

新世纪

托福考试

阅读写作教程

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实用性强

针对性强

常考常练

实战结合

TOEFL

● 南开大学出版社

新世纪

托福考试阅读写作教程

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内容提要

本书共分两部分,第一部分提供了最新托福阅读材料,分析了题型及解题技巧,以便增强实际阅读能力,与托福实战练习相结合;第二部分是托福写作指导,介绍了常考写作题型,写作步骤与方法,并选编了部分最新托福写作试题及范文供考生参考。

本书特点是资料新,实用性、针对性强,不仅对广大托福考生复习迎考有帮助,也将是参加英语等级考试、英语水平考试广大考生的备考教材。

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前 言

托福考试主要有三部分:听力理解、语法结构及阅读理解。1988年起增加了作文(虽为参考分,但成绩好坏对考生也有一定影响)。在这几部分中,考生普遍认为阅读理解是关键,尤其是从1995年8月题型改变后,将原来的词汇题融合到阅读理解文章中,不仅文章加大了篇幅,也增加了阅读理解的难度。

提高阅读理解的关键究竟何在?认识不尽相同,有人认为是词汇量问题,也有人认为是阅读技巧问题,编者的经验是:

一、加大阅读训练量,从大量实践中扩大词汇量,增强语感,提高阅读速度至关重要。

二、从实践中摸索和总结阅读技巧作为提高阅读理解能力的辅助手段。

三、扩大文化背景知识,拓宽文化视野,有助于提高阅读理解能力,摄取时代信息。

以上也是本书编者的意图。

本书的阅读对象是:

1. 希望在“托福”考试中阅读部分取得优异成绩者;
2. 希望在国、内外各类(大英四、六级、EPT、BFT等)标准化英语考试中阅读部分取得高分者;
3. 希望通过自学,不断进取,提高英语阅读能力,扩大时代信息量,实现自身价值者。

本书取材于90年代初以来托福最新阅读资料共135篇,内容涉及社会、政治、人物、科学、艺术等诸多方面,每篇文章后均附生词注释,少数附有难句译文,书后附有参考答案。

此外,为帮助托福考生熟悉写作规律,我们在第二部分根据历届写作试题典型样题,对托福写作方法与要领作了粗略分析与指导,提供了近年来一些写作测试题与范文供托福考生参考。

由于作者水平有限,书中缺点和错误在所难免,热诚欢迎广大读者批评指正。

编 者

1999年12月于南开大学

阅读理解题型分析及应试技巧

TOEFL 阅读理解新题型包括词汇题在内共 50 道题。考试时要求考生在 55 分钟内阅读 5 篇 200—350 字的短文,短文题材包括社会、政治、人物、科学、艺术等方面;体裁为叙述文、说明文、议论文等,每篇短文后设 8—12 个问题。要求考生根据文章内容,从每题 4 个选择项中选出一个正确答案。

阅读理解部分的目的是测试学生通过阅读获取信息的能力。

具体要求是:

1. 既能理解句子的意义,也能理解上下文的逻辑关系;
2. 既能理解字面意义也能理解隐含意思;
3. 既能理解事实和细节,也能理解主旨大意;
4. 能就文章内容进行判断、推理和信息转换。

I. 答题要领:

答题时,一般要先审阅短文后面的题目,然后阅读短文,这样可以有的放矢地寻找解题的信息,与题无关的信息就可很快地掠过,以节省时间,题型不同解题的方法也不同。

II. 题型分析及解题技巧:

阅读理解题型大致分为以下几种:

1. **主旨题**:要求确定文章的中心思想、段落大意、文章标题或作者意图、目的等。解答这类题的最有效方法是:找出文章中主题句。因为主题句一般是对文章中心思想的最好概括。凡是与主题句意思相同或最接近的选择项一定是正确答案。主题句的位置通常在段首,少数在段中或段尾的,所以找主题句要特别注意段落或短文的开头、结尾或段中。以下几段中划线部分就是主题句所在的典型例子:

A:

Fireworks indicate happiness and rejoicing. On every Fourth July, millions of firecrackers are exploded in a sort of national rejoicing over our independence. They are not fired in memory of the war which achieved our independence so much as in explosive utterance of our happiness in being free.

