


2002年

在职攻读硕士学位 全国联考英语考试阅读1000题训练

主编 白洁

本书面向

公共管理硕士 (MPA)
工商管理硕士 (MBA)
法律硕士
教育硕士
工程硕士
农业推广硕士
兽医硕士
公共卫生硕士
军事硕士

 中国人民大学出版社

深度总结考试规则 全面提高应试能力

在职攻读硕士学位全国联考 英语考试阅读 1000 题训练

主 编 白 洁
副主编 王 红
编 者 王 红 王珠英

中国人民大学出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

在职攻读硕士学位全国联考英语考试阅读 1000 题训练/白洁主编.
北京:中国人民大学出版社,2002

ISBN 7-300-04150-7/H·316

I. 在…

II. 白…

III. 英语-阅读教学-研究生-统一考试-习题

IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2002)第 035279 号

在职攻读硕士学位全国联考英语考试 阅读 1000 题训练

主编 白 洁

出版发行:中国人民大学出版社

(北京中关村大街 31 号 邮编 100080)

邮购部:62515351 门市部:62514148

总编室:62511242 出版部:62511239

本社网址:www.cru-press.com.cn

人大教研网:www.ttrnet.com

经 销:新华书店

印 刷:北京市鑫霸印务有限公司

开本:787×1092 毫米 1/16 印张:24.75

2002 年 7 月第 1 版 2002 年 7 月第 1 次印刷

字数:648 000

定价:33.00 元

(图书出现印装问题,本社负责调换)

在职攻读硕士学位全国联考英语考试系列
编委会

主 编 白 洁

编 委 (按姓氏笔画排列)

王 红 王珠英 李惠明

陈丽丽 张玉荣 赵艳萍

曹 波 曹晓玮 韩满玲

在职攻读硕士学位全国联考英语考试系列

编写说明

从2002年开始,由国务院学位委员会办公室组织的工商管理硕士(MBA)、公共管理硕士(MPA)、法律硕士、工程硕士、教育硕士等12个专业学位入学考试中,各专业学位联考的英语考试将统一改为“在职攻读硕士学位全国联考英语考试”。由于今年是首次联考,广大考生对考试要求、考试题型、考试内容等都极为陌生,为了帮助参加2002年10月考试的广大考生系统、有针对性地全面复习,我们特组织编写了这套《在职攻读硕士学位全国联考英语考试系列》辅导书,本系列图书共包括10个分册:《高分指导》、《写译专项突破》、《语法、词汇、完形填空专项突破》、《阅读200篇》、《听力专项突破》、《词汇随身听》、《语法、词汇、完形填空1000题训练》、《阅读1000题训练》、《写译100段训练》和《模拟考场》,以帮助考生,既把握全局又能针对自身弱点进行强化训练。

该系列的特点:

● 名师主笔:本系列图书的编写者,是多年从事硕士研究生入学考试与各专业学位入学考试命题研究和考试辅导的专家、学者,他们熟悉专业学位考试的大纲、教材、考生的需要和考试辅导,深谙命题的原则、思路和最新考试动态,经过精心研究,认真组织,编写出了这套高水平的辅导书。

● 内容权威:本系列图书紧扣考试大纲,结合多年命题研究经验编写而成,具有很强的权威性、实战性和针对性。

● 体系新颖:本系列图书体例设计一改过去辅导书仅仅讲授知识点的方式,将大纲要求、逻辑结构、考试要点、强化训练等巧妙结合在一起,大大方便考生复习之用。整个系列体系新颖,重点内容突出,知识脉络分明,条理清楚,便于考生全面复习,重点把握。

● 知识全面:本系列图书在编写过程中,特别注意了不同分册之间内容的协调和衔接。既注重知识的全面系统,又注重考试中的应用。力求册册完美,章章优秀,不多、不重、不漏。

