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大学英语**六级**考试

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大学英语六级考试

# 阅 读 理 解

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# 前言

为适应我国高等教育新的发展形势,深化教学改革,提高教学质量,满足新时期国家对人才培养的需要,大学英语六级考试改革方案出台,考试题型有所变化,其中阅读理解试题的变化主要包括以下三点:①增加了快速阅读(Skimming & Scanning);②仔细阅读(Reading in Depth)由4篇减为2篇;③增加了篇章选词填空(Banked Cloze),与原来的篇章短句问答(Short Answer Questions)交替出现。

本书根据教育部最新宣布的六级考试新题型编写,旨在帮助考生扩充词汇量,巩固所学词汇和句法知识,深入了解语篇规则,掌握解题方法,提高阅读能力和应试能力,最终达到顺利过关的目的。

全书分为上篇、中篇、下篇三大部分,每篇所包含的内容及特点如下:

上篇为篇章阅读理解,包括“热身阅读——题型与对策”、“挑战难度——语篇与文脉”和“强化训练——技能强化”三章。

- “热身训练”的目的在于“磨刀”,帮助考生了解阅读题型的特点,熟练掌握各种题型的解题策略。该部分不仅设立了经验总结式的“名师点拨”栏目,还在每一篇文章中就该类题型进行了个案分析,设立了“解题技巧”。

- “挑战难度”的目的在于让考生熟悉这些常见的语篇结构的特点,以提高考生从宏观上把握语篇和文章脉络的能力。此部分每篇文章后附有语篇模式分析、答案解析及难句译解,每单元后还有单元重点词汇小结。

- “强化训练”部分由10个单元共20篇阅读文章组成,在设计的过程中,充分考虑了六级阅读理解考试的选材倾向、难度与出题思路。为进一步强化考生仔细阅读透彻理解的能力,尤其是解题技能,该部分每篇文章都设计了7道题,其中2道较难的附加题。此部分每篇文章后附有语篇模式分析、答案解析及难句译解,每单元后还有单元重点词汇小结。

中篇为快速阅读、短句问答、篇章选词填空三章。

- 快速阅读是六级考试的新增题型,也是新六级备考的重点。本部分严格按照已公布的样题及新题型真题的选材特点、难度与长度,从国外知名网站、外刊精心筛选了10篇文章,题目设计严谨,信度、效度接近于真题。该部分特别注重对快速阅读方法和策略的总结和点拨,这对于提高快速阅读能力具有指导意义。

- 短句问答即简短回答,属于仔细阅读理解部分的一项内容,与篇章选词填空交替出现。该部分从实战出发,对该题型的特点和解题技巧做了全面的总结,并严格按照考试要求精心设计了10篇练习,供考生提高应试解题能力。

- 篇章选词填空为大学英语六级考试新增题型。篇章选词填空阅读将词

汇放在阅读中考核,既考查词汇量,又考查阅读理解,涉及实际表达语义时所用词汇的词义、词性、词形、搭配、句子结构、文章的连贯性和语篇结构的衔接等知识。此部分提供6篇练习。

下篇为综合模拟,包括5个 Model Test,每个 Model Test 包括快速阅读1篇,短句问答(或者篇章选词填空)1篇,篇章阅读理解2篇。

针对改革后的考试题型,笔者建议考生应当主要提高以下能力:

1. 提高主旨大意理解能力。理解主旨大意就是在阅读文章时要注意文章的目的和总的意义,具体包括:文章的主旨大意、作者的态度观点(尤其是议论文)、文章的标题。在快速阅读中,理解主旨大意显得尤为重要。

2. 提高辨别和理解阐释性细节的能力。文章在表达总的观点和各个要点时,必然要进行阐释,理解阐释性细节的能力是词句理解能力的表现,只有根据词句的意思才能理解这些细节。同时,细节理解能力也是理解主旨大意的基础,两者相互关联。

3. 提高语义逻辑分析判断能力。在文章理解过程中,尤其是在词义判断和选词填空过程中,上下文的语义和逻辑关系尤为重要。要提高这种能力,在英语学习中应主动学习并掌握一定的逻辑知识、事理的基本常识、相关的专门知识、语篇衔接和连贯规则的知识。

4. 学会快速阅读的基本方法。六级考试中快速阅读文章比较长,可能令人望而生畏。其实,在通常情况下,快速阅读并不需要读懂文章的每个细节。要提高快速阅读能力,就是要提高文章大意和篇章结构的理解能力,有了这种能力,就能对大意主旨迅速做出判断,同时也能根据文章结构搜寻相关信息,快速回答其他问题。

