

全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试指导



云鹏考研 ● 云鹏经典

新题型

★ 段落排序题

★ 信息匹配题

★ 概括大意题

★ 选择搭配题

阅读理解 精练40篇



主编 栗长江 刘海峰

中央民族大学出版社

云鹏考研经典教材

2006 年全国硕士研究生入学英语统一考试指导

阅读理解精练

40 篇

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P 前言 Preface

在研究生入学英语统一考试中,阅读部分被喻为考研的“敲门砖”。这部分包括3节,分值量占总分的60%,是考试中的重中之重,在某种程度上,决定了考研的成败。

如何提高阅读成绩?许多考生进行了大量泛读,经过题海苦练后,发现阅读水平并没有真正提高,问题在于只追求“量”,而忽略“质”,大量泛读的同时缺乏精读,知识面的扩大并不等于做题技能的提高。

基于此,我们组织有多年考研英语辅导经验的名师,按照2006年《考研英语入学统一考试大纲》编写了《阅读理解精练40篇》奉献给广大考生。本书由以下几部分组成:

一、大纲透析

阐述了大纲的新变化,让考生了解大纲对阅读部分的明确要求;分析此部分的命题特点、洞察考点类型,让考生把握好命题的倾向和趋势。

二、真题回顾

通过对近两年真题部分的分析,让考生熟悉考试的内容和形式;通过试题解析,加强对考点的认识,理清解题思路,了解考试的最新动态和发展趋势;对难生词和专业词汇进行专门的解释,扩大词汇量;从文章中精选出句法结构和内容表达上颇具难度的句子,进行剖析,讲解其难点,同时拟出规范的译文;不仅能提高考生理解复杂难句的能力,对提高考生的翻译水平也有很大的帮助。

三、阅读A型题

精选阅读理解文章24篇,文章体裁以议论文和说明文为主,题材主要涉及科普、经济、社会生活、教育等方面,均选自国外最新报刊、杂志,内容丰富,实效性强。在阅读时,

从分析句子结构入手,仔细精读,认真琢磨作者的解题思路,掌握解题技巧。

四、阅读 B 型题

根据最新考研英语大纲对此部分的调整,本书精心设置阅读 Part B 中出现的排序题、信息匹配题、概括大意题、搭配题四种类型的题目各 4 篇,让考生对陌生的题型有直观、感性的认识,并拥有实战训练的机会;又以详尽的解析,给考生指点迷津,让考生对新题型轻松驾驭。

阅读 C 型题即英汉翻译,考生可从 A 型题中选择 5 个长难句进行翻译,通过提供的译文部分核对答案。

特别需要提醒考生的是,本书的篇子至少要走两个程序:第一,按正常速度做题,每个篇子的时间控制在 15-18 分钟之间;第二,做完之后要再次花至少半小时的时间认真研读,做到对篇子彻头彻尾地理解,旨在发现自身的不足,并且洞察命题思路。

英文有言,“A little learning is a dangerous thing.”(一知半解,危害不浅)与广大考生共勉。

编 者

2005 年 10 月于北京

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第一篇 大纲分析

大纲题型

国家教育部对2006年全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语大纲阅读部分做出如下调整:

Part A: 共4篇文章,每篇约400字,共约1,600词。其中每篇文章后面附5道选择题,要求考生从每道题的4个选项中选出一个最佳答案,共20题,每小题2分,答案涂在答题卡1上。

Part B: 2006年研究生入学统一考试英语大纲对此部分做了重新调整。共有3种备选题型,每次考试从这3种备选题型中选择一种进行考查。本部分内容是一篇总长度为500-600词的文章,共有5个问题,共10分,每小题2分,答案涂在答题卡1上。

大纲要求

考生应能读懂选自各类书籍和报刊的不同类型的文字材料(生词量不超过所读材料总词汇量的3%),还应能读懂与本人学习或工作有关的文献、技术说明和产品介绍等。根据所读材料,考生应能:

- 1) 理解主旨意义;
- 2) 理解文中的具体信息;
- 3) 理解文中的概念性含义;
- 4) 进行有关的判断、推理和引申;
- 5) 根据上下文推测生词的词义;
- 6) 理解文章的总体结构以及单词之间、段落之间的关系;
- 7) 理解作者的意图、观点和态度;
- 8) 区分论点和论据。

