

Reading Test 英语专项训练系列

英语阅读

专项训练

- 高考强化训练
- 全新模拟试题
- 16种解题要领

邹家元 叶秀牧 编著

复旦大学出版社

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前 言

阅读在英语学习中占有重要地位。在启蒙阶段,就开始了读书识字;在四会能力中,始终不可忽视读;英语水平进入中、高级的学习者会发现,没有深厚的阅读功底,听、说、写也就提不高。英语阅读从低级阶段上升至高级阶段,体现在词汇的扩大、句式的熟练、理解的深化、全面知识能力的提高。除了精细地读范文,还需大量泛读各种文体的材料,并且学会速读。阅读理解考项就是为了促进阅读,使考生通过阅读和解题的训练,提高理解水平、掌握阅读技巧,达到应用英语摄取信息的目标。

英语阅读理解是高考的重要项目。它着重考查学生的英语综合能力,包括语法和词汇知识、阅读速度、理解程度和思维能力等等。解题经验告诉我们,这是较难的考项,考生失分率较高。在有限时间内,要求读懂多篇不同内容或体裁的文章,由于其长度、难度和背景知识等方面的原因,有时虽读懂了文章,意思也记住了,但在解题时,常受选项干扰,反被搅糊,误入歧途而未能答对。所以对阅读理解的解题规律,必须研究总结,得出对策,才能夺取该项目的高分。

作者根据历届英语高考试卷中阅读理解考项的特点、阅读文章的类型、选择题的趋势,精心选编了全新的具有针对性的阅读理解文章和练习题,供考生训练用。鉴于解题是得分的关键,作者根据指导学生迎考的经验,抓住考生易犯的错误,总结概括出16种解题要领,精辟分析得失、举出典型例子,旨在给学生以解题钥匙,使难题迎刃而解。

本书前部分为16个单元(unit),每一单元由范文、解题要领、选例分析组成;后部分是作为强化训练的20辑综合练习(exercise),每辑包含五篇阅读理解模拟题;书后附有参考答案。

在编写中难免有疏误和不当,望读者不吝指正。

编者

2004年1月

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Unit 1

In the early days of sea travel, seamen on long voyages lived exclusively on salted meat and biscuits. Many of them died of scurvy(坏血病), a disease of the blood which causes swollen gums, livid white spots on the flesh and general exhaustion. On one occasion, in 1535, an English ship arrived in newfound land with its crew seriously ill. The men's lives were saved by Iroquois Indians who gave them vegetable leaves to eat. Gradually it came to be realized that scurvy was caused by some lack in the sailors' diet.

Nowadays it is understood that a diet which contains nothing harmful may yet result in serious disease if certain important elements are missing. These elements are called "vitamins". Quite a number of such substances are known and they are given letters to identify them, A, B, C, D, and so on. Different diseases are associated with deficiencies(不足) of particular vitamins. Even a slight lack of vitamin C, for example, the vitamin most plentiful in fresh fruit and vegetables, is thought to increase significantly our susceptibility(易受) to colds and influenza.

The vitamins necessary for a healthy body are normally supplied by a good mixed diet, including a variety of fruits and green vegetables. It is only when people try to live on a very restricted diet, or when trying to lose weight, that it is necessary to make special provision(储备) to supply the missing vitamins.

Another example of the dangers of a restricted diet may be seen in the disease known as "beri-beri", which used to afflict large numbers of Eastern people who lived mainly on rice. In the early years of this century, a Dutch scientist called Eijkman was trying to discover the cause of beri-beri. At first he thought it was transmitted(传播) by a germ. Later he found that a lack of some element in the husk(麸皮) is the cause of the disease. And the element was shortly afterwards isolated from rice husks and is now known as vitamin B.

1. Scurvy is a disease which causes _____.
 - A. loss of blood
 - B. swollen limbs
 - C. exhaustion
 - D. bright red spots on the flesh
2. A diet which contains nothing harmful _____.
 - A. may yet cause scurvy
 - B. has plenty of vitamins
 - C. will yet result in serious disease
 - D. always ensures good health
3. Deficiencies of the various vitamins _____.
 - A. cause the same disease
 - B. are not serious except in the case of vitamin C
 - C. cause different diseases

- D. are often caused by scurvy
4. A good mixed diet _____.
A. normally contains enough vitamins B. still needs adding vitamins
C. is easy to digest D. is often difficult to arrange
5. The disease “beri-beri” _____.
A. kills large numbers of western people B. is a vitamin deficiency disease
C. is transmitted by diseased rice D. can be caught from diseased sailors

解题要领(1): 查找事实

阅读理解题中常见的一种是考查文章陈述的内容。这类题涉及提到的人物、时间、地点、关系、特征、数目、情况、观点等。它们都是在文中显而易见的,直接由某个词、词组或某段文字所表示。这些信息一般都在字面上,无需探究推测,仅需查找而已。这类阅读理解题比较简单,考生只需在阅读全文时不遗漏信息,并懂得回头查找有关事实,就不会失误。

