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应试

高分诀窍

——新编大学英语  
六级考试  
阅读·翻译·简答

READING COMPREHENSION

主编 何 慧

中央民族大学出版社

# 应试高分诀窍 ——新编大学英语六级考试

阅读、翻译、简答

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## 前 言

自从大学英语教学和考试大纲调整以来,与之相对应的各类辅导书籍层出不穷,在体现各自特色的同时,往往很难突破旧材料、旧观念、旧思路的限制,即题型变化较大而内容陈旧。针对这种状况,本书编者在广泛征求广大学生及英语教学专家意见的基础上,依故纳新,经过学生的讨论酝酿,推出此书。

本书六级分册包括阅读、翻译及简短回答,四级分册包括阅读、翻译、简短回答及完形填空。题型设计与教学大纲考试说明一致,在此基础上力求突出如下特点:一、题目难度与真题一致,实战性强;二、选材新颖,时代感强;三、答案解析详尽。

本书编写过程中得到了长年服务于大学外语教学第一线的教师们的大力支持,在此谨表感谢。限于作者水平,本书难免有不足之处,望读者朋友批评指正。

编 者

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## Test 1

### Section A Reading Comprehension

**Directions:** *There are four passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked (A), (B), (C) and (D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the center.*

**Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage:**

What made the Alamo famous was the battle. For thirteen days in 1836, the 188 Texan volunteers held off 4,000 Mexican troops in one of the most violent dramas of American history. But the story began twelve years earlier. In 1824 Mexico won its independence from Spain and continued the colonization policy that had been initiated by Spain in 1821. Immigrants gladly took the oath of loyalty to Mexico in exchange for land, and they swarmed in. But then in 1824 Mexico redefined its territories, making them states. Texas was the only separate territory to lose its independence; it was joined to Coahuila and the capital was moved from San Antonio to Saltillo. The Texas residents felt a lack of representation in government affairs and they gathered in protest. By 1834 the rumbles of discontent grew louder and by 1835 they were fighting. The Texans felt that they were fighting for their rights, but in the eyes of the Mexican government the uprising was treasonous.

The Battle of the Alamo began on February 23, 1836 and lasted for thirteen days. It ended with every Texan fighter dying. The only lives which were spared were a few women and children. Though the fight was fateful for the men, it kindled the spirit of other fighters. Forty - six days after the fall of the Alamo, a furious counterattack by Texan and American volunteers began with the words, "Remember the Alamo!" The result of this fight was a free Texas, the beginning of a new republic.

1. According to the passage, what was the main reason that the Texans began fighting?
  - A) They weren't represented in the government.
  - B) They felt unequal.
  - C) Their families were in danger.
  - D) They wanted to move the capital.
2. Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the passage?
  - A) All the Texan men were killed in the battle.
  - B) The Mexicans won the battle.
  - C) Texas was not an American state.
  - D) The Texans died shouting, "Remember the Alamo!"
3. The author implies that people came to Texas in the 1820s to \_\_\_\_\_.
 

A) fight the Mexicans	B) become farmers
C) make Texas independent	D) start a new government
4. According to the passage, what happened after the battle?
  - A) Texas became a part of the United States.
  - B) Other men came to avenge the fight.
  - C) The capital was moved back to San Antonio.
  - D) The women and children were killed.



5. What is the importance of the battle?

- A) victory      B) dead      C) freedom      D) independence

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage:

21) Archaeology is a source of history, not just a humble auxiliary discipline. Archaeological data are historical documents in their own right, not mere illustrations to written texts. Just as much as any other historian, an archaeologist studies and tries to reconstitute (重建) the process that has created the human world in which we live and ourselves in so far as we are each creatures of our age and social environment. Archaeological data are all changes in the material world resulting from human action or, more clearly, the fossilized results of human behavior. The sum total of these constitute may be called the archaeological record. This record exhibits certain peculiarities and deficiencies the consequences of which produce a rather superficial contrast between archaeological history and the more familiar kind based upon written records.

Not all human behavior fossilizes. The words I utter and you hear as vibrations in the air are certainly human changes in the material world and may be of great historical significance. Yet they leave no sort of trace in the archaeological records unless they are captured by a dictaphone or written down by a clerk. The movement of troops on the battlefield may "change the course of history", but this is equally ephemeral from the archaeologist's standpoint. What is perhaps worse, most organic materials are perishable. Everything made of wood, hide, wool, linen, grass, hair, and similar materials will decay and vanish in dust in a few years or centuries, save under very exceptional conditions. In a relatively brief period the archaeological record is reduced to mere scraps of stone, bone, glass, metal, and earthenware. Still modern archaeology, by applying

appropriate techniques and comparative methods aided by a few lucky finds from peat bogs(泥炭沼), deserts and frozen soils, is able to fill up good deal of the gap.

