

托福新题型

——阅读

主编 王海军

T O E F L

西安交通大学出版社

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内容提要

本书第一部分详细分析了托福新题型阅读测试题的种类及回答每一类问题所需要的阅读和应试技巧,并配有大量的专项阅读技巧训练材料。第二部分为 15 套托福新题型阅读理解模拟题。这些模拟题的选材及问题设置均同现行的托福阅读测试题一致,因而具有较高的信度和效度。为方便读者使用,每套试题的难点均有注释。

本书可供托福考前强化训练之用,对参加大学英语六级或 WSK 的考生也有参考价值。

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前 言

1995年8月起,连续使用数十年的托福考试的固定题型改为新题型。听力部分取消了单句测试;原词汇与阅读理解部分取消了测试词汇的单句部分,改为阅读理解部分,融词汇测试于阅读理解中,短文增长,问题增多。为帮助我国考生适应阅读新题型,掌握阅读技巧,熟悉应试技巧,提高应试能力,我们特编写了《托福新题型——阅读》一书。

本书由两部分组成。

第一部分:阅读技巧。该部分把阅读理解问题分为四大类,分四章详细讲解了回答相应类型问题所需的阅读技巧和应试技巧,同时为帮助学习者掌握这些技巧,提高应试能力,配有大量的训练阅读技巧的相应练习,以巩固所学技巧。

第二部分:模拟试题。该部分配有托福新题型阅读理解模拟题15套。大部分试题在卫生部西安医科大学英语培训中心使用多次,具有较高的信度和效度。模拟题均完全按照托福新题型试卷的形式编排。为了使读者逐渐适应托福新题型,前几套模拟题属过渡题型,其长度、难度略低于托福新题型的水准;其余模拟题的难度、长度、题量均与托福新题型完全相同;每套模拟题均有详尽的注释,注释包括词义、句型、技巧以及针对易错题的分析,旨在帮助读者透彻理解短文意思,掌握阅读技巧,提高应试能力。

本书有以下特点:

一、资料新,内容精,练习量大。本书作者研读了数十本近三年美国著名出版社出版的托福新题型阅读指导书,特别是研读、分析了美国考试中心1995年发行的托福新题型考试指南,数十套托福新题型模拟题,以及1996、1997年的托福原题,归纳总结了新题型托福阅读题的特点;精选了美国最新的权威性资料,最大限度地避免了资料与国内已出版的托福阅读书籍雷同的现象。全书第一

部分选讲短文 30 余篇,配练习四套(含 20 余篇短文)。第二部分模拟试题 15 套,包括 75 篇短文;总计约 130 篇短文。

二、理论新颖。本书作者研读了多本近几年出版的有关培养阅读技巧,特别是培养托福应试技巧的理论专著;根据多年从事托福及多种英语水平考试应试教学的丰富经验,把阅读测试中所提出的多种出错率较高的问题归纳为相应的几大类,系统讲解了针对各类问题的阅读技巧和应试技巧。该方法在国内出版的托福阅读测试指导书中还不多见。同时本书还配有大量的相应练习以帮助读者掌握应用这些技巧。

三、针对性强,讲练结合。本书将阅读技巧、应试技巧、练习、模拟试题结合起来,为读者铺好了通向托福 600 分的成功之路。

四、短文选材面广,包括文学、艺术、科技、历史、教育、环境、社会科学等托福所涉及的各种题材的短文。

本书对象为托福应试者以及希望提高阅读能力的大学四、六级、WSK 等各种英语水平考试的应试者、欲参加全国专业技术资格英语等级考试的专业技术人员,以及中高级英语自学者。

本书的编写分工如下:王海军同志负责全书的设计和布局,以及第一部分第一、二章,第二部分第 8,9,10,11 套模拟试题的编写;聂文信同志负责第一部分第三、四章,第二部分第 12,13,14,15 套模拟试题的编写;田鹏同志负责第二部分第 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 套模拟试题的编写;白永权教授修改定稿。

由于编者水平有限,错漏谬误之处,在所难免,敬请专家、同行、读者批评指正。

编 者

1998 年 6 月

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第一部分

阅读技巧

新题型托福阅读理解部分测试读者理解、解释、分析各种题材短文的能力(the ability to understand, interpret, and analyze reading passages on a variety of topics)和英语词汇知识(the knowledge of English vocabulary)。该部分取消了原词汇与阅读理解部分测试词汇的单句部分,融词汇测试于阅读理解中;短文增长,每篇约280-350个词;问题增多,每篇8~12个问题;总阅读量增大。

