

PART ONE

大学英语四级考试

命题趋势与应试策略

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大学英语四级考试是由教育部高教司直接领导,全国大学英语四级考试委员会组织的全国性标准化考试。这项考试于1987年9月首次举行,迄今已近18年。目前,该考试每年2次,分别于2个学期结束前举行。

从近年大学英语四级考试题型来分析,其总的命题趋势是在考查学生语言基础知识的同时,重点考查运用能力,尤其是重点考查其综合运用语言知识的能力。这主要表现在:

1. 听力部分增设了复合式听写。这种综合性的测试题型,不仅考查学生听的能力,而且考查学生的拼写、语音、记笔记及记忆的能力。预计未来的四级考试听力测试仍将继续这一命题趋势。

2. 阅读理解是四级考试中权重比重最大的一个部分。分析近年的试卷不难发现,阅读理解题材广泛,内容丰富,包括人物传记、社会、文化、日常知识、科普常识等。其中以围绕学校教育和大学生生活方面的文章;围绕社会学、心理学、环境学以及人物传记等方面的文章最为常见。

四级考试大纲规定阅读理解部分的文章“体裁多样化,包括叙述文、描述文、说明文和议论文等”。但从近年的命题来看,用作阅读理解的文章基本上以说明文和议论文为主。它们的特点是信息量大,结构复杂,逻辑性强,主要以抽象思维如概括、判断、推理等为主,并且命题形式主要是测试考生对隐含中心思想或文章大意或细节与事实的推理。

3. 词语用法与语法结构是大学英语四级考试的传统题型,旨在考查学生的词汇量和对语法知识的掌握程度,考查重点包括形近异义异音词,同义近义或反义词,短语搭配、动词、名词和形容词辨析等。语法考查重点为虚拟语气,分词、非谓语动词等十三种(见后页)。

4. 完形填空是测试考生在语篇水平上综合运用语言知识的能力,是近年来的一种机动题型。

5. 英译汉和简短回答是近年来的新增题型,以测试学生基础知识为主,培养其理解、分析和语言表达的能力。

6. 写作仍是大学英语教学的重要内容,它能全面检查学生能否顺利完成《大纲》所规定的教学要求,是否达到了综合运用语言能力和交际能力的目的。纵观近年试卷,提纲式作文、段首句作文和图表式作文仍是四级考试的主要命题方向。

7. 除了以上题型以外,据我们预测,四级考试很可能会在近年再推出一种新的题型——汉译英。为了帮助同学们熟悉和掌握这种新题型,我们将在本书中介绍“汉译英”的相关技巧。

I 四级考试听力测试命题趋势与应试策略

Listening Comprehension

一、试题介绍

大学英语四级考试的第一部分是听力理解。这一部分共有两套题型:第一套题型是1997年以前常使用的题型,该题型共20题,包括两节:A节(section A)为Short Conversations,共10题。B节(section B)为Passages,有10题,分别安排在若干篇(一般为三篇)听力材料之后。

第二套题型含“复合式听写”(Compound Dictation),该套题型是1997年后的新题型。在保留前一部分10个对话的基础上,用复合式听写代替后一部分的三篇短文。所谓复合式听写是先给出一篇短文,再留出十个空(space)。第一部分为前七个空(S1-S7),要求用听到的原文填写空缺的单词,第二部分为后三个空(S8-S10),要求考生根据所听内容写出要点。全文是一篇250词左右的短文,朗读三篇。考试时间共20分钟。

上述两种题型在以后每年两次全国大学英语四级测试中交替使用,事先并不通知考生本次为什么题型。故每个考生都应该熟悉这两种题型。下面就这两种题型的解题技巧及如何提高应试能力分别作出介绍。



二、应试策略

1

对话部分

听力测试的对话内容主要是日常生活中的一般交际内容,涉及到衣、食、住、行、工作和学习等。对话的题材主要谈工作情况、职业特点、家庭计划、行为动机、事件背景、人物动态、行动意图等。根据近年,尤其是2003年6月四级听力测试的试题来看,听力材料中的句子结构渐趋复杂,主从复合句明显增加,隐含否定题型,言外之意题型和重复反问题型时有出现,而且语境材料偏长,信息量大,选项相对较长,这就使四级听力的难度大大增加,考虑到听力测试命题的这种趋势,同学们更应该明确主攻方向,针对听力测试的重点和难点,做好复习备考工作。

有关“对话”部分中的常见短语与表达方式:



1. 职业与身份



教师与学生

textbook, course, subject, homework, assignment, test, quiz, tuition, school record(成绩单), credits(学分), registration, quit school, term paper, thesis(毕业论文), band(乐队), Students' Union, gymnasium, homecoming(校友聚会), dormitory, teaching building 等。



图书馆管理员与学生

magazine, periodical, fiction, reading room, library card, library catalogue(图书馆的图书目录), loan desk(借书处), journal, reference book, stacks(书库), shelves, renew, due(到期的), overdue(过期的)等。



营业员与顾客

on sale, bargain, price, out of style(老式), fashion, ready-made(成衣), cloth pattern(花纹,图案), tip, cash or charge(付现金还是记账), department store, cashier, supermarket, daily necessities, check-out stand(付款柜台), receipt, shop assistant, salesman, clerk 等。



饭店与服务

seasoning(调味品), menu, wine, drink, food, snack, banquet-tray(餐盘), paper napkin(纸餐巾), go Dutch(各自付账), receptionist, service counter, a single room, a double room, customer, manager, boss, well-done(全熟的), under-done(半熟的)等。



医生与病人

hospital, doctor, nurse, patient, operation, ward, physician, medicine, surgery, hospital register's office(挂号处), out-patient department(门诊部), emergency department(急诊部), to suffer from, to give an infection, to give first-aid treatment(急诊)等。



2. 地点与方向



Hospital(医院)

blood-pressure, cough, fever, a headache, pills, tablets, take one's temperature, take medicine, patient, doctor, nurse, dentist, a physical examination, physician 等。



Bank(银行)

account, bank clerk, current account(活期存款帐户), check, service charge, cash the cheque, saving/check account(储蓄/支票帐户)等。



Hotel(宾馆)

hotel, motel, a single/double room, a suite, book a room, check in/out, register, fill in a room, make a reservation, lobby, Room Service, reception, front desk, porter, tip 等。



Railway station(火车站)

train, platform, passenger, check in/out, catch a train, miss a train, fail to catch a train 等。



Bus station/stop(汽车站)

conductor, passenger, fare, next stop, the terminal station(终点站)等。



Airport or on plane(飞机场或在飞机上)

airliner, airlines, land, take off, flight, on board, boarding card, departure, arrival, destination, cancel a flight, delay, check in, luggage, fasten the safe belt, crew 等。



Library(图书馆)

librarian, assistant, call number, book, due, overdue, return, renew, borrow, lend, latest issue, card, catalogue, fine(罚款), fiction, novel, magazine, bookshelf 等。



Movie/Theatre(影剧院)

film, movie, play, show, drama, row, seat, be on(上演, 上映), performance, program, Shakespear, Oscar, ticket, check in, The Twelfth Night 等。



Store(商店)

department store, the grocer's, drug store, shop, go shopping, market, on sale, sell well, size, type, fashion, style, color, cost, price, counter, brand, cash, check, assistant, May I help you? What can I do for you? How much does it cost? Here you are. pay, buy, purchase, change(零钱), US dollars, Hong Kong dollars, pounds, shellings, penny 等。



School/University(学校)

campus, department, dean, college, professor, teacher, student, tutor, lecturer, headmaster, principal, lecture, academic report, textbook, semester, examination, test, lab, required course(必修课), elective course(选修课), gymnasium, freshman, sophomore, junior, senior, undergraduate, graduate, post-graduate, grade, bachelor's degree, master's degree, doctor's degree 等。



