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# 四级题题通 综合阅读详析

胡志清 陈厚勤 主编



华中理工大学出版社

# 四级题通 综合阅读详析

(阅读理解、翻译、简答、完形填空)

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## 内 容 提 要

本书是依据教育部新颁布的大学英语教学大纲和词汇表编写的。主要目的是通过对阅读理解、英译汉、简短回答问题和完形填空这四种题型的强化训练,帮助读者提高英语的综合阅读能力。本书针对性强,内容丰富,共编辑了 20 套测试题,每套试题后附有答案及部分答案的注释。

本书适合大学英语四级考生、在职研究生、出国英语考生。对电大学员、成人教育、自学考试也有一定参考作用。

前

言

阅读能力的培养始终是大学英语教学的主要目标和重点之一。阅读在大学英语四级考试中所占的比例很大,除阅读理解外,与其密切相关的题型还有完形填空,以及近年来新增加的英译汉和简短回答问题。根据教育部新颁布的大学英语教学大纲和大学英语四级考试词汇表,我们编写了本书。通过对阅读理解、英译汉、简短回答问题和完形填空这四种题型的强化训练,以期帮助广大英语四级考生提高综合阅读能力。本书选材广泛、内容新颖,具有时代感。我们共编辑了 20 套测试题,每套试题后附有答案,并且还对阅读理解和完形填空部分的答案作了注释。

在本书的编写过程中我们得到了多方面的帮助和支持,朱月珍教授审阅了全书,并对本书的编写提出了宝贵的意见和建议,在此表示感谢。

由于编者水平有限,不足之处在所难免,敬请广大读者和同行批评指正。

编 者

1999 年 12 月于武汉

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# Test 1

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## Part I Reading Comprehension

**Directions:** There are several passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions. For each question there are four suggested answers marked A, B, C, and D. You should choose the ONE best answer. (为节省篇幅,以后的说明将予以省略)

### Passage 1

After a two-year cooling period, the average temperature of the Earth's surface rose in 1994 to a near-record level. Preliminary data suggest that 1994 was the Earth's third-or fourth-warmest year since scientists began to keep detailed statistics in the mid-1800s. Last year's average was only a fraction of a degree below the record high of 15°C in 1990.

Many climatologists say that temperatures were lower in 1992 and 1993 as a result of the mid-1991 eruption of Mount Pinatubo in the Philippines, which spewed into the atmosphere a sulfurous haze that blocked some of the sun's heat. Now that the haze has dissipated, said Dr. James Hansen of the U. S. NSAS's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, the Earth's average temperature appears to have resumed its upward trend. (21) He

added that he was “more confident than ever” that the gradual increase—amounting to about  $0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  over the past century—was a consequence of the greenhouse effect, the process by which the Earth’s surface temperature was said to be rising because of the accumulation of man-made gases in the atmosphere. Many other scientists agree that the Earth is warming, but they disagree about the cause.

1. The title that best expresses the idea of passage is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. The Greenhouse Effect
  - B. Third-or Fourth-warmest Year
  - C. Heating up the Earth
  - D. NASA’s Climate Forecast
2. Climate statistics have been kept since about \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. the mid-1990s
  - B. 1985
  - C. the 20th century
  - D. 1850
3. The average temperature is the highest in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. 1990
  - B. 1991
  - C. 1993
  - D. 1994
4. Temperatures were lower in 1992 and 1993 because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. a sulfurous haze prevented the earth from the sun’s heat
  - B. a serious flood in the Philippines
  - C. an atomic explosion in the Philippines
  - D. a sulfurous haze disappeared during that period
5. What idea do many other scientists hold to?
  - A. The Earth is warming because of the greenhouse effect .
  - B. The Earth is warming but may not because of the greenhouse effect.
  - C. The Earth will be cooling again.

- D. The Earth will be warming for a period and then cooling for another period.

## Passage 2

The traditional American Thanksgiving Day celebration goes back to 1621. In that year a special feast was prepared in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The colonists who had settled there had left England because they felt denied of religious freedom. They came to the new land and faced difficulties in coming across the ocean. The ship which carried them was called the Mayflower. The North Atlantic was difficult to travel. There were bad storms. They were assisted in learning to live in the new land by the Indians who inhabited the region. The Puritans, as they were called, had much to be thankful for. Their religious practices were no longer a source of criticism by the government. They learned to adjust their farming habits to the climate and soil. (22) When they selected the fourth Thursday of November for their Thanksgiving celebration, they invited their neighbors, the Indians, to join them in dinner and a prayer of gratitude for the new life. They recalled the group of 102 men, women, and children who left England. They remembered their dead who did not live to see the shores of Massachusetts. They reflected on the 65 days' journey that tested their strength.

