

金星教育·高考研究所



GAOKAODAWENTI

# 高考 大问题

阅读理解

解决方案

英语

总主编/薛金星

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# 高考大问题解决方 案系列丛书

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# 高考大问题

## 阅读理解 解决方案 英语

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## 怎样提高阅读理解能力

(一)掌握正确的阅读方法,进行有效阅读,是培养阅读能力的关键。常见的英语文章阅读方法有如下几种:

1. 略读法:略读法是快速阅读的一种方法,通常又称为浏览。利用略读法进行阅读时,要特别注意文章首尾两段,因为文章的第一段往往点明文章的主题、中心思想或作者的意图,而文章的最后一段则常常总结归纳或重述文章的主要内容。

2. 查阅法:考生从文章中获得所需的具体信息,可以不需要阅读整篇文章,而只需找出可能包含所需信息的部分,再进行阅读即可,这种方法就是查阅法。查阅法主要用于获得具体的信息,回答具体的问题,考生在使用查阅法时,应该注意文章的结构和顺序排列,文章的结构有的是按时间顺序排列,有的是按空间顺序排列,有的是按逻辑顺序排列。弄清楚文章的排列顺序能帮助考生在阅读和回答问题时做到高效省时、准确无误。

3. 同义互译法:所谓同义互译,就是在阅读的时候从备选项中找出与原文意思相同或相近的单词、词组或句子,它们在意义上相同或相近,可以互相解释,互相替换,这种阅读方式叫做同义互译法。它是英语阅读理解的常见方法之一,在高考中有些深层理解或者判断推理的问题可以采用同义互译法。

4. 判断推理法:在答题时,考生有时会发现所给的四个选项中,不止一个选项可以作为答案项,这时就应该意识到该题是一个判断推理题了。在答题时,就要根据文章的主旨和作者的意图,选择比较,去伪存真,做深层理解和全面分析,进行合理的推理和判断,选出切合文章主旨和作者意图的最佳答案。

(二)多种途径加强阅读训练,是培养阅读能力的有效途径

要想真正培养阅读能力,仅靠一朝一夕是不可能的,阅读训练应该成为每日必做的功课,要做到:

1. 养成良好的阅读习惯,每日定量读文章。英语阅读能力的培养是一个循序渐进的复杂过程,要养成每天阅读英语的习惯,尽量读包括故事、科普等题材以及应用文等体裁的一系列文章,和高考试题保持一致,并在阅读中逐渐掌握解题方法。循序渐进,持之以恒,阅读能力会得到逐步提高。

2. 多读英文报刊,关注社会热点。英文报刊阅读是考生巩固和运用所学词汇、提高阅读能力、培养语感、做到学以致用有效途径,而且目前的高考阅读理解文章中有新闻报道、科技报道等应用文的考查。因此,考生备考阅读理解时应了解新闻报道的特点,适当增加英语报刊的阅读。同时,考生应该对社会热点问题予以重视,多了解这方面的内容,会有助于理解文章内容。

3. 矫正不良阅读习惯。不少考生在阅读时常用手指着字,或复读、回读或声读,这样的习惯会影响阅读速度的提高,所以必须克服。在阅读时应把领会作者要表达的主要意思作为第一目的,加大“目光跨度”,以“意群”为阅读单位,培养良好的阅读习惯。另外,要学会根据文章的不同体裁和形式采取相应的阅读方式和技巧。如故事性的记叙文可采取“顺读法”,以便找准关键词句、领会主旨大意,而某些篇幅较长的应用文(如广告等)则可采取“逆读法”,即先读题,从中把握题干与选项所含的重点信息,然后从短文中查找相关内容,以便排除干扰、快速准确地抓住信息点,增强解题的针对性。

4. 有针对性地进行限时阅读训练,养成在规定时间内完成对短文的阅读、理解和答题的习惯。

## 考纲链接

2010 年全国高考英语考试大纲及说明(新课标)对阅读的要求为:要求考生能读懂书、报、杂志中关于一般性话题的简短文段以及公告、说明、广告等,并能从中获取相关信息。考生应能:(1)理解主旨和要义;(2)理解文中具体信息;(3)根据上下文推断生词的词义;(4)做出判断和推理;(5)理解文章的基本结构;(6)理解作者的意图、观点和态度。阅读理解体裁多样,有说明文、记叙文、议论文等,阅读量大,词汇量大,推论题增加,重视语言文化背景考查,要求提高阅读速度,每分钟达到 60 个词,选材集中于英文原版的书刊报纸,长句较多。其中文化类的文章以记叙文和议论文为主,中西文化差异为考查重点;2010 年可能会涉及逸闻趣事类文章,主要考查事件的发生、发展以及对结果的判断;史地类文章主要考查英语国家的主要名胜和历史事件,通常以细节题为主,涉及对地理知识的考查;人物传记类文章以细节题为主、推断题为辅。