命题特点

一、难度最大,分值最大

综观历年考题,阅读理解最大的特点是:阅读篇幅长、生词多、有不少超纲词;句子难度大,多重复合句和多重并列句频频出现,被动句、插入成分、分割句、省略句、倒装句和

双重否定句广泛应用,给考研阅读增加了很大的难度。而且文章选自英美原版资料,行文逻辑和语篇组织结构与汉语差距很大,有的篇幅主旨大意很难从中“抽出”,很多考生虽然能读懂每个单句,但对后面的选择题仍“云里雾里”难以驾驭。而阅读理解偏偏是分值比重最大的一部分,可以说,阅读理解部分得分多少直接关系到研究生入学考试的成败,是重中之重,需“重兵把守”。

二、题材范围广,体裁多样,信息量大

阅读理解短文取材广泛,全部来自英语系国家文献资料,美国文献资料是阅读材料的主要来源。内容涉及社会科学、自然科学和人文科学各个领域的知识,主要是社会科学方面的,包括文化、历史、教育、人口、交通、环境、能源及其他社会现象等,一般是当年的热点问题。考研阅读文章不仅涉及面广,而且体裁多样,有议论文、说明文和应用文等。通过对近几年阅读短文的分析,我们还发现报刊评论出现的频率越来越大,考生应该特别注意这种倾向和趋势,平时多读一些 China Daily、21 世纪及海外版的报刊文章,扩大知识面,提高分析、阅读文章的能力。

命题类型

Part A

根据对历年真题的分析,可以把考点类型分为:主旨大意题、事实细节题、推理判断题、观点态度题、词语理解题五种类型。

类 型 \ 年 份	2005 年	2004 年	2003 年	2002 年	2001 年
主旨大意题	3 题	2 题	2 题	2 题	1 题
事实细节题	7 题	7 题	6 题	8 题	11 题
观点态度题	4 题	4 题	4 题	5 题	5 题
词语理解题	2 题	2 题	2 题	2 题	1 题
推理判断题	4 题	5 题	6 题	3 项	2 题

根据上表,可以得知阅读理解 A 部分的命题趋势:

1. 事实细节题、观点态度题及推理判断题是主要的考点,考生在平时的复习当中应着重加强;
2. 主旨大意题是考查考生把握文章中心思想的类型,因此是必考题,是考生平时要攻克的难点;
3. 词语理解题是考生在复习时的一个要点。

Part B

2006 年大纲对 B 节测试要求:本节主要考查考生对诸如连贯性、一致性、逻辑联系等语篇、语段整体特征的理解,即要求考生在理解全文的基础上弄清文章的整体和微观结

构。解题时间为 15 - 20 分钟。

2006 年大纲对 B 节测试新变化:本节有 3 种备选题型,每次考试从这 3 种备选题型中选择一种进行考查。

备选题型有:

1. 本部分的内容是一篇总长度为 500 - 600 词的文章,其中有 5 段空白,文章后有 6 - 7 段文字,要求考生根据文章内容从这 6 - 7 段文字中选择能分别放进文章中 5 个空白处的 5 段。

2. 在一篇长度约为 500 - 600 词的文章中,各段落的原有顺序已被打乱,要求考生根据文章内容和结构所列段落重新排序,其中 2 - 3 个段落在文章中的位置已给出。

3. 在一篇长度约为 500 - 600 词的文章前或后有 6 - 7 段文字或 6 - 7 个概括句或小标题。这些文字或标题分别是对文章中某一部分的概括、阐述或举例。要求考生根据文章内容,从这 6 - 7 个选项中选出最恰当的 5 段文字或 5 个标题填入文章的空白处。

第二篇 真题分析

在研究生入学考试中,阅读理解部分始终是最有份量、最有难度、考生用时最多、失分也最多的部分。占总分比重的 60% 就足以说明其在试题中的主体地位。阅读理解是对语言能力的一种检验,对考生来说,阅读不仅要有一定的词汇量,扎实的语法知识,还需要篇章结构的理解能力,以及获取信息,对信息进行分析归纳、判断的能力。同时,还要把握住文章的命题规律,重点复习。

『2005 年研究生入学考试真题阅读』

Part A

Directions:

Read the following four texts. Answer the questions below each text by choosing A, B, C or D. Mark your answers on ANSWER SHEET 1. (40 points)

Text 1

Everybody loves a fat pay rise. Yet pleasure at your own can vanish if you learn that a colleague has been given a bigger one. Indeed, if he has a reputation for slacking, you might even be outraged. Such behaviour is regarded as “all too human”, with the underlying assumption that other animals would not be capable of this finely developed sense of grievance. But a study by Sarah Brosnan and Frans de Waal of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, which has just been published in *Nature*, suggests that it is all too monkey, as well.