Restaurant(餐馆)

make a reservation, order(点菜), soft drink, wine, beer, brandy, whisky, dessert, salad, soup, bread, rice, noodle, potato, tomato, beef, meat, pork, chicken, mutton, pie, roast, fry, steam(蒸), a dish, main food, menu, Help yourself, I'm full. cook, delicious, taste, smell, waiter, waitress, pay the bill, cash, go Dutch(各付各的帐)等。



Post office(邮局)

post, mail, postage, stamp, envelope, parcel, air-mail, EMS(Emergent Mail Service), registered mail, transfer(汇款), postcard, telegram, fax(facsimile), cable(电报)等。



Customs house(海关)

declare(报关), clear/clearance(清关), tariff(关税), pay duty on, duty free, fill in the form, article(物品), passenger, smuggling/smuggle, drugs, illegal, legal 等。



Meeting(会议)

deliver a speech, preside, host, chairman/chairperson, conclude, propose, suggest, for, against, agree, disagree, reinforce, argue, debate, dispute, solution, decide/decision 等。



Dance & party(舞会/聚会)

gather, together, DJ, disco, have a ball, dance with, music, band, dancer, singer, May I have the pleasure of next dance? 等。



Gas station(加油站)

pull in/out, petrol, gasoline, fill in the tank, litre 等。



At home(家)

housework, go to bed, retire to bed, housewife, sitting room, bedroom, washing room, do cooking, gardening, take a rest, in the garden 等。



Court(法庭)

your honor, jury, judge, justice, case, counselor, recess, lawyer, witness, victim, proof, identity, suspicion, to be executed sentence(裁决), imprisonment, execution, laws, legal, illegal, defendant, complainant 等。



3. 肯定与否定

- (1) 含否定语义的副词和形容词, 如: hardly, barely, scarcely, rarely, little, seldom, few 等。
- (2) 含否定语义的代词和连词, 如: nobody, nothing, neither, nor 等。
- (3) 含否定意义的词缀, 如: im-, un-, mis-, dis-, -less 等。
- (4) 含否定语义的动词、动词词组及介词词组, 如: fail, miss, avoid, deny, hate, stop, refuse, doubt, far from, anything but, instead of, rather than 等。
- (5) 含 too... to 的结构。
- (6) 强调否定句, 句首的否定词多数是 never, little, rarely, 并且句子必须倒装, 如: Never before have I..., Little did they..., Rarely do we... 等。
- (7) 双重否定句, 如 not uncommon, no one can deny..., not care less 等。
- (8) 注意缩写形式的否定读音, 如: aren't, don't, hasn't, weren't, wasn't 等。



4. 具有倍数意义的名词、形容词、副词或动词等

times 乘, quarter 四分之一, twice 两倍, one-third/fourth 三/四分之一, couple 双, 三两个, discount 折扣, half (of) ... 的一半, half as much/ many as 加半倍, 一倍半, double 使加倍, 增加一倍, twice as much/ many as 是... 的两倍 percentage 百分比, off 减、降、少, pair(a pair of) 一对, 一双



5. 比较与选择

as...as 和...一样, not as/not so...as... 和...不一样, twice (half) as...as... 是...两倍/一半 三组表示同级比较。more/less...than, not more...than, not/no + 比较级(= 最高级) 三组表示不等比较: “...比...更”。类似词还有 never better, nothing better, than ever before, than anyone else, than anything else 等等。

其它: the more..., the more... 表示越...越..., not so much...as (= less...than...) 与其说...不如说... 其它暗含的比较形式还有: 动词 prefer... rather than/to..., reduce... (to), 形容词 top, favorite, 句型 would rather...than... (宁可...也不...), the last (= the least likely), not the less (= none the less) 仍然, 依然



短文部分

短文部分主要在于其整体难度较大。如果说对话部分侧重语句水平, 那么短文部分则侧重于语篇水平, 更强调整体的逻辑性, 强调隐含信息的推理、综合信息的归纳。做短文部分听力测试题时, 应注意应用以下方

法:

1. 先浏览问题,再根据问题预测内容;
2. 许多问题的出现顺序与文章内容的顺序基本一致;
3. 短文中的问题多为对细节内容的考查,因此选项加上题干的内容大致与文章的内容相符;
4. 记住事件发生的时间和地点;
5. 综合记忆短文中的事实和理由;
6. 通过所给信息判断人物的身份及相互间的关系。

3

复合式听写

A 单词听写:

这部分侧重检测考生对单词的音、形、义的综合掌握能力,一般说来,做听写填空题,可按下列步骤和技巧进行:

1、听抄:

要从音、形、义,用四个方面入手,并结合上下文听懂该单词,如 1997 年 6 月考题复合式听写 S1 空格中, No working day is identical to any other, so there is no "typical" day for a police officer. 许多考生都听懂了 "typical" 一词,但却将其拼写为 "topical",显然不了解 typical 派生于 type (类型) 一词,还有些考生将其拼为 difficult,也许是由于未能扎实掌握形容词后缀 -al 的缘故。

2、检查:

1) 时态、语态是否正确?

2) 语意是否通顺? 英语中有很多读音相似或同音异形、近义词,选择哪一个词应由整句话的句意及上下文的连贯性来决定。语句结构是否完整? 听的时候,如冠词、介词可能听得不很清楚,检查时要根据上下文决定是否需要。

B 句子听写:

1. 培养和锻炼逻辑思维能力:即一是要培养直接用英语进行逻辑思维能力,二是要根据上下文用逻辑推理来预测事物的发展情况的能力。让我们仍以 CET-4 97.6 试题中 S10 为例,它的原文是:

I thought she was going to have the baby right in my cars. But fortunately, (S10) [the baby waited to "arrive" until we got to the hospital]. 我以为她会在我的轿车内就把孩子生下来,但幸运的是, (S10)...

即使未听清录音,根据前后句的转折关系,我们也猜得出孩子没生在车上,而是到医院以后才出世。这样,就可以排除某些考生理解上的错误,以为 "the baby waited in the hospital" (孩子在医院中等待)。有些考生也可能没听懂录音中 "waited to arrive" 是 "等待出世" 之意,但都仍然根据上下文推断 "the baby was born in the hospital", 其义也对。所以培养预测能力,随机应变,在听力考试中是非常必要的。

2. 使用速记方法:学生在听写时往往会出现记下了听写的第一单词,而后面的几句匆匆而过,来不及填写后面内容。针对这个问题,在考试中应采用速记方法,迅速记下每个听到的单词。所谓的速记就是用一些简单的符号缩写、字母记下所听到的内容,不让每个单词漏网。

例如: ∴ → because; ∴ → so; = → equal; sth. → something; sts → students; ads → advertisement; fridge - refrigerator; demo → demonstration; esp. → especially; somebody → sb. 等等。先速记,然后再展开这些单词,这样所听的内容就不易漏掉了。

四级考试阅读理解命题趋势与应试策略

Reading Comprehension



一、试题介绍

大学英语四级考试的第二部分是阅读理解。该部分一般由四篇短文组成,总阅读量约为 1350 词,共 20 题,考试时间 35 分钟。阅读理解主要测试下述能力:1. 掌握所读材料的主旨和大意;2. 了解说明主旨和大意的事实和细节;3. 即理解字面的意思,也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,也理解上下文的逻辑关系。



二、应试策略

1

词义题

猜测词义一般分为两类:根据上下文猜测词义和根据构词法猜测词义。

根据上下文猜测词义

(1) 根据文章中给出的定义、修饰性从句或定语直接猜出词义。也就是说,文章的作者本人也意识到文章中的某些词十分生僻或不常使用而故意在同位语、修饰性从句等中给出一定的提示或进行一些解释。这些用来解释或

进行提示的词,意义与生僻词基本相同,基本可以互换。也就是说,通过阅读解释部分,生僻词的意义便明晰了。

例如:

- ① We will meet you in the foyer, the entrance hall of the theatre.
- ② Dairying is concerned not only with the production of milk, but also with the manufacture of milk products such as butter and cheese.