● 专项突破:本系列图书在内容全面的基础上,突出重点。力求将各专项的重点、难点和考点讲清,讲透,便于考生在薄弱环节下功夫。

● 同步训练:本系列图书在结合知识点讲解中,设计了大量的同步训练题,考生可以边学边练,巩固复习成果。

● 解题详尽:本系列图书根据在职考生的实际情况和阅读习惯,对所有练习题都做了详尽的解析,便于考生自学。

● 模拟考场:由于在职考生多年远离考试,对目前的考试形式、考场要求、考场氛围和考试节奏等不甚了解,编者根据大纲要求,精心编制了模拟试题,题型、题量和试卷结构与真题完全一致,并给出答案和解析。一方面便于考生定期检查、巩固复习成果,另一方面满足考生感受真实考场、熟悉考试氛围的需要。《模拟考场》是广大考生真实考试的演练场,考生在使用该资料时应根据考场要求,认真备考,真实感受考场氛围。

● 超值服务:凡购买图书者,经填写购买本系列图书的“购书服务卡”(复印无效),并及时寄出,将会在考前获得《考前自测试卷及答案》一套,购全套书者,获赠考前串讲光盘一套。

该资料属内部资料，不公开发行。我们还将通过 www.easyky.com 对读者进行指导。

我们相信，广大考生通过认真学习本系列图书，肯定会提高应试能力和考试水平，在考试中应对自如，马到成功。

前言

本书为中国人民大学出版社出版的“在职攻读硕士学位全国联考英语考试系列”之一,与《在职攻读硕士学位全国联考英语考试阅读 200 篇》为姊妹篇,旨在为考生提供选材新颖、内容丰富、针对性强、符合命题趋势的考前阅读强化训练材料。

众所周知,阅读理解在各类英语考试中往往占据最大的比例,在“在职攻读硕士学位入学考试全国英语联考”中占据 40% 的分数;而且也通常是考生最感困难的一部分。它需要考生既掌握丰富的词汇量,又要进行广泛大量的阅读,提高阅读速度和技能,而且还要在阅读过程中掌握有效的答题方法,培养提高推断能力和概括能力。阅读理解部分成绩的好坏直接影响着考生的英语总成绩,因此它极受考生们的关注。

根据在联攻读硕士学位入学考试全国英语联考“考试大纲”的规定,考生应能够综合运用英语语言知识和基本阅读技能,读懂难度适中的一般性题材(经济、社会、政法、历史、科普、管理等)和体裁(议论文、说明文、应用文等)的英语文章,能够基本上掌握文章大意、主要内容和细节;具备根据上下文把握词义的能力,理解上下文的逻辑关系;能够根据所读材料进行一定的判断和推论;能够对文章的结构和作者的态度等作出简单的分析和判断。阅读速度达到每分钟 60 词~70 词。

本书系紧密依据“大纲”的要求编写而成,突出以下几个特点:

一、所有文章不仅选材新颖,而且按题材分为十大类,分别为:政治法律类、经济管理类、文化历史类、社会家庭类、媒体新闻类、科技信息类、环境生态类、教育体育类、医学健康类、传记故事类。内容涵盖了大纲中规定的所有一般性题材,考生在复习过程中可就某一题材进行充分、广泛的阅读。体裁以议论文、说明文为主,也包括部分应用文和记叙文。

二、突出“适度偏难”的特点。大部分文章长度、难度都与大纲要求一致,介于大纲中规定的 300 词~400 词,难度适中,只有少部分文章难度稍大,长度稍长,目的是为了让学生在复习过程中准备更加充分。总的来说,文章中没有生僻词,或非常专业的专业名词或科学术语,理解的难度主要在于句子的复杂结构和长句,以及文章的逻辑性。科技、社会、经济类的文章,说明文、议论文的体裁决定了句子的长度和复杂程度及逻辑性要高于其他的一般语言材料。

三、题型包括主旨题、细节题、推论题、暗指题、是非排除题、词义题、意态题等各种常考题型,突出阅读技能和解题思路训练。

四、考虑到联考考生的现实情况,本书除了提供参考答案外还对每个题进行了详细讲解,并为考生分析了解题思路、答题技巧等,帮助考生感受并认识考试命题思路,提高应试的技能。

在本书编写过程中,高亮、王景方同志在资料搜集、文字录入、文稿打印过程中曾给予很大帮助和支持,在此向他们致以衷心感谢!