The researchers studied the behaviour of female brown capuchin monkeys. They look cute. They are good-natured, co-operative creatures, and they share their food tardily. Above all, like their female human counterparts, they tend to pay much closer attention to the value of “goods and services” than males.

Such characteristics make them perfect candidates for Dr. Brosnan's and Dr. de Waal's study. The researchers spent two years teaching their monkeys to exchange tokens for food. Normally, the monkeys were happy enough to exchange pieces of rock for slices of cucumber.

However, when two monkeys were placed in separate but adjoining chambers, so that each could observe what the other was getting in return for its rock, their behaviour became markedly different.

In the world of capuchins grapes are luxury goods (and much preferable to cucumbers). So when one monkey was handed a grape in exchange for her token, the second was reluctant to hand hers over for a mere piece of cucumber. And if one received a grape without having to provide her token in exchange at all, the other either tossed her own token at the researcher or out of the chamber, or refused to accept the slice of cucumber. Indeed, the mere presence of a grape in the other chamber (without an actual monkey to eat it) was enough to induce resentment in a female capuchin.

The researchers suggest that capuchin monkeys, like humans, are guided by social emotions. In the wild, they are a co-operative, group-living species. Such co-operation is likely to be stable only when each animal feels it is not being cheated. Feelings of righteous indignation, it seems, are not the preserve of people alone. Refusing a lesser reward completely makes these feelings abundantly clear to other members of the group. However, whether such a sense of fairness evolved independently in capuchins and humans, or whether it stems from the common ancestor that the species had 35 million years ago, is, as yet, an unanswered question.

21. In the opening paragraph, the author introduces his topic by

[A] posing a contrast.

[B] justifying an assumption.

[C] making a comparison.

[D] explaining a phenomenon.

22. The statement "it is all too monkey" (Last line, Paragraph 1) implies that

[A] monkeys are also outraged by slack rivals.

[B] resenting unfairness is also monkeys' nature.

[C] monkeys, like humans, tend to be jealous of each other.

[D] no animals other than monkeys can develop such emotions.

23. Female capuchin monkeys were chosen for the research most probably because they are

[A] more inclined to weigh what they get.

[B] attentive to researchers' instructions.

[C] nice in both appearance and temperament.

[D] more generous than their male companions.

24. Dr. Brosnan and Dr. de Waal have eventually found in their study that the monkeys

[A] prefer grapes to cucumbers.

[B] can be taught to exchange things.

[C] will not be co-operative if feeling cheated.

[D] are unhappy when separated from others.

25. What can we infer from the last paragraph?

- [A] Monkeys can be trained to develop social emotions.
- [B] Human indignation evolved from an uncertain source.
- [C] Animals usually show their feelings openly as humans do.
- [D] Cooperation among monkeys remains stable only in the wild.

【难生词解释】

grievance *n.* 委屈, 苦衷, 牢骚, 不满

tardily *adv.* 行动缓慢地, 缓缓移动地

counterpart *n.* 与对方地位相同的人, 配对物

token *n.* 筹码; 信物, 标志, 纪念品; 代价券, 礼券

adjoin *vt.* 贴近, 与……毗连

luxury *n.* 奢侈, 华贵; 奢侈品

loss *vt.* 扔, 抛, 掷; 猛抬(头)

【长难句分析】

1) *But a study by Sarah Brosnan and Frans de Waal of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, which has just been published in Nature, suggests that it is all too monkey, as well.*

分析 (1) 这是一个复合句。句中主语是“a study”, suggests 是谓语动词, that 引导的宾语从句充当 suggests 的宾语, 其中 which 引导的定语从句修饰 a study;

(2) publish “出版, 刊登”;

(3) as well “也”。

译文 但是乔治亚州亚特兰大艾莫雷大学的萨拉·布劳恩斯南和弗兰斯·德·瓦尔最近在《自然》杂志发表了他们的研究, 表明这种“不平感”也是“猴”之常情。

2) *However, when two monkeys were placed in separate but adjoining chambers, so that each could observe what the other was getting in return for its rock, their behaviour became markedly different.*

分析 (1) 本句的主语是“Their behaviour”, 主语前面的句子是状语, 谓语是“became”, 表语是“different”, markedly 作定语修饰“different”;