## 考情回眸

在体裁方面,2009、2008 和 2007 三年高考部分地区的具体情况如下:

全国 I	2009	A. 记叙文	B. 说明文	C. 说明文	D. 说明文	E. 记叙文
	2008	A. 记叙文	B. 说明文	C. 说明文	D. 应用文	E. 说明文
	2007	A. 记叙文	B. 说明文	C. 夹叙夹议	D. 说明文	E. 说明文
全国 II	2009	A. 说明文	B. 说明文	C. 说明文	D. 说明文	E. 记叙文
	2008	A. 记叙文	B. 说明文	C. 说明文	D. 说明文	E. 应用文
	2007	A. 记叙文	B. 议论文	C. 说明文	D. 说明文	E. 说明文
天津	2009	A. 说明文	B. 说明文	C. 说明文	D. 说明文	
	2008	A. 记叙文	B. 说明文	C. 说明文	D. 议论文	E. 记叙文
	2007	A. 记叙文	B. 应用文	C. 记叙文	D. 说明文	E. 议论文

从体裁方面看,高考阅读理解尽量追求体裁的多样化。总的来说,一般分为以下四种:记叙文、说明文、应用文和议论文。而且近几年高考阅读理解对体裁的考查呈如下趋势:说明文一般占 45%左右;记叙文占 30%左右;应用文占 15%左右;议论文占 10%左右。考查最多的是说明文,特别是国外新科技、新发明的应用文,一直是高考考查的热点,这也符合外语学习的根本目的。议论文考查的最少,但往往是难度最大、最有区分度的体裁,考生失误较多的题目往往是议论文,因此大家对议论文也应该给予足够的重视。



## 记叙文

## 三年真题 SANNIANZHENTI

(一)(2009·山东)

A year ago August, Dave Fuss lost his job driving a truck for a small company in west Michigan. His wife, Gerrie, was still working in the local school cafeteria, but work for Dave was scarce, and the price of everything was rising. The Fusses were at risk of joining the millions of Americans who have lost their homes in recent years. Then Dave and Gerrie received a timely gift—\$7 000, a legacy(遗产) from their neighbors Ish and Arlene Hatch, who died in an accident. “It really made a difference when we were going under financially,” says Dave.

But the Fusses weren't the only folks in Alto and the neighboring town of Lowell to receive unexpected legacy from the Hatches. Dozens of other families were touched by the Hatches' generosity. In some cases, it was a few thousand dollars; in others, it was more than \$100 000.

It surprised nearly everyone that the Hatches had so much money, more than \$3 million—they were an elderly couple who lived in an old house on what was left of the family farm.

Children of the Great Depression, Ish and Arlene were known for their habit of saving. They thrived on (喜欢) comparison shopping and would routinely go from store to store, checking prices before making a new purchase.

Through the years, the Hatches paid for local children to attend summer camp when their parents couldn't afford it. “Ish and Arlene never asked if you needed anything,” says their friend Sandy Van Weelden, “They could see things they could do to make you happier, and they would do them.”

Even more extraordinary was that the Hatches had their farmland distributed. It was the Hatches' wish that their legacy—a legacy of kindness as much as one of dollars and cents—should enrich the whole community (社区) and last for generations to come.

Neighbors helping neighbors—that was Ish and Arlene Hatch's story.

- According to the text, the Fusses \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. were employed by a truck company  
B. were in financial difficulty  
C. worked in a school cafeteria  
D. lost their home
- Which of the following is true of the Hatches?  
A. They had their children during the Great Depression.  
B. They left the family farm to live in an old house.  
C. They gave away their possessions to their neighbors.  
D. They helped their neighbors to find jobs.
- Why would the Hatches routinely go from store to store?  
A. They decided to open a store.  
B. They wanted to save money.  
C. They couldn't afford expensive things.  
D. They wanted to buy gifts for local kids.
- According to Sandy Van Weelden, the Hatches were \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. understanding  
B. optimistic  
C. childlike  
D. curious

5. What can we learn from the text?

- A. The community of Alto was poor.
- B. The summer camp was attractive to the parents.
- C. Sandy Van Weelden got a legacy from the Hatches.
- D. The Hatches would like the neighbors to follow their example.

