■ The Lconomist

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《考研英语阅读题源》系列在2008年4月和2010年1月相继推出了第一版和第二版(修订版),问世后都连续高居全国畅销书排行榜前列,这让我们受到了极大的鼓励,同时也证明了"考研英语阅读题源"这个概念为广大考研考生所认可和支持。

《考研英语阅读题源》第二版(修订版)出版之后,我们未敢有丝毫懈怠,立即全身心地投入到了《考研英语阅读题源II》的编写工作之中。历经一年的资料搜集、整理、精选和编译,全新的《考研英语阅读题源II》系列终于与大家见面了。

《考研英语阅读题源II》系列结合大家对于前两版的反馈意见,以及近年考研英语阅读的命题实际,选取了符合大家阅读偏好,同时也是考研英语阅读理解文章最集中的题源The Economist 《经济学家》、Newsweck 《新闻周刊》、Time 《时代周刊》、The New York Times 《纽约时报》4份期刊杂志,从这些为考研命题者所青睐的优秀原版期刊杂志中分别精选出50篇与考研英语阅读命题趋势相贴近的最新文章,具有较强的时效性。

以下是近年考研英语阅读真题文章的主要来源,这也正是我们选定分册 的重要原则。

年份	篇章	原文发表时间			
		The New York Times 《纽约时报》	The Economist 《经济学家》	Newsweek 《新闻周刊》	Time 《时代周刊》
2010	Text 4		2009.4.8		
2009	Text 1	2008.5.4			
2008	Text 2		2005.9		
2007	Text 1	2006.5.7			
2007	Text 4		2005.6.23		
2006	Text 3		2003.5.15		
2006	Text 4				2005.1.17
	Text 1		2003.9.18		
2005	Text 3			2002.7.10	
	Text 4		2004.1.29		
2004	Text 2		2001.9.1		
2004	Text 3			2000.12.18	
2003	Text 1				1999.1.25
	Text 4			2001.8.27	
2002	Text 3		1999.11.27		

对于大家而言,见到这些期刊杂志,往往发现自己无从下手,不知如何读起。是篇篇通读?还是自己选读?选读的标准又如何确定?这些问题往往使得不少掌握英文原版期刊杂志这一"稀缺"资源的您如堕迷雾之中,不知所措。

为了解决大家的这些困惑,《考研英语阅读题源II》每本分册根据考研英语阅读文章的题材类型将精选的文章分为社会类、文教类、经济类、科技类和健康类五部分,同时进行了贴心的设置安排,具体请看范例:

题源文选:原汁原味、内容翔实的英语报刊文摘,从风格、内容、难易程度方面均与考研英语阅读文章相近。

清晰标注文章来源、作者及文章发表时间

Road Deaths Nationwide Fell Sharply in 2008

超纲单词

Highway *fatalities* dropped by 9 percent nationally from 2007 to 2008, a federal agency found, falling to their lowest level in nearly 50 years.

From *The New York Times*By Abby Goodnough
April 7, 2009

New England saw the nation's steepest drop in such deaths, even as three of its states, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, reported some of the lowest rates of seat belt use.

Preliminary data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration showed a decline in deaths of 14 percent in New England. The smallest drop in the nation, 1 percent, was in the region comprising Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas.

重点单词

Lauren Stewart, director of the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety, said the drop in her state could also be due to a stricter seatbelt law that went into effect in September 2007. Maine had 129 traffic deaths last year, down from 138 in 2007.

为文味更考阅特百个原基地英特选保计础体语色结节。

整、篇幅相 当的部分作

内容相对完

为重点段落 (即铺底色

部分),便

于大家有重

点地阅读。

阅读题源Ⅱ

经济学家

词汇注解

列出文中需大家掌握的核心词汇和超纲单词

列出文中出现的、考研大纲中所包含的词汇,附有音标、文中释义及大纲 全义,在原文中以加粗字体标出,帮助大家在阅读的同时更全面地掌握重 点单词,并通过对单词的理解更好地进行阅读。

重点单词

comprise /kem'praiz/

[文中释义] v. 包含

[文中释义] v. 包含、包括、由……组成;构成、组成

列出文中出现的、不属于考研大纲考查范围的生词, 在原文中以 斜体标出, 为大家排除阅读中的障碍, 帮助扩展词汇量。

超纲单词

fatality skyrocket n. (因意外事故的)死亡

v. 使……上升

针对原文中的重点段落, 提供精准的译文, 为理解文章提供借鉴。

重点段落译文

据联邦机构的调查显示,在2007年到2008年间全国高速公路事故率下降了 9个百分点,是近50年来的最低点。

新英格兰地区是全国这类事故死亡率下降速度最快的地区、同时马萨诸塞 州、新罕布什尔州和罗得岛州三个州也都公布了最低的安全带佩戴率。

美国全国公路交通安全管理局初步调查的数据显示,新英格兰地区的交通 事故死亡率下降了14个百分点。而路易斯安那州、密西西比州、新墨西哥州、 俄克拉何马州与得克萨斯州这五个州的事故死亡率降幅最低,仅下降了1%。

我们发现,我们的读者中除了考研考生外,还有不少大众英语学习爱好者, 其中不乏白领读者,他们把这套书当作原版报刊杂志的"精编合订本",用做 泛读,或用做了解更广阔的世界。因此,强烈建议考研考生在考研过后,也尽 量抽时间再看看我们这几套书,让它们继续发挥"余热"。其他英语学习爱好 者也大可以读读我们的书,相信一定会有意想不到的收获!

