

红叶图书精品系列



据最新《大学英语课程教学要求》编写

大学英语 四级考试一线通

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分类阅读

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中国海洋大学出版社

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前 言

本丛书是根据 2003 年《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行)的基本精神编写的。大学英语的改革思路是把大学阶段的英语教学要求分为三个层次,即一般要求、较高要求和更高要求。一般要求是高等院校非英语专业本科毕业生应达到的基本要求,较高要求和更高要求是对那些学有余力,英语基础较好,达到《高中英语课程标准》八、九级的大学新生而设置的。本分册按一般要求编写。

按照《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行),达到一般要求的学生在阅读能力方面要能够基本读懂一般性题材的英文文章,阅读速度达到每分钟 70 词,在快速阅读篇幅较长、难度略低材料时,阅读速度达到每分钟 100 词,能基本读懂国内英文报刊,掌握中心意思,理解主要事实和有关细节。能读懂工作、生活中常见的应用文体的材料。能在阅读中使用有效的阅读方法。为此,我们组织了全国部分高校富有经验的教师编写了这套丛书。

本书在总结了历年四级真题中阅读理解部分的基础上,以真题为导引,严格把握历年的命题方向,理清命题脉络。分类自测按题材选材,10 个大类基本覆盖历年所有题材。所选材料新颖,既可以作为平时自测使用,也可以作为精读自学。每篇文章中的重点高频词汇按复式记忆方法编排,通过阅读贯通词汇记忆。文后附有答案和详解,供考生自测检查。

限于水平,书中错误及不当之处在所难免,恳请读者指正。

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题型分析与解题指导

一、四级考试的阅读理解能力要求

2003 年 12 月制定的《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行)提出大学阶段的英语教学要求分为三个层次,即一般要求、较高要求和更高要求。这三个不同层次的要求是我国所有高等院校非英语专业本科生经过大学阶段的英语学习与实践应当选择达到的英语水平标准,其中一般要求是每个大学毕业生必须达到的目标。达到或未达到《高中英语课程标准》七级的大学新生可将一般要求作为大学阶段英语学习的目标。较高要求和更高要求是对那些学有余力,英语基础较好,达到《高中英语课程标准》八、九级的大学新生而设置的。这三个要求包括了英语语言知识、应用技能、学习策略和跨文化交际等方面的内容,并以定性和定量的描述体现了大学英语教学的指导思想,即强调培养学生的英语听说能力以及读写译等英语综合应用能力和专业英语技能;贯彻分类指导、因材施教的原则,以适应立体化、网络化、个性化英语教学和学习的实际需要。

一般要求是高等院校非英语专业本科毕业生应达到的基本要求,相当于原《大学英语教学大纲》的四级要求。原教学大纲指出:大学英语教学的目的是培养学生具有较强阅读能力和一定的听、说、写、译能力,使他们能以英语为工具交流信息。阅读能力仍为各项基本技能之首。新大纲还具体规定了学生经过大学英语基础阶段的学习,在阅读能力(阅读速度和阅读理解)方面要达到的基本要求。其要求为:能顺利阅读语言难度中等的一般性题材的文章,掌握中心大意以及说明中心大意的事实和细节,并能进行一定的分析、推理和判断,领会作者的观点和态度,阅读速度达到每分钟 70 词。在阅读篇幅较长、难度略低、生词不超过总词数 3% 的材料时,能掌握中心大意,抓住主要事实和有关细节,阅读速度达到每分钟 100 词,阅读理解的准确率以 70% 为合格。

下面是《大学英语课程教学要求》(试行)提出的学生英语能力自评/互评表(阅读理解部分),考生可先利用本表检查自己的阅读水平,以做到心

中有数。

学生英语能力自评/互评表(一般要求)

请在右面“自评”栏中对自己的英语能力做出评估,能够做到的写 Y,能够轻易做到的写 YY,在“同学评”栏中请同学对你的英语能力用相同方式做出评估;在“追求目标”栏中,标出你认为重要但目前还不具备的英语能力,写 O 代表努力目标,写 P 优先考虑目标。在每项能力下的空行中,请列出(或请同学、老师帮助)你所具有的表上未列出的能力或你所期望达到的能力目标。	自评	同学评	追求目标
阅读/Reading	A	B	C
我能借助词典读懂语言难度中等、一般性题材的文章,理解其大意及主要细节。			
我能读懂生活中常见表格如注册表、健康表、申请表、出入境表、问卷调查表等。			
我能读懂指示语、产品说明书、广告、海报、邀请函及互联网上的信息等。			
我能读懂涉及日常生活的个人信件或内容一般的商业信函。			
我能基本读懂国内英文报刊,理解大意及主要细节。			
我掌握了基本的阅读技能,如根据上下文猜测生词或习语的意思、寻读、略读等。			