(二)(2009·全国 I)

I suddenly heard an elephant crying as though frightened. Looking down, I immediately recognized that something was wrong, and ran down to the edge of the near bank. There I saw Ma Shwe with her three-month-old calf struggling in the fast-rising water, and it was a life-and-death struggle. Her calf was floating and screaming with fear. Ma Shwe was as near to the far bank as she could get, holding her whole body against the rushing water, and keeping the calf pressed against her huge body. Every now and then the rushing water would sweep the calf away.

There was a sudden rise in the water and the calf was washed clean over the mother's body and was gone. Ma Shwe turned quickly to reach it and pressed the calf with her head and trunk(象鼻) against the rocky bank. Then with a huge effort, she picked it up in her trunk and tried until she was able to place it on a narrow shelf of rock.

Just at this moment, she fell back into the river. If she were carried down, it would be certain death. I knew, as well as she did, that there was one spot(地点) where she could get up the bank, but it was on the other side from where she had put her calf.

While I was wondering what I could do next, I heard the sound of a mother's love. Ma Shwe had crossed the river and got up the bank and was making her way back as fast as she could, roaring(吼叫) all the time, but to her calf it was music.

1. The moment the author got down to the river bank he saw \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the calf was about to fall into the river
- B. Ma Shwe was placing the calf on the rock
- C. the calf was washed away by the rising water
- D. Ma Shwe was holding the calf against the rushing water

2. How did Ma Shwe manage to save her calf from the fast-flowing water?

- A. By putting it on a safe spot.
- B. By pressing it against her body.
- C. By taking it away with her.
- D. By carrying it on her back.

3. How did the calf feel about the mother elephant's roaring?

- A. It was a great comfort.
- B. It was a sign of danger.
- C. It was a call for help.
- D. It was a musical note.

4. What can be the best title for the text?

- A. A Mother's Love
- B. A Brave Act
- C. A Deadly River
- D. A Matter of Life and Death

(三)(2009·湖北)

A few years ago, Paul Gerner began to gather a group of architects in Las Vegas to ask them what it would take to design a public school that used 50 percent less energy, cost much less to build and obviously improved student learning. "I think half of them fell off their chairs," Gerner says.

Gerner manages school facilities(设施) for Clark County, Nevada, a district roughly the size of Massachusetts. By 2018, 143 000 additional students will enter the already crowded public-education system. Gerner needs 73 new schools to house them. Four architecture teams have nearly finished designing primary



school prototypes(样品); they plan to construct their schools starting in 2009. The district will then assess how well the schools perform, and three winners will copy those designs in 50 to 70 new buildings.

Green schools are appearing all over, but in Clark County, which stands out for its vastness, such aggressive targets are difficult because design requirements like more natural light for students go against the realities of a desert climate. "One of the biggest challenges is getting the right site orientation (朝向)," Mark McGinty, a director at SH Architecture, says. His firm recently completed a high school in Las Vegas. "You have the same building, same set of windows, but if its orientation is incorrect and it faces the sun, it will be really expensive to cool."

Surprisingly, the man responsible for one of the most progressive green-design competitions has doubts about ideas of eco-friendly buildings. "I don't believe in the new green religion," Gerner says. "Some of the building technologies that you get are impractical. I'm interested in those that work." But he wouldn't mind if some green features inspire students. He says he hopes to set up green energy systems that allow them to learn about the process of harvesting wind and solar power. "You never know what's going to start the interest of a child to study math and science," he says.

- How did the architects react to Gerner's design requirements?
  - They lost balance in excitement.
  - They showed strong disbelief.
  - They expressed little interest.
  - They burst into cheers.
- Which order of steps is followed in carrying out the project?
  - Assessment—Prototype—Design—Construction.
  - Assessment—Design—Prototype—Construction.
  - Design—Assessment—Prototype—Construction.
  - Design—Prototype—Assessment—Construction.
- What makes it difficult to build green schools in Clark County?
  - The large size.
  - Limited facilities.
  - The desert climate.
  - Poor natural resources.
- What does Gerner think of the ideas of green schools?
  - They are questionable.
  - They are out of date.
  - They are advanced.
  - They are practical.

(四)(2009·江西)

Outside her shabby cottage, old Mrs. Taylor was hanging out laundry on a wire line, unaware that some children lay hidden in the leaves of a nearby tree watching her every move. They were determined to find out if she really was a witch.