例①中 the entrance hall of the theatre 是对 foyer 的解释说明,因此可以推断出 foyer 是“门厅”的意思。

例②中 dairying 指不仅出牛奶,而且还生产黄油和乳酪类奶制品,因此“dairying”可译成“乳制品业”。

(2) 根据上下文中的内容猜测词义。考生可以根据上下文所提供的信息进行有机的联想及推断,进而达到理解生词含义的目的。这种类型的题,上下文的解释一般较为具体,而生词则是文章中较为概括的部分。

- ① A good supervisor can recognize instantly the adept workers from the unskilled ones.
- ② The class covers only the most important philosophical ideas of the nineteenth century, not the trivial ones.

例①中 adept 和后面的 unskilled 意思相反,即“熟练”意思。

例②中 the most important 和后面的 trivial 相对应,因此可猜出其意为“不重要的”。

(3) 利用比喻猜测词义。当作者作比较的时候,一般是强调二者的相似之处。比喻则更是如此。因此,两个相比较的东西只要认出其中之一,便可大致猜出另一物的实质,从而了解全句的含义。

例如:

She sat there for the moment, quiet and silent, suddenly, the meek lamb burst in bad temper, as ferocious as a lion.

在示例中,也许考生对“meek”和“ferocious”两词都很生疏。从文中分析,作者首先把“她”比做“绵羊”,后来又比做“狮子”。绵羊一般很温驯,狮子一般很凶残。因此,“meek”大约指“温驯”,“ferocious”的意义可解释为“凶残”。

(4) 利用常识猜测词义。很多词的词义,放在某一类词汇中间,读者可以很容易凭借自己的生活经验或生活常识来猜词义。

例如:

- ① A fish breathes in water with gills.
- ② I couldn't hear what you were saying because the jet plane that was passing made such a din.

例①中的“gills”可根据常识推断为“(鱼)腮”。

例②中的“din”可推知其意为“噪音(声)”。

(5) 利用信号猜测词义。作者在行文过程中使用的一些标点符号、单词或短语,常充当着“信号”的指示作用,提供了有关作者思路及篇章结构的线索,阅读者可利用这些线索推测词义。此为“信号法”。

a: 标点信号

有些句子当中,对于生词的定义、解释等常用标点符号分开。这些符号通常是逗号、破折号、括号等。

例如:

- ① Careful and thoughtful readers always think about what they are reading, trying to interpret - explain and understand - the ideas presented in a reading passage.

句中破折号之间的内容即是对 interpret 一词的解释 - 释义和领悟,即“阐释”。这种附加的解释有效地避免了读者将 interpret 错误理解成“翻译”而无法正确理解原文。

- ② As many as one thousand years ago in the Southwest, the Hopi and Zuni tribes of North America were building with adobe - sun - baked brick plastered with mud. (CET - 4 94.6)

句中破折号后的内容是对 adobe 一词的进一步解释,可翻译为“粘土砖”,即“由太阳晒干的泥土砖”。

b: 词汇信号

充当“信号”的单词或短语我们称之为“词汇信号”。

例如:

- ① Amy decided she would study her history tonight. Likewise, her roommate Jennifer decided she would.
- ② Mary felt perturbed; that is, she was greatly disturbed by her sister's action.
- ③ John is apathetic to everyone and everything, whereas his sister is a warm and interested person.

例①中 likewise 表明, Jennifer 也决定今晚学习历史 (Jennifer decided she would study history tonight)。

例②中 that is 所引导的句子是对 perturbed 的解释,从而可以猜出它和 disturbed 的词义相近。即“不安,烦扰”。

例③中由 whereas 可知前后两分句的意思是相反的,也就是说, apathetic 和 warm and interested 的意思相反,其意思是“冷淡的,缺乏兴趣的”。

现将具有词汇信号功能的“信号词”归纳如下:

1. 常见的同向信号词有: and, also, for example, for instance, furthermore, in addition, likewise, moreover, what is more, a case in point, that is, meaning, such as, or, in other words
2. 常见的转向信号词有: although, but, whereas, however, on the contrary, on the other hand, in spite of, despite, otherwise, nevertheless, yet
3. 常见的序列信号词有: first, second, third, ..., and so on, then, after, before, then, next, last, afterward, finally, in the end
4. 常见的总括信号词有: as a result, finally, therefore, consequently, accordingly, so, thus, in short, in conclusion, in brief, in a word, in general
5. 常见的因果信号词有: as a result, for, thus, because, for this reason, so, therefore, as, since, consequently

Note: Some parts selected from Reading and Translation by Yang Mei published in Wuhan Surveying and Mapping University Press.

利用构词法知识猜测词义

英语的构词方法很多,大致可以分为两种,一种是词缀辨认,另一种是词汇复合,现逐一论述。

1) 词缀辨认。词缀分前缀、后缀及中缀。中缀不大常见,因此我们的讨论将围绕前缀和后缀进行。

(1) 前缀辨认。前缀是附加在单词前面的语法部件,它本身有发音,有意义,但不能单独成为一个词汇。它的功能主要是给原来的词汇增加一层含义。因此,如果考生掌握了一定数量的前缀,就可以通过辨认前缀,通过复合词缀和词汇的意义来猜测出词的意义。

例如:

① In what now seems like the prehistoric times of computer history, the earth's postwar era, there was quite a wide-spread concern that computers would take over the world from man one day. (CET-4 89.1)

② The hydrosphere has strange characteristics because water has properties unlike those of any other liquid. One anomaly is that water upon freezing expands by about 9 percent, whereas most liquids contract on cooling. For this reason, ice floats on water bodies instead of sinking to the bottom. If the ice sank, the hydrosphere would soon be frozen solidly, except for a thin layer of surface melt water during the summer season. Thus, all water life would be destroyed and the interchange of warm and cold currents, which moderates climate, would be notably absent.

例①中根据 prehistoric, postwar 的前缀可知它们的意思分别是“史前的”,“战后的”。

例②中,文章第一行出现的“hydrosphere”一词的前缀为“hydro”,意思是:“水及与水有关的事物”。“sphere”指的是地球。因此,“hydrosphere”可推知是指“地球上的水”。第二句“anomaly”中的前缀是“非同一般”的意思,根据上下文推断,是指第一句的“strange characteristics”- 奇异特征的意思。最后一句中的“interchange”一词前缀“inter”表示“交替”的意思,因此整个词的意思便是“交替变化”。

(2) 后缀辨认。后缀是附加在单词后面的一种语法部件。它本身也有发音,有意义,但也不能单独成为一个词汇。和前缀不同,后缀不仅给词汇增加了一层含义,而且也通常改变词汇的词性。例如“-less”附加在名词的后面,就可以将名词转变为形容词。因此,加后缀的词词性也要引起考生的注意。当然,掌握了后缀的意义并掌握了词汇的意义,也同样能猜出全词的意义。

例如:

① It is agreed that they enjoy making noises, and that during the first few months one or two noises sort themselves out as particularly indicative of delight, distress, sociability, and so on. (CET-4 97.1)

② Impressionism is a form of art which began in the 1870s. When you look closely at an impressionist painting, you see little dots of different colored paints. When you move away from the picture, the dots of colors blends and the painting looks like it has light playing on the people and objects in the picture.

