely, it has involved little physical change. No other species fills so many places in nature. But in the past 100,000 years—even the past 100 years—our lives have been transformed but our bodies have not. We did not evolve, because machines and society did it for us. Darwin had a phrase to describe those ignorant of evolution: they “look at an organic being as a savage looks at a ship, as at something wholly beyond his comprehension.” No doubt we will remember a 20th century way of life beyond comprehension for its ugliness. But however amazed our descendants may be at how far from Utopia we were, they will look just like us.

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

- [A] Sex Ratio Changes in Human Evolution.
[B] Ways of Continuing Man's Evolution.

[C] The Evolutionary Future of Nature.

[D] Human Evolution Going Nowhere.

[2000 年 58 题]

α [孝景駿丑]

(B)

When a new movement in art attains a certain fashion, it is advisable to find out what its advocates are aiming at, for, however farfetched and unreasonable their principles may seem today, it is possible that in years to come they may be regarded as normal. With regard to Futurist poetry, however, the case is rather difficult, for whatever Futurist poetry may be—even admitting that the theory on which it is based may be right—it can hardly be classed as Literature.

This, in brief, is what the Futurist says: for a century, past conditions of life have been conditionally speeding up, till now we live in a world of noise and violence and speed. Consequently, our feelings, thoughts and emotions have undergone a corresponding change. This speeding up of life, says the Futurist, requires a new form of expression. We must speed up our literature too, if we want to interpret modern stress. We must pour out a large stream of essential words, unhampered by stops, or qualifying adjectives, or finite verbs. Instead of describing sounds we must make up words that imitate them; we must use many sizes of type and different colored inks on the same page, and shorten or lengthen words at will.

Certainly their descriptions of battles are confused. But it is a little upsetting to read in the explanatory notes that a certain line describes a fight between a Turkish and a Bulgarian officer on a bridge off which they both fall into the river—and then to find that the line consists of the noise of their falling and the weights of the officers: “Pluff! Pluff! A hundred and eighty-five kilograms.”

This, though it fulfills the laws and requirements of Futurist poetry, can hardly be classed as Literature. All the same, no thinking man can refuse to accept their first proposition: that a great change in our emotional life calls for a change of expression. The whole question is really this: have we essentially changed?

This passage is mainly _____.

[A] a survey of new approaches to art

[B] a review of Futurist poetry

[C] about merits of the Futurist movement

[D] about laws and requirements of literature

[2000 年 59 题]

β [孝景駿丑]

2. 隐蔽的主题题型

这类题型在设问时较为隐蔽,不像明确的主题题型会直接问“文章的主题是什么”,而且位置也很随意,不会固定在第一道或最后一道。下列例题即为隐蔽的主题题型经常出现的形式,