

英语系列应试题

(I)

阅 读 理 解

English Examination Books

(Book II)

Reading Comprehension

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前 言

为了提高理工科大学生的听、读、写和词汇语法熟练运用能力，并使其尽快熟悉和适应当前的考试方式，我们在对国内外大量资料进行分析研究后，选编了这套《英语系列应试题》。全套书共分五册：《听力理解》、《阅读理解》、《词汇与结构》、《完形填充》和《写作》。各册内容一般按难易程度由浅入深排列，并附有参考答案。另外，第一册——《听力理解》还附有听力材料，并录制有磁带。第五册——《写作》，除有范文、简要说明和注释外，还有培养写作能力的各种基本练习题，如：改错、汉英互译、看图写作等。书中不少材料选自近期从美国归来的选编者所带回的最新资料。题材广泛、内容丰富、实用性强，不适为应试者，特别是要参加大学英语四级考试者应备的一本综合性的好练习。

本套书主要对象是理工科大学生，也可供广大科技工作者及具有同等水平的其他读者提高听、读、写能力，并以备参加各种类型的英语考试时作为综合练习使用。

本套书第一册——《听力理解》，由张燕红、王志斌选编，由外籍教师 Carla Kvittem, Kenneth Berg 和 Petter Newstead 录音；第二册——《阅读理解》，由王立宁、杨云峰、葛虹、赵雪爱选编；第三册——《词汇与结构》，由张淑洁、张庭季、白宗谦、辛柯选编；第四册——《完形填充》，由高鸿权、杨国楹选编；第五册——《写作》，由张庭季、张外庐编写。全套书由张庭季、董国忠、舒祥熙分

别审校。全套书的选编组织工作由杨国楹负责。

由于编者水平有限，书中错误与不足之处在所难免，恳请读者批评指正。

选编者

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Direction: There are 100 reading passages in this book. Each passage is followed by some questions. For each question there are three or four suggested answers marked A), B), C) or D). Choose the ONE best answer and see the key to make sure whether your answers are correct.

Passage 1

The Olympic Games originated in 776 B. C. in Olympia, a small town in Greece. Participants in the first Olympiad are said to have run a 200-yard race, but as the Games were held every four years, they expanded in scope. Only Greek amateurs were allowed to participate in this festival in honor of the god Zeus. The event became a religious, patriotic, and athletic occasion where winners were honored with wreaths and special privileges. There was a profound change in the nature of the Games under the Roman emperors. After they became professional circuses and carnivals, they were banned in 394 A. D. by Emperor Theodosius.

The modern Olympic Games began in Athens in 1896 as a result of the initiative of Baron Pierre de Coubertin, a French educator whose desire was to promote international understanding through athletics. Nine nations participated in the first Games; over 100 nations currently compete.

The taint of politics and racial controversy, however, has impinged upon the Olympic Games in our epoch. In 1936 Hitler, whose country hosted the Games, affronted Jesse Owens, a black American runner, by refusing to congratulate Owens for the feat of having won four gold medals. In the 1972 Munich Games, the world was appalled by the deplorable murder of eleven Israeli athletes by Arab terrorists. The next Olympic Games in Montreal were boycotted by African nations, in addition, Taiwan withdrew. In 1980, following the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, sixty-two nations caused great consternation to their athletes by refusing to participate in the Games. The consensus among those nations was that their refusal would admonish the Soviets. What may occur in 1984?