例①中 indicative 是由 indicate 加后缀 -ive 派生而成的形容词,意思是“预示的”;sociability 是由 sociable 加后缀 -ty 派生而成的名词,意思是“社交性”。由此可猜出整句大意:人们一致认为他们(指上文提到的婴儿)乐于发出声音,并且在头几个月里有一两种声音是预示(他们的)喜悦、忧伤和善于社交等。

例②中 impressionism 是由 impression 加后缀 -ism 派生而成的名词,意思是“印象派画家或印象主义画派”。

2) 分解词汇(即复合词)。英语中有一种构词法即是把两个或多个有联系的词用连字符联接起来,并附以适当的语法形态,从而形成一个表达新概念的词汇。因此,通过结合上下文并分解词汇,可以将一些难词辨认出来。

① Then barbed-wire loomed up in the grey night. The hands of the mine-detectors began to move, and the instruments sang out a muffled warning. All was quiet in the enemy lines. Only an occasional shell flew high overhead.

② The device is said to be the world's first portable translator - a hand-held microcomputer that at the same time converts one spoken language into another. The four-pound, battery-operated product is called the voice, and it is the creation of Advanced Products and Technologies, an American electronics.

例①中出现了三个复合词:“barbed-wire”,“mine-detector”和“overhead”。“barbed”是有“倒刺”的意思,wire 指“金属线”,两词合在一起的意思是“有倒刺的金属”,言外之意,是指“铁丝网”。“mine”在军事术语上指“地雷”,“detector”指“测控器”,联在一起是“地雷探测器”。“overhead”的意思更加明显,指“在头顶上”。

例②中 hand-held 和 battery-operated 均是由名词+过去分词构成的,意思分别为“用手操作的”和“用电池来驱动的”;four-pound 是由数词+单位词构成的,意思为“四磅重的”。

现将四级考试中需着重掌握的前缀、后缀、构词法列表如下:

表1

前 缀	意义、作用	例 示
anti-	反;抗;阻;排斥	antibody(抗体)
be-	使...,导致...	befriend(对...友好), befog(把...弄模糊)
bi-	两个(倍)	bilateral(双边的), biannual(一年两次的)
bio-	生命,生物	biocide(杀虫剂), bioclean(无菌的,十分清洁的)
co-	一起,共同	coordinate(使...协调), cohabit(同居)
counter-	相反的;对应的;回报	counterclockwise(逆时针地); countermeasure(对策); counterattack(反击)
de-	去掉,破坏	deform(使...变形), deice(除去...的冰)
dec(a)-	十个(倍)的	decathlete(十项全能运动员), decagon(十边形)
dis-	否定,相反;除去	disregard(漠视), discard(扔弃), disburden(减轻...负担)
eco-	与生态(学)有关的	ecocide(生态灭绝), ecocatastrophe(生态灾难)

en -	使…	enlist(征募), endanger(使…遭到危险)
ex -	先前的;向外的	ex - wife(前妻); external(外部的), extradite(引渡)
fore -	预先,提前	foresight(先见,预见), forecast(预报)
hydr(o) -	水(力)的;含氢的	hydraulics(水力学); hydrology(水文学)
im -, ir -	不,非	impatient(不耐烦的)
in -, il -	不,非,无	illiterate(不识字的,文盲的)
inter -	…之间(的)	interurban(城际的), interaction(相互作用)
kilo -	一千	kiloton(千吨); kiloliter(千升)
mid -	中间的,中途的	midpoint(中点), midstream(中流)
milli -	一千分之一	millisecond(毫秒); milliliter(毫升)
mis -	错,差,坏	mispronounce(发音错误,误读), mistreat(虐待)
mono -	单个,单一	monosyllable(单音节), monolog(独白)
non -	没有,不	non - vehicle(非机动车)
over -	过度;超过	oversleep((使)睡过头); overlook(俯瞰,忽略)
pent(a) -	五个(倍)的	pentagon(五边形), pentathlete(五项全能运动员)
post -	过后的	postdoctoral(博士后的)
pre -	预先的	preliminary(预备的)
psych(o) -	心理(上)的	psychoanalysis(心理分析), psychosurgery(精神病外科学)
re -	再次,又;回头	revenge(报复), refund(退款)
self -	自我的(地)	self - made(白手起家的), self - educate(自学)
semi -	一半;部分	semisphere(半球), semiconductor(半导体)
sub -	亚于,低于,在…之下	submerge(淹没), subordinate(使从属)
thermo -	热量,温度,热度	thermochemistry(热化学)
un -	不,非,没有	uninteresting(无聊的), unintended(不是存心的,非故意的)
under -	低于;欠	underestimate(低估); underdeveloped(不发达的)

表2

后缀	意义、作用	举 例
- en	构成动词	strengthen(加强,强化), widen(加宽)
- fy	构成动词	amplify(放大,扩大)
- ize (- ise)	构成动词,表 具有…特性	humanize(使具有人性)
- th	构成名词	length(长度), width(宽度)
- logy	构成名词,表 …学科	archaeology(考古学), futurology(未来学)
- ar, - er, - eer, - or	构成名词,表 …者,…人,…器,…机	burglar(夜贼), profiteer(奸商), panhandler(乞丐), actor(男演员)
- ee	构成名词,表 …者,…人	standee(站客), absentee(缺席者)
- ian	构成名词,表 …者,…人	physician(内科医生), comedian(喜剧演员)
- ess	构成名词,表 女性;雌性	swardess(女乘务员), lioness(母狮)
- let	构成名词,表 小	piglet(小猪), leaflet(小册子)
- age	构成名词,表集合;身份;费用;活动,动作等	mileage(里程), pupilage(学生时期), postage(邮资), breakage(破损)
- hood	构成名词,表状态	maidenhood(少女时期)

-ancy, -ency	构成名词,表状态、品质	efficiency(效率), constancy(恒久性)
-ance, -ence	构成名词,表状态、条件等	performance(表现,表演), existence(存在)
-ion, -ation	构成名词,表状态、条件等	fertilization(施肥), humanization(人类化)
-ity, -ty	构成名词,表状态、条件等	locality(所在地), superiority(先进)
-ment	构成名词,表状态、条件等	enhancement(加强)
-ness	构成名词,表状态、条件等	noiselessness(无声)
-dom	构成名词,表状态、性质等	wisdom(明智的行为), boredom(单调)
-ship	构成名词,表状态、性质等	scholarship(奖学金), dictatorship(独裁)
-ant, -ian	构成名词,表…者,…人	anticipant(预期者,期盼者), defendant(被告人)
-ing	构成名词或动名词,表动作或事物	savings(积蓄); engineering(工程); flashing(闪光)
-ant	构成形容词	anticipant(期望的)
-ed	构成形容词	aged(年老的), pointed(尖的)
-ic(al)	构成形容词	cyclical(参cycle), scenic(参scene)
-ous	构成形容词	advantageous, mountainous
-ary, -ory	构成形容词,表…的	legendary(传说中的), compulsory(强制性的)
-some	构成形容词,表具有…性质	troublesome(麻烦的), noisome(令人不快的)
-able, -ible	构成形容词,表可…的	edible(可食用的), omissible(可删除的)
-like	构成形容词,表象…的	catlike(象猫的,偷偷摸摸的)
-ish	构成形容词,表有…特性的	sheepish(懦弱的)
-ive	构成形容词,表有…特性的	talkative(健谈的)
-ful	构成形容词,表具有…特性;或构成名词	resourceful(资源丰富的,足智多谋的); handful(一把,一小撮)
-less	构成形容词,表缺少,没有…	listless(倦怠的), restless(不安宁的)
-ly	构成形容词,副词或名词	highly(高度地); yearly(每年的(地)); monthly(月刊)
-al	构成形容词或名词	provincial(省的,乡土的), proposal(提议)
-ist	构成形容词或名词	royalist(保皇主义者(的)), racialist(种族主义者)
-y	构成形容词或名词	lengthy(冗长的), discovery(发现)

表3

复合名词的构成规则	例 示
名词 + 名词	newsstand(报摊), timecard(考勤卡)
名词 + 动名词	energy - saving(节省能量的)
形容词 + 名词	superpower(超级大国)
动名词 + 名词	looking - glass(眼镜), freezing - point(凝点, 结冰点)
动词 + 副词	checkout(检查), setback(挫折)
副词 + 动词	outlook(展望, 景色), inbreak(入侵)
过去分词 + 副词	grown - up(成年人)

