

大学英语四级考试

难题解析与技巧

• 含新题型 •



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姚林生 编 著

Claire Bunday 审阅

华东理工大学出版社

大学英语四级考试 难题解析与技巧 (含新题型)

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前 言

本书是根据“大学英语教学大纲”的要求及全国英语四级统考的新精神编写的,目的在于帮助学生复习和巩固英语基础知识,提高语言运用能力以及应试能力。

编者经过多年大学英语四级教学的反复实践,积累了很多的资料,对学生在四级统考中存在的问题和薄弱环节进行了探索。

大学英语的教学水平直接关系到所培养的人才的质量。自1987年首次全国英语四级统考以来,每年两次,已受到广大师生的重视及各界有关人士的关注。但多年来用同一模式进行测试会形成某些方面的僵化,太多的客观题会形成负面效应。因为其中猜测的成份影响了学生分析、解决问题的能力。

本书的题目是针对大学英语四级学习的学生在学习和测试中碰到的许多难题整理精选出来的。对难点进行简明扼要的阐述,对解题技巧也作了说明,解决学生以往“错而不知所以然”的困难。

本书力求做到针对性强,内容精练,模拟度高,指导性强,既注意突出重点,又注意覆盖面。通过讲解,使学生举一反三,既可提高应试能力,又可提高语言运用能力。编者参照了历年来四级统考的试卷及近年来新题型(包括今后可能出现的新题型),对传统的题型作了调整和补充。

全书包括9个项目:传统的题型为听力测试、词汇和结构测试、阅读理解、短文写作、完形填空、改错;新增加的题型为英译汉、听写测试、简答题。本书不少内容曾供广大学生试用,颇受欢迎。这些难度稍高的题目是有意设置的,以使学生在考试时应付自如,取得理想的成绩。

本书适用于大专院校非英语专业学生作为四级考试的复习材料,及硕士研究生的考试复习使用资料。

本书在编写过程中由 Ms. Claire Bunday 友人审阅,也得到了周丽华、陶锦荣、冯荣贵、乐小萍、陶公麟、曾传斌、刘建华、戴正飞、尤恒法、黄宝华等人的大力协助,在此深表感谢。

由于编者水平有限,错误与疏漏之处在所难免,诚请读者不吝指正。

姚林生

于复旦大学 1997. 6. 28

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传统题型

一、听力测试

听力理解通常是英语测试中的一大难题。影响听力的知识包括语音知识、词汇量、词法、句法、语义规则、语篇知识、社会文化知识、逻辑知识、阅读理解及熟练程度等方面。

在小对话的听力试题中,第一个讲话者先给出一个情景或一个问题,第二个讲话者表示赞成或反对,或回答所提出的问题,然后第三者针对前面的对话提问,其中第二个讲话者讲的内容特别重要,要仔细听清。为此,对于基本的句型应当熟悉。句子与句子之间的逻辑关系一般有指示词表示,或称“意流指示词”,例如 and, but, however, besides 等。这样的词对于理解讲话很重要。例如 but 一词表示转折,只有 but 后面的内容才是说话者要强调的内容。应试者应培养对指示词的敏感性。

讲话者的语气也很重要,当第二个讲话者重复第一个讲话者所讲的某一个部分,一表示反对,二表示强调,是在程度上的强调。对 speaker 2 的内容则要求较高的理解力,要了解 S 2 话中包含的惯用法或特殊意义。不管答案之间是如何地相似,它的选择还是只

有一个,所以,把握句子的整体意义最重要。听力诀窍之一是连音问题。要练习听前一个字的字尾如何连接下一个字的字首发音。应当尽量提高大脑反应的自动性的程度,自动性来自反复,反复是通过听觉神经的反复。听话中的自动性只有达到能“听话听意”和“听话听音”时,才能真正听懂讲话。不仅考话语的直接意义,而且考推理,例如说话者们在干什么,什么态度等。听力试题答案跟原文不一定意义完全一样,只要相对最接近原文为正确。