(2) when 引导时间状语从句, what 引导的句子作 observe 的宾语;

(3) in separate “独立地, 单独地”;

(4) adjoining chambers “相连的猴舍”;

(5) in return (for sth) “作为(对某物)的付款或回报”;

(6) markedly “显著地, 清楚地”。

译文 然而, 要是两只猴子被放进独立但相连的猴舍, 能彼此看到对方用石块换得什么, 她们便会表现迥异。

3) *However, whether such a sense of fairness evolved independently in capuchins and humans, or whether it stems from the common ancestor that the species had 35 million years ago, is, as yet, an unanswered question.*

分析 (1) 本句的主语是“whether such a sense of...years ago”, “is”是系动词, “an unanswered question”是表语;

(2) evolve “进化”;

(3) independently “独立地”;

(4) stem from “源于”。

译文 然而, 这种公平感是人类和嘉布遣猴各自独立演化而来的还是源于三千五百万年前他们共有

的祖先至今仍然没有定论。

【答案解析】

21. [C] **事实判断题**。本题问“在文章开头,作者通过……介绍主题”根据第一段可知作者通过把猴当人作比较(comparison),来引出文章的主题,所以答案为[C]。[A]“提出对比”,作者的本意并非“对比”,而是一种“类比”,通过比较导入主题。[B]为“论证一种假设”,作者旨在导入猴子的公平意识,此时还没有进行论证。[D]为“解释一种现象”,作者只是提出一种现象,根本没有进行解释。
22. [B] **推理判断题**。根据第一段的句意,可以推断“it is all too monkey”是前面的“all too human”的变体。[B]“怨恨不公平也是猴子的本性”符合题意。[A]“猴子也对懒散的对手感到愤恨”,此项属于就事论事,没有切中主题。[C]“像人一样,猴子之间也相互嫉妒”,此项属于无中生有,原文并没有说人与人之间互相嫉妒,只是说人有一种公平意识,所以不能推知猴子之间互相嫉妒。[D]“只有猴子有这种情感”,文中根本没有提及,显然也是无中生有。
23. [A] **细节判断题**。第二段末句 pay much closer attention to value of...“更关注……的价值”,换词后就是 are more inclined to weigh“更会掂量”,所以答案为[A]。[B]由原文“cooperative”可以推知,[C]由原文的“cute, good-natured”推知,[D]由原文的“share their food tardily”可以推知,但所有这些选项都不是有利于做实验的最重要原因,“Above all...”这个句子才是最重要的原因。
24. [C] **细节判断题**。问题中的 eventually 暗示答案到了文章后面了。根据末段第三句“Such co-operation is likely to be stable only when each animal feels it is not being cheated.”可知答案为[C]。[A]、[B]并非实验中的发现,[D]为无中生有。
25. [B] **推理判断题**。依据文章最后一段最后一句话,“然而,这种公平感是人类和嘉布遣猴各自独立演化而来的还是源于三千五百万年前他们共有的祖先至今仍然没有定论。”可知[B]正确。[A]、[C]无法从文章中推知。[D]属于明显错误的表述,因为猴子并不只是在荒野环境中才进行合作,只要他们感觉没有受到欺骗,便会合作。

【译文】

每个人都喜欢自己的工资大幅度上涨,然而你要是知道同事的工资涨得比你更多,自己涨工资的那份高兴劲便会荡然无存。当然,如果再加上同事平时上班懒懒散散,你就会更加愤愤不平了。这种反应被认为是“人之常情”的反应,其根本假定是其他动物不会产生这种细腻的“不平”感。但是乔治亚州亚特兰大艾莫雷大学的萨拉·布劳斯南和弗兰斯·德·瓦尔最近在《自然》杂志发表了他们的研究,表明这种“不平感”也是“猴”之常情。

研究者们研究了嘉布遣褐色母猴的习性。这些猴子长相可爱,习性温厚,富于合作,而且动作缓慢地一起共享食物。重要的是她们像妇女一样,比男性更注重“商品和服务”的价值。

这些特性使她们成了布劳斯南博士和德瓦尔博士理想的研究对象。研究者们花了两年时间教给这些母猴用代币交换食物。正常情况下,这些猴子乐意用石块换取黄瓜片。然而,要是两只猴子被放进独立但相连的猴舍,能彼此看到对方用石块换得什么,她们便会表现迥异。