5. 熟悉相关的体裁和题材。篇章阅读理解主要需要熟悉说明文、议论文、及报刊杂志上的报道性文章。新的试题增加快速阅读后,文章的体裁和题材的空间有所扩大,不但会使用说明文和议论文,也会使用各种其他文体,例如规章制度、履历、通知、书目等。因此,我们应当注意各方面经常出现的体裁和题材,例如学术研究、日常生活、报刊杂志、网上浏览等方面的文章。

6. 扩大词汇量和提高句法分析能力。词汇和句法是阅读的基础,无论考试如何变化,有了这个基础就有了主动权。

编者



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# 上篇 篇章阅读理解

## 热身训练——题型与对策

- ◆◆◆常言道：“磨刀不误砍柴工”，热身阅读的目的在于“磨刀”，帮助考生了解阅读选择题的类型、学会各类选择题的分析方法，尤其是熟练掌握一些特殊选择题的处理办法。此部分共 6 个单元，每个单元 3 篇文章。每单元中给出“名师点拨”，并且每篇文章后都提供了“解题技巧”。

## 挑战难度——语篇与文脉

- ◆◆◆本部分选取篇目反映了历年六级真题中出现频率较高的 5 种典型的语篇模式。其目的在于让考生熟悉这些常见的语篇结构的特点，以提高考生从宏观上把握语篇和文章脉络的能力。此部分共 5 个单元，每单元 2 篇文章，每篇文章后附有语篇模式分析、答案解析及难句译解，每单元后附有单元重点词汇小结。

## 强化训练——技能强化

- ◆◆◆为了让考生能够灵活熟练地运用“热身训练”和“挑战难度”中学到的技巧，此部分提供 10 个单元共 20 篇文章的阅读练习，文章题材难度与六级实考一致。另外为强化考生的阅读与解题技能，每篇文章设计了 7 道题，最后 2 道为附加题，并附有难句选译。



# 第一章 热身训练——题型与对策

## UNIT 1 主旨型

### 一、题型特点

主旨类题型测试的是考生对文章主题和中心思想的把握。根据概括的范围可分为全篇主旨题和段落主旨题。根据提问的特点,主旨题则包含以下三种类型:

#### 1. 中心思想题

提问针对文章的大意、要点或观点。

题干关键词: main idea; major point; be mainly about; mainly deals with; mainly discuss; focus on; center on; argue。

#### 2. 最佳标题题

问题要求以简练的措辞概括文章主题或话题。

题干关键词: the best title; the most suitable/ appropriate title。

#### 3. 作者意图题

提问作者写作文章的目的,往往为隐含式主旨题。

题干关键词: purpose; aim; intend; be meant to。

### 二、主旨题的阅读策略与解题策略

阅读时注意文章的第一段和最后一段。六级阅读的文章绝大多数为议论文和说明文,作者经常在第一段表明观点或点明论述的话题,所以第一段往往是主题段落。另外最后一段也经常是作者得出结论的段落,包含了文章的主题和作者的观点。除此之外还要注意每段的第一句或最后一句,因为这些句子在许多情况下是主题句,概括了段落的主要意思,把这些句子综合起来看,是把握文章主旨的一个方法。

#### 名师点拨

在确定文章的主旨时要注意选项概括的幅度、范围。过泛或过窄都不能成为正确的答案。

In the span of 18 months, Isaac Newton invented calculus, constructed a theory of optics, explained how gravity works and discovered his laws of motion. As a result, 1665 and the early months of 1666 are termed his miracle year. It was a sustained sprint of intellectual achievement that no one thought could ever be equalled. But in a span of a few years just before 1900, it all began to unravel. One phenomenon after another was discovered which could not be explained by the laws of classical physics. The theories of Newton, and of James Clerk Maxwell who followed him in the mid-19th century by crafting a more comprehensive account of electromagnetism, were in trouble.

Then, in 1905, a young patent clerk named Albert Einstein found the way forward. In five remarkable papers, he showed that atoms are real (it was still controversial at the time), presented his special theory of relativity, and put quantum theory on its feet. It was a different achievement from Newton's year, but Einstein's miracle year was no less remarkable. He did not, like Newton, have to invent entirely new forms of mathematics. However, he had to revise notions of space and time fundamentally. And unlike Newton, who did not publish his results for nearly 20 years, so obsessed was he with secrecy and working out the details, Einstein released his papers one after another, as a fusillade of ideas.

For Einstein, it was just a beginning—he would go on to create the general theory of relativity and to pioneer quantum mechanics. While Newton came up with one system for explaining the world, Einstein thus came up with two. Unfortunately, his discoveries—relativity and quantum theory—contradict one another. Both cannot be true everywhere, although both are remarkably accurate in their respective domains of the very large and the very small. Einstein would spend the last years of his life attempting to reconcile the two theories, and failing. But then, no one else has succeeded in fixing the problems either, and Einstein was perhaps the one who saw them most clearly.