They watched as she took a broomstick to clean the dirt from her stone steps. But, much to their disappointment, she did not mount the broomstick and take flight. Suddenly, the old lady's work was interrupted by the cackling of her hen—a signal that an egg had been laid in the warm nest on top of the haystack.

The old broomstick was put aside as she hobbled off towards the haystack followed by Sooty, a black cat she had rescued from a fox trap some time back. With only three legs, it was hard for Sooty to keep up with the old lady. The cat provided proof—the children were sure that only a witch would own a black cat with three legs.

There, standing on a wooden box, was Mrs. Taylor, stretching out to gather her precious egg. Taking the egg in one of her hands, she began to climb down when, without warning, the box broke and the old lady fell.

"We have to go and help her," whispered Amy.

"What if it is a trick?" replied Ben.

"Don't be silly, Ben. If she were a witch, she would have turned us into frogs already," reasoned Meg. "Come on Amy, let's go." The girls climbed down the tree and ran all the way to the haystack.

Approaching carefully, they could see a wound on the old lady's face. She had knocked her head on a stone and her ankle was definitely broken. "Go and get Dad," Amy yelled to her brother. "Tell him about the accident."

The boys did not need another excuse to leave. They ran as fast as they could for help, hoping that Mrs. Taylor would not wake and turn the girls into frogs.

1. Why were the children hiding in the tree?

- A. They wanted to watch Mrs. Taylor do her homework closely.
- B. They were playing a hide-and-seek game.
- C. They wanted to find out if the rumors about Mrs. Taylor were true.
- D. They were pretending to be spies.

2. Mrs. Taylor stopped sweeping when \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. her front steps were clean
- B. she noticed the children in the tree
- C. she was ready to take a flight
- D. she heard the hen cackling

3. Ben did not rush to help Mrs. Taylor because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. he thought that she could be tricking them
- B. he knew that they should not have been in the tree
- C. he did not see the old lady fall down
- D. he was afraid of the three-legged cat

4. Which of these old sayings best suits the story's lesson for us?

- A. Make hay while the sun shines.
- B. Never judge a book by its cover.
- C. People in glasshouses should not throw stones.
- D. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.

(五)(2009·天津)

I am a writer. I spend a great deal of my time thinking about the power of language—the way it can evoke(唤起) an emotion, a visual image, a complex idea, or a simple truth. Language is the tool of my trade. And I use them all—all the Englishes I grew up with.

Born into a Chinese family that had recently arrived in California, I've been giving more thought to the kind of English my mother speaks. Like others, I have described it to people as "broken" English. But I feel embarrassed to say that. It has always bothered me that I can think of no way to describe it other than "broken", as if it were damaged and needed to be fixed, as if it lacked a certain wholeness. I've heard other terms used, "limited English," for example. But they seem just as bad, as if everything is limited, including people's perceptions(认识) of the limited English speaker.

I know this for a fact, because when I was growing up, my mother's "limited" English limited my perception of her. I was ashamed of her English. I believed that her English reflected the quality of what she had to say. That is, because she expressed them imperfectly her thoughts were imperfect. And I had plenty of evidence to support me: the fact that people in department stores, at banks, and at restaurants did not take her seriously, did not give her good service, pretended not to understand her, or even acted as if they did not hear her.

I started writing fiction in 1985. And for reasons I won't get into today, I began to write stories using

all the Englishes I grew up with; the English she used with me, which for lack of a better term might be described as “broken”; and what I imagine to be her translation of her Chinese, her internal(内在的) language, and for that I sought to preserve the essence, but neither an English nor a Chinese structure. I wanted to catch what language ability tests can never show: her intention, her feelings, the rhythms of her speech and the nature of her thoughts.

- By saying “Language is the tool of my trade”, the author means that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. she uses English in foreign trade                      B. she is fascinated by languages  
C. she works as a translator                              D. she is a writer by profession
- The author used to think of her mother’s English as \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. impolite                      B. amusing                      C. imperfect                      D. practical
- Which of the following is TRUE according to Paragraph 3?  
A. Americans do not understand broken English.  
B. The author’s mother was not respected sometimes.  
C. The author’s mother had positive influence on her.  
D. Broken English always reflects imperfect thoughts.
- The author gradually realizes her mother’s English is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. well structured                      B. in the old style  
C. easy to translate                      D. rich in meaning
- What is the passage mainly about?  
A. The change of the author’s attitude to her mother’s English.  
B. The limitation of the author’s perception of her mother.  
C. The author’s misunderstanding of “limited” English.  
D. The author’s experiences of using broken English.