表4

复合形容词的构成规则	例 示
名词 + 动名词	tone - setting(调音), epoch - making(划时代的)
名词 + 过去分词	weather - beaten(饱经风霜的), state - run(国营的)
名词 + 形容词	duty - free(免税的), carsick(晕车的)

形容词 + 名词	short - range(短程的), long - distance(长途的)
形容词 + 名词 + ed	red - eyed(红眼的), narrow - hearted(心胸狭窄的)
过去分词 + 副词 / 介词	paid - in(已缴会费的), grown - up(成年的)
使用“-”	wait - and - see(等着瞧的), matter - of - fact(实事求是的)

2

主旨题

主旨类试题的目的在于考查考生对文章的主题、标题、中心思想的理解程度和区别主要信息和次要信息的能力。常见的提问方式有：

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
2. What is the author's purpose in writing the passage?
3. What is the passage mainly about?
4. Which of the following statements best expresses the main idea of the passage?
5. Which of the following can be the best title of the passage?
6. Which of the following best summarizes the author's opinion?

主旨是一篇文章或一个段落的核心，是作者写作意图的体现，其表现形式因体裁和论证方式的不同而有所不同。就四级考试而言，文章或段落的主旨通常以主题句(topic sentence)的形式出现。请看实例：

The appeal of advertising to buying motives can have both negative and positive effects. Consumers may be convinced to buy a product of poor quality or high price because of an advertisement. For example, some advertisers have appealed to people's desire for better fuel economy for their cars by advertising automotive products that improve gasoline mileage. Some of the products work. Others are worthless and a waste of consumer's money.

Sometimes advertising is intentionally misleading. A few years ago a brand of bread was offered to dieters(节食者) with the message that there were fewer calories(热量单位,大卡) in every slice. It turned out that the bread was not dietetic(适合于节食的), but just regular bread. There were fewer calories because it was sliced very thin, but there were the same number of calories in every loaf.

On the positive side, emotional appeals may respond to a consumer's real concerns. Consider fire insurance. Fire insurance may be sold by appealing to fear of loss. But fear of loss is the real reason for fire insurance. The security of knowing that property is protected by insurance makes the purchase of fire insurance a worthwhile investment for most people. If consumers consider the quality of the insurance plans as well as the message in the ads, they will benefit from the advertising.

Each consumer must evaluate her or his own situation. Are the benefits of the product important enough to justify buying it? Advertising is intended to appeal to consumers, but it does not force them to buy the product, consumers still control the final buying decision. (CET-4 99年1月 Passage Three)

这是一篇较为典型的议论文，其论证主线如划线部分所示。作者在第一段首先提出了自己要论证的主题(The appeal of advertising to buying motives can have both negative and positive effects.)，第二、三段以正反两方面的典型事例进行论证，最后在篇尾作出结论(Advertising is intended to appeal to consumers, but it does not force them to buy the product, consumers still control the final buying decision.)。整篇文章采取总-分-总的演绎推理法，结构清晰，逻辑性强。

从分析的角度看，有两种类型的文章，即演绎类文章和归纳类文章，本文属演绎类文章。在演绎类文章中，语篇主题句和段落主题句一般位于篇章或段落的开头部分，开头就明确主题，然后展开讨论。现将例文中的段首句(划线部分)单独提出来，则构成相对完整的语段：

- (1) The appeal of advertising to buying motives can have both negative and positive effects. (...)
- (2) Sometimes advertising is intentionally misleading. (...)
- (3) On the positive side, emotional appeals may respond to a consumer's real concerns. (...)
- (4) Each consumer must evaluate her or his own situation. (...)

这样，把这篇文章的主题思想浓缩在四句话中，在回答主旨类问题的时候，就如同探囊取物了。

35. The passage is mainly about _____.

- A) how to make a wise buying decision
- B) ways to protect the interests of the consumer
- C) the positive and negative aspects of advertising
- D) the function of advertisements in promoting sales

【答案】C。

在归纳类文章中，主旨句多出现在段末或篇末，作为由具体事实引出的一般结论。请看实例：

Violin prodigies(神童), I learned, have come in distinct waves from distinct regions. Most of the great performers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries were born and brought up in Russia and Eastern Europe. I asked Isaac Stern, one of the world's greatest violinists the reason for this phenomenon. "It is very clear," he told me. "They were all Jews(犹太人) and Jews at the time were severely oppressed and ill-treated in that part of the world. They were not allowed into the professional fields, but they were allowed to achieve excellence on a concert stage." As a result, every Jewish parent's dream was to have a child in the music school because it was a passport to the West.

Another element in the emergence of prodigies, I found, is a society that values excellence in a certain field and is able to nurture(培育) talent. Nowadays, the most nurturing societies seem to be in the Far East. "In Japan, a most competitive society, with stronger discipline than ours," says Isaac Stern, "children are ready to test their limits every day in

many fields, including music. When Western music came to Japan after World War II that music not only became part of their daily lives, but it became a discipline as well." The Koreans and Chinese, as we know, are just as highly motivated as the Japanese.

That's good thing, because even prodigies must work hard. Next to hard work, biological inheritance plays an important role in the making of a prodigy. J. S. Bach, for example, was the top of several generations of musicians, and four of his sons had significant careers in music. (CET-4 98 年 1 月 Passage Four).

本文意在说明音乐神童是天赋+勤奋的产物。第一、二段具体描述犹太人和日本人对孩子的培养,以说明 hard work 的重要作用,第三段总结前两段的内容,阐述了一条事实:hard work 和 biological inheritance 在神童的培养方面起着重要作用。

在说明方法上,本文采用了分述—总述的归纳法,引导考生从具体事实归纳出一般的结论。

从全文来看,作者在前两段的段首以主题句的形式分别描述了神童培养的两个特征:

①Violin prodigies have come in distinct waves from distinct regions.

②Another element in the emergence of prodigies is a society that values excellence in a certain field and is able to nurture talent.

作者想通过这两个特征说明什么问题呢?考生在前两段找不到相应的概括性语句。在最后一段,作者才一语中的:“... even prodigies must work hard. Next to hard work, biological inheritance plays an important role in the making of a prodigy.”据此分析,该短文阅读理解第 30 题对主题的提问,也就不难回答了:

30. Which of the following titles best summarizes the main idea of the passage?

A) Jewish Contribution to Music.

B) Training of Musicians in the World.

C) Music and Society.

D) The Making of Prodigies.

【答案】D。

当然在某些情况下,主题句也出现在文章中间或结尾,请看下面实例:

Where do pesticides fit into the picture of environmental disease? We have seen that they now pollute soil, water, and food, that they have the power to make our streams fishless and our gardens and woodlands silent and birdless. Man, however much he may like to pretend the contrary, is part of nature. Can he escape a pollution that is now so thoroughly distributed throughout our world?