举例:第1题答案C。文章第一段提到坏血病的一些症状,可以找到其中的 exhaustion (精疲力竭)一词,作为本题之解。其余选项词语的意思均未提到过,因此都不符。

Unit 2

In their first experiment the researchers let the camel have no water in eight days. It lost about 22% of its weight, about 100 kilos. When water to drink emptied one bucket after another, it got rounder and rounder and soon returned to its normal condition. A camel can lose anything up to 25% of its weight through evaporation(蒸发) without any danger of losing its life. However, a loss of weight of 12% causes a man to die in a desert. The researchers, who were fond of animals, did not dare to find out how long a camel can stay alive without water. The camel that went longest without water drank 135 liters of it in 10 minutes after 17 days without a drink.

A camel can manage with a small amount of water better than a man can. And furthermore, it can regulate(调节) its perspiration(排汗) much better than we can. If we are compelled to stay in a temperature higher than our normal body temperature, we start to perspire in order to prevent the temperature of our organs from becoming dangerously high. A camel's temperature is different. When the sunshine becomes hotter and hotter the body temperature of the camel follows the temperature of the environment. Only when the body temperature has risen to 40 degrees does a camel begin to perspire. When the cold night of the desert arrives, a camel's temperature sinks to 34 degrees. This variation of 6 degrees means that it takes quite a long time in the daytime before a camel starts perspiring.

1. The purpose of this passage is chiefly to explain why a camel _____.
A. can lose so much weight B. can drink so much water
C. does not perspire so much D. is so well suited to the desert
2. In saying that camels "can regulate perspiration much better than we can," the author means that _____.
A. the camel can turn his perspiration off and on as he wishes
B. the camel has more sweat glands than we have
C. the camel responds to smaller changes in temperature
D. the camel does not often start to perspire as we do
3. When the temperature of the air rises above 34°C a camel starts _____.
A. perspiring heavily B. saving energy
C. showing a higher body temperature D. regulating its drinking of water
4. The relation between the first and second paragraphs of this article is that the second paragraph _____.
A. helps to explain the results reported in the first
B. gives further details about the results reported in the first

- C. is more specific than the first in the information it provides
D. presents a different point of view from the first
5. Judging from the passage, about how much does a camel weigh?
A. 100 kilograms. B. 500 kilograms.
C. 2, 200 kilograms. D. There is no way of telling.

解题要领(2): 简单计算

这类阅读理解题考查学生在已知数据基础上作一番推算,求解的内容包括年龄、人数、年份、距离、重量、长度、差异等。它们一般不太繁复,但需根据所给信息进行一定的推导和计算,因而增加了一点难度。一则由于解题时间局促,二则可能因思路错误而运算不对,明明是简单的数学题,反而算出错误的结果。因此考生需学会冷静审题、反应敏捷,方能顺利解题。

举例:第5题答案B。文章开头第2句提供了数据,即那头骆驼失重约22%,相当于100公斤左右,故作一运算便可推导出它的整个体重大约为500公斤。

Unit 3

From Boston to Los Angeles, from New York City to Chicago, to Dallas, museums are either planning, building, or wrapping up wholesale expansion programs. These programs already have radically altered facades(门面) and floor plans or are expected to do so in the not-too-distant future.

In New York City alone, six major institutions have spread up and out into the air space and neighborhoods around them or are preparing to do so.

The reasons for this activity are complex, but one factor is a consideration everywhere — space. With collections expanding, with the needs and functions of museums changing, empty space has become a very precious commodity.

Probably nowhere in the country is this more true than at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, which has needed additional space for decades and which received its last significant facelift ten years ago. Because of the space crunch(危境), the Art Museum has become increasingly cautious in considering acquisitions and donations of art, in some cases passing up opportunities to strengthen its collections.

Decreasing — or selling off — works of art has taken on new importance because of the museum's space problems. And increasingly, museums have been forced to juggle(尽力对付) gallery space, rotating one masterpiece into public view while another is sent to storage.

Despite the clear need for additional gallery and storage space, however, “the museum has no plan, no plan to break out of its envelope in the next fifteen years,” according to Philadelphia Museum of Art's president.

1. Which of the following is (are) in need of additional space?
 - A. A neighborhood museum.
 - B. The Boston Museum of Art.
 - C. Museums in the United States.
 - D. An aerospace museum.
2. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the article as a reason why most museums need more space?
 - A. Changing needs.
 - B. More collectors.
 - C. Changing functions.
 - D. Enlarged collections.
3. In paragraph 4, the author uses the word “facelift” to imply that the Philadelphia Museum of Art _____.
 - A. added portraits to its collection
 - B. reduced its staff
 - C. raised money for poor artists
 - D. was remodeled
4. It can be inferred from the article that the Philadelphia Museum of Art only shows _____.