B:

Californians and New Englanders are both Americans. They speak the same language and abide by the same federal laws. But they are very different in their ways of life. Mobility—both physical and psychological—had made a great impression on the culture of Californians; lack of mobility is the mark of the customs and morality of New Englanders.

C:

She takes a walk everyday. Walking makes her feel better, she says, because it strengthens her

muscles and gives her a good appetite. Walking always relaxes her mind, because it is rhythmical and noiseless, and requires no conscious thoughts. Walking is, for her, excellent physical and mental relation and exercise.

但也有的短文无主题句,例如:

All living languages are characterized by sound changes that have occurred and will continue to occur in the course of their history. Some linguists choose to consider the sound change process as something that operates with the regularity of physical laws. "Sound laws" is a term devised by linguist August Leskien to describe the supposed absolute regularity of the kind of structural change in language. The term "Sound Law" means that, in a given area and at a given period, if a sound changes, the change will be universal and will have no exceptions. This rule loses of its inflexibility by amendments to the effect that, if apparent exceptions are found, they are due to some extraneous factors such as learned influence, foreign of dialectal borrowing, or analogy.

What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Sound changes that occurred in language.
- (B) A theory of sound change.
- (C) Some exceptions to the rule of sound change.
- (D) Some reasons for sound change.

上文没有主题句,全文由五句构成。第一句说明了语音发生变化是语言的特点;第二句论及语音变化的规律性,比第一句递进一层;语音不仅发生变化,而且具有规律性,因而语言学家提出“语音规律”这一理论,这一理论描述语音变化的绝对规律性(第三句);第四句阐述了“语音规律”的内容,第五句讲了“语音规律”的例外,第四、五句对第三句“语音规律”作了进一步的说明,全文意思层层递进,因此文章主题可概括为“语音变化理论”,上述选择项中(B)为正确答案。

理解无主题句短文的有效方法是:可将主旨题暂时放在一边,等做完其他各题后(这时短文内容已理解得较为全面和深入了)再来做题。另外在做其他题过程中,可以边看边将重点词和表达重要思想的部分用笔划出来,待全文读完后,再浏览一下划线部分,就比较容易地归纳短文作者的意图,当然就容易确定短文的主旨或主题。

2. 情景题或称辨认重要细节题:要求确定文章中涉及的事件发生的时间、地点、原因、过程等,细节题主要有两种:一种为是非题,要求考生以文章内容为依据辨别是非;另一种是用 what, which, when, where, who, why 及 how 这类特殊疑问词来提问,但少数也有用陈述句的,要求考生根据文章内容选择一个正确答案,针对细节题的特点,介绍两种解题方法以助考生迅速、准确地捕捉有关信息。

①**照题查阅法:**是指带着问题寻找答案,先看题目后读文章采取对号入座的方法,实际上这种方法可称**对应法**。在4个选择项中正确的一项往往是用不同的词、短语或句子表达与文章中相似的意思,所以能在文章中找到大致相对应的词、短语或意思,这时便可判定正确答案。这种解题法较易掌握就不另外举例说明了。

②**利用逻辑承接语解答细节题:**在解答特殊疑问问题时,考生应充分利用这些关键词,因为它们能帮助考生顺利地找到题解的线索和依据。例如 after, before, during, simultaneously 等关键词可用来表示时间,因而能回答“何时”这个问题, because, for, for the reason of 等关

键词能帮助考生理顺错综复杂的各个细节,弄清它们之间的逻辑关系,如并列、转折、递等,使细节条理化,便于理解和记忆。

3. **推断题**:是各类题中最难的一种。要求考生根据短文中所给的信息、暗示,抓住含语义,进行判断、推理,得出合乎逻辑的结论。推断题一般分为简单推断和复杂推断。两种推断方式十分有用,只要使用得当,均能收到良好效果:

简单推断:

简单推断,是以表面文字信息为前提,以具体事实为依据进行推理,作出判断。这种推理方式比较直接,无须考虑其他前提或寻找其他依据,只须在文章的已知信息与表层结构的基础上进行推断。

■ The salesman put the key in the ignition, but the engine would not start. He had to be in the air in half an hour in order to arrive in time for the meeting. His bonus would be lower if he lost this account.