1. The one and a half years between 1665 and 1666 are termed Newton's miracle year because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) he was regarded as a genius
- B) he found a new theory
- C) no one could equal him

- D) he made a series of great discoveries
2. Which of the following is NOT true?
- A) Newton's theories were questioned at the end of 19th century.  
B) Newton's theories were revised by Maxwell.  
C) Newton's theories proved to be imperfect.  
~~D~~) Einstein's miracle year was very remarkable.
3. From the passage we know that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) Newton hesitated to publish his results  
B) Newton changed people's concept of time and space  
C) Einstein published his paper in rapid sequence  
D) Einstein was eager to hear comments on his theories
4. The biggest challenge for Einstein was \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) to make theory of relativity and quantum theory in agreement with each other  
B) to explain his profound theories in a plain way  
C) that neither of his theories was true  
D) that both of his theories were accurate
5. The passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) what Albert Einstein really did in science  
B) the differences between the two geniuses  
C) how science is progressing  
D) there is no absolute truth in science

## KEYS & NOTES

1. D 细节题 本题问 1665 年和 1666 年之间的一年半时间之所以被称作奇迹之年的原因。根据第一段第二句中的 *As a result*, 这个表示因果关系的短语说明前一句就是原因:“在 18 个月中牛顿创立了力学,建立了光学,解释了引力工作的原理,发现了运动的定律。”所以正确答案为 D。
2. B 细节判断题 从前三个选项看,本题涉及“牛顿的理论”。根据第一段最后一句:“牛顿的理论,以及麦克斯韦的理论——他在 19 世纪通过更为全面地论述电磁学而追随牛顿,都陷入了麻烦。”根据这一句可判断 B 项“牛顿的理论被麦克斯韦修正”是对原文的曲解。
3. C 细节题 根据第二段最后一句:“爱因斯坦一篇接一篇地发表自己的论文,思想犹如子弹齐发。”C 项与此相符。A 项不对,牛顿 20 年后才发表成果并不是因为犹豫。

4. A 细节题 根据最后一段倒数第二句可知爱因斯坦花了他生命中最后几年的时间来调和他的相对论和量子理论,但失败了,可见这是他的最大挑战。
5. A 主旨题——中心思想类 本文第一段谈了牛顿,随后两段谈了爱因斯坦在科学上的研究和建树。提及牛顿只是作为一种话题的引入和映衬,所以 A 项为正确选项。

【解题技巧】判断文章的主旨,要看其主要篇幅在谈什么,分清主次。

## Passage 2

难度:★★

题材:“协和”超音速客机 体裁:说明文

(CNN)—An Anglo-French project, Concorde entered service in 1976, the world's only supersonic passenger aircraft.

It was trumpeted as a new age in world travel as two of the sleek planes arrived in New York and drew up to kiss noses on the Tarmac.

Crossing the Atlantic in three hours at 1,370 miles per hour—twice the speed of sound—passengers from Europe could beat the time difference and arrive earlier than they took off.

Although quite cramped inside, Concorde became synonymous with champagne travel, a status symbol for the rich and famous.

It was developed throughout the 1960s by British and French aerospace engineers, using a revolutionary dart-shaped design.

The first Concorde, the 001, was rolled out in 1967, but it took two more years of testing and fine-tuning its powerful engines before it made its maiden flight on March 2, 1969, over France.

Only 20 were ever built, although the original plan was for 300.

In 1972, the plane's future looked bright. More than a dozen airlines had placed orders and the French and British governments expected to recoup their \$3.5 billion development costs.

But a year later, the Arab oil embargo prompted a steep rise in fuel prices and the thirsty Concorde looked less appealing. Prospective buyers dropped out.

The world's desire to go supersonic was surpassed by the reality of subsonic flight in planes able to carry more people more cheaply, like the Boeing 747, or “jumbo jet”, which first flew for PANAM in 1970.

Eventually, the British and French governments were forced to write off the cost of Concorde's production and virtually give the plane to British Airways and Air



France.

For 24 years Concorde had a perfect safety record, with services from London's Heathrow and Charles de Gaulle in Paris to New York's JFK.

Before its inaugural flight in 1976, Concorde had 5,000 hours of testing, making it the most vetted aircraft in history. A test pilot sent by the U. S. government said it "could be the safest airplane ever built".

But the July 2 000 crash near Paris's Charles de Gaulle airport which killed 113 people was the beginning of the end.

Services were withdrawn until November 2001, but confidence among passengers was never fully restored. And the downturn in the airline industry, which had started before the September 11 attacks, made Concorde an expense its operators could not afford.