6. According to the passage, the archaeological record consists of \_\_\_\_\_

- A) spoken words of great historical significance
- B) the fossilized results of human activity
- C) organic materials
- D) ephemeral ideas

7. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an example of an organic material?

- A) Stone.                      B) Wool.                      C) Grass.                      D) Hair.

8. The word "they" in Line 3, Para.2 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) scraps                      B) words                      C) humans                      D) troops

9. The author mentions all of the following archaeological discovery sites EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) urban areas                      B) very hot and dry lands
- C) peat bogs                      D) earth that has been frozen

10. The paragraph following the passage most probably discusses \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) techniques for recording oral histories
- B) certain battlefield excavation methods
- C) some specific archaeological discoveries
- D) building materials of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries

**Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage:**

Without regular supplies of some hormones our capacity to behave would be seriously impaired; without others we would soon die. Tiny

amounts of some hormones can modify our moods and our actions, our inclination to eat or drink, our aggressiveness or submissiveness, and our reproductive and parental behavior. 22) And hormones do more than influence adult behavior, early in life they help to determine the development of bodily form and may even determine an individual's behavioral capacities. Later in life the changing outputs of some endocrine glands and the body's changing sensitivity to some hormones are essential aspects of the phenomena of aging.

23) Communication within the body and the consequent integration of behavior were considered the exclusive province of the nervous system up to the beginning of the present century. The emergence of endocrinology as a separate discipline can probably be traced to the experiments of Bayliss and Starling on the hormones secretin(分泌素). This substance is secreted from cells in the intestinal walls when food enters the stomach; it travels through the bloodstream and stimulates the pancreas(胰腺) to liberate pancreatic juice, which aids in digestion. By showing that special cells secrete chemical agents that are conveyed by the bloodstream and regulate distant target organs or tissues, Bayliss and Starling demonstrated that chemical integration could occur without participation of the nervous system.

The term "hormone" was first used with reference to secretin. Starling derived the term from the Greek hormones, meaning "to excite or set in motion". The term "endocrine" was introduced shortly thereafter. "Endocrine" is used to refer to glands that secrete products changed into the bloodstream. The term "endocrine" contrasts with "exocrine," which is applied to glands that secrete their products through ducts to the site of action. Examples of exocrine glands are the tear glands, the sweat glands, and the pancreas, which secretes pancreatic juice through a duct

into the intestine. Exocrine glands are also called duct glands, while endocrine glands are called ductless.

11. The passage supports which of the following conclusions?

- A) Synthetic hormones can replace a person's natural supply of hormones if necessary.
- B) The human body requires large amounts of most hormones.
- C) The quantity of hormones produced and their effects on the body are related to a person's age.
- D) The short child of tall parents very likely had a hormone deficiency early in life.

12. What is the author's main purpose in the passage?

- A) To explain the specific functions of various hormones.
- B) To provide general information about hormones.
- C) To explain how the term "hormone" evolved.
- D) To report on experiments in endocrinology(内分泌学).

13. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an effect of hormones?

- A) Aggressive feelings.
- B) Sensitivity to hunger and thirst.
- C) Modification of behavior.
- D) Maintenance of blood pressure.

14. It can be inferred from the passage that, before the Bayliss and Starling experiments, most people believed that chemical integration occurred only \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) during sleep
- B) in the endocrine glands
- C) under control of the nervous system
- D) during strenuous exercise

15. According to the passage, another term for exocrine glands in \_\_\_\_\_

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| A) duct glands     | B) endocrine glands  |
| C) ductless glands | D) intestinal glands |

**Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage:**

Cells cannot remain alive outside certain limits of temperature, and much narrower limits mark the boundaries of effective functioning. Enzyme systems of mammals and birds are most efficient only within a narrow range around  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; a departure of a few degrees from this value seriously impairs their functioning. Even though cells can survive wider fluctuations, the integrated actions of bodily systems are impaired. Other animals have a wider tolerance for changes of bodily temperature.

For centuries it has been recognized that mammals and birds differ from other animals in the way they regulate body temperatures. 24) Ways of characterizing the difference have become more accurate and meaningful over time, but popular terminology still reflects the old division into "warm - blooded" and "cold - blooded" species; warm - blooded included mammals and birds, whereas all other creatures were considered cold - blooded. As more species were studied, it became evident that this classification was inadequate. A fence lizard or a desert iguana—each cold - blooded—usually has a body temperature only a degree or two below that of humans and so is not cold. Therefore the next distinction was made between animals that maintain a constant body temperatures varies with their environment, called poikilotherms. But this classification also proved inadequate, because among mammals there are many that vary their body temperature during hibernation (冬眠). 25) Furthermore, many invertebrates (无脊椎动物) that live in the depths of the ocean never experience a change in the chill of the deep water, and

their body temperatures remain constant.