- A. its largest paintings
 - B. a portion of its paintings
 - C. paintings by American artists
 - D. paintings it wants to sell
5. What has the Philadelphia Museum of Art been obliged to do because of insufficient space?
- A. Hire more workers to plan gallery displays.
 - B. Strengthen its collection through donations.
 - C. Be cautious in allowing the public to view its artwork.
 - D. Be selective in accepting additional artwork.

解题要领(3): 猜测词义

考查词义的阅读理解题经常出现。它要求考生针对某单词、词组或成语,判断其对应义或解释,有时直接提出,有时在解题中暗含着词语的解释。这类题目检验考生对英语词汇的熟练掌握程度、对单个词及词的搭配意义的了解,以及英语成语典故知识。考题还涉及英语的一词多义及转义现象。所以考生应通过多读,巩固和扩大词汇,并善于借助上下文判断词义,才能在解题时做出明智抉择。

举例:第3题答案D。单词 facelift 原作“(人)整容”解,转义为“(建筑等)整修”。而 remodel(改型,改造)意义相近,该词可以作解释。

Unit 4

The average population density(密度) of the world is 47 persons per square mile. Continental densities range from no permanent inhabitants in Antarctica to 211 per square mile in Europe. In western hemisphere(半球), population densities range from about 4 per square mile in Canada to 675 per square mile in Puerto Rico. In Europe the range is from 4 per square mile in Iceland to 831 per square mile in the Netherlands. Within countries there are wide variations of population densities. For example, in Egypt, the average is 55 per square mile, but 1,300 persons inhabit each square mile in settled portions where the land is arable(可耕的). High population densities generally occur in regions of developed industrialization, such as Netherlands, Belgium, and Great Britain, or where lands are intensively used for agriculture, as in Puerto Rico and Java.

Low average population densities are characteristics of most underdeveloped countries. Low densities of population is generally associated with a relatively low percentage of cultivated(耕作的) land. This generally results from poor quality of lands. It may also be due to natural obstacles to cultivation, such as deserts, mountains and jungles, or to social obstacles which keep land out of production.

More economically advanced countries of low population density have, as a rule, large proportions of their populations living in urban(城市的) areas, their rural(农村的) population densities are usually very low. Poorer developed countries of correspondingly low general population density, on the other hand, often have a concentration of rural population living on arable land, which is as great as the rural concentration found in the most densely populated industrial countries.

1. Along the bank of the Nile, we may expect to find _____.
 - A. few inhabitants
 - B. pyramids
 - C. many settlements
 - D. about 1,300 persons per square mile
2. In an area of forested land in the world _____.
 - A. we may expect to find jungles
 - B. the density of the population is relatively low
 - C. land of good quality is found
 - D. deserts are hidden
3. The title that best fits the passage is _____.
 - A. How People Live
 - B. Where People Live
 - C. Population Percentage
 - D. Population Densities

4. The most densely populated community in the western hemisphere is _____.
A. Holland B. Egypt C. Java D. Puerto Rico
5. This passage has probably been taken from _____.
A. a journal B. a textbook on economics
C. a book of geography D. a science book

解题要领(4): 运用常识

阅读一篇文章时,读者的知识面对文化背景的了解,会影响理解程度。英语文章往往牵涉到西方的文化风俗,某些阅读理解题的解也会与此有关。还有一些题目要求依靠常识或常理来解答。因此,为了解好这类题目,考生平时应重视对西方文化知识的吸收,以及普通常识的积累,以便应用于解题。

举例:第5题答案C。这道题需运用常识加以解答。本文议论的中心为人口密度,着重谈地域差异,顺便提到了耕作和经济。因此判断为文章摘自地理书,非经济教科书或其他。

Unit 5

I wonder whether China's reforms and opening-up policy have advanced enough to tolerate a bit of civil disobedience — at the grass-roots(基层) level.

What I am advocating is not a revolt against the State, but a revolt against concrete — those hard paths and roads that carry China's 1.3 billion people, day after day.

What we should do is reclaim(要求重得) the grass and save the thousands of miles of greenery in China's parks and gardens. And keep them from being covered in concrete. They belong to the people. It is time to take them back.

Grass is a living thing, a gift of nature — nurtured by man, for man. It is something we must feel between our toes and fingers, beneath our head and back and legs. It is not something that we should simply look at. It is for families to walk through on a warm spring day. It's for grandparents to revisit the pleasure of their youth, for parents to discover what they never knew, and for children to discover what is denied by "Keep Off the Grass" signs.

A park with grass should be filled with young lovers embracing and happy families enjoying picnics under cool shade trees. But they are only found in a few parks because of "Keep Off the Grass" signs. But, a park without people playing is an ugly place. In has no soul. It's unnatural. It is an insult to nature and a denial of citizens' right to enjoy what they pay for.

