

# 大学英语

## 四级水平自测与精解

蒋一平 程和平 赵建成 编

# COLLEGE ENGLISH BAND IV

华东化工学院出版社

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**大学英语四级水平自测与精解**

**Daxue Yingyu Siji Shuiping Zice yu Jingjie**

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华东化工学院出版社出版发行

(上海市梅陇路 130 号)

新华书店上海发行所发行经销

上海市竟成印刷厂排版

华东化工学院印刷厂印刷

开本 787×1092 1/32 印张 10 字数 223 千字

1991 年 6 月第 1 版 1991 年 6 月第 1 次印刷

印数 1-10000 册

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ISBN 7-5628-0144-4/H·12 定价 3.30 元

## 前 言

本书是根据国家教委颁布的《大学英语教学大纲》和《大学英语四级考试大纲》的要求,作为华东化工学院大学英语四级教学阶段的系列辅助材料之一而编写的,目的在于帮助学生复习和巩固已掌握的语言知识,弥补课堂教学时数有限而不可能帮助学生全面复习各方面的语言知识的不足。

迄今为止,有关大学英语四级方面的练习册已出版了不少,但一般都是介绍一些测试形式、应试方法和简单地给予一个标准答案。而本书以新颖实用为宗旨,力图提高学生的应试能力。本书具有以下几个特点:(1)所用语言简明易懂,在根据选择题标准编写的10套模拟试题后(不包括听力部分)各套试题均附有较详细的注释;(2)语法结构和词汇部分严格按照《大学英语教学大纲》要求进行精选,覆盖面广,解释部分力求突出重点,以期收到举一反三、触类旁通之效果;(3)阅读测试以及完形填空等部分的素材,大多选自原版书刊,体裁多样,并在编写试题时注意了语篇方面问题的应试技巧。

本书虽作为华东化工学院大学英语四级教学系列辅助教材之一,但也可作为参加其他标准化考试(如 TOEFL, EPT, 研究生入学考试等)的自习用书。

本书由蒋一平副教授主编,程和平副教授为副主编,赵建成副教授、戚元方、余毓国等共同编写。

华东化工学院出版社编辑顾芝莲同志为本书的出版化了大量精力,谨在此表示诚挚的谢意。

由于编写时间仓促，编者水平有限，疏漏错误之处在所难免。衷心希望广大读者不吝指正。

编者

1990年12月

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# Test 1

## Part I Reading Comprehension (35 minutes)

**Directions:** There are 4 reading passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A), B), C) and D). You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

**Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage:**

At this time the state of South Carolina was having hard times. Year after year the soil had been planted to the same crop. It was farmed by uneducated and careless slaves, and the planters knew little about soil conservation (保护). Because the soil was beginning to wear out, crops were smaller. The younger people were not satisfied to raise cotton on the poor soil of the old South. Many of them moved westward and started cotton plantations in Alabama and Mississippi. Moreover, so much cotton had been shipped to factories in England and New England that they had as much

cotton as they could use. This brought the price of cotton down. More and more slaves were needed to work on the new and larger plantations, and higher and higher prices were demanded for them. Planters found their expenses rising and their incomes from the sale of cotton reduced. Hard times had come to South Carolina.

1. The best title of this passage is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) Ignorance of planters about farming
  - B) Economic rivalry in the South
  - C) Deterioration (退化) of the soil in South Carolina
  - D) Economic difficulties of South Carolina
2. Which of the following sentences can best summarize the main idea of the passage?
  - A) Hard times had come to South Carolina planters.
  - B) Planters found their expenses rising and their incomes from the sale of cotton reduced.
  - C) Year after year the soil of South Carolina had been planted with the same crop.
  - D) Because the soil was beginning to wear out, crops were smaller.
3. In discussing the economy of South Carolina, one of the author's assumptions is that the reader understands \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A) the lack of knowledge on the part of planters and slaves

- B) farming methods in use at the time
  - ~~C) the law of supply and demand~~
  - D) why more slaves were needed
4. Plantations grew in size in South Carolina mainly because \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) demand for cotton had decreased
  - ~~B) planters grew richer~~
  - C) places had to be found for young people
  - ~~D) soil was less productive~~
5. The fact that cotton prices were falling is mentioned by the author to show that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) cotton shipments should have been regulated
  - ~~B) poorer soil produced poorer quality crops~~
  - ~~C) the planters were having hard times~~
  - D) there were reasons why young people moved westward

**Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage:**

A unique laboratory at the University of Chicago is busy only at night. It is a dream laboratory where researchers are at work studying dreamers. Their findings have revealed that everyone dreams from three to seven times a night, although in ordinary life a person may remember none or only one of his dreams.