(六)(2009·辽宁)

When I was going home to India last year, I called up my mother to ask if she wanted anything from China.

When India had not opened up its markets to the world, I carried suitcase loads of dark glasses and jeans. Thankfully, we can get all these anywhere in India now.

Still, her answer surprised me, “Green tea.”

As long as I can remember she didn’t even drink Indian tea.

I dutifully bought a big packet of Longjing and headed home to hear the story. My mother and her brother, both regular newspaper readers, believed that Chinese green tea was the wonder drug for all illnesses.

At the turn of the century, China was not really familiar to the average Indian. It was a strange country.

How things change! And how soon!

Now every town of any size seems to have a “China Market”. And everyone is talking about China.

The government of India has planned to send a team to China to see how things are done. A minister once said that India must open the doors for more foreign investment(投资) and such a step would “work wonders as it did for China”.

But it’s a two-way street. I just heard about a thousand Shenzhen office workers who have gone to Bangalore to train in software. Meanwhile, all the Indian IT majors are setting up a strong presence in China.

No wonder that trade, which was only in the millions just ten years ago, is expected to hit about US \$ 15 billion for last year and US\$ 20 billion by 2008, a goal set by both governments.

No wonder, my colleague wrote some weeks ago about this being the Sino-Indian(中印)century as the two countries started on January 1 the Sino-Indian Friendship Year.

But what is still a wonder to me is my mother drinking Chinese tea.

1. Why did the mother ask for Chinese green tea?

- A. She was tired of Indian tea. B. She had a son working in China.  
C. She believed it had a curing effect. D. She was fond of Chinese products.

2. What does the author mean by "it's a two-way street" in Paragraph 10?

- A. China and India have different traffic rules.  
B. Tea trade works wonders in both India and China.  
C. Chinese products are popular in both China and India.  
D. The exchanges between India and China benefit both.

3. What do we know about the Indian IT industry?

- A. It will move its head office to Shenzhen.  
B. It is seeking further development in China.  
C. It has attracted an investment of US\$ 15 billion.  
D. It caught up with the US IT industry in 2008.

4. In the text the author expresses \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. his concern for his mother's health  
B. his support for drinking Chinese green tea  
C. his surprise at China's recent development  
D. his wonder at the growth of India's IT industry

(七)(2009·福建)

Only three local students won Chinese Blog(博客) Competition. And 15 of the 18 awards went to students from China.

170 students' task: to get a fully-designed blog up and running, complete with many postings based on a theme of choice—all written in Chinese.

Themes ranged from local opinions—such as the usage of Singlish, education and whether Singapore can be a cultural centre—to food blogs.

The entries were judged on language proficiency(熟练程度) and the quality of writing, as well as the design and level of exchanging ideas with readers.

Academics from the National University of Singapore and the SIM University, IT experts, and a journalist from Chinese newspaper *Lianhe Zaobao* in Singapore made up the judges.

In the end, only three Singaporean students made it to the award list—the rest of the awards were swept up by students from China.

"No surprise," said Mr. Chow Yaw Long, 37, teacher-in-charge from Innova Junior College, which organized the event. "Although the topics were local subjects, the foreign students were generally better in terms of the content of the posts and their grasp of the Chinese language."

One of the three local students winning the first prize in the Best Language Award was blogger Christina Gao, 19, from the Saint Andrew's Junior College, who spared no effort in researching for and writing her blog. Each entry took her between five and seven days to produce, complete with pictures and even podcasts(播客).

Her advice for bloggers is: Be responsible.

"Some bloggers out there only seek to blame the authorities and other bloggers," said Miss Gao. "I

think they lack responsibilities and there is no value to their posts.”

- The competition was organized by \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the National University of Singapore  
B. Chinese newspaper *Lianhe Zaobao*  
C. Innova Junior College  
D. the Saint Andrew's Junior College
- Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?  
A. Chinese students won most of the awards.  
B. Not all the themes were about local subjects.  
C. The blogs could be written in Chinese or Singlish.  
D. The judges were from universities in Singapore and China.
- What Miss Gao said suggests that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. she likes to blame the authorities  
B. she has a sense of responsibility  
C. she thinks highly of the others' blogs  
D. she loves to read valuable posts
- The passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. how Chinese students won the awards in the competition  
B. why bloggers should take responsibility for their blogs  
C. how Miss Gao won the first prize in the competition  
D. what the result of the competition was

(八)(2009·浙江)

I was in a rush as always, but this time it was for an important date I just couldn't be late for! I found myself at a checkout counter behind an elderly woman seemingly in no hurry as she paid for her groceries. A PhD student with not a lot of money, I had hurried into the store to pick up some flowers. I was in a huge rush, thinking of my upcoming evening. I did not want to be late for this date.