6. The tradition of a day of Thanksgiving is more than \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. 100 years old                      B. 200 years old  
C. 300 years old                      D. 400 years old
7. Why did the colonists leave England ?  
A. because of religious problems

- B. to learn farming
  - C. to establish a new religion
  - D. because of the Indians
8. The climate and soil in Massachusetts are \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. similar to that of England
  - B. similar to that of Plymouth
  - C. different from that of England
  - D. different from that of Plymouth
9. How long did the trip last ?
- A. 6 weeks
  - B. 65 days
  - C. 6 months
  - D. 85 days
10. They invited the Indians to dinner in order to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. teach them how to cook
  - B. feed the hungry Indians
  - C. avoid the war
  - D. show their gratitude

### Passage 3

The universities from which our own are descended were founded in the Middle Ages. They were established either by corporations of students wanting to learn, as in Italy, or by teachers wanting to teach, as in France. Corporations that had special legal or customary privileges for the purpose of carrying out the intentions of the incorporators were common in those days. The university corporations of the Middle Ages at the height of their power were not responsible to anybody, in the sense that they could not be brought to book by any authority. They claimed, and made good their claim, complete independence of all secular and religious control. (23) The

American university was , however, at first a corporation formed by a religious denomination or by the state for the purposes of the denomination or the state.

The American university in the seventeenth century was much closer to the American university today than to the medieval university. The Puritan communities needed ministers and professional men and so established universities to provide them. Later, religious groups built universities in order to extend their own influence. For example, the University of Chicago was founded by devout Baptists to combat the rising tide of Methodism in the Middle West. The president and the trustees of the university were required to have the proper religious affiliations in order to keep the university on the right path. (24) Fortunately, the combination of John D. Rockefeller, William Rainey Harper, and the enlightened wing of the Baptist church preserved the university from too narrow an interpretation of its purpose.

11. From the passage we can know that French universities in the Middle Ages were founded by \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. groups of teachers
  - B. groups of students
  - C. the state
  - D. the Puritan communities
12. Which of the following is closest in meaning to “the rising tide” (paragraph 2) ?
  - A. the evil influence
  - B. the sudden invasion
  - C. the rapid growth

- D. the extreme effect
13. The basic motive for setting up a university in a Puritan community was to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. spread the religious ideas of the Puritans  
B. provide necessary personnel for the community  
C. educate the young about their religion  
D. prevent the spread of other religions
14. We can infer from the passage that the founders of the university of Chicago \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. were former Baptists  
B. were enlightened Baptists  
C. had never been connected with the Baptist church  
D. were strict Baptists
15. Which of the following does the passage tell us about John D. Rockefeller?  
A. He broadened the goals of the University of Chicago.  
B. He was an early president of the University of Chicago.  
C. He was a founder of the University of Chicago.  
D. He wanted to spread the Baptist religion.

#### Passage 4

How men first learned to invent words is unknown; in other words, the origin of language is a mystery. All we really know is that men, unlike animals, somehow invented certain sounds to express thoughts and feelings, actions and things, so that they could communicate with each other; and that later they agreed upon certain signs, called letters, which could be combined to represent those sounds and which could be written down. Those sounds, whether spoken, or written in letters, we call words.

The power of words, then, lies in their associations——the things they bring up before our minds. Words become filled with meaning for us by experience; and the longer we live, the more certain words recall to us the glad and sad events of our past; and the more we read and learn, the more the number of words that mean something to us increases.

(25) Great writers are those who not only have great thoughts but also express these thoughts in words which appeal powerfully to our minds and emotions. This charming and telling use of words is what we call literary style. Above all, the real poet is a master of words. He can convey his meaning in words which sing like music, and which by their position and association can move men to tears. We should, therefore, learn to choose our words carefully and use them accurately, or they will make our speech silly and vulgar.

16. The origin of language is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. a legend handed down from the past  
B. a matter that is hidden or secret  
C. a question difficult to answer  
D. a problem not yet solved
17. One of the reasons why men invented certain sounds to express thoughts and actions was that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. they could agree upon certain signs  
B. they could write them down  
C. they could communicate with each other  
D. they could combine them
18. What is true about words?  
A. They are used to express feelings only.



- B. They can not be written down.
  - C. They are simply sounds.
  - D. They are mysterious.
19. Which of the following statements is true?
- A. The more we read and learn, the more ignorant we are.
  - B. The more we read and learn, the more confused we will be.
  - C. The more we read and learn, the more learned we are.
  - D. The more we read and learn, the more snobbish we become.
20. In expressing their thoughts, great writers are able to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. confound the readers.
  - B. move men to tears.
  - C. move men to action.
  - D. confuse our feelings.

## Part II Translation from English into Chinese

**Directions:** In this part, there are five items which you should translate into Chinese, each item consisting of one or two sentences. These sentences are all taken from the Reading Passages you have just read in Part I. You are allowed 15 minutes to do the translation. You should refer back to the passages so as to identify their meanings in the context. (为节省篇幅,以后的说明将予以省略)

21. ( Para. 2, Passage 1)

He added that he is "more confident than ever" that the gradual increase——amounting to about 0.5 °C over the past