1. By "champagne travel", the author means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) taking Concorde is an expensive and famous travel  
B) a fast and safe travel  
C) a more comfortable travel  
D) a travel to success
2. The word "recoup" (Line 2, Para. 8) most probably means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) cut down  
B) invest  
C) gain back  
D) withdraw
3. The would-be buyers of Concorde dropped out because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) oil price rose greatly in 1973  
B) the July 2000 crash alarmed them  
C) they were still worried about the safety of it  
D) it looked less attractive in appearance
4. It can be inferred that the biggest disadvantage of Concorde is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) its reliability  
B) its enormous consumption of fuel  
C) its huge development cost  
D) its vulnerability to terrorists' attacks
5. Which of the following is the most appropriate title of the passage?  
A) Concorde and Boeing 747  
B) The Fastest Passenger Flight  
C) The Rise and Fall of Concorde  
D) The Failure of Concorde

## KEYS & NOTES

1. A 细节题 根据第四段:“尽管里面相当狭窄,‘协和’变得和香槟之旅同义,一种富人、名人地位的象征。”法国香槟酒代表着享受和奢华,用“香槟之旅”表明乘坐“协和”飞机是昂贵而又出名的事情。
2. C 语义题 根据该词所在句及前面一句可知,在1972年协和飞机有着美好的市场前景,所以法英政府期望 recoup 他们35亿美元的开发成本。由此判断该词合理的意思应为“收回”,C项正确。
3. A 细节题 本题涉及协和未来的买主退出的原因。文章第九段告诉我们,阿拉伯石油禁运使油价陡然上升,“饥渴的”协和就显得不那么吸引人了。未来的购买者纷纷退出。由此判断应选A项。
4. B 推论题 根据文章我们知道“协和”是惟一的超音速客机,安全性能也很好,最终使许多订购者放弃的原因是因为油价的上升,由此可推断协和飞机耗油高。故B项正确。
5. C 主旨题——最佳标题类 文章谈了“协和”超音速客机诞生时的风光无限以及人们对它的推崇,然后谈到因油价上升订购商对它的冷淡,以及2000年的空难事故和航空业的下滑给“协和”带来的沉重打击。综合看来C项恰当地概括了文章大意。D项属片面概括。

【解题技巧】对最佳标题的主旨题判断时,要注意选项是否扼要而全面地概括了文章的主要方面的内容。

### Passage 3

难度:★★

题材:左撇子问题 体裁:说明文

The orthodox view of human handedness is that it is connected to the bilateral specialization of the brain that has concentrated language-processing functions on the left side of that organ. Because, long ago in the evolutionary past, an ancestor of humans (and all other vertebrate animals) underwent a contortion that twisted its head around  $180^\circ$  relative to its body, the left side of the brain controls the right side of the body, and vice versa. In humans, the left brain (and thus the right body) is usually dominant. And on average, left-handers are smaller and lighter than right-handers. That should put them at an evolutionary disadvantage. Sporting advantage notwithstanding, therefore, the existence of left-handedness poses a problem for biologists. But Charlotte Faurie and Michel Raymond, of the University of Montpellier

II, in France, think they know the answer. As they report in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society*, there is a clue in the advantage seen in boxing.

As any schoolboy could tell you, winning fights enhances your status. If, in prehistory, this translated into increased reproductive success, it might have been enough to maintain a certain proportion of left-handers in the population, by balancing the costs of being left-handed with the advantages gained in fighting. If that is true, then there will be a higher proportion of left-handers in societies with higher levels of violence, since the advantages of being left-handed will be enhanced in such societies. Dr. Faurie and Dr. Raymond set out to test this hypothesis.

Fighting in modern societies often involves the use of technology, notably firearms, that is unlikely to give any advantage to left-handers. So Dr. Faurie and Dr. Raymond decided to confine their investigation to the proportion of left-handers and the level of violence (by number of homicides) in traditional societies.

By trawling the literature, checking with police departments, and even going out into the field and asking people, the two researchers found that the proportion of left-handers in a traditional society is, indeed, correlated with its homicide rate. One of the highest proportions of left-handers, for example, was found among the Yanomamo of South America. Raiding and warfare are central to Yanomamo culture. The murder rate is 4 per 1,000 inhabitants per year (compared with, for example, 0.068 in New York). And, according to Dr. Faurie and Dr. Raymond, 22.6% of Yanomamo are left-handed. In contrast, Dioula-speaking people of Burkina Faso in West Africa are virtual pacifists. There are only 0.013 murders per 1,000 inhabitants among them and only 3.4% of the population is left-handed.

While there is no suggestion that left-handed people are more violent than the right-handed, it looks as though they are more successfully violent. Perhaps that helps to explain the double meaning of the word "sinister".

1. The bilateral specialization of the brain was \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) caused by a physical twist in evolutionary history  
B) the result of human habits  
C) required by existence  
D) simplified by traditional scientists
2. According to the hypothesis of the two French biologists, \_\_\_\_\_.  
A) left-handedness puts people at a disadvantage in survival  
B) Levels of violence in societies correlate with the proportion of left-handers  
C) left-handedness is the result of frequent wars