在嘉布遣猴群中,葡萄是奢侈品(比黄瓜更爱吃)。如果一只猴子用她的代币换得了一粒葡萄,另一只就不愿意用她的代币换取一片黄瓜片。要是有一只猴子根本不用代币就得到了一粒葡萄,另一只猴子不是把代币扔向研究者或扔出猴舍,就是拒绝接受黄瓜片。确实,只要另一间猴舍中有葡萄出现(根本没有猴子吃),就足以引起嘉布遣猴的憎恨。

研究者因此认为嘉布遣猴像人一样,是受社会情感左右的。在荒野环境中,他们是富于合作的群居动物,这种合作精神只有在每只猴子都感到没有受骗时才能保持稳定。看来,义愤并非人类特有的情感。根本不接受相比之下较少的报酬能立即使其他成员清楚感受到这种情感。然而,这种公平感是人类和嘉布遣猴各自独立演化而来的还是源于三千五百万年前他们共有的祖先,这个问题至今仍然没有定论。

Text 2

Do you remember all those years when scientists argued that smoking would kill us but the doubters insisted that we didn't know for sure? That the evidence was inconclusive, the science uncertain? That the antismoking lobby was out to destroy our way of life and the government should stay out of the way? Lots of Americans bought that nonsense, and over three decades, some 10 million smokers went to early graves.

There are upsetting parallels today, as scientists in one wave after another try to awaken us to the growing threat of global warming. The latest was a panel from the National Academy of Sciences, enlisted by the White House, to tell us that the Earth's atmosphere is definitely warming and that the problem is largely man-made. The clear message is that we should get moving to protect ourselves. The president of the National Academy, Bruce Alberts, added this key point in the preface to the panel's report: "Science never has all the answers. But science does provide us with the best available guide to the future, and it is critical that our nation and the world base important policies on the best judgments that science can provide concerning the future consequences of present actions."

Just as on smoking voices now come from many quarters insisting that the science about global warming is incomplete, that it's OK to keep pouring fumes into the air until we know for sure. This is a dangerous game: by the time 100 percent of the evidence is in, it may be too late. With the risks obvious and growing, a prudent people would take out an insurance policy now.

Fortunately, the White House is starting to pay attention. But it's obvious that a majority of the president's advisers still don't take global warming seriously. Instead of a plan of action, they continue to press for more research—a classic case of "paralysis by analysis".

To serve as responsible stewards of the planet, we must press forward on deeper atmospheric and oceanic research. But research alone is inadequate. If the Administration won't take the legislative initiative, Congress should help to begin fashioning conservation measures. A bill by Democratic Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, which would offer financial incentives for private industry, is a promising start. Many see that the country is getting ready to build lots of new power plants to meet our energy needs. If we are ever going to protect the atmosphere, it is crucial that those new plants be environmentally sound.

26. An argument made by supporters of smoking was that
 [A] there was no scientific evidence of the correlation between smoking and death.
 [B] the number of early deaths of smokers in the past decades was insignificant.
 [C] people had the freedom to choose their own way of life.
 [D] antismoking people were usually talking nonsense.
27. According to Bruce Alberts, science can serve as
 [A] a protector. [B] a judge. [C] a critic. [D] a guide.
28. What does the author mean by "paralysis by analysis" (Last line, Paragraph 4)?
 [A] Endless studies kill action. [B] Careful investigation reveals truth.
 [C] Prudent planning hinders progress. [D] Extensive research helps decision-making.
29. According to the author, what should the Administration do about?
 [A] Offer aid to build cleaner power plants. [B] Raise public awareness of conservation.
 [C] Press for further scientific research. [D] Take some legislative measures.
30. The author associates the issue of global warming with that of smoking because
 [A] they both suffered from the government's negligence.
 [B] a lesson from the latter is applicable to the former.
 [C] the outcome of the latter aggravates the former.
 [D] both of them have turned from bad to worse.