听力测试的规律之一是出现大量的词组替换或句型转换。除了正确答案以外,另外3个选择题多数是用一些跟原文读音相同或形式近似的词组来加以混淆的。遇到难题时不要计较一题一句的得失,如过度紧张,或不能正确处理难题,就会造成连续丢分的现象。应试者如果不理解原句意思,或不完全理解原句时,就应该选择在读音上跟原句差别最大的作为正确答案,这是指读音或形式上,“听到什么,不选什么。”有时原句本身较长,听一遍即使大多数单词都听懂了,也不一定能立即理解全句的意思,但按照“听到什么,不选什么”这一诀窍往往能找到正确答案。这只是一种对听不懂题的应急措施,最根本的要靠听懂。

在解小对话试题时,还得要听口气,顺逻辑,表示赞成往往会说:“Yes”,“I agree.”,“I’ll say...”,“I... too”,“Sure.”等。如表示不同意或反对往往会说:“No”,“Not exactly”,“I don’t think so”,“How can you...”等。“听口气”还要注意一些句型和音调,陈述句用升调,否定句用升调带有肯定的意思。当然还得花数秒钟看一下供你选择的答案,这样不但有助于了解内容,还能推测题目,边看答案边听就可以选出答案了。

第二部分的短篇谈话往往只有一个话题,从头至尾有一条逻辑线贯穿,听不清的词可以根据后文判断。但是这种考题对词汇量和知识面要求较高。在可能的情况下,应当利用自己的知识、想象力和逻辑推理能力,根据所听出的片言只语对话题、大意和说话人的身份等进行判断。

要掌握重要单字、片语,在脑中形成outline的方法。由于题目一般都是按叙述的先后顺序提出的,所以一边看着答案一边听,便可推测答案,比听了题目再作答更确定。在这方面要接受“听取→理解→记忆”的训练。如听的过程中不努力记下来,印象便不深刻,如词汇量太少,再仔细听也是徒劳。

对于录音中说明和示例的一百几十秒要抓紧利用,把这部分的问题大致看一下,对一组一组的选择答案,常常也可以看出大概会是些什么问题,以便有重点地记忆一些具体内容。这部分不仅考听力,同时考记忆。要求是全面听,重点记。该部分大多数情况下是“听到什么选什么”,“抓住中心全面听,带着问题记重点”。

把选择答案中字数较少的看一下,如人名、地名、数字、身份、年龄、时间等,有这类选择答案就必然有这类问题,边听边做个记号,听到什么选什么。做这部分试题时要眼耳并用,耳朵听录音,眼睛看问题,边听边看边记。听的时候要听全句,不能听到几个单词就动手选。这里要注意听力习惯和应试技巧,在听力习惯上不下点苦功是不能考好的。要积累和扩大常用词汇,扩大阅读范围和增加阅读量,还要着重记动词(包括词组)和形容词。

Listening Comprehension

1. W: I really like your campus, but is it always this cold and windy around here?

M: Well, we have a saying. If you don't like our weather, just wait around about an hour.

Q: What do we learn about the local climate?

A) It's pleasant.

B) It's constant.

C) It's unhealthy.

D) It's changeable.

2. M: When are you leaving for South America?

W: Not for a month at least. I didn't even apply for a passport

until a week ago.

Q: What did the woman say?

- A) She received her passport last week.
- B) She plans to stay in South America for a month.
- C) She still hasn't received her passport yet.
- D) She will leave for South America in a week.

3. **M:** As an architecture major, you should consider taking computer programming.

W: Am I required to take it?

Q: What is the probable relationship between the two speakers?

- A) Manager-clerk.
- B) College adviser-student.
- C) Architect-computer expert.
- D) Architect-mathematics department head.

4. **M:** How long can I keep these out?

W: Two weeks. Then you will be fined for each day they are overdue.

