

研究生英语入学
考试强化训练

丛书主编 曾道明

阅读 理解

卢玉玲
万江波
主编

研究生英语入学考试强化训练

- 词汇与结构
- 阅读理解
- 完形填空、翻译与写作

责任编辑：唐 敏

ISBN 7-309-02264-5



9 787309 022643 >

ISBN 7-309-02264-5/H · 382

定价：20.00元

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复旦大学出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

研究生英语入学考试强化训练:阅读理解/曾道明等主编.
—上海:复旦大学出版社,1999.6
ISBN 7-309-02264-5

I. 研… II. 曾… III. 英语-阅读教学-研究生-入学考试-自学
参考资料 N. H31

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(1999)第 15618 号

出版发行 复旦大学出版社

上海市国权路 579 号 200433

86-21-65102941(发行部) 86-21-65642892(编辑部)

fupnet@fudanpress.com http://www.fudanpress.com

经销 新华书店上海发行所

印刷 上海第二教育学院印刷厂

开本 850×1168 1/32

印张 14

字数 364 千

版次 1999 年 6 月第一版 1999 年 6 月第一次印刷

印数 1—5 000

定价 20.00 元

如有印装质量问题,请向复旦大学出版社发行部调换。

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前言

经过大学四年本科阶段的学习,许多学生渴望进一步攻读硕士学位,而研究生入学考试中的英语考试使不少学生感到为难。为了帮助广大考生能顺利通过研究生入学考试中的英语关,我们根据国家教育部制定、颁布的硕士、博士学位入学考试大纲(非英语专业),并参照《复旦大学英语水平考试大纲》要求,编写了这套考研丛书。

我们一向认为,学好英语并非一朝一夕之举。若想真正提高英语水平,恐怕还有赖于广大考生平时的辛苦积累。当然,如果考生在考试之前,通过一定量的习题练习,掌握应试技巧,想必对通过考试也是很有帮助的,这正是我们编写这套丛书的初衷。

本册《阅读理解》精心挑选了百余篇阅读文章,一方面帮助考生在短期内达到大纲所规定的要求,顺利通过考试,另一方面帮助具有较高水平的广大英语学习者提高学习兴趣,扩大阅读量。本册的全部练习均附有答案,可供考生自测,以增强复习应试的能力。

丛书由曾道明担任主编,《阅读理解》由卢玉玲、万江波任主编,参加编写的还有王绍梅、陶友兰和王颖。最后由曾道明统稿、审定。

限于时间和编者水平,疏漏和失误之处在所难免,敬请同行和读者不吝赐教。

编者

1999. 1. 15

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Passage 1

The great secret of life, I have discovered, is always to appear busy, whether one is or not. A reputation for ceaseless occupation is a considerable ¹²¹⁸ asset in the eternal struggle to avoid doing what one doesn't really want to do. How many patients have I successfully ¹²¹⁹ fobbed off by informing them that I am far too busy either to see or to speak to them at the moment? Such is my reputation for hard work that the patients thus brushed off; at once begin to stammer their apologies for having had the ¹²²⁰ temerity to interrupt me in the first place.

Naturally, doctors are not the only ones to use this invaluable ¹²²¹ tactic to avoid unpleasant tasks such as obliging the public. The police, for instance, are past masters at it. Indeed, so busy are they that—in my experience—they always claim that they ought to be somewhere else than where they are now. This means, of course, that they can never investigate fully the crime to which they have been called, or arrest the culprit, for then they would have to fill in all the forms, and would be even busier.

That the police should be overwhelmingly busy is, alas, all

什么人都有理。

too plausible in this land of theft and assault. It is just that, so far at least, I haven't discovered what it is the police are busy with. The jealous are not ever jealous for the cause, says Emilia in *Othello*, but they are jealous that they are jealous. The police are busy that they are busy.

For example, last week a young man of the shaven-headed and tattooed-handed tribe arrived in our hospital complaining of a headache. Shortly afterwards, his wife arrived in his wake, whereupon—she being the cause of his headache in his opinion—he beat her up in the cubicle in which he was awaiting medical attention. The nurses, who heard the punches raining down on her face, ran to rescue her and called the police.