注:如果“自评”或“同学评”栏中 90% 以上项目都填了 Y(Yes)或 YY,说明你已具备了“一般要求”所推荐的英语能力。如果“追求目标”栏中的 O(Objective)或 P(Priority)较多,则应寻求指导并积极设法实现。

二、题型分析

大学英语四级考试中的阅读理解部分主要测试下述能力。

- (1) 掌握所读材料的主旨大意;
- (2) 了解说明主旨和大意的事实和细节;
- (3) 既理解字面意思又能根据所读材料进行一定的判断和推论;
- (4) 既理解个别句子的意义又了解上下文的逻辑关系。

四级阅读测试一般包括 4 篇文章的阅读,每篇后有 5 道选择题。这些题的类型多种多样,但归纳起来大致可分为两大类,即全局型问题和局部型

问题。全局型问题一般涉及三方面内容:主题思想、态度与语气等。局域型问题涉及事实细节、推理、词汇等类型。

1、主旨题

主旨是作者在文章中要表达的主要内容,是贯穿全文的核心。作者在文章中努力通过各种细节来阐明中心议题。因此,把握主要思想对于全文理解具有重要意义。熟悉四级测试的人都知道,这类问题常被列为5题之首。然而,如何找出主旨常使考生备感棘手。因为他们总希望通过某个词或某句话就能找到答案,而找主题往往需要通读全文后才能作出判断。

针对这类问题,应采用快速阅读法(Skimming)浏览全文,理解文章主旨大意,阅读时要注意抓住中心思想的句子在文章中的位置也不同,但阅读时,文章的开头、结尾及段落的段首句和段尾句特别重要,因为他们往往包含文章的中心议题。

根据内容这类问题可分为主题型、标题型和目的型。主题型一目了然就是找中心思想;标题型是为文章选择标题;目的型就是推断作者的写作意图(Purpose)。这类题常见的命题方式有:

- (1) What is the main idea (subject) of this passage ?
- (2) What does this passage mainly (primarily) concerned ?
- (3) The main theme of this passage is _____.
- (4) The main point of the passage is _____.
- (5) Which of the following is the best title for the passage ?
- (6) The title that best expresses the theme of the passage is _____.
- (7) On which of the following subjects would the passage most likely be found in a textbook ?
- (8) The purpose of the writer in writing this passage is _____.
- (9) Which of the following best describes the passage as a whole ?

1) 主题型

Example

Oceanography has been defined as "The application of all sciences to the study of the sea".

Before the nineteenth century, scientists with an interest in the sea were few and far between. Certainly Newton considered some theoretical aspects of it in his writings, but he was reluctant to go to sea to further his work.

For most people the sea was remote, and with the exception of early inter-continental travelers or others, who earned a living from the sea, there was little

reason to ask many questions about it ,let alone to what lay beneath the surface , The first time that the question “What is at the bottom of oceans ”? had to be answered with any commercial consequence was when the laying of a telegraph cable from Europe to America was proposed. The engineers had to know the depth profile(轮廓)of the route to estimate the length of cable that had to be manufactured.

It was to Maury of US Navy that the Atlantic Telegraph Company turned, in 1853 , for information on this matter. In the 1840s, Maury had been responsible for encouraging voyages during which soundings(试探) were taken to investigate the depths of the North Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Later, some of his findings aroused much popular interest in his book *The Physical Geography of the Sea*.

The cable was laid , but not until 1866 was the connection made permanent and reliable. At the early attempts, the cable failed and when it was taken out for repairs it was found to be covered with living growths, a fact which defied contemporary scientific opinion that there was no life in the deeper parts of the sea.

Within a few years oceanography was under way. In 1872 Thomson led a scientific expedition, which lasted for four years and brought home thousands of samples form the sea. Their classification and analysis occupied scientists for years and led to a five - volume report, the last volume being published in 1895.

This passage is mainly about _____.