1. It can be inferred from the passage that the man is....

- (A) in his office (B) in the factory
(C) in the car (D) in the warehouse

2. What was the man going to do in half an hour?

- (A) To meet his customer. (B) To catch a bus.
(C) To attend a meeting. (D) To catch a plane.

上文并未直接说明问题的内容,因此读者必须根据已知信息进行推断。第一题要求考生回答那人现在在哪里。考生便可根据 Put the key in the ignition, the engine would not start 等文字信息直接判断,从而得出结论:他在汽车里。所以正确答案为 C。

第二题要求考生回答半小时后那人将干什么。考生便能从 He had to be in the air 这一信息中得出结论:他将乘坐飞机。因此,答案为 D。尽管作者并未提及汽车与飞机,但读者依然可以将有关信息作为前提,作出正确的推断。请再看下例:

■ Discovered a mere one hundred fifty years ago and manufactured commercially just half that long, aluminum today ranks behind only iron and steel among metals serving mankind. The key to its popularity is its incredible versatility. The same metal that makes kitchen foil serves as armor for battlefield tanks. The material of lawn chairs and baseball bats also forms the vital parts of air and space vehicles—most of their skeletons, their skins, even the rivets that bind them together.

Behind aluminum's versatility lie properties so diverse that they almost seem to belong to several different metals. For example, in its pure form, aluminum is soft enough to whittle. Yet its alloys can possess the strength of steel, with only a third of its weight. Thus, when Alexander Calder designed one of his last mobiles a soaring creation eighty feet long—his choice of aluminum over steel cut two tons from its weight. Aluminum also assures the masterpiece virtual immortality. The instant the metal is exposed to air, its surface acquires a transparent film that seals the interior against further corrosion.

1. It can be inferred from the passage that aluminum has been marketed for how many years?

- (A) 40 (B) 75
(C) 80 (D) 150

2. It can be inferred that a steel object weighing three tons would weigh how many tons if it were made of aluminum?

- (A) one (B) three
(C) six (D) nine

上文主要介绍了铝的历史、性能、作用及其金属地位。第一题要求读者推断“铝进入市场已有多少年?”文章的开头告诉我们: Discovered a mere one hundred fifty years ago and manufactured commercially just half that long. 根据这一前提,读者可以推断铝进入市场以来已有 75 年,所以答案为 B。第二题要求我们推断一个 3 吨重的钢制物体如用铝来制造其份量该有多重。尽管文章没有直接告诉我们,但从第二段中可以找到这一前提: its alloys can possess the strength of steel, with only a third of its weight, 即: 用铝合金代替钢具有同样的强度,而重量只是它的三分之一。因而,我们可以推断 A 为正确答案。

由此可见,简单推理要以表面文字信息为前提,以具体事实为依据。如果我们对有关文字信息视而不见,或熟视无睹,全凭自己胡思乱猜,或根据不正确的前提进行推断,那么,结果是可想而知的。所谓“行成于思,毁于随”,就是这个道理。

复杂推断:

复杂推断不但要以表面文字信息为依据,而且还要以文章的语境、内涵为前提。这是一种间接而复杂的逻辑推理方式。读者要透过文章的表层结构而达到深层,采用归纳或演绎等方法,才可得出文章未曾表明却又合乎逻辑的结论。复杂推理通常涉及以下三个方面: 推理上下篇主题 (Predicting logical sequence); 推理作者的态度 (Describing the writer's point of view); 推理文章的来源 (Determining the subject area)。