The police arrived comparatively promptly, but declared, once the situation had been explained to them, that they were too busy to do anything about it, and left. The night before, incidentally, the woman's seven-year-old son (not by her husband) had telephoned the police because step-papa was strangling mama while simultaneously trying to eject her from the window. This is what is known in technical terms as a *domestic*.

One swallow doesn't make a summer, of course, nor one instance of police dereliction of duty, incompetence, laziness and stupidity a complete breakdown in law and order. But in the same week another young man, a drug addict on our ward, was observed stealing the possessions of a mentally subnormal patient opposite, and then leaving the ward. The staff called the police, not only giving his name and address, but the name and address of the pharmacy from which he collected his disgusting drugs every day. It wouldn't have required Sherlock Holmes to apprehend him, even the unaided Dr Watson could have managed

it.

按时间, 适当地

The police duly turned up on our ward—three hours after having been called. They agreed that, theoretically speaking, it was an open and shut case, but unfortunately they were too busy to pursue it.

“Busy with what?” asked one of the nurses.

“Serious crimes,” replied the police.

Committed by whom? By people such as the violent husband and the drug addict, of course.

1. According to the writer, pretending to be extremely busy can

C.

- A) make your colleagues admire you
B) make people believe you are a very capable person
C) evade doing what you are really reluctant to do
D) endear yourself to your superiors
2. By saying “The police are past masters at it” in Line 3, Paragraph 2, the writer means A. D.
- A) the police were good at avoiding unpleasant tasks in the past
B) the police seldom pretended to be busy in the past
C) the police never investigate fully the crime to which they have been called
D) the police are extremely skilful in avoiding unpleasant tasks
3. Which of the following statements is NOT true according to the passage? B
- A) The young man of the shaven-headed and tattooed-handed

tribe was not in good relations with his wife.

B) The young man tried every means to get rid of his wife.

C) The young man punched his wife severely and repeatedly in the hospital.

D) The police didn't criticize the young man.

4. The writer implies that the police didn't pursue the case of the drug addict because C.

A) no details about the drug addict can be provided

B) the drug addict is a dangerous madman

C) they are too lazy

D) Dr Watson could manage it himself

5. The phrase "an open and shut case" in Line 3, Paragraph 7 means A.

A) an obvious case

B) a case which is extremely difficult to settle

C) a pending case

D) a civil case

Passage 2

Researchers at Washington University have invented a technique that could eliminate the majority of the \$1,000,000,000 lost to credit card fraud each year in the U. S.. It also could change the way people and industries safeguard and authenticate information.

The technique identifies “electronic fingerprints” of objects that carry magnetically recorded data. It can provide positive identification of any object or document that carries such magnetic information—from credit cards, cardkeys, and security cards to music and data tapes and other computer software. The technique reads a unique magnetic signature that is virtually impossible for a forger to duplicate and can protect the recorded information against tampering.

Ronald S. Indeck, associate professor of electrical engineering, and Marcel W. Muller, professor of electrical engineering, discovered that all magnetic media are marked with a unique, permanent magnetic signature that can be identified electronically. Scientists had thought that the random arrangements of millions of magnetic microparticles that comprise magnetic informa-

tion devices were only a nuisance that corrupted the desired information. Each microparticle grain is one-500th the thickness of a strand of human hair. Instead, Indeck and Muller have proven that the effects of this very randomness are permanently, electronically identifiable for each small region of a magnetic device.

Credit cards, for instance, have a magnetic stripe above the owner's signature, with three parallel lines that look like railroad tracks and cross ties that contain the digital "ones and zeros" of the credit card information. The magnetism is carried by iron oxide particles—literally rust dust—encased in a plastic binder. Each of the millions of tiny grains, scattered about like spattered paint, is magnetic.

Information is imprinted on the particles by magnetizing them with a strong magnetic field.

The information is recognized and turned into an electrical signal by a recording read head in the card reader. When a sales clerk runs a credit card through a magnetic card reader, the result is a digital confirmation of the number that encodes the credit card information: name, address, phone number, and whatever other data the credit card company may want to know about the customer. All the process does now is confirm the number. Forgers who obtain the number, say from a sales slip, can reproduce it and easily fabricate a phony credit card.