- A) the beginnings of oceanography
- B) the laying of the first undersea cable
- C) the investigation of ocean depths
- D) the early intercontinental communications

本题问及全篇的中心思想。通过快读(skimming) 我们知道这是一篇叙述“海洋学”的文章。第一段谈的是关于“海洋学”的定义;第二段是讲 19 世纪前对海洋感兴趣的科学家不多;第三段谈到由于有人提出了铺设海底电缆,人们才开始研究“海底深处究竟是什么”;第四段说 Maury 考察北大西洋和太平洋的发现引起广泛的注意;第五段讲修筑海底电缆过程中发现大量的海洋生物;最后一段是海洋学研究的成果。可见全篇主要是讲海洋学的研究是如何开展起来的,所以正确答案是 A)。

2) 标题型

Example:

A rapid means of long - distance transportation became a necessity for the United States as settlement(新拓居地) spread ever farther westward. The early trains were impractical curiosities, and for along time the railroad companies met with troublesome mechanical problems. The most serious ones were the construction of rails able to bear the load, and the development of a safe, effective stopping system. Once these were solved, the railroad was established as the best means of land transportation. By 1860 there were thousands of miles of railroads crossing the eastern mountain ranges and reaching westward to the Mississippi. There were also regional southern and western lines .

The high point in railroad building came with the construction of the first transcontinental system. In 1862 congress authorized two western railroad companies to build lines from Nebraska west ward and from California eastward to a meeting point, so as to complete a transcontinental crossing linking the Atlantic seaboard with the Pacific . The Government helped the railroads generously with money and land. Actual work on this project began four years later. The Central Pacific Company, starting from California, used Chinese labor, while the Union Pacific employed crews of Irish laborers. The two groups worked at remarkable speed, each trying to cover a greater distance than the other. In 1869 they met at a place called Promontory in what is now the state of Utah. Many visitors came there for the great occasion. There were joyous celebrations all the country, with parades and the ringing of church bells to honor the great achievement.

The railroad was very important in encouraging westward movement. It also helped build up industry and farming by moving raw materials and by distributing products rapidly to distant markets. In linking towns and people to one another it helped unify the United States.

The best title for this passage would be _____.

- A) Settlements Spread Westward
- B) The Coast - to - Coast Railroad: A Vital Link
- C) American Railroad History
- D) The Importance of Trains in the American Economy

本题是给文章选标题,实际上也是问及全篇的主旨。文章第一段的最后一句虽然提到“settlement spread ever farther westward”,但这不是本文论述的中心,故选项 A) 是错的;选项 D) 也不合适,因为作者在第 3 段第二句里谈的是在美国起重要作用的 transcontinental railway,而不是泛指美国的铁

路;虽然本文从一个侧面反映了美国铁路的历史,但选项 C) 也是错的;本文的第三段点了文章的主旨,即这条横贯美国的铁路在开发西部、发展工农业生产和统一美国等方面起到了 a vital link 的作用。因此,答案应该是选项 B)

3) 目的型

We find that bright children are rarely held back by mixed - ability teaching. On the contrary, both their knowledge and experience are enriched. We feel that there are many disadvantages in streaming (把...按能力分班) pupils. It does not take into account the fact that children develop at different rates. It can have a bad effect on both the bright and the not - so - bright child. After all, it can be quite discouraging to be at the bottom of the top grade!

Besides, it is rather unreal to grade people just according to their intellectual ability. This is only one aspect of their total personality. We are concerned to develop the abilities of all our pupils to the full, not just their academic ability. We also value personal qualities and social skills, and we find that mixed - ability teaching contributes to all these aspects of learning.

In our classrooms, we work in various ways. The pupils often work in groups: this gives them the opportunity to learn to cooperate, to share, and to develop leadership skills. They also learn how to cope with personal problems as well as learning how to think, to make decisions, to analyze and evaluate, and to communicate effectively. The pupils learn from each other as well as from the teacher. Sometimes the pupils work in pairs, sometimes they work on individual tasks and assignments, and they can do this at their own speed. They also have some formal class teaching when this is appropriate. We encourage our pupils to use the library, and we teach them the skills they need in order to do this efficiently. An advanced pupil can do advanced work: it does not matter what age the child is. We expect our pupils to do their best, not their least, and we give them every encouragement to attain this goal.

The author's purpose in writing this passage is to _____.

- A) argue for teaching bright and not - so - bright pupils in the same class
- B) recommend pair work and group work for classroom activities
- C) offer advice on the proper use of the library
- D) emphasize the importance of appropriate formal classroom

本题要求学生首先了解这篇文章的主题。文章中讨论了两种上课的方

式:streaming pupils 即把学生按能力分班进行教学和 mixed - ability teaching 即把程度不齐的学生混班上课。并列了前者的弊端和后者的优点。因此 A) 是答案。而选项 B), D) 中提到的几种做法均为 mixed-ability teaching 的具体做法,都不能看作是作者写这篇文章的目的。这一题要求阅读时不但要看懂个别的句子,而且要能够根据作者思路的展开,把握作者在整篇文章中赞成什么反对什么,因此,必须看懂整篇文章的意思。