We were in Boston, a place not always known for small conversation between strangers. The woman stopped unloading her basket and looked up at me. She smiled. It was a nice smile—warm and reassuring—and I returned her gift by smiling back.

“Must be a special lady, whoever it is that will be getting those beautiful flowers,” she said.

“Yes, she's special,” I said, and then to my embarrassment, the words kept coming out. “It's only our second date, but somehow I am just having the feeling she's ‘the one’.” Jokingly, I added, “The only problem is that I can't figure out why she'd want to date a guy like me.”

“Well, I think she's very lucky to have a boyfriend who brings her such lovely flowers and who is obviously in love with her,” the woman said. “My husband used to bring me flowers every week—even when times were tough and we didn't have much money. Those were incredible days; he was very romantic and—of course—I miss him since he's passed away.”

I paid for my flowers as she was gathering up her groceries. There was no doubt in my mind as I walked up to her. I touched her on the shoulder and said, “You were right, you know. These flowers are indeed for a very special lady.” I handed her the flowers and thanked her for such a nice conversation.

It took her a moment to realize that I was giving her the flowers I had just purchased. “You have a wonderful evening,” I said. I left her with a big smile and my heart warmed as I saw her smelling the beautiful flowers.

I remember being slightly late for my date that night and telling my girlfriend the above story. A couple of years later, when I finally worked up the courage to ask her to marry me, she told me that this story had helped to seal it for her—that was the night that I won her heart.

- Why was the writer in a hurry that day?



- A. He was to meet his girlfriend. B. He had to go back to school soon.  
C. He was delayed by an elderly lady. D. He had to pick up some groceries.
2. What does the underlined phrase "her gift" (Paragraph 2) refer to?  
A. Her words. B. Her smile. C. Her flowers. D. Her politeness.
3. Why did the writer give his flowers to the elderly lady?  
A. She told him a nice story. B. She allowed him to pay first.  
C. She gave him encouragement. D. She liked flowers very much.
4. What is the message conveyed in the story?  
A. Flowers are important for a date. B. Small talk is helpful.  
C. Love and kindness are rewarding. D. Elderly people deserve respecting.

(九)(2008·陕西)

They say there are three ways to experience the Grand Canyon: on foot, on mules(骡子) or by air. We chose the first. Up early, my husband and I and our three children couldn't wait to get started. We decided to walk along a lovely path named Bright Angel Trail.

As we set out, I was shocked at how narrow the path was. And I couldn't help noticing that the other tourists weren't like us. They had heavy backpacks, water bottles, and hats. But as usual we were dressed. As the sun rose higher, Arizona's famous heat seemed to roast(烘烤) us. There was no shade and our legs were aching. We decided to go back, with the girl on my back and the boys far behind. By the time we finally got back, our legs were like jelly.

The next day, after we'd had a long rest and a good breakfast, we were ready for another view of the Canyon—by air. After our last walk, this would be the easiest thing in the world.

We called to each other excitedly as the plane took off and circled around the Canyon. But the smiles on our faces disappeared as the pilot tossed(翻转) the plane around, pretending he was going to hit the ground. I shouted, "STOP, TAKE US BACK!" When we finally arrived back on land, once again our legs were like jelly. We hardly spoke as we drove back.

As I said, there are three ways to view the Grand Canyon. We never tried the mules, but personally I'd suggest a fourth: buy yourself a good magazine like *National Geographic*. That way, you can see the Canyon, without fear or tiredness.

1. Which of the following is true according to the second paragraph?  
A. They made a careful preparation before the trip.  
B. The children were more joyful than their parents.  
C. Bright Angel Trail was not as lovely as they expected.  
D. The summer heat prevented them from enjoying the view.
2. The underlined expression "our legs were like jelly" probably means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. we were weak B. we were unhappy  
C. we were dissatisfied D. we were disappointed
3. Which of the following best describes their Canyon trip by air?  
A. It proved to be frightening. B. It was more comfortable.  
C. It turned out to be exciting. D. It made each of them tired.
4. We can infer from the passage that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. experiencing the Canyon on mules would be the best way  
B. one needs to dress less when visiting the Grand Canyon  
C. the writer was not serious when she made the suggestion

D. the whole family narrowly escaped from the air accident

(十)(2008·上海)

Zoe Chambers was a successful PR (Public Relations) consultant and life was going well—she had a great job, a beautiful flat and a busy social life in London. Then one evening in June last year, she received a text message telling her she was out of work. “The first two weeks were the most difficult to live through,” she said. “After everything I’d done for the company, they dismissed me by text! I was so angry and I just didn’t feel like looking for another job. I hated everything about the city and my life.”