1) 推理上下篇主题

TOEFL 的文章大都为 200—350 词左右,通常摘自长篇文章。因此,它们既是一个完整、协调和相对独立的语言片断,又与长篇文章中的其他段落保持一定的关系。有时,试题要求考生通过本篇内容来推理其上下篇的主题。这就不是一般的简单推理,而是要经过一番思索、归纳和分析,根据本篇的句型、结构、形式和内容,才能得出正确结论。通常上篇的主题与本篇的主题句(或第一句)关系密切;而下篇的主题则与本篇的结尾句有关。只要考生掌握了这一规律,在答题时便能有的放矢,应答如流了。例如:

推理上篇的主题

On the other hand, in the course of the evolution of birds from reptiles, there was a succession of changes in the bone, muscle, and skin structures of the animals. This wholesale restructuring of some reptiles over a period of thousands of years equipped the new animals to escape their predators and to find food more easily. But the evolutionary process did not stop there. Once adapted to flight, some birds continued to change and the process seemed to reverse itself. As penguins adapted to marine life, their wings changed to flippers and their feathers to a waterproof covering, thus suiting the birds for a semiaquatic existence.

What does the paragraph preceding this one probably discuss?

- (A) The characteristics of certain birds.
(B) Bone alterations in penguins.
(C) A nonevolutionary theory.

(D) Evolution of another animal.

本段主要介绍了爬行动物进化成鸟类的变化过程。读者通过阅读本段可以断定:本篇的主题是关于鸟类的进化过程。此外,读者可以从第一句(主题句)中得到启示:On the other hand, the evolution of birds from reptiles 等表明,上篇讨论的是另一种动物的进化过程。因此正确答案为 D。

在推理上篇主题时,读者应密切注意有关信息词语,如 on the other hand, next also, another 等。这类词语大都用于文章的衔接与转折,使段落进展自如,衔尾相随,起到承上启下的作用。读者不仅能知其一,还能知其二。

推理下篇的主题

On the other hand, New World Monkeys have prehensile tails which Old World Monkeys have never developed. This allows them to use their tails as well as their hands in arboreal locomotion. With their hands freed somewhat, they can also hold onto branches and balance themselves with their feet and tail while foraging for food in the trees. A similar trait can be found in certain tree-climbing mammals of a lower order.

What does the following paragraph probably discuss?

- (A) tree-climbing mammals with prehensile tails
- (B) Old World Monkeys
- (C) lower order traits of monkeys
- (D) New World Monkeys

上文简要地介绍了一种美洲猴的尾巴的功能。这种尾巴灵活、敏捷、能捕善抓,对猴子的生活与活动予以极大的方便。最后一句为转折句,巧妙而自然地转入下一段的主题。句中 A similar trait 与 tree-climbing mammals 为读者提供了重要的线索。据此,读者可以推断:下篇的主题与 tree-climbing mammals 有关,因此正确答案为 A。

2) 推理作者的态度

通常,作者的观点或态度往往会在文章的措词、文体和结构中得到反映。他们大都采取比较客观(Objective)和实事求是(Factual)的态度,其写作意图是向读者提供信息(Information)。但有时他们难免在文章中要掺杂些个人的感情色彩,或批评(Critical),或讽刺(Ironic),或感叹(Impressed)。读者往往可以透过字里行间察其端倪,并以此作为前提进行推理。例如:

Worldwide fame burst upon Albert Einstein on November 7, 1919. When British astronomers announced they had found the first confirmation of Einstein's general relativity theory. Einstein had already become known in scientific circles because of his two astonishing theories: the special theory of relativity, published in 1905 when he was only twenty-six and a minor clerk in the Swiss patent office, and the general theory of relativity, advanced between 1913 and 1915. He was considered so brilliant by other scientists that in 1914 he was invited to join the prestigious Royal Prussian Academy of Sciences and to become head of the research branch at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute. He accepted the offer and moved to Berlin.