熟悉问题类型,掌握各类问题的阅读技巧和应试技巧对于提高阅读速度和做题的正确率尤为重要。托福阅读理解题问题类型多种多样,归纳起来主要是下列几种:

1. 主题思想问题(main idea questions)
2. 具体细节问题(specific information questions)
3. 引伸推理问题(inference questions)
4. 词汇与指代问题(vocabulary and reference questions)
5. 文章结构问题(organization questions)
6. 作者观点问题(viewpoint questions)

鉴于前四类问题出错率较高,且后两类问题分别可包括在第二、第三类问题中,其阅读技巧和应试技巧与第二、三两类相近,因此本部分分四章详细讲解前四类问题。

第一章

主题思想

阅读技巧

关于短文的主题思想的题型是托福阅读理解中最常出现的一种题型,多数短文都有这类问题。这类问题的问句最常出现的形式有:

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
2. What is the topic/ subject of the passage?
3. What is the main theme in the passage?
4. Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
5. With which topic is the passage mainly concerned?
6. What does the passage mainly discuss?
7. Which of the following does the author mainly discuss?

要回答这类问题必须先搞清楚短文的论题、话题(topic, subject)是什么,这可通过回答“Who or what is the passage about?”得到。通常,表达论题、话题的词或词组在短文中多次出现,或多次用代词代替而反复出现,例如:

Tempera is an opaque, watercolor medium whose use spans recorded history. It was employed by the ancient Egyptians, and is still used today by such familiar painters as Andrew Wyeth. Tempera refers to ground pigments and their color binders such as gum

or glue, but is best known in its egg tempera form. It is a fast-drying medium that virtually eliminates brush strokes and gives extremely sharp and precise detail. Colors in tempera paintings appear almost gemlike in their clarity and brilliance.

The subject matter of the passage is

- (A) tempera.
- (B) tempera paintings.
- (C) colors in tempera paintings.
- (D) egg tempera form.

(B), (C), (D)都是论题、话题的一部分; (A)是论题、话题, 该词在短文中被用“it”代替, 出现多达三次。

文章的主题或主题思想是作者想使你知道的关于论题、话题的要点, 可以通过回答“*What does the author want me to know or understand about the subject matter?*”这个问题得到解决。确定这类问题的答案方法主要有列两种:

一、独段短文

(一)多数独段短文, 答案可从主题句(topic sentence)中得到, 然而主题句在短文中的位置却有多种情况。

1. 段落开头: 主题句位于段落开头是最常见的一种, 例如:

Speculation about the earth's crust has special edge of urgency in California, which sits on the San Andreas fault, the world's most famous and respected fracture zone. Not surprisingly, it was a scientist at the California Institute of Technology, Charles F. Richter, who invented the Richter scale used to measure earthquakes. Seismic activity in California is being constantly monitored and mapped. Seismometers register thousands of small earthquakes every year, and computers instantly calculate the location, depth, and magnitude of an earthquake. Laser distance-ranging networks can detect changes of length, indicating change in crustal stress, accurate to

about half an inch in 20 miles. Satellite measurements of crustal blocks are improving, and California seismologists believe they may in time be precise enough to allow earthquake prediction.

What is the main idea expressed in the passage?

- (A) The Richter scale was invented in California.
- (B) Computers provide a variety of information about earthquakes.
- (C) A great deal of attention is paid to earthquake activity in California.
- (D) Earthquake prediction will be possible in the future.

选择(A)说明主题的一个细节;选择(B)是主题发展句“Seismic activity in California is being constantly monitored and mapped.”的一个例子;读者可从第一句的主题句中推出,选择(C)为正确答案。

2. 段落末尾:这类段落开头就列出一个个事实,最后一句给出结论,属归纳性的文章,例如:

Just as blacks are victimized by racism, women suffer from the sexism of American society. Sexism is the ideology that one sex is superior to the other. The term is generally used to refer to male prejudice and discrimination against women. In Chapter 9 it was noted that blacks can suffer from both individual acts of racism and institutional discrimination. Institutional discrimination was defined as the denial of opportunities and equal rights to individuals or groups which results from the normal operations of a society. In the same sense, women can be said to suffer both from individual acts of sexism (such as sexist remarks and acts of violence) and from institutional sexism.