2、细节题

通过快读找出主题后,应进一步掌握阐述和发展主题的主要事实,或按要求找出特定细节。在回答此类问题时,应采用查读法(Scanning),因为这些具体内容是用来说明、论证或分析文章中心的。这类题目常以“WH - ”形式来提问,如 who, what, when, where, why 及 how 等形式。这些问题的表达常不采用文章中的原话提问,而是使用同义词语等,因此,在选择答案前应首先看准题干,看清问题。然后,在查读时注意寻找与题目相关的关键词语;最后,在充分理解原文、原题的基础上确定正确答案。

当然,这类细节性问题所涉及的面是很广的。有的涉及数字计算,如问时间、距离、次数、数量等,认真计算后方可选定正确答案;有的涉及正误判断,要先看选项,根据选项提供的线索,寻视文中相应部分,最后在题中选出肯定答案;还有的询问事实、原因、结果、目的等。总之,做细节题切忌通过自己对某类知识的主观了解和认识做出想像判断,一定要紧扣文章内容,不可随心所欲。

细节类问题的命题方式有以下几种:

- (1) Which of the following is NOT true according to the information in the passage?
- (2) Which of the following is mentioned in the passage?
- (3) What is the example of... as described in the passage?
- (4) The author mentions all of the following except...
- (5) The reason for... is...
- (6) The author states that...
- (7) According to the passage, when (where, why, how, who, etc.)...

Example :

Just seven years ago, the Jarvik - 7 artificial heart was being cheered as the model of human creativeness. The sight of Barney Clark - alive and conscious after trading his diseased heart for metal - and - plastic pump - convinced the press, the public and many doctors that the future had arrived. It hadn't. After

monitoring production of the Jarvik - 7, and reviewing its effects on the 150 or so patients (most of whom got the device as a temporary measure) the U. S. Food and Drug Administration concluded that the machine was doing more to endanger lives than to save them. Last week the agency cancelled its earlier approval, effectively banning (禁止) the device.

The recall may hurt Symbion Inc., maker of the Jarvik - 7, but it won't end the request for an artificial heart. One problem with the banned model is that the tubes connecting it to an external power source created a passage infection. Inventors are now working on new devices that would be fully placed, along with a tiny power pack, in the patient's chest. The first sample products aren't expected for another 10 or 20 years. But some people are already worrying that they'll work and that America's overextended healthcare programs will lose a precious \$ 2.5 billion to \$ 5 billion a year providing them for a relatively few dying patients. If such expenditures (开支) cut into funding for more basic care, the net effect could actually be a decline in the nation's health.

The new models of artificial hearts are expected _____.

- A) to have a working life of 10 or 20 years
- B) to be set fully in the patient's chest
- C) to be equipped with an external power source
- D) to create a new passage for infection

本题是考核正确理解事实细节的能力。选项 B) 的意思与文章中第二段第三句, 即 "Inventors are now working... in the patient's chest." 的意思符合, 因此选项 B) 是答案。

3、推理题

推理性问题与细节性问题相似, 也是对文章具体内容的判断。但推理不但要求掌握文章所表达的字面含义, 还要掌握一定的逻辑判断能力及写作技巧知识, 从文章表面推出更深层含义, 这部分往往出题分量较大, 难度大, 出错也最多, 归根结底还是对文章内容没有做到真正的理解和掌握。

文字表面往往没有明显反映作者的全部意图, 有些含义需要读者从字里行间去体会, 靠自己的逻辑推理能力去判断, 从上下文的连贯及文中有关部分的暗示去明晰作者隐含的意思。这类问题的命题方式有:

- (1) The writer implies but not directly states that _____.
- (2) It can be inferred from the passage that _____.
- (3) The author strongly suggests that _____.

- (4) It can be concluded from the passage that _____.
- (5) The passage is intended to _____.
- (6) The writer indicates that _____.
- (7) The fact... is mentioned by the author to show _____.
- (8) The author achieves his purpose by depending mainly upon _____.
- (9) The writer talks about... in order to _____.
- (10) In discussing..., the author _____.

Example :

If women are mercilessly exploited year after year, they have only themselves to blame. Because they tremble at the thought of being seen in public in clothes that are out of fashion, they are always taken advantage of by the designers and the big stores. Clothes which have been worn only a few times have to be put aside because of the change of fashion. When you come to think of it, only a woman is capable of standing in front of a wardrobe packed full of clothes and announcing sadly that she has nothing to wear. Changing fashions are nothing more than the intentional creation of waste. Many women spend vast sums of money each year to replace clothes that have hardly been worn. Women who cannot afford to throw away clothing in this way, waste hours of their time altering the dresses they have. Skirts are lengthened or shortened, necklines are lowered or raised, and so on.