Q: Where does this conversation probably take place?

- A) At the bookstore.
- B) At the library.
- C) At the travel agency.
- D) At the hospital.

5. **M:** Hi, Mary. Are you free this evening? How about going to the movies?

W: I'm sorry, John. I have to go to the bank now and then my friends and I must attend a concert at eight.

Q: What is Mary going to do next?

- A) To attend the concert.
- B) To see movies.
- C) To go to the bank.
- D) To meet her friends.

6. **M:** It's terrible what damage can be done by wind and water, isn't it?

W: Yes , we complain about the weather in Britain , but we hardly ever suffer like that.

Q: What were the two talking about?

A) The bad weather in Britain.

B) Some natural disaster that hit Britain.

C) Some natural disaster that happened in a place other than Britain.

D) Weather in general.

7. **W:** Have you visited many foreign countries?

M: Yes, every other summer, with my family, I go to a new country. I've been to France, Spain, Italy, Germany, and England.

Q: How often does the man visit foreign countries?

A) Once a year.

B) Once in two years.

C) Every summer.

D) Twice a year.

8. **W:** When does the next train leave for Waterloo?

M: Trains leave for Waterloo every two hours. You just missed the seven-thirty train by five minutes.

Q: When will the next train leave for Waterloo?

A) Ten-thirty.

B) Eight-thirty.

C) Nine-thirty.

D) Nine-fifteen.

9. **W:** Sit down. Would you like something to drink? Beer? Scotch? A cup of tea?

M: Yes, thanks. Perhaps some scotch. With a little water please. I'm quite thirsty.

Q: What would the man drink?

A) Water.

B) Scotch.

C) Beer.

D) Tea.

10. **W:** Professor Higgins, did you read this morning's newspaper?

The president has officially declared that he will not run for the presidency next year.

M: I didn't read the newspaper, but I heard last night's news broadcast. I guess he did the right thing.

Q: How does the man feel about the news?

A) He is not surprised to hear the news.

B) He thinks that the president is not likely to win.

C) He thinks that the president should at least try.

D) He thinks that it is not unexpected.

11. **W:** America is full of surprise—why do all these products function so poorly?

M: Looks like "Made in USA" is going to be synonymous with defective workmanship.

Q: What are the two speakers talking about?

A) American wonders.

B) Good workmanship.

C) Bad quality of U. S. products

D) Synthetic materials.

12. **W:** I'm sorry I'm late, but I got caught in a traffic jam.

M: Well, you seem to have more traffic jams than all of us put together. It's the third time you are late within a fortnight.

Q: What did the man try to suggest?

A) Her traffic jam was a lame excuse.

B) She was just unlucky.

C) He sympathized with her.

D) Her delay was justified.

13. **M:** We could go to the ball game this evening, or would you rather eat in a restaurant and then see a movie?

- W:** To tell the truth, I really can't go anywhere because I'm expecting an important phone-call from out of town.
- Q:** Where will the woman most probably spend the evening?
- A) At a ball game. B) Out of town.
C) At a movie. D) At home.
14. **W:** Oh, no. It's a quarter to five already and I'll miss my 5 o'clock train.
- M:** Don't worry. That clock is half an hour fast. You have enough time to catch it.
- Q:** When does this conversation take place?
- A) At 4 : 15. B) At 4 : 00.
C) At 4 : 45. D) At 5 : 00.
15. **M:** Operator, I'd like to make a call to Rome, please. How much will it cost?
- W:** \$ 10 for the first three minutes and \$ 2 for each additional minute.
- Q:** How much will a ten-minute call cost?
- A) \$ 12. B) \$ 14.
C) \$ 24. D) \$ 30.
16. **W:** Good afternoon, sir. Have you anything to declare?
- M:** No. I have only been abroad for a few days. That's why I came through the door where the notice says "Nothing to Declare."
- Q:** Where are the two speakers?
- A) At the post office. B) At the travel agents'.
C) At Customs. D) At the hotel.
17. **M:** Could you give me some information about trains for Righton?
- W:** The fast trains leave at ten minutes to and twenty minutes

past each hour. You just miss the 11 : 50 train. It left 5 minutes ago.