希望我们能和考研考生以及大众英语学习爱好者一起,在英语学习的海洋 中同舟共济,不断前行!

> 者 2010年11月于北京



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阅读题源 II







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From *The Economist* April 16, 2009

State of Fear

Italy's earthquake reverberates on America's fault-lined coast.

Easels holding *seismic* maps of Italy are standing all around the western headquarters of the United States Geological Survey in Menlo Park, California. Given that Californians live in permanent fear of "the big one", they feel "lots of scientific and emotional connections" to Italy's recent earthquake, which killed 294 people and destroyed ancient towns, says Ross Stein, a scientist there.

America's entire western coast sits on or near *tectonic* faults. Since these forces formed the coast's harbors, and since people have settled largely around those harbors, the populations tend to be where the risks are highest.

In California, which has about 1,500 known faults, two are particularly menacing. One is the southern San Andreas, where the Pacific plate shears north-west along the North American plate, and where a "swarm" of *tremors* under a desert lake near the Mexican border has recently caused worry about a bigger quake being triggered near Los Angeles.

The other is the Hayward fault that cuts through Oakland, Berkeley and the rest of the Bay Area east of San Francisco. It has ruptured

on average every 140 years for the past 700 years; the last big one was just over 140 years ago. Depending on the time of day, location and depth of a quake, Mary Lou Zoback, an earthquake specialist at Risk Management Solutions, a firm that produces loss *scenarios* for insurance companies, reckons that a magnitude 7.05 rupture in the Hayward fault could kill 4,500, injure 50,000, leave hundreds of thousands homeless and cause \$ 250 billion in economic loss, most of it uninsured.

Oregon, Washington and British Columbia might worry too. Their region, called Cascadia, is the result of another plate, the Juan de Fuca, shoving underneath the North American. These faults produce big ones about every 500 years, less frequently than California's. But when they do, the shaking is *otherworldly*. The last giant, in 1700, was of magnitude nine, which has the energy of about 31 eights, 1,000 sevens, or 30,000 sixes. (This month's quake in Italy measured 6.3.)

The best way to prepare is to build safer structures, says Jeanne Perkins, who advises local governments in the San Francisco Bay Area. One difference between California and Italy, she says, is that its cities and buildings are younger. Building codes have progressed with each quake, taking big leaps after tremors in 1971, 1989 and 1994. They also seem to be enforced.

Brick buildings have been the deadliest in the past, and are now rare in California, though still common in Oregon and Washington. Wooden houses fare relatively well because they are flexible and light. Office buildings used to be dangerous, but many have now been retrofitted.

The biggest worry, says Ms Perkins, is so-called "soft-storey" residential blocks that predate the recent building codes. These are buildings that have parking garages, restaurants or shops on their ground floors, with few load-bearing walls holding up the flats above. She estimates that about 2,800 residential blocks in San Francisco have soft storeys, and about 1,500 in Oakland. Often these contain rent-controlled flats, raising fears that the poor would be more likely to die.

Mr Stein in Menlo Park urges perspective. He has spent \$5,000 retrofitting

考研 The Economist

阅读题源Ⅱ

经济学家

his own house, keeps his survival kit up to date and has clipped whistles on his and his daughters' key chains ("the best thing if you're trapped"). But he enjoys life on the sun-kissed coast. Besides, he winks, "my cappuccino machine is on a separate, uninterruptible, power supply."



重点单词

harbor /ha:bə/ [文中释义] n. (harbour)海港 「大纲全义] n. (harbour)海港; 避难所 ν. 隐匿, 窝藏 menacing /menesin/ adj. 威胁的 [文中释义] [大纲全义] adj. 威胁的 shear /[ie/ [文中释义] v. 使折断 [大纲全义] v. 剪, 修剪; 使折断 rupture /rapt[e(r)/ [文中释义] ν. (使)破裂 [大纲全义] ν. (使)破裂 magnitude /mægnitju:d/ [文中释义] n.(地震)级数 [大纲全义] n. 大小, 数量; 巨大, 广大; (地震)级数 leap /li:p/ [文中释义] n. 跳跃, 飞跃 [大纲全义] v. 跳, 跳跃 n. 跳跃, 飞跃 ν. 实施, 执行 enforce /in'fo:s/ [文中释义] [大纲全义] v. 实施,执行;强制;支持,坚 持(要求、主张等) flexible /'fleksəbl/ [文中释义] adj. 灵活的 [大纲全义] adj. 柔韧的, 易弯曲的, 灵活 的,能变形的 residential /rezi'den[əl/ [文中释义] adj. 住宅的,与居住有关的