由于编者水平有限,本书贻误之处在所难免,望广大读者和同行给予批评指正。

编者

2002 年 5 月

于 中国人民大学

目 录

练习题

I. 政治·法律	(1)
II. 经济·管理	(16)
III. 文化·历史	(42)
IV. 社会·家庭	(82)
V. 媒体·新闻	(113)
VI. 科技·信息	(126)
VII. 环境·生态	(156)
VIII. 教育·体育	(183)
IX. 医学·健康	(217)
X. 传记·故事	(243)

参考答案及详解

I. 政治·法律	(259)
II. 经济·管理	(267)
III. 文化·历史	(279)
IV. 社会·家庭	(297)
V. 媒体·新闻	(312)
VI. 科技·信息	(318)
VII. 环境·生态	(332)
VIII. 教育·体育	(345)
IX. 医学·健康	(362)
X. 传记·故事	(375)

练习题

I . 政治·法律

Passage 1

The 21st century may be like the 20th—only more so. We will likely see fantastic achievements and human betterment in the 21st century, but they may be accompanied by horrors on an unprecedented scale, as was the 20th century with its world wars. The biggest single cloud hanging over the next 30 years is violence—crime, terrorism, and war. The Cold War is over, but hot wars on a smaller scale must be expected. Worse, the continuing proliferation of atomic weapons makes it increasingly likely that we shall have one or more atomic wars during the next 30 years. In addition, atomic weapons may be used by terrorists.

To minimize the horrific potential cost of future wars, the world urgently needs better political integration so that armed confrontations between nations and political factions can be avoided, or, at least, limited.

Political integration could also help in reducing the heavy pressures on the natural environment. The world's growing population and intensifying economic activity are increasingly destroying forests and polluting land, water, and air. Successful programs for reducing air pollution in many cities and restoring forests in many areas have demonstrated that environmental destruction is not irreversible, but the job will take great effort on a global basis.

Unfortunately, the steady rise in world population makes it likely that, for the world as a whole, environmental conditions will continue to worsen for some years to come. Though a number of prized animal species such as orangutans and pandas may be preserved, thousands upon thousands of others will almost certainly perish during the next 50 years as their habitats shrink.

If we cannot look forward to a tranquil and blissful future, we can at least comfort ourselves with the realization that it will probably be the best period of history we humans have ever experienced.

1. The author says "The 21st century may be like the 20th—only more so." (Para. 1) He means that _____.
 - A. there will not be many problems and dangers in the 21st century
 - B. there is no need to predict the 21st century
 - C. both technological achievements and horrible things will occur in the 21st century.
 - D. the 21st and 20th centuries are the two most important periods in human history
2. According to the author, the greatest threat to the world in the 21st century will be _____.
 - A. violence

- B. environmental destruction
 - C. uncontrollable advances of technology
 - D. extinction of many animal species
3. To prevent atomic wars from happening, it is urgent that _____.
- A. the two world powers destroy their nuclear weapons
 - B. wars on smaller scales be stopped
 - C. nations become more politically integrated
 - D. new weapons be developed to fight terrorism
4. According to the passage, the environmental destruction _____.
- A. will cease in the years to come
 - B. cannot be reversed in the next 30 years
 - C. is reversible only through joint efforts on a global basis
 - D. will not cause the extinction of thousands of animal species
5. The author is _____ about the future.
- A. pessimistic B. optimistic C. unconcerned D. worried

Passage 2

The ideal of the free individual has had a profound effect on the way Americans view their government. Traditionally, there has been a deep suspicion that government is the natural enemy of freedom, even if it is elected by the people. The bigger and stronger the government becomes, the more dangerous most Americans believe it is to their individual freedom.