Then, Zoe received an invitation from an old school friend, Kathy, to come and stay. Kathy and her husband, Huw, had just bought a farm in northwest Wales. Zoe jumped at the chance to spend a weekend away from London, and now, ten months later, she is still on the farm.

“The moment I arrived at Kathy’s farm, I loved it and I knew I wanted to stay,” said Zoe. “Everything about my past life suddenly seemed meaningless.”

Zoe has been working on the farm since October of last year and says she has no regrets. “It’s a hard life, physically very tiring,” she says. “In London I was stressed and often mentally exhausted. But this is a good, healthy tiredness. Here, all I need to put me in a good mood is a hot bath and one of Kathy’s wonderful dinners.”

Zoe says she has never felt bored on the farm. Every day brings a new experience. Kathy has been teaching her how to ride a horse and she has learnt to drive a tractor. Since Christmas, she has been helping with the lambing—watching a lamb being born is unbelievable, she says. “It’s one of the most moving experiences I’ve ever had. I could never go back to city life now.”

1. When working as a PR consultant in London, Zoe thought she lived a \_\_\_\_\_ life.  
A. satisfying                      B. tough                      C. meaningless                      D. boring
2. The most important reason why Zoe went to visit Kathy’s farm is that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. Zoe lost her job as a PR consultant                      B. Kathy persuaded her to do so  
C. Zoe got tired of the city life                      D. Zoe loved Wales more than London
3. How does Zoe feel about the country life according to the passage?  
A. Tiresome and troublesome.                      B. Romantic and peaceful.  
C. Mentally exhausting but healthy.                      D. Physically tiring but rewarding.
4. Which of the following is closest to the main idea of the passage?  
A. A friend in need is a friend indeed.                      B. Where there is a will, there is a way.  
C. A misfortune may turn out a blessing.                      D. Kill two birds with one stone.

(十一)(2008·辽宁)

### Heroes of Our Time

#### A good heart

Dikembe Mutombo grew up in Africa among great poverty and disease. He came to Georgetown University on a scholarship(奖学金) to study medicine—but Coach(教练) John Thompson got a look at Dikembe and had a different idea. Dikembe became a star in the NBA, and a citizen of the United States. But he never forgot the land of his birth, or the duty to share his fortune with others. He built a new hospital in his old hometown in the Congo. A friend has said of this good-hearted man: “Mutombo believes that God has given him this chance to do great things.”

#### Success and kindness

After her daughter was born, Julie Aigner-Clark searched for ways to share her love of music and art with her child. So she borrowed some equipment, and began filming children’s videos(录像) in her own house. The Baby Einstein Company was born, and in just five years her business grew to more than \$20

million in sales. And she is using her success to help others—producing child safety videos with John Walsh of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Julie says of her new program, “I believe it’s the most important thing that I have ever done. I believe that children have the right to live in a world that is safe.”

### Bravery and courage

A few weeks ago, Wesley Autrey was waiting at a Harlem subway station with his two little girls when he saw a man fall into the path of a train. With seconds to act, Wesley jumped onto the tracks, pulled the man into the space between the rails(铁轨), and held him as the train passed right above their heads. He insists he’s not a hero. He says: “We have got to show each other some love.”

1. What was Mutombo praised for?

A. Being a star in the NBA.

B. Being a student of medicine.

C. His work in the church.

D. His willingness to help the needy.

2. Mutombo believes that building the new hospital is \_\_\_\_\_.

A. helpful to his personal development

B. something he should do for his homeland

C. a chance for his friends to share his money

D. a way of showing his respect to the NBA

3. What did the Baby Einstein Company do at its beginning?

A. Produce safety equipment for children.

B. Make videos to help protect children.

C. Sell children’s music and artwork.

D. Look for missing and exploited children.

4. Why was Wesley Autrey praised as a hero?

A. He helped a man get across the rails.

B. He stopped a man from destroying the rails.

C. He protected two little girls from getting hurt.

D. He saved a person without considering his own safety.

(十二)(2008·天津)

Sandra Cisneros was born in Chicago in 1954 to a Mexican American family. As the only girl in a family of seven children, she often felt like she had “seven fathers”, because her six brothers, as well as her father, tried to control her. Feeling shy and unimportant, she retreated (躲避) into books. Despite her love of reading, she did not do well in elementary school because she was too shy to participate.