What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Blacks are victimized by racism.

- (B) Women suffer from the sexism of American society.
- (C) Blacks suffer from both individual acts of racism and institutional discrimination.
- (D) Women suffer both from individual acts of sexism and from institutional sexism.

选择(C)是主题的一部分,而不是完整的主题。答案为(D),可从主题句——最后一句得出。

3. 段落中间:有时主题句既不在句首,也不在句尾,而处于段落中间,例如:

When we speak of an individual's "status" in casual conversation, the term usually conveys connotations of influence, wealth, and fame. However, sociologists use status to refer to any of the full range of socially defined positions within a large group or society—from the lowest to the highest position. Within American society, a person can occupy the status of president of the United States, fruit picker, son or daughter, violinist, teenager, resident of Minneapolis, dental technician, or neighbor. Clearly, a person holds more than one status simultaneously. For example, Alina is an economist, an author, a sister, a resident of Connecticut, and a Puerto Rican at the same time.

What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) "Status" conveys connotations of influence, wealth, and fame.
- (B) A person holds more than one status simultaneously.
- (C) Sociologists use status to convey different meanings from ordinary people.
- (D) Sociologists use status to refer to a large group or society.

(B)是正确答案,主题句是“Clearly, a person holds more than one status simultaneously.”

(二)少数段落没有完整的主题句,主题思想是通过事实、例证、描述或解释间接表达的,是隐含的。这就需要读者自己为该段推想出主题思想句,主题思想句的推测可归纳为下列几种方法。

1. 从一个句子和另一句中的一个词或词组中推测出,例如:

Where do the “stories” of our dreams come from? Most of them appear as a montage of the day’s events in somewhat altered form. Based on some 10,000 dreams reported by normal people, Calvin Hall (1966) found that most dreams are commonplace. They are most often played out in familiar settings, such as a house, although the house is usually not the dreamer’s own home. The most popular room is the living room, followed by—in order—bedroom, kitchen, stairway, basement, bathroom, dining room, and hall. Women’s dreams more commonly take place indoors, men’s out-of-doors.

What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Most of the stories of our dreams appear as a montage of the day’s events in somewhat altered form.
- (B) Most dreams are commonplace.
- (C) Women’s and men’s dreams take place in different places.
- (D) The most place is the living room.

(B),(C)和(D)是部分例证;(A)是主题思想,是从短文的第二句和第一的“our dreams”推测出的。

2. 从两个句子中推测出,例如:

Like Edith, many geniuses have been deliberately subjected to a very stimulating environment. A well-known example is Norbert Wiener, a prime mover in the development of computers and cybernetics. He entered college at 11 and received his Ph.D. from Harvard at 18. According to his father, he was “essentially an average boy who had had the advantage of superlative training” (Wiener, 1853). Many musical prodigies of the past, including Mozart and

Beethoven, were subjected to rigorous daily training by their parents. Since 1945 a large number of ordinary children have been brought to the famous Japanese music teacher Shinichi Suzuki and he has successfully “trained every one of them—without exception—to be an excellent string musician”(Hoult, 1979). Nature may draw the outline of our traits and potential abilities, but that outline is broad and vague. Nurture appears both to determine the actual boundaries and to fill in the details (Nisbet, 1982).

The main idea of this passage is

- (A) many geniuses has been deliberately subjected to a very stimulating environment
- (B) many musical prodigies of the past were subjected to strict daily training
- (C) although we are born with certain abilities, excellent training is necessary if we are to reach our potential
- (D) nature draws the outline of our traits and potential abilities

这里(C)是主题思想,是由短文最后两句得出的;(A)和(B)是证明主题的两个例子;选择(D)是主题思想的一部分,不是完整的。

3. 综合几个句子的观点而推测出,这是最常见的一种,例如:

The first, and in a way the most severe, problem was public finance. During the Revolution, the Continental Congress had issued mountains of paper money. This paper currency was really a debt. It amounted to a vast number of promises by the government to pay off, at some future time and in “real” money, the dollar value of each bill. The states followed the same practice, so the country was flooded with paper money of all types. The real value of this paper money depended on the hope that the national or state government would eventually be able to pay off all or part of the debt.