【难生词解释】

lobby v. 游说

fume n. (气味强烈的)烟,气,汽

nonsense n. 胡说;废话

paralysis n. 麻痹,瘫痪

legislative adj. 立法的;制定法律的

【长难句分析】

1) *But science does provide us with the best available guide to the future, and it is critical that our nation and the world base important policies on the best judgments that science can provide concerning the future consequences of present actions.*

分析 (1) 这是一个并列复合句,前句的主语是 science,谓语是 provide...with,宾语是 us, the best available guide to the future 是 with 的宾语;

(2) and 后的并列部分是一个 it is critical + that 主语从句结构;

(3) that 引导定语从句修饰 judgments。

译文 但是科学确实能够提供对未来发展趋势的最好指导,关键是国家和国际社会在制定重要政策时要根据科学所提供的内容作出最佳判断——现在行为会对未来产生重要影响。

2) *Just as on smoking voices now come from many quarters insisting that the science about global warming is incomplete, that it's OK to keep pouring fumes into the air until we know for sure.*

分析 (1) 本句的主语是 voices, come from 是谓语,insisting that...incomplete 作定语修饰 voices;

(2) that 引导的是一个主系表结构,it 是形式主语,其主语是 to keep...for sure。

译文 就像对吸烟那件事情的反应一样,现在不少方面传出声音认为有关全球变暖的科学理论并不完

善,到我们明晰这件事情之后再停止向空气中排放烟气也不晚。

3) *A bill by Democratic Senator Robert Byrd of West Virginia, which would offer financial incentives for private industry, is a promising start.*

分析 (1) 主语部分为 *A bill is a promising start*;

(2) *which* 引导的定语从句修饰 *a bill*。

译文 西弗吉尼亚民主党员罗伯特·伯德提出的议案建议对私人企业实施经济刺激,这是一个很有前途的开端。

【答案解析】

26. [C] **推理判断题**。本题的解题依据是 “That the antismoking lobby was out to destroy our way of life and the government should stay out of the way?” 暗示 “我们” 应该有自己的生活方式, 不许别人干预。所以 [C] “人们有选择自己生活方式的自由” 为正确选项。[A] 表述太绝对, 不能说没有科学依据, 只能说科学依据不充分。[B] 与原文正好相反, 1000 万人是一个庞大的数字, 并非 “无足轻重”。[D] 在文章中并没有提及, 但也能对考生造成干扰, 因为原文出现了 “nonsense” 这个词, 但并不是在说 antismoker 而是在说那些吸烟者。

27. [D] **细节判断题**。此题根据第二段中 “But science does provide us with the best available guide to the future” 即可做出判断。

28. [A] **语义判断题**。根据第四段的意思可以判断 [A] 正确。作者对只进行研究是持批评态度的, 而 [B]、[D] 却是赞成态度, 显然不是答案。[C] 迷惑程度大些, 但要注意原文并不是说 “planning”, 而是说 “research” 即 “study”。

29. [D] **作者态度题**。最后一段作者表明了态度, 只进行研究是不够的, 还要采取措施。 “If the Administration won't take the legislative initiative, Congress should help to begin fashioning conservation measures.” 这句话暗示政府应该进行立法, 属于反推出答案。

30. [B] **类比推断题**。本题涉及第一段与文章主题之间的语义关系。第一段作者说吸烟的危害及人们的漠然, 无非是说明情况也存在于温室效应问题 (第二段开头), 所以 [B] 正确。[A] 错误, 因为政府并没有忽视吸烟问题。[C] 错误, 因为两者之间是一种类比关系, 并不是因果关系。[D] 错误, 因为事情并没有每况愈下, 而是已经有了一个良好的开端。

【译文】

还记得那些年代吗? 那时科学家们警告说吸烟会要了我们的命, 而怀疑者坚信此事并不确定, 证据并不完备, 科学仍无定论; 认为禁烟 “游说” 会毁了我们的生活方式, 政府应该站到一边去。许多美国人有这种糊涂认识, 三十多年来, 大约一千万吸烟者提前进入了坟墓。

如今, 类似的事件令我们忧虑。科学家们的努力一浪盖过一浪, 试图使我们醒悟到全球变暖带来的威胁。最近白宫召集了科学院的一个专家小组, 告诉我们地球大气确实变暖了, 而变暖的原因主要是人为因素。他们传递出一个明确的信息——我们应该行动起来保护自己。科学院院长布鲁斯·阿尔波特在小组报告的前言中添加了一个要点: “科学永远不能提供全部答案, 但是科学确实能够提供对未来发展趋势的最好指导, 关键是国家和国际社会在制定重要政策时要根据科学所提供的内容作出最佳判断——现在行为会对未来产生重要影响。”

就像对吸烟那件事情的反应一样, 现在不少方面传出声音认为有关全球变暖的科学理论并不完善, 到我们明晰这件事情之后再停止向空气中排放烟气也不晚。这可是一个危险的游戏: 到百分之百的证据到手时未免已经为时太晚了。随着危险越来越明显, 越来越严重, 明智之人都要开始填写保单了。