While the subjects—usually students—are asleep, special machines record their brain waves and eye movements as well as the body movements that signal



the end of a dream. Surprisingly, all subjects sleep soundly.

Observers report that a person usually moves his body restlessly before a dream. Once the dream has started, his body relaxes and his eyes become more active, as if the curtain had gone up on a show. As soon as the machine indicates that the dream is over, a buzzer wakens the sleeper. He sits up, records his dream, and goes back to sleep—perhaps to dream some more.

Researchers have found that if the dreamer is wakened immediately after his dream, he can usually recall the entire dream. If he is allowed to sleep even five more minutes, his memory of the dream will have faded.

6. According to the passage, researchers at the University of Chicago are studying \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) the content of dreams
  - B) the meaning of dreams
  - C) the process of sleeping
  - D) dreamers while they dream
7. Their findings have revealed that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) everyone dreams every night
  - B) dreams are easily remembered
  - C) dreams are likely to be frightening
  - D) persons dream only one dream a night
8. Just before a dream a sleeper will usually \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) relax                      C) give an uneasy movement  
B) lie perfectly              D) make more eye movements
9. In the dream laboratory, the dreamers are recorded  
\_\_\_\_\_.
- A) as soon as the students wake in the morning  
B) at stated intervals during the night  
C) about five minutes after the end of each dream  
D) immediately after each dream
10. A person is mostly likely to remember the dream  
that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) is of most interest to him  
B) occurs immediately after he goes to sleep  
C) occurs just before he wakes up  
D) both A) and B)

**Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage:**

The existence of oil wells has been known for a long time. Some of the Indians of North America used to collect and sell the oil from the wells of Pennsylvania. No one, however, seems to have realised the importance of this oil until it was found that paraffin-oil (石蜡油) could be made from it; this led to the development of the wells and to the making of enormous profits. When the internal combustion engine was invented, oil became of world-wide importance.

What was the origin of the oil which now drives our motor-cars and aircraft? Scientists are confident

about the formation of coal, but they do not seem so sure when asked about oil. They think that the oil under the surface of the earth originated in the distant past, and was formed from living things in the sea. Countless billions of minute sea creatures and plants lived and sank to the sea bed. They were covered with huge deposits of mud, and by processes of chemistry, pressure and temperature were changed through long ages into what we know as oil. For these creatures to become oil, it was necessary that they should be imprisoned between layers of rock for an enormous length of time. The statement that oil originated in the sea is confirmed by a glance at a map showing the chief oilfields of the world; very few of them are far distant from the oceans of today. In some places gas and oil come up to the surface of the sea from its bed. The rocks in which oil is found are of marine origin too. They are sedimentary rocks, rocks which were laid down by the action of water on the bed of the ocean. Almost always the remains of shells, and other proofs of sea life, are found close to the oil. A very common sedimentary rock is called shale, which is a soft rock and was obviously formed by being deposited on the sea bed. And where there is shale there is likely to be oil.

There are four main areas of the world where deposits of oil appear. The first is that of the Middle

11/23. 10/1

East, and includes the regions near the Caspian Sea, the Black Sea, the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf. Another is the area between North and South America, and the third, between Asia and Australia, includes the Islands of Sumatra, Borneo and Java.

The fourth area is the part near the North Pole. When all the present oil-fields are exhausted, it is possible that this cold region may become the scene of oil activity. Yet the difficulties will be great, and the costs may be so high that no company will undertake the work. If progress in using atomic power to drive machines is fast enough, it is possible that oil-driven engines may give place to the new kind of engine. In that case the demand for oil will fall, the oilfields will gradually disappear, and the deposits at the North Pole may rest where they are for ever.