What is the main idea of the paragraph?

- (A) The first problem was public finance.
- (B) A large amount of paper money had been issued.
- (C) The state issued mountains of paper money, too.
- (D) Lots of paper money of questionable value resulted in a public finance problem for the Confederation.

(D)是经过综合第一、二、四句的意义而推测出的,是最佳答案。

注意此类主题思想应建立在作者的观点上,而不能建立在读者的观点或经历上。

二、多段短文

(一)短文是段落的扩大,其结构与段落十分相似。许多短文常以三部分组成: an introductory paragraph, several supporting paragraphs and a concluding paragraph. 也有一些只有前两部分。这一类短文的第一部分为第一段,可称为“主题段”,主题思想可从该段看出,例如:

A healthful lifestyle leads to a longer, happier, healthier life. Staying healthy means eating a well-balanced diet, getting regular exercises, and avoiding things that are bad for the body and mind.

Nutrition plays a key role in maintaining good health and preventing many diseases. In spite of all the information available about diets, scientists still believe that good nutrition can be simple. There are several basic rules to follow. Keep fat intake low. Eat foods high in carbohydrates, which are the starches in grains, legumes (beans and peas), vegetables, and some fruits. Avoid too much sugar. Limit salt. Eat lots of fruits and vegetables, which are high in vitamins.

A healthful lifestyle is an active lifestyle. Lack of proper physical exercise can cause tiredness, irritability, and poor general

health. Physical fitness requires both aerobic exercise, such as running, bicycle riding, and swimming, and muscle-strengthening exercises, such as weight-lifting.

Finally, good health is acquired by saying no to bad habits such as smoking, drinking, and overeating and by avoiding situations that are constantly stressful. People can take their lives and happiness into their own hands. Maintaining a healthy lifestyle is the first step.

What does the message mainly discuss?

- (A) The importance of nutrition in maintaining good health and preventing many diseases.
- (B) The importance of aerobic exercise and muscle-strengthening exercises.
- (C) The bad habits of smoking, drinking, and overeating.
- (D) The healthy staying requirements: eating a well-balanced diet, getting regular exercise, and avoiding things bad for your body and mind.

(A), (B)和(C)分别涉及了各段的主题思想;(D)是二、三、四各段主题的综合,是全文的主题,这可从“主题段”第一段的第二句中推出。

当然,也有只有后两部分的短文,这时主题在最后一段,即结论段中,但这类短文在托福阅读中不多见。

(二)许多多段短文常因每个段落有着不同的要点,整篇短文的主题思想很难把握,这时读者就要把各段的要点总结、概括成主题思想。主题思想既不能过于笼统,又不能太具体,例如:

Although “lie detectors” are being used by governments, police departments, and businesses that all want guaranteed ways of detecting the truth, the results are not always accurate. Lie detectors are properly called emotion detectors, for their aim is to measure

bodily changes that contradict what a person says. The polygraph machine records changes in heart rate, breathing, blood pressure, and the electrical activity of the skin (galvanic skin response, or GSR). In the first part of the polygraph test, you are electronically connected to the machine and asked a few neutral questions (“What is your name?” “Where do you live?”). Your physical reactions serve as the standard (baseline) for evaluating what comes next. Then you are asked a few critical questions among the neutral ones (“When did you rob the bank?”). The assumption is that if you are guilty, your body will reveal the truth, even if you try to deny it. Your heart rate, respiration, and GSR will change abruptly as you respond to the incriminating questions.

That is the theory; but psychologists have found that lie detectors are simply not reliable. Since most physical changes are the same across all emotions, machines cannot tell whether you are feeling guilty, angry, nervous, thrilled, or revived up from an exciting day. Innocent people may be tense and nervous about the whole procedure. They may react physiologically to a certain word (“bank”) not because they robbed it, but because they recently bounced a check. In either case the machine will record a “lie.” The reverse mistake is also common. Some practiced liars can lie without flinching, and others learn to beat the machine by tensing muscles or thinking about an exciting experience during neutral questions.

What is the main idea of the passage?

- (A) Physical reactions reveal guilt.
 - (B) How lie detectors are used and their reliability.
 - (C) Lie detectors distinguish different emotions.
 - (D) Lie detectors make innocent people nervous.
- (A) 过于笼统,与测谎器无任何关系;(C) 不对,从第二段的 2