We know that even single exposures to these chemicals, if the amount is large enough, can cause extremely severe poisoning. But this is not the major problem. The sudden illness or death of farmers, farm workers, and others exposed to sufficient quantities of pesticides are very sad and should not occur. For the population as a whole, we must be more concerned with the delayed effects of absorbing small amounts of the pesticides that invisibly pollute our world. (CET-4 95 年 6 月 Passage Four 第一、二段)

该文是较为典型的归纳+演绎推理文章。第一段首先指出杀虫剂对环境和动植物造成的危害,既而以设问形式引出要论述主题(最后一句)。第二段同样以归纳法先举出具体事实,然后得出一般结论。由第二句的 But 可知,该段主题句应当在 But 之后。根据后一句中的“We must be more concerned with...”可以断定,作者所说的“major problem”实际上就是“the delayed effects of absorbing small amounts of the pesticides...”。这是一个段尾主题句作为全文主题的典型例子。

总之,主题句可能出现在一段文章的任何地方。它可能是文章的第一句话,也可能出现在文章的末尾。有些文章的主题句在文章的开头和末尾都出现,有时,主题句还可能插在一段文章的中间部分。有些文章,作者没有明确地写出主题句,读者必须从文章所涉及或讨论的内容中自己推断或归纳出主题句。

3

细节题

细节题是四级阅读题中最重要的题型之一。

细节(detail)或事实(fact)是相对主题而言的。段落中的主题要靠以不同形式联结在一起的事实和细节来进行深化和阐述。在篇章中找出深化主题的重要事实和细节是一项重要的阅读技能。事实、细节题一般主要考查文章中作者提到的有关事件的时间、地点、过程等。一般来说,这些事件都是用来支持作者的主要论点或者帮助作者阐述主题的。从以往的四级阅读题来看,细节题的设问表达方式有:

1. Which of the following is included in the article / passage?
2. Which of the following is mentioned in the article / passage?
3. We learn from the first (the second, third ...) paragraph that _____.
4. It can be inferred from the passage that _____.
5. According to the passage, _____.
6. Which of the following words can best describe ...?
7. Which of the following is TRUE according to the passage?
8. It is suggested in the article / passage that _____.
9. In the article / passage the author advocates all of the following except _____.

做这类试题应把握的原则就是,你所作的选择应当是“身在其外而意在其中”,即我们通常所说的“实际是说...”。总之,不能脱离该细节的上下文来想象、推理。请看以下实例:

【例文 1】(CET-4 95 年 6 月 Passage Four 第三段)

Responsible public health officials have pointed out that the biological effects of chemicals are cumulative (积累的) over long periods of time, and that the danger to the individual may depend on the sum of the exposures received throughout his lifetime. For these very reasons the danger is easily ignored. It is human nature to shake off what may seem to us a

threat of future disaster. "Men are naturally most impressed by diseases which have obvious signs," says a wise physician, Dr. Rene Dubos, "yet, some of their worst enemies slowly approach them unnoticed."

40. It can be concluded from Dr. Dubos' remarks that _____.

- A) people find invisible diseases difficult to deal with
- B) attacks by hidden enemies tend to be fatal
- C) diseases with obvious signs are easy to cure
- D) people tend to overlook hidden dangers caused by pesticides

这道题不同于一般的转述,不是要求考生解释这句引语的意思,而是要求推断说话者通过这句话想表达什么样的观点。结合上下文,答案应为D。

【例文2】(CET-4 97年1月 Passage Two 第三段)

After a year or so, however, I still hadn't gotten a break and began to doubt myself. It was so hard to sell a story that barely made enough to eat. ...

58. Why did the author begin to doubt himself after the first year of his writing career?

- A) He wasn't able to produce a single book.
- B) He hadn't seen a chance for the better.
- C) He wasn't able to have a rest for a whole year.
- D) He found his dream would never come true.

【答案】B。

这道题实际考查考生对第一句中 break 的理解。Break 在此意为“机会,运气”,这里“没有机会”意思是看不到情况好转的迹象。“hadn't seen a chance for the better”是对“hadn't gotten a break”的解释。

【例文3】

Money spent on advertising is money spent as well as any I know of. It serves directly to assist a rapid distribution of goods at reasonable prices, thereby establishing a firm home market and so making it possible to provide for export at competitive prices. By drawing attention to new ideas it helps enormously to raise standards of living. By helping to increase demand it ensures an increased need for labour, and is therefore an effective way to fight unemployment. It lowers the cost of many services; without advertisements your daily newspaper would cost four times as much, the price of your television licence would need to be doubled, and travel by bus or tube would cost 20 per cent more.

52. In the passage, which of the following is NOT included in the advantages of advertising?

- A. Securing greater fame.
- B. Providing more jobs.
- C. Enhancing living standards.
- D. Reducing newspaper cost.

【答案】A。

文中提到广告的有利之处有四点:a,有助于进出口贸易;b,有利于提高生活水平;c,有利于扩大就业机会;d,降低服务性劳动及产品的成本,包括报纸、收看电视、旅行。显然,答案是A,这一点在原文中没有提到。

4

推理题

在四级英语阅读题型中,有一种较难的题——推理题。它要求考生根据语篇的已知信息和事实推断出某个合乎逻辑的结论,要求考生有较强的分析、综合、推理、判断的能力。在主旨题中,我们已涉及到了推理这一问题,因为在综合篇章的内容时,我们实际上是在进行归纳。但主旨题中的归纳都是在语篇提供了较明确和直接的信息和线索(如主题句)的基础上进行的,而在做推理题时,考生应能在语篇提供的信息很隐秘、线索较间接的条件下进行推断。因此,推理题要求考生有较强的逻辑思维能力。如果说前几种题型在语篇中一般能发现直接的提示和线索的话,在推理题中考生找不到上下文中的这种直接的提示,能找到的只是间接的提示和条件。推理题型(或引申题型)主要分为判断、推理和预测三大类。



1. 如何做判断题

判断题是指对文章中的有关事实和观点进行分析和研究,按照事实发展的逻辑次序,总结出合情合理的结论的过程。

例如:

Many American women are earning money outside their homes today. Among women who are eighteen to sixty-four years old, fifty percent have jobs.

In general, working women have had more education than those who stay at home. Of those who work, thirty two percent have attended college, compared with twenty percent of those who do not have jobs.

Among women with jobs, eight out of ten drive a car to work, and eight percent took a vacation away from home during the past year. Much of their traveling was by air.

These figures come from a report which was written for advertisers. The report gives advertisers a new picture of women today. For instance, it tells advertisers that fifty one percent of all American women have traveled by air along with fifty nine percent of all American men.

The lesson for American business is that many women now have other interests to their homes. They like advertisements which show women in offices, planes, and cars.

Which of the following can't be inferred from the passage?

- A. More men have traveled by air than women in America.
- B. Most women with jobs have cars of their own.
- C. Among women with jobs a greater half have gone through college education.
- D. Planes, offices and cars used to be thought of belonging to men only.

选项 A 容易判断,是说美国男子比女子坐飞机的人数多。这与第四段最后一句话,即美国 51% 的女子,59% 的男子坐飞机旅行相符合。一般来说,从一个国家的男女数量基本相符可得出结论,美国男子比女子坐飞机的人数多。选项 B 也正确,说大多数美国职业女性有自己的汽车,这与文章中十分之八的美国职业女性开车上班基本一致。选项 D 也正确,因为文章最后一段讲美国妇女现在越来越对他们家庭以外的事情感兴趣,她们喜欢女子在飞机上,在办公室及汽车里的照片。文章暗含的意思是在以前,妇女只感兴趣于他们的家庭,而飞机,办公室和汽车则是男子的天下。选项 C 是错误答案。这一句话说大多数美国职业女性受过大学教育,而文章中则说美国职业女生有 32% 受过大学教育,二者有明显的冲突。

2. 如何做推理题

所谓推理,即由已知的事实为依据来获得未知的信息的全过程。

例如:

In South America, much of the fertile land is held in the form of large estates; nearly 80 percent of the land is held by estates over 100 hectares in size, while nearly 51 percent of all the land belongs to farms larger than 1,000 hectares in size. This means that most farm workers do not own land.

According to the passage, which of the following statements is true?

- A. The people who work the land in South America own the land.
- B. Most of the South American farmers prefer smaller estates.
- C. 51% of the land belongs to estates smaller than 100 hectares.
- D. In South America land ownership is highly concentrated.