How does the author seem to feel about Albert Einstein?

- (A) uninterested
- (B) critical

(C)impressed

(D)overwhelmed

上文的作者在介绍爱因斯坦时,不断流露出个人的感情,难以掩饰自己对这位科学家的良好印象和崇敬心理。我们可以从 worldwide fame, astonishing theories, so brilliant, join the prestigious Academy of sciences 等词语中推断作者的态度,从而得出结论:作者深受爱因斯坦的感染,所以答案为 C。

3)推理文章的来源

推理文章的来源就是要确定其体裁(叙述文、说明文、议论文等)。文章总有类别之分,并有自己的读者对象。有时,TOEFL 试题要求考生推理文章的来源或归属,这种推理往往要以文章的主题、形式和读者对象为前提。考生只有在理解全文的基础上才能找出这些前提,并以此作出推理。例如:

It was not until the World War I, however, that blacks were drafted into the military. Some white Americans were not particularly delighted about this precedent. They felt that if blacks were drafted to fight for their country, they would next have the audacity to demand the right to vote. A similar argument was used during the Vietnam Conflict for lowering the voting age to eighteen, the motto was that if young people were old enough to fight, they were old enough to vote. This irrefutable logic won the day. Similarly, the role of blacks in the military during World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam, had an impact on black consciousness. The opportunity to travel and the resulting widened horizons of many blacks most likely provided a backdrop to the development of the civil rights movement.

This passage would most likely be assigned reading for a course in what subject?

(A)military history

(B)social work

(C)psychology

(D)political science

上文主要讨论了第一次世界大战以后美国黑人的政治活动。大战期间许多黑人应征入伍,为国参战,这是他们涉足政治的开端。随后,他们争取选举权,并获得了成功。这些使黑人的政治觉悟不断提高,其政治地位也发生了变化,为以后的人权运动奠定了基础。文章始终贯穿着战争、选举、觉悟和人权运动等问题,其基本内容就是政治。据此,读者可以推断本文应归属于政治学范畴,所以答案为 D。

总之,简单推理和复杂推理是考生进行判断、寻求结论的有力武器。这两种方式不尽相同,各有千秋。究竟选择哪种方法,考生应根据试题的要求而定。但偶尔也可将其同时使用,双管齐下,以求殊途同归。

4. 词汇题:TOEFL 新型阅读理解中包含一定量的词汇题,它们测试词汇的范围一般分为常用词汇和生僻词,其中包含着一些惯用语和动词短语,为了更好地解答词汇题,读者既要有丰富的词汇知识,又要掌握辨词技巧。然而,能起决定作用的还是读者本人的词汇量。有些词汇题光凭技巧是无济于事的。

因为新型词汇题与旧题型有别,旧题型是给出句子找出句中划线词的同义词或近义词,而新题型基本上都来自于短文,其词义与短文密切相关,如脱离短文来解答词汇题,就很难选出正确答案。新题型的词汇题往往是: The word "stirring" in line 8 is closest in meaning to

(A)mixing

(C)provoking

(B)exciting

(D)heeding

上题中"stirring"一词在选择项中(A)(B)都是它的近义词,究竟选哪一项作为其正确答

案？这就必须根据所在的句子“It was made by a slow and expensive process of heating, stirring and reheating iron one.”来判断其含义,选择其正确答案应为 A。这里如选(B)就错了。所以在解答词汇题时,比较有效的方法就是根据上下文或句意来解题,不管解答常用词还是生僻词这种解法都较行之有效。有的词汇题也可采用排除法,即使考生对原句中的词不认识,排除法也行之有效。例如:

其原句的前一句为:The speaker was clearly unprepared because his remarks were improvised.

原句为:The word “improvised” probably means...