Indeck and Muller found, however, that each credit card stripe has a unique magnetic signature—its "fingerprint"—that is nearly impossible to be duplicated on a different card. "We have a method to authenticate the magnetic fingerprint," Indeck explains. "The magnetic regions on a credit card will always be recognizable; even a small patch of the magnetic stripe is unique,

and no other card in the world has a patch on it just like that. With one swipe, a clerk will be able to get both the card information and a magnetic fingerprint. This will eliminate fraud since the criminal can copy the account information, but in no way will he or she be able to copy the unique arrangement of millions of microparticles that give the magnetic signature."

The likelihood of reproducing the magnetic fingerprint is virtually nil, Muller indicates, because the number of possible particle arrangements is unimaginably large. "The amount of data a forger would have to store is incredible. It would take thousands of years to fabricate a successful forgery. If anybody can do that, they deserve to reproduce the card."

1. The passage is mainly about _____.
 - A) a new technique that can prevent credit card forgery
 - B) a new credit card that can not be duplicated
 - C) how forgers fabricate credit cards
 - D) how professors Indeck and Muller detect credit card forgers
2. In the last sentence of the second paragraph, the word "tampering" most probably means _____.
 - A) damaging
 - B) stealing
 - C) falsifying
 - D) fading
3. Which of the following can effectively prevent credit card forgery?
 - A) Name.

- B) Phone number.
 - C) Address.
 - D) Electronic fingerprint.
4. According to the passage, which of the following statements about magnetic microparticles is NOT true?
- A) They are haphazardly arranged.
 - B) They are visible to the naked eyes.
 - C) They are identifiable electronically.
 - D) They can be imprinted with information.
5. By saying "If anybody can do that, they deserve to reproduce the card" in the last sentence, the writer means _____.
- A) credit card forgers are forgivable
 - B) there is little likelihood of fabricating the magnetic fingerprint of a credit card
 - C) a person is praiseworthy if he can produce the magnetic fingerprint of a credit card
 - D) fabricating a successful credit card forgery usually takes a long time.

Passage 3

Now which are the animals really to be pitied in captivity? I have already given a partial answer to this question: In the first place, those clever and highly developed beings whose lively mentality and urge for activity can find no outlet behind the bars of the cage. Furthermore, all those animals which are ruled by strong drives that cannot be satisfied in captivity. This is most conspicuous, even for the uninitiated, in the case of animals which, when living in a free state, are accustomed to roaming about widely and therefore have a correspondingly strong drive for locomotion. Owing to this frustrated desire, foxes and wolves housed, in many old-fashioned zoos, in cages which are far too small, are among the most pitiable of all caged animals.

(Another piteous scene, seldom noticed by ordinary zoo visitors, is enacted by some species of swans at migration time. These creatures, like most other water fowl, are in zoos generally rendered incapable of flight by the operation of "pinioning", that is the amputation of the wing bone at the metacarpal joint. The birds never really grasp that they can fly no more and they try again and again. I do not like pinioned water birds; the miss-

ing tip of one wing and the still sadder picture that the bird makes when it spreads its wings spoil most of my pleasure in it, even if it belongs to one of those species which do not suffer mentally by the mutilation.

Though pinioned swans generally seem happy and signify their contentment, under proper care, by hatching and rearing their young without any trouble, at migration time things become different: the swans repeatedly swim to the lee side of the pond, in order to have the whole extent of its surface at their disposal when trying to take off against the wind. All the while, their sonorous flying calls can be heard as they try to rise, and again and again the grand preparations end in a pathetic flutter of the one and half wings; a truly sorry picture!

But of all animals that suffer under the inefficient methods of many zoological gardens, by far the most unfortunate are those mentally alert creatures of whom we have spoken above. These, however, rarely awaken the pity of the zoo visitor, least of all when such an originally highly intelligent animal has deteriorated, under the influence of close confinement, into a crazy idiot, a very caricature of its former self. I have never heard an exclamation of sympathy from the onlookers in the parrot house. Sentimental old ladies, the fanatical sponsors of the Societies for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, have no compunction in keeping a grey parrot or cockatoo in a relatively small cage or even chained to a perch. Now these larger species of the parrot tribe are not only clever but mentally and bodily uncommonly vivacious; and, together with the large corvines, they are probably the only birds which can suffer from that state of mind, common to prisoners, namely boredom. But nobody pities these pathetic