[大纲全义]

adj. 住宅的,与居住有关的



wink /wink/

[文中释义] v. 眨眼示意 [大纲全义] v. (使)眨眼;眨眼示意 n. 眨 眼:小睡、打盹

超纲单词

reverberate

seismic

tectonic

tremor

scenario

otherworldly

retrofit

V. 反响

adi. 地震的

adj. 构造的

n. 震动, 颤动

n. 情节

adj. 空前的, 绝世的

ν. 对……翻新改进

美国的整个西海岸都坐落在一条构造断裂带上或在其附近。由于 那里的沿海港口是由地质构造力形成的,大面积的人口定居在港口周 围, 因此这里的人口居住在这最危险的地带。

在加利福尼亚州,已知的断层就有大约1500个,其中有两个特别 危险。一个就是南圣安德里斯,在此处,太平洋板块与北美板块的西北 部相切,而且最近在靠近墨西哥边境的一个沙漠湖的下方,一连串的颤 动引起人们的担忧,这可能会在洛杉矶附近诱发一场更大的地震。

另一个是海沃德断层,它贯穿奥克兰、伯克利以及旧金山东部海 湾地区的剩余部分。在过去的700年间,该处平均每隔140年就要断裂 一次,最后一次大断裂就发生在140多年前。玛丽・罗・祖巴克是风 险管理方案公司——一家为保险公司进行损失情况评估的公司的一位 地震专家,她根据地震发生的时间、地点以及震源深度估计,海沃德



阅读题源Ⅱ

经济学家

断层地带7.05级的地震就有可能造成4500人死亡,5万人受伤,成千上万的人无家可归,2500亿美元的经济损失,其中大多数损失是未投保的。

俄勒冈州、华盛顿和不列颠哥伦比亚也有担忧。这些地区被称作卡斯卡底古陆,是另一个板块——胡安·德富卡板块与北美板块下部碰撞形成的。这些断层大约每隔500年就要产生一次大的断裂,虽然发生的频率比加利福尼亚的低一些,但是一旦发生断裂,其震动是空前的。最后一次巨大的断裂发生在1700年,震级达到了9级,所释放的能量是8级地震的31倍,7级地震的1000倍,或者6级地震的3万倍(本月意大利发生6.3级地震)。

珍娜·博金斯建议旧金山湾区的地方政府,最好的应对方法就是建造更安全的建筑。她表示,加利福尼亚州与意大利的区别之处就在于,前者的城市和建筑物要比后者的年轻些。建筑法规也随着每次地震的发生进一步发展,尤其是在1971年、1989年和1994年的几次地震之后有了飞跃式的发展。而且这些法规似乎也得到了强制执行。

过去,砖砌建筑被认为是最致命的,现在,尽管在俄勒冈和华盛顿砖砌建筑还很常见,但在加利福尼亚却很少了。木制房子的发展相对来说要好得多,因为它们既有韧性又轻便。过去,办公楼是很危险的,但是现在很多也已经过了翻修改进。

博金斯女士认为,最大的隐患是那些建于现行建筑法规之前的、被称作"弱层"的住宅区。这些建筑的一楼是车库、饭店或者商店,仅有少数几面承重墙支撑着上层建筑。她估计,在旧金山大约有2800个住宅区有软层,奥克兰大约有1500个。通常这些住宅区内都有租金管制公寓,这引起人们担心:穷人丧生的可能性更大。





From *The Economist* June 18, 2009

Checking out the Chicks

One day Judith Haller was watching television and saw that Martha Stewart had chickens. "I was very envious that she had her own chicken manure," she recalls. So last year, she got a couple of chickens on behalf of her vegetable garden. They proved to be industrious providers and pleasant companions. Now there are 13 hens pecking around the yard. And Ms Haller has become an advocate for a hot movement: backyard chickens. In April, as part of Austin's first Funky Chicken Coop Tour, she hosted 637 visitors.

Chickens are having a movement. For Americans who are concerned about eating locally or organically, hens can help. They produce fresh, free-range eggs. They eat table scraps, and their waste goes in the compost pile. Finances are a factor for some families. Mimi Bernhardt says that she and her partner became more reflective about sustainability when the economy worsened. Now they are growing melons, tomatoes, onions and aubergines, and they raise ducks as well as chickens. Their grocery bill has plummeted. There is also a pet aspect. Hens are soft and fluffy, if not very affectionate. As Ms Haller puts it, they make cats seem like dogs.

It is impossible to know exactly how many Americans have joined this trend. The Department of Agriculture does not track *hobbyists*.