选项答案是 D。文中作者提供了许多数字,来说明问题。80% 的肥沃土地属于面积超过 100 公顷的大种植园。而所有土地中超过一半的(51%)属于面积大于 1000 公顷的农场。所有一切说明:南美洲的土地所有权高度集中。故 D 是最佳选项。

一般来讲,在阅读理解中,判断题和推理题不难辨认,因为它们大多含有 imply, suggest, infer, conclude 等词及其相应的派生词(名词或过去分词)。在阅读理解测试中,除了以上我们所遇见的题型外,一般还有以下几种形式:

1. The author of the passage implies that _____.
2. It is implied in the passage that _____.
3. Which of the following is an inference from the passage?
4. It can be inferred from the passage that _____.
5. The passage intends to say _____.
6. It can be concluded from the passage that _____.
7. We may conclude from reading that _____.
8. Which of the following holds according to the passage you just read?
9. Which of the following statements is true according to the passage you have just read?

3. 如何做预测题

所谓预测,即通过阅读文章,凭借文章中的知识推测出下文将会讲什么,或者判断所选文章的出处。

预测的方法多种多样。首先可以根据逻辑上的意义进行预测。其次可以通过语法、联接语等来预测。再次可以通过有关自己所掌握的背景知识及其常识进行预测。还有可以通过主题句进行预测。

该题型的一般形式有:

1. The paragraph that follows this one may be about _____.
2. What kind of book do you think this passage is selected from?

例如:

Why did I stop smoking? For one thing, I realized that my cigarette bothered others, particularly my wife and children, irritating their eyes and causing them to cough and sneeze. Also, cigarettes are a messy habit. Our house was littered with ashtrays piled high with butts, matchsticks, and ashes, and the children were always knocking them over. Cigarettes are expensive, and I estimated that the carton a week that I was smoking cost me about \$ 650 a year.

Which of the following statements do you think is the next paragraph following this one?

- A. The cost of cigarette smoking.
- B. Why I stopped smoking.
- C. Another important reason to stop smoking.
- D. I did not want to smoke any more.

答案是 C,关键在于第二句的“*For one thing*”。在这个词组的引导下,作者指出了抽烟的危害性,而与之密切联系的是“*For another thing*”词组,虽然两个词组未同时出现,但从“*For one thing*”引导一系列放弃抽烟的原因判断,“*For another thing*”则会引导另外一些放弃抽烟的原因。在这篇短文中,语法帮助我们找到了正确的答案。

5 判断作者的观点和倾向问题

判断作者的观点和倾向问题实质上是判断作者、文章的主观倾向问题。在这类题中,一般也没有明显的解题线索,考生要通过个别带有主观色彩的词来进行推断,透过作者叙述的客观事实来判断隐藏在词句后面的作者的意图,因此,这类题在很大程度上也是一种推理题,属于较难的题型。

判断作者的观点和倾向问题的设问方式通常有:

1. According to the author _____.
2. The author's attitude towards _____.
3. The author suggests that _____.
4. In the author's eyes _____.
5. In the author's opinion _____.
6. The tone of the author is _____.
7. What is the author's opinion concerning _____?
8. What is the author's viewpoint on _____?

请看实例:

Example 1

Am I suggesting that we should return to the preindustrial mode of production or to the nineteenth century "free enterprise" capitalism? Certainly not. Problems are never solved by returning to a stage which one has already outgrown. I suggest transforming our social system from a bureaucratically managed industrialism in which maximal production and consumption are ends in themselves into a humanist industrialism in which man and full development of his potentialities those of love and reason are the aims of all social arrangements. Production and consumption should serve only as means to this end, and should be prevented from ruling man.

The author's attitude towards industrialism might best be summarized as one of _____.

- A. approval B. dissatisfaction
C. suspicion D. tolerance

在这段文章中,有 certainly not, 表明作者对前一种观点的转变,有 suggest 表示作者倡导的方法是改变现行的体制而奉行能充分发挥人的各种潜力的社会经济体制。考生可从这几个词语中比较清楚地把握住作者的观点和态度。答案是 B。

Example 2

We buried Donald Brown last May. He was murdered by four men who wanted to rob the supermarket manager he was protecting. Patrolman Brown was 61 years old. In just six months he and his wife had planned to retire to Florida. Now there will be no retirement in the sun, and she is alone.

The tone of the author is _____.

- A. calm B. bitter C. exciting D. regretful

这篇文章谈到一个将光荣退休,安享晚年的警官被歹徒待杀害的事件。他的死不仅对他的妻子是一个无法弥补的损失,对他的同事(即作者)也造成了深深的心灵创痛。透过字里行间,读者不难感到文章作者深感遗憾的心情,所以选项 D 是最佳答案。

现将四级考试中有关表现作者态度或文章语气的词总结如下,主要有以下三类:

A) 作者态度	
approving 赞同的	indifferent 冷漠的,漠视的
positive 积极的,正面的,肯定的	unconcerned 冷漠的,漠视的
negative 消极的,负面的,否定的	concerned 关注的,关心的
critical 批评的	worried 焦虑的,着急的
neutral 中立的	pessimistic 悲观的
detached 冷漠的,漠视的	optimistic 乐观的
suspicious 怀疑的	depressed 沮丧的,情绪低落的
doubtful 怀疑的;不敢肯定的	confident 有信心的

questioning 怀疑的;质问的	interested 感兴趣的
compromising 妥协的	impressed 印象深的,受感动的
tolerant 容忍的	sympathetic 同情的
B) 文章风格	
subjective 主观的	impersonal 非个人的,不带个人感情的
objective 客观的	informative 提供信息的
personal 个人的	factual 事实的,实际的;实事求是的
persuasive 规劝的	impartial 公正的,不偏袒的
biased 偏见的	partial 偏袒的
opinionated 固执己见的,武断的	
C) 行文语气	
polite 有礼貌的,客气的	formal 正式的
playful 好玩的,嬉戏的	familiar 熟悉的,亲热
serious 严肃的,慎重的	somber 忧郁的
sarcastic 嘲讽的	emotional 情绪的
cynical 愤世嫉俗的	reverent 尊敬的,虔诚的
ironic 讥讽的,讽刺的	informal 非正式的
bitter 痛苦的,苦楚的	sentimental 伤感的
mocking 嘲讽的	casual 随便的,随意的
humourous 幽默的	angry 生气的,气愤的



四级考试词汇题命题趋势与应试策略

Vocabulary



一、试题介绍

词语用法和语法结构是大学英语四级考试的基本题型之一,共 30 题,考试时间为 20 分钟。题目中约 50% 为词和短语的用法,50% 为语法结构。其目的是测试学生运用词汇、短语及语法的能力。



二、应试策略

常见的词汇测试出题方式大致有以下几种:



1 形似义异词, 同义或近义词



1 形似义异词

顾名思义,这类词指的是词形相似但意思不同或类似的一组词。比如四级词汇表中常见的有: assume, assure, ensure, insure; rise, arise, arouse, raise; context, content, contact, contrast, contract; altitude, multitude, latitude, attitude; extend, expand, expense; protest, protect; late, later, latter, latest; reserve, deserve, preserve; quite, quiet, quick; conservation, conversation, convenience; etc. 做这类题主要是根据特定语境即上下文的逻辑需求来选择恰当的词语。例如:

Many people lost their jobs during the business _____. (CET-4 2003.6)

- A. despair B. decrease C. desperation D. depression

[答案] D。

[解析] 句意:商业不景气时,许多人失去了工作。A. despair 绝望,失望;B. decrease 减少;C. desperation 不顾一切,拼命;D. depression 萧条,不景气

It is quite necessary for a qualified teacher to have good manners and _____ knowledge. (CET-4 1996.1)

- A. extensive B. expansive C. intensive D. expensive

[答案] A。

[解析] 句意:一位合格的老师需具有良好的行为举止和广泛的知识。这四个选项的词形很相似,但意思不同。A. extensive *adj.* 广泛的; B. expansive *adj.* 扩展的, C. intensive *adj.* 精细的; D. expensive *adj.* 昂贵的, 根据句意, 只有选 A 才合乎语意逻辑。

又如: Don't _____ this news to the public until we give you the go-ahead. (CET-4 1990.1)

- A. release B. relieve C. relate D. retain

[答案] A。

[解析] 这四个词为形近词。句意:在未征得我们同意之前,不要向公众发布这条消息。

有时也可根据词缀,词根,或词性来判断。例如:

Visibility was poor owing to the thick fog, and our plane had to make a _____ landing.