The way in which the national government is organized in the United States Constitution provides an excellent illustration of the American suspicion of governmental power: the provisions of the Constitution are more concerned with keeping the government from doing evil than with enabling it to do good. The national government, for example, is divided into three separate branches: legislative (the Congress), executive (the president) and judicial (the Supreme Court and lower national courts). This division of governmental power is based on the belief that if any one part or branch of government has all, or even most of the power, it will become a threat to the freedom of individual citizens.

If any one of the three branches starts to abuse its power, the other two may join together to stop it, through a system of checks and balances. The Constitution is most careful in balancing the powers of the legislative and executive branches of the government because these two (Congress and the president) are the most powerful of the three branches. In almost every important area of governmental activity, such as the power to make laws, to declare war, or to conclude treaties with foreign countries, the Constitution gives each of these two branches enough power to prevent the other from acting on its own.

The president and both houses of Congress have almost complete political independence from each other because they are all chosen in separate elections. For example, the election of the Congress does not determine who will be elected president, and the presidential election does not determine who will be elected to either house of Congress. It is quite possible in the American system to have the leader of one political party win the presidency while the other major political party wins most of the seats in

Congress. It is important to note that the elections of the members of the two houses of Congress are separate from each other. Thus, the Republicans may control one house, while the Democrats may control the other. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate must agree on all legislation, however, before it becomes law.

6. Americans don't want to have a strong national government because _____.
 - A. they are afraid of their political leaders
 - B. they are afraid it will put limits on their individual freedom
 - C. they are much more concerned with national glory
 - D. they don't have confidence in the government
7. The way in which the American national government is organized reflects that _____.
 - A. Americans have a deep suspicion of governmental power
 - B. Americans value democracy very much
 - C. the United States Constitution is more concerned with enabling the government to do good
 - D. the US government is strong and powerful
8. The Constitution of the United States _____.
 - A. gives by far the most power to Congress
 - B. gives by far the most power to the president
 - C. tries to give each branch enough power to balance the others
 - D. tries to give each of the three branches equal power
9. The president of the United States _____.
 - A. has the power to conclude official treaties with foreign countries without the approval of Congress.
 - B. can veto (否决) a law that has been passed by the Congress
 - C. is elected if his political party wins most of the seats in Congress
 - D. has no power to prevent the Congress to declare a war
10. The two houses of the Congress _____.
 - A. must be controlled by the same political party
 - B. have equal power in passing or vetoing laws
 - C. needn't agree on a legislation before it becomes law
 - D. must agree on a legislation before it becomes law

Passage 3

In the late 1700s, most Americans expected the new national government created by the Constitution to leave them alone to pursue their individual goals. They believed that the central purpose of government was to create the conditions most favorable to the development of the free individual.

Before the Civil War of the 1860s, the American ideal of the free individual was the frontier settler and the small farmer. President Thomas Jefferson expressed this ideal when he said: "Those who labor in the earth are the chosen people of God, if ever he had a chosen people..." Jefferson glorified farmers for being free individuals who relied on no one but themselves for their daily needs. He be-

lieved that farmers, being dependent on none but themselves, were the most honest of citizens. Throughout his life, Jefferson favored a small, weak form of government, which he believed would encourage the development of a nation of free, self-reliant farmer citizens.

From the end of the Civil War until the Great Depression of the 1930s, the successful business person replaced the farmer and the frontier settler as the ideal expression of the free individual. The prevailing view of Americans during this time was that government should not interfere in the activities of business. If it were to do so, it would threaten the development of free individuals whose competitive spirit, self-reliance, and hard work were developing the United States into a land of greater and greater material prosperity.

Government, therefore, remained small and inactive in relation to the great size of the nation and the amount of power of business corporations. There were some government regulations over business during this period, but these had only a small impact on business practices. From the 1870s until the 1930s, business organizations and ideas dominated American government and politics. The Republican party, one of the nation's two major political parties, provided the means for maintaining this dominance. The Republicans were more successful than their rivals, the Democrats, in electing presidents and congressmen during this period, and the Republicans strongly supported government policies favorable to business.