No one can claim that the fashion industry contributes any thing really important to society. Fashion designers are rarely concerned with vital things like warmth, comfort and durability. They are only interested in outward appearance and they take advantage of the fact that women will put up with any amount of discomfort, as long as they look right. There can hardly be a man who hasn't at some time in his life smiled at the sight of a woman shaking in a thin dress on a winter day, or delicately picking her way through deep snow in high - heeled shoes.

When comparing men and women in the matter of fashion, the conclusions to be drawn are obvious. Do the constantly changing fashions of women's clothes, one wonders, reflect basic qualities of inconstancy and instability? Men are too clever to let themselves be cheated by fashion designers. Do their unchanging styles of dress reflect basic qualities of stability and reliability? That is for you to decide .

To the writer, the fact that women alter their old - fashioned dresses is seen as

- A) a waste of money
- B) a waste of time
- C) an expression of taste
- D) an expression of creativity

本题问题是:女士们把过了时的衣服改来改去,在作者看来是“浪费金钱”A);是“(女士对服装的)喜好(品味)的表现”C);是“(女士们)创造性的表现”(D);还是B)所说的“浪费时间”。根据第二段所说的“waste hours of their time altering the dresses they have.”(Para. 2, Line 4 ~ 5,)答案应选B。

4、词汇题

词汇是四级阅读理解测试中非常重要的一项。词汇题其实也是就细节进行提问,所不同的是这是惟一关于词或词组的练习项目。词汇题往往要求对文章中的某个单词、短语甚至句子等找出近义词或最合适的解释。解答这类题需要学生拥有较大的词汇量。可是,单词记忆似乎已成为学生普遍反映最头痛的难题。阅读理解中词汇类问题的常见提问方式有下列几种:

- (1) According to the author ,the word “...” means _____.
- (2) Which of the following is nearest in meaning to “...”?
- (3) The term “...” in paragraph... can be best replaced by....
- (4) What's the meaning of “...” in line... of paragraph...?
- (5) As used in the line... , the word “...” refers to _____.

一般来说,在文章的阅读中解决释义的最好办法是猜测词义。猜测词义也需要一定的技巧,可以通过1)上下文间意义的联系;2)同义关系,反义关系;3)词的定义;4)对词的解释和举例;5)构词法知识猜测词义。

1)利用上下文词语语义的互相联系猜测词义

Example :

The fishermen make their canoes from tree trunks . They go from island to island in these light narrow boats and collect turtles' eggs.

我们从上下文中可以得出以下信息:“canoes”是一种渔夫用树木做的、来回于岛屿之间的、轻狭长的、类似于小船之类的东西。尽管我们可能还不能肯定它的确切解释,但这一生词已经不会影响我们的阅读和理解了。

Example:

Jogging has become very popular in some countries, It is believed to be a good exercise for old people .

“Jogging”的意思通过“a good exercise for old people ”可以推断出是一种适合老年人的不剧烈的运动方式。

2) 利用文章中词与词的同义和反义关系猜测词义

Example :

If you happened to be sitting in the woods outside the city ,you might have witnessed a strange sight . You would have seen a very proud looking man riding along horseback , saying something

在文章中可以很容易地判断出“witness”的同义关系词是“seen”,因此“witness”就是看见的意思。

Example :

In the northern regions the winters are generally cold and humid, and the summers hot and dry .

显然,冬天和夏天的气候是截然相反的,它们的修饰词的意思也应该截然相反。“cold”与“hot”对应,“humid”与“dry”对应。因此,“humid”是“潮湿”的意思。

3) 利用文章中对词的定义猜测词义

Example:

Such experiences are not unusual for the amateur conchologists, people who collect shells.

Conchologists 的意思可以根据该词后面的同位解释“people who collect shells”理解为收集贝壳的人或贝壳收藏家。

Example :

Jack is now a florist, who keeps a shop for selling flowers in our district.

“florist”的意思就是其后定语从句“who keeps a shop for selling flowers”所描述的“拥有一家专门卖花的商店的人”,即“花店主”。

4) 利用文章中对词的举例及解释猜测词义

Example :

Today young couples who are just starting their households of ten spend lots of their money on appliances, for instance, washing machines, refrigerators and color TVs.

通过所举的例子(washing machines ,refrigerators and color TVs)

可以看出,“appliances”应是这些名词的总称,即“家用电器”。