- A. forcing B. forcible C. forceful D. forced

[答案] D。

[解析] 句意:由于浓雾遮住了视线,我们的飞机被迫降落。这四个选项词形很相似,都含有 force 但词尾不同。-ing 表示主动, -ible 表示能够, -ful 表示充满, -ed 表示被动。根据题意此题含有被动之意,故选 D。

2. 同义或近义词

同义或近义词主要指那些意思相近但又不完全等等的词。例如: alone, lone, lonely; allow, permit, let, admit; evident, apparent, clear, obvious; chance, opportunity; doubt, suspect; lane, pass, path, road, way; laugh, giggle, grin, smile; look, gaze, stare, glance, glimpse; safe, secure; wage, salary, income, pay. 英语中几乎没有意思上完全相同的同义词。许多近义词都存在着内涵和用法上的区别,而许多考生常常忽略了这些,从而作出错误的选择。因此考生在学习时要多加注意近义词的差异。例如:

You will not be _____ about your food in time of great hunger. (CET-4 2003.6)

- A. particular B. peculiar C. special D. specific

[答案] A。

[解析] 句意:在饥荒年代,人们不会过多地讲究食物。A. be particular about 为固定短语,意思是“对...挑剔,对...讲究”。

Free medical treatment in this country covers sickness of mind as well as _____ sickness. (CET-4 1995.6)

- A. normal B. regular C. average D. ordinary

[答案] D。

[解析] 句意:这个国家的公费医疗包括精神病和普通疾病。这四个选项的意思比较接近,都含有“普通的”的意思,但也有区别。A. normal *adj.* 正常的,一般的; B. regular *adj.* 规则的; C. average *adj.* 普通的,平均的,通常指标准,情况普通或一般。D. ordinary *adj.* 普通的,一般的,常指人或事物不特殊。故选 D。

3. 词义辨析

这类题主要是测试考生词汇量的大小,通常选项中的词没有什么规律可循,因此考生主要依靠自己的词汇量根据句子的意思来作出正确的选择。

例如: This hotel _____ \$60 for a single room with bath.

- A. claims B. demands C. prices D. charges

[答案] D。

[解析] 句意:这个旅馆里带浴室的单人间收费 60 美元。此题仅仅考查词义。A. claim *v.* 声称; B. demand *v.* 需要; C. price *n.* 价格; D. charge *v.* 收费、要价。D 符合题意,故选 D。

2 谐音词,同级词,同根词

谐音词是指发音相似,拼写不同,词意也完全不相关联的一类词语。考试中有的学生之所以在这方面造成失误(尤其是听力测试中),主要是由于学生自己本身发音不准确或单词拼写记不准确。对策是平时加强基本功训练,并注意这类词语的归类记忆法。

[例 1] The rain was heavy and _____ the land was flooded. (CET-4 90.1)

- A. consequently B. continuously
C. constantly D. consistently

[答案] A。

[解析] 这类词为拼写相似、读音相似,外形相似的一组,常为谐音词。A. consequently 因而,所以; B. continuously 连贯的,连续的; C. constantly 经常地,不断地; D. consistently 一致地。依据题意, A 项正确。

[例 2] There were no tickets _____ for Friday's performance. (CET-4 90.1)

- A. preferable B. considerable
C. possible D. available

[答案] D。

[解析] 同级词,即指用派生法构成的一组词,其前缀或后缀相同,此四个选项中均有后缀 -able(-ible)。

A. preferable 更可取的;更好的; B. considerable 相当大的,相当多的; C. possible 可能的; D. available 可得到的。依据题意, D 项正确。

同级词、同根词也是四级词汇考试中常见的考点之一。这类词汇的考试主要是测试学生对常见构词法的掌握和应用能力。学习掌握构词法是在短时间内迅速扩大词汇量的科学而行之有效的办法。大多数词根 + 词缀所构成的新词比较有规律,但也常有例外。因此,对于这一类词既要掌握其基本规律,又要留意特殊、例外的词。如果一概凭印象类推,就会造成失误。比如同根、同级又同性但不同义的词就应特别注意。请看下列比较:

1. collection, collective

collection *n.* 收集;收取。collective *n.* 集体。collection 常指所收集的物品,而 collective 则指人,团体。例如:
Our library has a large collection of books. 我们图书馆的藏书很多。
They have stored grain for the collective. 他们为集体贮存了粮食。

2. considerable, considerate

considerable *adj.* 相当大(多)的,可观的,重要的。在句中常作定语,修饰名词。considerate *adj.* 体谅(贴)的,考虑周到的。在句中作定语或表语,修饰或说明人的品质。例如:

Writing is a slow process, requiring considerable thought, time and effort.
写作可是个慢功夫,需要反复思考,需要充分的时间,需要不懈的努力。
We should be considerate of the comfort of old people.
我们应当为老年人的舒适着想。

3. continual, continuous

continual *adj.* 不断的,频繁的。指(中间有短暂间歇的)经常不断的,又有中断后重复开始,表“屡屡”之义,仅用于时间上。continuous *adj.* 连续的,不断的,持续的。有绝对不可中断,不停止的含义。指无间断的事件,也可指不间断的空间、时间、电线、电波等。例如:

She was tired of continual trips to grocery, school and office.
老是跑食品店、学校和办公室使她感到厌倦。
The continuous hot weather is oppressive.
这持续的炎热天气使人难以忍受。

4. disinterested, uninterested

在非正式的口语中两者可以换用。例如: She is disinterested in her work. = She is uninterested in her work. 她对工作不感兴趣。

在正式用语中, disinterested *adj.* 公正无私的,客观的。uninterested *adj.* 不感兴趣的,漠不关心的。常作表语,所说明的主语为人。例如:

His action was not disinterested because he hoped to make money out of the affair. 因为他希望从这件事中获益,他的行为不无私心。

Some parents are uninterested in their children's desire.
有些父母对孩子们的愿望漠不关心。

5. economic, economical

economic *adj.* 经济(上)的,经济学的。economical *adj.* 节俭的,精打细算的;节省的。可用于指人。试比较:

We bought a small house for economic reasons.
由于经济原因,我们买了一幢小房子。(暗示买不起大房子)
We bought a small house for economical reasons.
我们为了节省钱而买了一幢小房子。(表示不愿多花费)

由此可见,同一个词根能派生出词义差别很大,甚至毫无关联的同根同性异义词。对这种语言现象切不可忽视。否则,将犯望文生义、误用、滥用同根词的错误。

3

动词短语

动词短语在四级考试中出现的频率很高,除在词汇部分外,考题其它几个项目中也必涉及到,因此动词短语是考点中的重中之重。

动词短语常有以下几种构成方法:



1. 动词 + 介词

look for, look after, depend on, hear about, pass through, fill in, look into, make for, make into, result from, etc.
例如:

In developing countries people are _____ into overcrowded cities in great numbers.

A. breaking B. filling C. pouring D. hurrying

[答案] C.

[解析] 句意:在发展中国家,人们正大量涌向拥挤的城市。这四个选择均由不同的动词加上介词 into 组成。

A. break into 意为闯入; B. fill into 意为填写; C. pour into 意为涌入; D. hurry into 意为匆忙,此题选 C.



2. 动词 + 副词

come out, sit down, stand up, break up, break down, look up, give up, call off, put off, set up, etc.
例如:

The sports meet, originally due to be held last Friday, was finally _____ because of the bad weather.

A. set off B. broken off C. worn off D. called off

[答案] D.