Q: When will the next train leave?

A) At 11 : 50.

B) At 12 : 05.

C) At 12 : 50.

D) At 12 : 20.

18. **M:** Where did you say you found the purse?

W: It was lying under a bench between the parking lot and the library building.

Q: Where did the man find the purse?

A) In a parking lot.

B) In a library.

C) Under a bench.

D) In a park.

19. **M:** Show me that quotation you were talking about. What page is it on first of all?

W: It's near the end of the book, right here on the next to last page in this middle paragraph.

Q: Where is the quotation?

A) On the last page.

B) On a page close to the end.

C) In the middle of the book.

D) On the front page.

20. **W:** Hello, Mr. Fletcher. You look rather tired this morning.

Did you have a difficult journey back from Scotland?

M: Well, the business trip was successful, but the train arrived four hours late and I didn't go to bed until four o'clock.

Q: Which of the following statements is not true?

A) The man's business trip was successful.

B) His train was delayed.

C) His journey back from Scotland took him four hours.

D) He had little sleep last night.

21. **W:** Where did you celebrate your birthday last year?
M: Let me see. A year ago today, I was a passenger on an Air Greece plane. I had just left my sister's home in Athens and was on my way to school in New York.
Q: Where was the man a year ago today?
A) In New York City. B) In his sister's home.
C) In Greece. D) On a plane.
22. **M:** Your university seems quite new. How old is it?
W: Well, this building was built five years ago, but the school was founded a century ago, in 1880.
Q: How old was the university at the time of this conversation?
A) 5 years. B) 100 years.
C) 90 years. D) 105 years.
23. **M:** I certainly enjoyed my dinner! What do you think of yours?
W: Better than I expected since I'm not very fond of Mexican food. But for that price it should have been good.
Q: What conclusion can we draw from the man's answer?
A) He likes Mexican food.
B) He expected a better dinner.
C) The dinner was expensive.
D) He enjoyed the food more than the woman did.
24. **W:** Hello, this is the Lost and Found.
M: My name is Peter Brown and I left my hat in Mr. Johnson's class this morning. Do you have it?
Q: What did we learn from this conversation?
A) Peter didn't go to Mr. Johnson's class.
B) Peter found a hat in Mr. Johnson's class.
C) Peter lost a hat in Mr. Johnson's class.
D) Peter hasn't found Mr. Johnson's hat yet.

25. **M:** Excuse me, madam. How do I get to the nearest bank?
W: Go three blocks down Eighth Street and turn left onto Fifth Avenue, go straight for two more blocks and it's on the right.
Q: Where is the bank?
A) Second Avenue. B) Fifth Avenue.
C) Eighth Street. D) Fourth Street.
26. **W:** At first I thought this dress was blue, but now it looks green to me.
M: You were right the first time. It's this yellow light in the store that makes everything look different.
Q: According to the man what is the color of the dress?
A) Red. B) Blue.
C) Yellow. D) Green.
27. **M:** I have only 12 dollars. Is it enough for 4 tickets?
W: Well, you can buy four \$ 2 tickets, or four \$ 2.5 tickets, whichever you prefer?
Q: If the man buys the cheaper ones, how much money will be left?
A) Two dollars. B) Four dollars.
C) Eight dollars. D) Ten dollars.
28. **M:** Hello, will you please send someone up to my apartment?
The hot water is running, and I can't turn it off.
W: Sorry, my men are all out now. But I'll send one up as soon as possible.
Q: Who has the woman called to come over?
A) A plumber. B) An electrician.
C) A salesman. D) A policeman.
29. **M:** My niece has been to Thailand and Iran as well as all of