1. The first Olympic Games were held _____.
 - A) for political reasons
 - B) as an international competition
 - C) as a religious festival
 - D) as a professional athletes competition
2. Olympic Games are held _____.
 - A) every decade
 - B) biannually
 - C) every four years
 - D) perennially
3. The Greek Olympic Games were _____ in nature.
 - A) religious
 - B) national
 - C) athletic
 - D) all of the above

4. You can infer that Hitler's refusal to congratulate Jesse Owens indicated_____.
- A) national pride B) jealousy
C) personal preference D) racial discrimination
5. The last three Olympic Games are notorious for their_____.
- A) racial discrimination
B) triumphant victories
C) fidelity to the goals of the Olympic Games
D) political controversy

Passage 2

The energy which the sun radiates goes in every direction, and only a minute part of it falls on the earth. Even so, it represents power of approximately 5, 000, 000 horsepower per square mile per day, the sun gives us as much energy every minute as mankind utilizes in a year. At present, we use this energy indirectly, and it is our only final source of power. Coal represents the chemical action of the sun on green plants thousands of years ago. Water power results from the sun's creating vapor and subsequent rain. Even windmills operate because of air currents set in motion by the different heating effects of the sun in different places. Some day, through chemistry or some type of solar motor, we shall harness this titanic source of energy more directly. Already, a

scientist has worked out an engine, surprisingly efficient, in which the sun's rays are concentrated through mirrors on a tube of water to create steam.

1. In this passage the author discusses primarily

A) our ultimate source of power

B) solar chemistry

C) the amount of solar radiation

D) how water power is produced

2. The extent to which mankind utilizes solar energy available is approximately_____.

A) 5%

B) 100% but indirectly

C) less than 1%

D) 1.000%

3. Man cannot utilize all the solar energy falling on the earth because _____.

A) only a minute part of the solar energy reaches the earth

B) the sun produces different heating effects in different places

C) it takes thousands of years for the formation of coal deposits

D) scientific knowledge is insufficient

4. Select the statement which is a supporting DETAIL rather than a GENERALIZATION. _____.

A) The sun is our final source of power

B) The fraction of the sun's energy which we use is used indirectly

- C) Man uses only a tiny portion of the sun's energy
- D) Already one device using solar energy directly has been developed

Passage 3

Another example of the exercise of power by Congress was the action it took during the Reconstruction Period after the Civil War. It has already been noted that President Johnson favored a lenient policy toward the South and attempted to carry out Lincoln's "10 per cent plan." He pardoned most of the Southern leaders and permitted them to restore their state governments. They were permitted to elect Senators and Representatives.

Congress, however, led by the Radical Republican Thaddeus Stevens, had other ideas about the handling of the defeated Confederacy. Congress favored punitive policies. The south should be treated as conquered territory, and its readmission should be handled by Congress rather than the President. Congress opposed the "Johnson Governments" and the "Black Codes" passed by Southern states which virtually restored former slaves to their masters. Accordingly, it passed the *Reconstruction Act* of 1867. This measure divided the South into five military districts and provided that a seceded state would be readmitted in the Union

only after it had ratified the *14th Amendment* which provided that all persons born or naturalized in the United States should be citizens of the United States and of the state in which they resided; granted equality before the law to all persons; and prohibited a state from depriving any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law. Congress also barred rebel leaders from federal office, repudiated the Confederate debt, and reduced the representation of states which barred qualified persons from voting. Later it adopted the *15th Amendment* guaranteeing the Negroes the right to vote.

Johnson vigorously opposed these measures. He vetoed the Reconstruction Act and others, only to see Congress repass them over his veto. After such passage of the Tenure of Office Act, Johnson, believing it unconstitutional, violated it and removed a member of his Cabinet without consulting Congress. The House of Representatives proceeded to impeach Johnson. The Senate, however, failed, by one vote, to reach the two-thirds majority necessary for his removal.