- (A)relevant (C)valuable
(B)informative (D)extemporaneous

可从句中 unprepared 一词推测, improvised 一词必定与此有着密切因果关系(because)。既然发言者“毫无准备”,他的发言就不可能 relevant, informative 或 valuable。因此,上述三词均可排除。剩下的一词 extemporaneous(无准备的)便成了正确的答案。

综上所述,解答新型词汇题采用密切上下文推测法或采用排除法都是其重要手段,因此,考生应在阅读理解中,不断总结经验,逐步掌握这些解题技巧。

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Part A

Unit 1

Questions 1 – 10

- Although speech is the most advanced form of communication, there are many ways of communicating without using speech. Signals, signs, symbols, and gestures may be found in every known culture. The basic function of a signal is to impinge upon the environment in such a way that it attracts attention, as, for example, the dots and dashes of a telegraph circuit.
- Line (5) Coded to refer to speech, the potential for communication is very great. Less adaptable to the codification of words, signs also contain meaning in and of themselves. A stop sign or a barber pole conveys meaning quickly and conveniently. Symbols are more difficult to describe than either signals or signs because of their intricate relationship with the receiver's cultural perceptions. In some cultures, applauding in a theater provides performers with an auditory symbol of approval.
- (10) Gestures such as waving and handshaking also communicate certain cultural messages.

- Although signals, signs, symbols, and gestures are very useful, they do have a major disadvantage. They usually do not allow ideas to be shared without the sender being directly adjacent to the receiver. As a result, means of communication intended to be used for long distances and extended periods are based upon speech. Radio, television, and the telephone are only a few.
- (15)

1. Which of the following would be the best title for the passage?
(A) Signs and Signals (B) Gestures (C) Communication (D) Speech
2. What does the author say about speech?
(A) It is the only true form of communication.
(B) It is dependent upon the advances made by inventors.
(C) It is necessary for communication to occur.
(D) It is the most advanced form of communication.
3. According to the passage, what is a signal?
(A) The most difficult form of communication to describe.
(B) A form of communication which may be used across long distances.
(C) A form of communication that interrupts the environment.
(D) The form of communication most related to cultural perceptions.

4. The phrase "impinge upon" in line 3 is closest in meaning to
(A) intrude (B) improve (C) vary (D) prohibit
5. The word "it" in line 4 refers to
(A) function (B) signal (C) environment (D) way
6. The word "potential" in line 5 could best be replaced by
(A) range (B) advantage (C) organization (D) possibility
7. The word "intricate" in line 8 could best be replaced by which of the following?
(A) inefficient (B) complicated (C) historical (D) uncertain
8. Applauding was cited as an example of
(A) a signal (B) a sign (C) a symbol (D) a gesture
9. Why were the telephone, radio, and TV invented?
(A) People were unable to understand signs, symbols, and signals.
(B) People wanted to communicate across long distances.
(C) People believed that signs, signals, and symbols were obsolete.
(D) People wanted new forms of entertainment.
10. It may be concluded from this passage that
(A) signals, signs, symbols, and gestures are forms of communication
(B) symbols are very easy to define and interpret
(C) only some cultures have signals, signs, and symbols
(D) waving and handshaking are not related to culture

Questions 11 - 20

Application for admission to the Graduate School at this university must be made on forms provided by the Director of Admissions. An applicant whose undergraduate work was done at another institution should request that two copies of undergraduate transcripts and degrees be
Line sent directly to the Dean of the Graduate School. Both the application and the transcripts must
(5) be on file at least one month prior to the registration date, and must be accompanied by a non-refundable ten-dollar check or money order to cover the cost of processing the application.

Students who have already been admitted to the Graduate School but were not enrolled during the previous semester should reapply for admission using a special short form available in the office of the Graduate School. It is not necessary for students who have previously been
(10) denied admission to resubmit transcripts; however, new application forms must accompany all requests for reconsideration. Applications should be submitted at least eight weeks in advance of the session in which the student wishes to enroll. Students whose applications are received after the deadline may be considered for admission as non-degree students, and may enroll for six credit hours. Non-degree status must be changed prior to the completion of the first semester of study however.
(15)