11. Mineral oil didn't become very important until \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) ~~the~~ the internal combustion engine was invented
- B) the oil wells in Pennsylvania were developed
- C) American Indians began to collect and sell it
- D) oilfields were exhausted

12. Scientists think that \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) coal was formed from shale under the surface of the earth
- B) oil was formed from sea creatures caught between layers of rock

- C) oil was formed from large deposits of mud on the sea bed
- D) oil was formed from sea water by processes of chemistry, pressure and temperature
13. "Where there is shale, there is likely to be oil."  
The author says this in order to show that \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) oil was first formed under sea
- B) shale is a sedimentary rock
- C) oil was made from shale
- D) shale is another form of oil
14. The first three areas of oil deposits are mentioned in a single paragraph, whereas the fourth area is mentioned in a separate paragraph. This is because \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) the fourth area has not been developed yet and may never be developed
- B) The fourth area is a long way from North America
- C) its oilfields are already exhausted
- D) the fourth area is a good place to develop atomic power
15. Progress in using atomic power may \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) save all the trouble of drilling for oil
- B) give rise to a new kind of oil-driven engine
- C) reduce the cost of drilling near the North Pole
- D) make it necessary to drill near the North

## Pole

**Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage:**

A very important world problem is the rapidly increasing pressure of population on land and on land resources.

It is not so much the actual population of the world but its rate of increase which is important. It works out to be about 1.6 per cent per annum net increase (净增). In terms of numbers this means something like forty to fifty-five million additional people every year. Canada has a population of twenty million—rather less than six months' climb in world population. Take Australia. There are ten million people in Australia. So, it takes the world less than three months to add to itself a population which peoples that vast country. Let us take our own crowded country—England and Wales: forty-five to fifty million people—just about a year's supply.

By this time tomorrow, and every day, there will be added to the earth about 120,000 extra people—just about the population of the city of York.

This enormous increase of population will create immense problems. By A. D. 2000, unless something desperate happens, there will be as many as 7,000,000,000 people on the surface of this earth! So this is a problem which you are going to see in your lifetime.

Why is this enormous increase in population taking place? It is really due to the spread of the knowledge and the practice of what is coming to be called Death Control. Death Control is something rather different from Birth Control. Death Control recognizes the work of the doctors and the nurses and the hospitals and the health services in keeping alive people who, a few years ago, would have died of some of the incredibly serious killing diseases, as they used to be. Squalid (肮脏的) conditions, which we can remedy by an improved standard of living, caused a lot of disease and dirt. Medical examinations at school catch diseases early and ensure healthier school children. Scientists are at work stamping out malaria (疟疾) and other more deadly diseases. If you are seriously ill there is an ambulance to take you to a modern hospital. Medical care helps to keep people alive longer. We used to think seventy was a good age; now eighty, ninety, it may be, are coming to be recognized as a normal age for human beings. People are living longer because of this Death Control, and fewer children are dying, so the population of the world is shooting up.

Imagine the position if you and I and everyone else living on earth shared the surface between us. How much should we have each? It would be just over twelve acres—the sort of size of a small holding. But not all that is useful land which is going to produce food,

We can cut out one-fifth of it, for example, as being too cold. That is land which is covered with ice and snow—Antarctica and Greenland and the great frozen areas of northern Canada. Then we can cut out another fifth as being too dry—the great deserts of the world like the Sahara and the heart of Australia and other areas where there is no known water supply to feed crops and so to produce food. Then we can cut out another fifth as being too mountainous or with too great an elevation above sea level. Then we can cut out another tenth as land which has insufficient soil, probably just rock at the surface. Now, out of the twelve acres only about four are left as suitable for producing food. But not all that is used. It includes land with enough soil and enough rainfall or water, and enough heat which, at present, we are not using, such as, for example, the great Amazon forests and the Congo forest and the grasslands of Africa. How much are we actually using? Only a little over one acre is what is required to support one human being on an average at the present time.

16. The world's population is increasing because \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) the number of babies born every year is about 16 per cent of the total population
- B) the birth rate is about 1.6 per cent higher than the death rate



- C) the birth rate is going up by 1.6 per cent per annum
- D) the death rate is going down by about 1.6 per cent every year
17. The author mentions the different populations of Canada, Australia, and England and Wales in order to \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) show how small these countries are
- B) show how quickly those countries are populated
- C) emphasize the low rate of increase of world population
- D) emphasize the high rate of increase of world population
18. According to the passage which of the following is not the cause for death?
- A) Poor living condition.
- B) Fatal diseases like malaria.
- C) Poor medical service.
- D) Less food to feed people.
19. By 'Death Control' the author means \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) a rather different kind of Birth Control
- B) control of the world's population
- C) the prevention or cure of diseases
- D) the spread of knowledge in the world
20. From the passage we can conclude \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) the problem of land is not very serious
- B) the problem of land can be solved by removing