11. When the nation was created in late 1700s, most Americans believed that the central purpose of government was to _____.
 - A. maintain national independence
 - B. protect national security
 - C. pursue economic development
 - D. encourage the development of free individuals
12. The American ideal of free individual _____.
 - A. was exemplified by the farmers and frontier settlers in the late 1700s and early 1800s
 - B. was exemplified by the businessmen before the civil war of 1860s
 - C. prevented the US from developing into a land of greater material prosperity
 - D. caused the national government to grow in size and strength during the late 1800s
13. Which of the following statements is NOT true about Thomas Jefferson?
 - A. He regarded farmers as the ideal of free individuals.
 - B. He thought farmers were honest citizens.
 - C. He wanted to build a big and powerful government.
 - D. He wanted the government to remain small and inactive.
14. Which of the following statements is true?
 - A. From 1870s until the 1930s, American government developed quickly both in size and strength.
 - B. From 1870s until the 1930s, American government established some controls on business and had a great impact on business.
 - C. From 1870s until the 1930s, the Republicans were more successful than the Democrats in

electing presidents and congressmen.

D. From 1870s until the 1930s, the Republicans strongly opposed government policies favorable to business.

15. The title of the passage can be _____.

A. The American Ideal of Free Individual and Small Government

B. The Relationship between Government and Business

C. The Growing of American Government

D. The Development of American Business

Passage 4

In the 1920s demand for American farm products fell, as European countries began to recover from World War I and instituted austerity (紧缩) programs to reduce their imports. The result was a sharp drop in farm prices. This period was more disastrous for farmers than earlier times had been, because farmers were no longer self-sufficient. They were paying for machinery, seed, and fertilizer, and they were also buying consumer goods. The prices of the items farmers bought remained constant, while prices they received for their products fell. These developments were made worse by the Great Depression, which began in 1929 and extended throughout the 1930s.

In 1929, under President Herbert Hoover, the Federal Farm Board was organized. It established the principle of direct interference with supply and demand, and it represented the first national commitment to provide greater economic stability for farmers.

President Hoover's successor attached even more importance to this problem. One of the first measures proposed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt when he took office in 1933 was the Agricultural Adjustment Act, which was subsequently passed by Congress. This law gave the Secretary of Agriculture the power to reduce production through voluntary agreements with farmers who were paid to take their land out of use. A deliberate scarcity of farm products was planned in an effort to raise prices. This law was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court on the grounds that general taxes were being collected to pay one special group of people. However, new laws were passed immediately that achieved the same result of resting soil and providing flood-control measures, but which were based on the principle of soil conservation. The Roosevelt Administration believed that rebuilding the nation's soil was in the national interest and was not simply a plan to help farmers at the expense of other citizens. Later the government guaranteed loans to farmers so that they could buy farm machinery, hybrid (杂交) grain, and fertilizers.

16. What brought about the decline in the demand for American farm products?

A. The impact of the Great Depression.

B. The shrinking of overseas markets.

C. The destruction caused by the First World War.

D. The increased exports of European countries.

17. The chief concern of the American government in the area of agriculture in the 1920s was _____.

- A. to increase farm production
 - B. to establish agricultural laws
 - C. to prevent farmers from going bankrupt
 - D. to promote the mechanization of agriculture
18. The Agricultural Adjustment Act encouraged American farmers to _____.
- A. reduce their scale of production
 - B. make full use of their land
 - C. adjust the prices of their farm products
 - D. be self-sufficient in agricultural production
19. The Supreme Court rejected the Agricultural Adjustment Act because it believed that the Act _____.
- A. might cause greater scarcity of farm products
 - B. didn't give the Secretary of Agriculture enough power
 - C. would benefit neither the government nor the farmers
 - D. benefited one group of citizens at the expense of others
20. It was claimed that the new laws passed during the Roosevelt Administration were aimed at _____.
- A. reducing the cost of farming
 - B. conserving soil in the long-term interest of the nation
 - C. lowering the burden of farmers
 - D. helping farmers without shifting the burden onto other taxpayers

Passage 5

We are now in the Second Age of democracy. It is time to give it a second wind. After a long battle, the First Age established universal suffrage (选举权). This finally came to the United Kingdom, in 1928, when the vote was extended to all adult women. Over 70 years later, however, Britain has changed radically. The attempt to change prevailing social and economic conditions (and the need to fight two world wars) tremendously extended the scope of central government. In 1900, central government spending as a share of GDP amounted to 9.7%; in 1930 it was 13%. Today, it is over 42%—steady at that level since 1979.