Sydney, Australia, with a population of 5 million, has a park called "The Domain." Every Sunday, hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people go to the park's "Speaker's Corner" to listen to the serious and the insane(荒唐的) speaking their minds on any topic they fancy. They also go to the park on hot summer evenings to enjoy open-air concerts, rock shows and films. Most events are free.

Every weekend, the lush grass becomes mud as people walk all over it. That treatment has gone on for a couple of hundred years, but every week it springs back to life.

Concrete is hard and unyielding, but grass gives.

So come on people — give us back our grass. We need it and it needs us. Take away those threatening signs. Put up signs that say: "Hello people, I'm your grass. I'm a living thing and I need time to recover my strength. So Monday to Saturday, please stay off me. On Sunday, come and walk, run and lie on me. On Sunday I am yours and you are mine."

1. In a Westerner's eye, there is _____ on the ground in China.
 - A. a lot of concrete
 - B. too little greenery
 - C. not enough grass
 - D. much hard way
2. The grass in a park provides visitors, both young and old, with _____.

- A. leisurely enjoyment B. exquisite softness
C. fond memories D. new experiences
3. "Keep Off the Grass" signs to protect lawns _____ according to the author.
A. are ugly B. seem necessary
C. should be replaced D. should be removed
4. After each activity, the grass in The Domain, a park in Sydney, will _____.
A. remain muddy for days B. need years of treatment
C. come back to life soon D. need to rest for long
5. What is suggested in the article is the idea of _____.
A. not threatening people B. a green revolution
C. feeling the living grass D. getting close to mother nature

解题要领(5): 把握细节

在阅读文章时,了解全文的脉络和大意为首要前提,大部分阅读理解题的解也基于此。但个别题目却考查学生对文章细节的了解,要求对于某词语或段落作精细的探究,不放过最关键的语义或字里行间的含意,从而确切把握事实,或判明作者的观点和意图。学生在阅读理解训练中,勿忘培养这种缜密细致的精读功力,以备在解题时善于把握细节。

举例:第3题答案C。作者在文章中提倡回归自然,对“勿踩草地”的告示牌持有异议。但作者对中国公园的批评和建议有点模糊,经研读有关阐述,尤其文章最后一段,才得以搞清。原来作者认为应换上一块牌子,告诫游客星期一至星期六别踩入草地,星期天欢迎游客在上面玩。答案中的 replace 有“更换”意。C 选项中的 ugly(讨厌的)虽与 threatening(恐吓的)意义相近,但并非根本所在。D 中的 remove(搬掉)与意义不符。

Unit 6

The walls were blackened by fire. The windows and doors are gone; a lone crucifix(十字架) hangs undamaged on the wall. Welcome to Dili's best restaurant, "Uma Mutuk" — the Burned House. At night, oil lamps and candles flicker off the walls as dinner is prepared over open fires in the rear. The food is simple, but the atmosphere is what draws customers. Guests feel ever-so-slightly uneasy, as if they were eating in a church — a feeling the owners do not attempt to dispel(消除).

The Burned House was opened two months ago by Libania Borges, 38, and her sister Manuela. Born in Dili, they had been living in the Australian city of Darwin since 1975. They returned last October to check on their relatives after army laid waste to the town. One uncle had gone missing, and they found their aunt Maria crying in the ruins of her house. "She was really down. All she did was hide and cry," says Libania, sitting on the terrace under a dirty wall. "She didn't even want to talk to us."

The two sisters decided to use their savings to turn the house into a restaurant as a way of helping their aunt recover from the trauma(创伤) of the attack. It took four weeks to clear the debris and to get a local carpenter to put a new roof on the building. The aunt wanted to clean the walls and paint them, says Libania, "but we said no — we wanted to leave it the way it is, to remind people of what the army did. What happened here makes me very angry."

The fare is basic — a \$15 set menu with just two choices — and the wine list equally limited: red or white. But the restaurant is an unqualified success. When United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan came to Dili, he ate at the Burned House, and most nights the nine tables are all booked. The aunt is smiling again. She helps Libania and Manuela serve guests when they are busy. At least the Burned House has risen from its ashes to start a new life.

1. The _____ of the burned house was(were) not harmed during the fire.
A. walls B. windows C. crucifix D. both A and C
2. Customers like to dine in the damaged house at night because _____.
A. it is brightly lit B. they love the coziness
C. foods are cooked over open fires D. they enjoy the unique atmosphere
3. Which of the following statements is Not true?
A. Libania Borges and Manuela run the Burned House.
B. The Burned House belonged to Libania's uncles and aunts.
C. Aunt Maria nearly collapsed after the calamity.
D. Libania and Manuela come from Australia.