The current distinction is between animals whose body temperature is regulated chiefly by internal metabolic processes and those whose temperature is regulated by environment and who get most of their heat from the environment. The former are called endotherms, and the latter are called ectotherms. Most ectotherms do regulate (control) their body temperature, and they do so mainly by locomoting to favorable sites or by changing their exposure to external sources of heat. Endotherms (mainly mammals and birds) also regulate their temperature by choosing favorable environments, but primarily they regulate their temperatures by making a variety of internal adjustments.

16. What does the passage mainly discuss?
- A) Body temperatures of various animals.
  - B) Methods of temperature reduction.
  - C) The newest research on measuring temperature.
  - D) The classification of animals by temperature regulation.
17. According to the passage, the chief way in which ectotherms regulate their temperature is by \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) seeking out appropriate locations
  - B) hibernating part of the year
  - C) staying a deep water
  - D) triggering certain metabolic processes
18. Which of the following terms refers primarily to mammals and birds?
- A) Warm-blooded.
  - B) Ectothermic.
  - C) Poikilothermic.
  - D) Cold-blooded.
19. The word "sites" in Line 6, Para. 3 is closest in meaning to which of the following?
- A) Temperature.
  - B) Conditions.

- C) Opportunities.                      D) Places.
20. In general, the temperature of endotherms is regulated \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) consciously                      B) internally  
C) inadequately                      D) enviromentally.

### Section B Translation

B) Ectothermic. **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. You are allowed 15 minutes to do the translation. You should refer back to the passages so as to identify their meaning in the context.*

- 21) Archaeology is a source of history, not just a humble auxiliary discipline. Archaeological data are historical documents in their own right, not mere illustrations to written texts
- 

- 22) And hormones do more than influence adult behavior, early in life they help to determine the development of bodily form and may even determine an individual's behavioral capacities.
- 

- 23) Communication within the body and the consequent integration of behavior were considered the exclusive province of the nervous system up to the beginning of the present century.
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24) Ways of characterizing the difference have become more accurate and meaningful over time, but popular terminology still reflects the old division into “warm – blooded” and “cold – blooded” species; warm – blooded included mammals and birds, whereas all other creatures were considered cold – blooded.

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25) Furthermore, many invertebrates(无脊椎动物) that live in the depths of the ocean never experience a change in the chill of the deep water, and their body temperatures remain constant.

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### Section C Short Answer Questions

**Directions:** *In this part there is a short passage with five questions or incomplete statements. Read the passage carefully. Then answer the questions or complete the statements in the fewest possible words.*

A discussion of American music might begin with the question “Does the term ‘American music’ have any definable meaning other than ‘music produced and performed in the United States’?” The search for specific national characteristics in this body of musicing regards to such factors as style, construction, and sound was for many years a matter of considerable concern to students of American culture. By the 20th century the term had acquired a number of well – defined meanings, both in the “serious” and “popular” fields. But with the growing tendency toward a more international outlook in the arts, the interest in establishing such



distinctions began to abate.

It could be said that the only genuinely native American music is that of the Indians who occupied the North American continent before the arrival of explorers and settlers from the nations of Europe. Some of the music of the various American Indian cultures has survived into our own time, carefully preserve in its original forms, and Indian themes and rhythms have occasionally been used in a romanticized manner by composers at all levels. But on the whole, Indian music has played a negligible role in determining the kinds of music now being composed, performed, and listened to within the United States.

American music—both serious and popular—is, in fact, complex amalgam(混合物) of the music of many lands. The earliest settlers took with them to the new continent their knowledge and memory of several varieties of European music. With the advent of the slave trade, the rich musical heritage of African cultures also began to exert its influence on the development of distinctively American music forms.

Thus the ancestry of music in America is primarily European and African. The rest of the world's music has been only of minor or local importance in this development, although experimental composers of serious music in the 20th century have drawn on a winded range of cultures in their search for new modes of expression. This eclectic(折衷主义的) tendency has also been reflected in such popular fields as rock music.

There is no wholly satisfactory way of drawing a line between areas of music endeavor so vaguely labeled as “serious”, or “classical”, and “popular”. Broad differences do exist, however, that make it useful to discuss these generalized categories separately.