1. The title that best expresses the ideas of this passage is _____.

A) The Reconstruction Period

B) Conflict between President Johnson and Congress

- C) A Lenient President
 - D) The Reconstruction Act of 1867
2. We can infer that_____.
- A) Johnson exceeded his authority by removing a Cabinet member without consulting Congress
 - B) Johnson failed to be impeached by one vote
 - C) Johnson was less tolerant of the South than Congress was
 - D) the states which seceded were readily admitted to the Union
3. Which of the following statements is not true according to this passage? _____.
- A) The attitude of retaliation was sponsored by Thaddeus Stevens
 - B) The "due process" clause is part of the 15th Amendment
 - C) The House of Representatives has the power to impeach a President
 - D) Johnson failed to consult Congress about the removal of Cabinet officers
4. The Reconstruction Act of 1867_____.
- A) endorsed the "Black Codes"
 - B) was vetoed by the President
 - C) utilized Lincoln's "10 per cent plan"
 - D) paid off the Confederate debt

Passage 4

As early as 1647 Massachusetts had a law ruling that free, tax-supported schools must be established in every town having fifty households or more. Americans have always had great faith in education. They believe that in a democracy all citizens must have some education in order to understand economic and political matters and to vote wisely. They also believe that education is essential to progress and prosperity; that public education promotes equality; and that every person is entitled to as much education as he can absorb.

The public schools of the United States are not controlled by the national government nor by church authorities but by the local communities themselves, with state laws setting educational standards and ruling on compulsory attendance.

Among the most active in establishing free public education were the labor unions. From the 1830's on, public school systems developed, starting in the northeastern states and gradually spreading to other parts of the country and they have been growing rapidly ever since. In addition to public schools there are also various private and religious schools.

By 1970, seventy-five percent of the youth were graduating from high school, and forty-five percent

were beginning college or other post-high school study. With so much of the population attending school, education is necessarily diversified, to meet the students' various needs. Besides courses for college preparation, there are many kinds of commercial and vocational training. Students are also allowed a choice of subjects. Methods of teaching vary widely, too. In addition there are specialized public schools for the handicapped, for the retarded, and for those with other special needs, as well as accelerated and enriched courses for gifted students.

American schools are equipped with a large variety of learning aids including teaching machines, audio-visual equipment, closed-circuit television, computer terminals, science laboratories, and an assortment of industrial arts shops.

Ever since the beginning of this century, American education has been under the influence of the ideas of the philosopher John Dewey (1859-1952), who believed that education should be a preparation for life, that a person learns by doing, and that teaching must stimulate the curiosity and the creativity of children and youth.

1. Americans have great faith in education because they believe that without education_____.

A) You can't get ahead

B) You can't use your money properly

- C) You can't vote
2. The public schools are controlled by _____.
- A) the Federal government
- B) the Catholic churches
- C) the local communities
3. The public schools can be called _____.
- A) private schools
- B) religious schools
- C) state schools
4. Handicapped, retarded, or gifted students might attend _____.
- A) college preparation schools
- B) specialized public schools
- C) vocational training schools

Passage 5

The whole atmosphere of the world in which we live is tinged by science, as is shown most immediately and strikingly by our modern conveniences and material resources. A little deeper thinking shows that the influence of science goes much farther and colors the entire mental outlook of modern civilized man on the world about him. Perhaps one of the most telling evidences of this is his growing freedom from superstition. Freedom from superstition is the result of the conviction that the world is not governed by caprice, but that it is a world of order and can be

understood by man if he will only try hard enough and be clever enough. This conviction that the world is understandable is, doubtless, the most important single gift of science to civilization. The wide-spread acceptance of this view can be dated to the discovery by Newton of the universal sway of the law of gravitation; and for this reason Newton may be justly regarded as the most important single contributor to modern life.

1. The title below that best expresses the SUBJECT MATTER of this passage is _____.
 - A) Science and Modern Conveniences
 - B) Science and Civilization
 - C) Important Scientific Principles
 - D) Science and the World of Moral Order
2. The greatest benefit of science has been _____.
 - A) the encouragement of deep thinking
 - B) the work of reconstruction
 - C) the development of material resources
 - D) an understanding that the world has order
3. The passage implies that, prior to Newton, _____.
 - A) men felt nature to be essentially inscrutable
 - B) men were unable to cope with the chance factors in nature
 - C) men understood nature but did not apply their knowledge