In mid-century the overwhelming majority of the country was self-consciously working class, and paid less than 10% of their income in tax. Today, the largest grouping is the middle; the groups classified as "ABC1" by pollsters make up 52% of the electorate (选民), and pay over 35% of their incomes in taxes. Even those in the bottom fifth of the income distribution pay almost 40%. So government now spends more public money and the majority of the population funds on the expenditure.

These changes raise serious dilemmas for democracy. Is it still supportable that the power to decide how these vast resources are spent should reside exclusively with a highly centralized national government? And do the more educated and wealthier citizens of today, albeit all of them with the vote, really have power over the system? To make things worse, some British institutions have not yet caught up even to 1928. They are actually pre-First Age. Think of the way Parliament works, some-

times seeming more private club than modern democratic forum. The consequence of ignoring these questions is that politics becomes less respected, less accountable, more remote from people's lives. That is bad for Britain and bad for democracy.

Contrary to the Tory claim, constitutional reform is not an issue for "chattering class", irrelevant to most people. Properly done, it will go to the heart of public concerns. It is important not only for its own sake, but because it makes possible the attainment of other vital goals: a stronger economy, better transport, good schools and crime prevention.

21. Why does the author say "We are now in the Second Age of democracy"?
- A. Because the age demands that we have a higher form of democracy.
 - B. Because democracy is threatened by growing concentration of power.
 - C. Because economic progress has made most voters rich.
 - D. Because the working class is becoming increasingly powerful.
22. It is implied that since 1979 _____.
- A. democracy has been subjected to serious changes
 - B. the central government has further extended its scope
 - C. the central government has been spending the taxpayers' money too freely
 - D. social and economic situations have been stable
23. Today the group that makes up the greatest percentage of the electorate is _____.
- A. working class
 - B. middle class
 - C. those in the bottom of the society
 - D. men
24. The word "it" in the last sentence of the passage refers to _____.
- A. the attainment of other vital goals
 - B. the Tory claim
 - C. constitutional reform
 - D. the public concern for constitutional reform
25. The author's attitude towards Britain's present political system is one of _____.
- A. condemnation
 - B. prejudice
 - C. reservation
 - D. satisfaction

Passage 6

As technology's benefits have made computers an increasingly important part of our society, an accurate and candid assessment of the risk of catastrophic cyber attacks has become a national priority. Criminal hackers could seriously threaten the operation of businesses and governments across the nation and around the world. The threat is real, increasing and already has proven costly.

The variety and severity of computer viruses that have spread across the Internet in just the last few years underscores the impact. Cyber attacks—ranging from the "I LOVE YOU" virus to the "Trinoo" attacks and the recent "Ramen, Lion" and "Code Red" worms—have cost an estimated \$ 5 billion.

Today, computer systems are at the heart of government operations ranging from the smallest city hall to the Pentagon. They are an essential part of the critical infrastructures that drive our economy, including telecommunications, energy transmission, financial services, manufacturing, water distribu-

tion, transportation and health care.

Securing these critical infrastructures will require close collaboration between government and the private sector, continued efforts to enhance technology security, tougher penalties for cyber crimes and increased funding for law enforcement efforts to fight it.

Today, criminal hackers are working around the clock and around the world to find and exploit vulnerabilities in software, steal data, violate people's privacy and maliciously shut down computer networks. Additional resources are needed by the Department of Justice and the FBI to hire, train and equip agents and prosecutors specializing in cyber crime. International cyber crime laws and penalties must be strengthened. The author of the "Lovebug" virus remains free because his nation did not have cyber crime laws. The "AnnaKournikova" virus caused billions of dollars in damage, but the individual who distributed it received only 150 hours of community service as a penalty.