In high school, with the encouragement of one particular teacher, Cisneros improved her grades and worked for the school literary magazine. Her father encouraged her to go to college because he thought it would be a good way for her to find a husband. Cisneros did attend college, but instead of searching for a husband, she found a teacher who helped her join the famous graduate writing program at the University of Iowa. At the university’s Writers’ Workshop, however, she felt lonely—a Mexican American from a poor neighborhood among students from wealthy families. The feeling of being so different helped Cisneros find her “creative voice”.

“It was not until this moment when I considered myself truly different that my writing acquired a voice. I knew I was a Mexican woman, but I didn’t think it had anything to do with why I felt so much imbalance in my life, but it had everything to do with it! That’s when I decided I would write about something my classmates couldn’t write about.”

Cisneros published her first work, *The House on Mango Street*, when she was twenty-nine. The book tells about a young Mexican American girl growing up in a Spanish-speaking area in Chicago, much like the neighborhoods in which Cisneros lived as a child. The book won an award in 1985 and has been used in classes from high school through graduate school level. Since then, Cisneros has published several books of poetry, a children’s book, and a short-story collection.

1. Which of the following is TRUE about Cisneros in her childhood?

A. She had seven brothers.

B. She felt herself a nobody.

- C. She was too shy to go to school.  
 D. She did not have any good teachers.
2. The graduate program gave Cisneros a chance to \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. work for a school magazine  
 B. run away from her family  
 C. make a lot of friends  
 D. develop her writing style
3. According to Cisneros, what played the decisive role in her success?  
 A. Her early years in college.  
 B. Her training in the Workshop.  
 C. Her feeling of being different.  
 D. Her childhood experience.
4. What do we learn about *The House on Mango Street*?  
 A. It is quite popular among students.  
 B. It is the only book ever written by Cisneros.  
 C. It wasn't a success as it was written in Spanish.  
 D. It won an award when Cisneros was twenty-nine.

## (十三)(2008·福建)

After the Summer Olympics are over, when all the athletes and viewers have gone home and the television audience has switched off, another group of athletes and fans will arrive at the host city, and another competition will begin. These are the Paralympics, the games for athletes with a disability. But in Beijing in 2008, for the first time, one of the greatest paralympians will not be taking part.



She is a British athlete by the name of Tanni Grey-Thompson. Born with spina bifida(脊椎裂) which left her paralysed from the waist down, Tanni used a wheelchair from the age of 7. At first, she was not keen on sport, apart from horse-riding, which gave her a sense of freedom. But in her teens, she started taking sports more seriously. She tried swimming, basketball and tennis. Eventually she found athletics, and never looked back.

Indeed, Tanni's athletic career took off. In 1984, when she was 15, she pulled off a surprise victory in the 100 metres at the Junior National Wheelchair Games.

In 1988, Tanni went to her first Paralympic Games in Seoul. She won bronze in the 400 metres. Even greater success followed at the 1992 Barcelona Paralympics. Tanni won gold in the 100, 200, 400 and 800 metres relay, setting two world records in the process. In the same year she achieved the first of her six London Wheelchair Marathon victories.

Tanni's enduring success has been part motivation(动机), part preparation. "The training I do that enables me to be a good sprinter(短跑运动员) enables me to be good at a marathon too. I train 50 weeks of the year and that keeps me prepared for whatever distance I want to race. . . I am still competing at a very high level, but as I get older things get harder and I want to retire before I fall apart."

Indeed Tanni retired finally after the Visa Paralympic World Cup in 2007. Her wish is to coach young athletes for Beijing 2008 Olympic Games.

In spite of ups and downs, she never takes her fate lying down. In her splendid life, she has won an amazing eleven gold medals, four silvers and one bronze in a series of Paralympics—a top level athletic career covering two decades. She has won the London Wheelchair Marathon six times, more than any other competitor, and she has set over thirty world records.

What advice does she have for young athletes? "Work hard at your studies, and then train, train and train again."

1. Which of the following sports did Tanni like before thirteen?  
 A. Basketball.                      B. Swimming.                      C. Tennis.                      D. Horse-riding
2. When did Tanni win her first Olympic gold medal?  
 A. In 1984.                      B. In 1988.                      C. In 1992.                      D. In 2007.
3. The underlined word "that" in the 5th paragraph refers to \_\_\_\_\_.