As an industry leader, Microsoft recognizes its responsibility to address the challenges of cyber crime. In October, we announced a Strategic Technology Protection Program—an unprecedented mobilization of Microsoft resources to help customers of all sizes secure and protect their computing systems and data. A key part of this program is the Secure Windows Initiative—Microsoft's commitment to improving its own software development processes in order to deliver more secure and reliable products and technologies. While no software system is 100 percent virus proof or vulnerability free, we are committed to doing everything possible to help ensure our customers' security in this increasingly interconnected world.

26. According to the passage, cyber attacks are _____.
A. disastrous B. risky C. accurate D. national
27. "The impact" in Line 2, Para. 2, refers to the impact of _____.
A. variety and severity B. computer viruses C. the Internet D. cyber attacks
28. In order to secure the critical infrastructure, all the following are required EXCEPT _____.
A. closer cooperation between government and the private sector
B. tougher punishment for computer criminals
C. increased funding for enforcing computer crime laws
D. narrowing the range in which computer systems are used
29. It can be inferred from the passage that cyber crimes may be encouraged by _____.
A. vulnerabilities in software B. lack of cyber crime laws and penalties
C. inefficient work of FBI D. inability to detect computer viruses
30. As stated in the passage, Microsoft is committed to _____.
A. eliminating all computer viruses from networks
B. making software systems 100% virus proof and vulnerability free
C. helping customers recognize cyber crimes
D. developing more secure and reliable products and technologies

Passage 7

With the possible exception of equal rights, perhaps the most controversial issue across the United

States today is the death penalty. Many argue that it is an effect deterrent (威慑) to murder, while others maintain there is no convincing evidence that the death penalty reduces the number of murders.

The principal argument advanced by those opposed to the death penalty, basically, is that it is cruel and inhuman punishment, that it is the mark of a brutal society, and finally that it is of questionable effectiveness as a deterrent to crime anyway.

In our opinion, the death penalty is a necessary evil. Throughout recorded history there have always been those extreme individuals in every society who were capable of terribly violent crimes such as murder. But some are more extreme than others.

For example, it is one thing to take the life of another in a fit of blind rage, but quite another to coldly plot and carry out the murder of one or more people in the style of a butcher. Thus, murder, like all other crimes, is a matter of relative degree. While it could be argued with some conviction that the criminal in the first instance should be merely isolated from society, such should not be the fate of the latter type murderer.

The value of the death penalty as a deterrent to crime may be open to debate. But the overwhelming majority of citizens believe that the death penalty protects them. Their belief is reinforced by evidence which shows that the death penalty deters murder. For example, from 1954 to 1963, when the death penalty was consistently imposed in California, the murder rate remained between three and four murders for each 100,000 population. Since 1964 the death penalty has been imposed only once, and the murder rate has risen to 10.4 murders for each 100,000 population. The sharp climb in the state's murder rate, which began when executions stopped, is no coincidence (巧合). It is convincing evidence that the death penalty does deter many murderers. If the bill reestablishing the death penalty is vetoed (否决), innocent people will be murdered—some whose lives may have been saved if the death penalty were in effect. This is literally a life or death matter. The lives of thousands of innocent people must be protected.

31. The principal purpose of this passage is to _____.
A. criticize the government B. argue for the value of the death penalty
C. speak for the majority D. initiate a veto
32. The passage attempts to establish a relationship between _____.
A. the importance of equal rights and that of the death penalty
B. executions and murders
C. the murder rate and the imposition of the death penalty
D. the effects of execution and the effects of isolation
33. The author's response to those who argue the death penalty for all degrees of murders would most likely be _____.
A. supportive B. hostile C. negative D. friendly
34. In the passage the author is primarily concerned with _____.
A. supporting a position
B. describing an event