

紧缺人才培养工程教学系列丛书

英语中级口译岗位资格证书

考试练习

· 阅读300题

丛书主编 张 曦
主 编 王 欣

练习

上海交通大学出版社

Intermediate

“紧缺人才培养工程”教学系列丛书

英语中级口译岗位资格证书考试练习

阅读 300 题

丛书主编 张 曦
主 编 王 欣



上海交通大学出版社

内 容 提 要

本书是“英语中级口译岗位资格证书考试练习”系列丛书之一,针对该考试中阅读题型设计编写。书中精选收入的阅读文章,按主题分为社会、经济、健康、科技和文化五个部分。每篇文章设计了五个题目,并提供答案和解析,供考生自测备考之用。

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语中级口译岗位资格证书考试练习. 阅读 300 题/ 王欣主编. —上海:上海交通大学出版社,2009
(紧缺人才培养工程教学系列丛书)
ISBN978-7-313-05920-8

I. 英... II. 王... III. 英语—阅读教学—资格考核—习题 IV. H315.9-44

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2009)第 127970 号

英语中级口译岗位资格证书考试练习

阅读 300 题

王 欣 主编

上海交通大学出版社出版发行

(上海市番禺路 951 号 邮政编码 200030)

电话:64071208 出版人:韩建民

上海交大印务有限公司印刷 全国新华书店经销

开本:787mm×1092mm 1/16 印张:13.25 字数:373 千字

2009 年 9 月第 1 版 2009 年 9 月第 1 次印刷

印数:1~6 030

ISBN978-7-313-05920-8/H 定价:25.00 元

版权所有 侵权必究

前 言

《上海市英语中高级口译岗位资格证书》考试是“紧缺人才培养工程”的项目之一,其宗旨是为上海、长三角地区和全国其他省市考核和遴选复合型英语口语人才。自1995开考以来,已进入第15个年头。其间,考试规模不断扩大,累计参考人数已达32万多人次;考试地区逐步外延,已从最初的上海扩展到南京、苏州、无锡、南通、扬州、青岛、烟台、深圳、武汉、杭州、宁波、南昌等地。目前,该项考试已成为具有重要全国影响的外语培训考试项目,该考试的资格证书,也成为外资、合资企业,乃至国有大中型企业招聘人才的重要依据。

参加英语中级口译考试,取得其资格证书,除了要参加相应的培训项目,认真学习教材之外,还需要辅之以必要的练习,特别是在复习迎考阶段,进行一定量有针对性的练习,更能够巩固学习知识点,理清复习脉络,掌握解题技巧,提高考试成绩。

为了满足广大参加《英语中级口译岗位资格证书》考试的读者的迫切需要,我们约请上海数家著名培训学校的资深老师编写了这套《英语中级口译岗位资格证书考试练习》丛书。本套丛书具有以下三个特点:

第一,按照题型,分门别类。针对《英语中级口译岗位资格证书》考试的题型,本套丛书分为四本,分别为《阅读300题》、《翻译300题》、《听力300题》和《口译和口语300题》。考生可以针对自己的弱项,强化专项练习,从而提高四个方面的技能,在考试中取得满意的成绩。

第二,题精量大,针对性强。本套丛书中的练习题既包蕴了以往历届考试题的历史轨迹;又反映了近年来乃至今后考试题的命题趋势。丛书的作者均为长期工作在培训第一线的明星教师,对于考试的要求、考生的弱点、考题的规律了然于胸,题目的选取极具针对性。通过练习,考生将在听、说、读、写、译五个方面都得到明显的提高。

第三,与时俱进,时新实用。本套丛书的材料基本选自近期英语国家主流媒体的时文,结合考试实际,设计相应练习。所有练习题均附参考答案,方便读者自测自查。《翻译300题》一书还在附录中分类列出政治、经济、文化、科学等方面的词汇,具有相当的实用价值。

《阅读300篇》由王欣主编。全书分政治、经济、社会、自然、科技、文化等板块,所有练习配答案和简解。在此感谢王国栋、纪家举、顾辉、范劲松、边琳、林玫的鼎力相助。

《翻译300题》由张曦主编。全书由英译汉和汉译英各150篇组成,分别包括政治外交、经济金融、自然科学、经典散文、名家演说等部分,使读者可以有的放矢、专项突破。本书特别要感谢丁汉清、陈琳、李龙帅、杨丹、林玫、王欣所付出的努力。

《听力300题》由林玫和张曦主编,全书分成听写、短句、段落、听译四大部分。本书编写过程中得到曹志东、肖翰、刘彦星、张辉、李龙帅、杨丹的鼎力支持,在此表示感谢。

《口语和口译300题》由杨丹主编。本书收录了300个英语口语译、口语段落,涉及经济工业、教育科技、文化社会、政策规划、环保卫生等领域,同时增添了最新的时事方面的内容。本书编写过程中,包含着张曦、王早早、王亦舟、宋可如、刘锦凤的辛劳,在此致谢。

企盼本套丛书对于参加《英语中级口译岗位资格证书》培训和考试的读者将起到帮助的作用,对于其他英语学习者提高英语综合能力和口译水平也有所裨益。

由于编者水平有限,书中疏漏之处在所难免,敬请广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2009 年 7 月

目 录

第一部分 分类阅读

| | |
|----------|-----|
| 社会 | 3 |
| 经济 | 16 |
| 健康 | 44 |
| 科技 | 80 |
| 文化 | 112 |

第二部分 答案与解析

| | |
|----------|-----|
| 社会 | 161 |
| 经济 | 165 |
| 健康 | 173 |
| 科技 | 183 |
| 文化 | 192 |

第一部分

分类阅读



社 会

Text 1

Before, whenever we had wealth, we started discussing poverty. Why not now? Why is the current politics of wealth and poverty seemingly about wealth alone? When Bill Clinton first ran for president, the Dow Jones average was under 3,500, yearly federal budget deficits were projected at hundreds of billions of dollars forever and beyond, and no one talked about the “permanent boom” or the “new economy.” Yet in that more straitened time, Clinton made much of the importance of “not leaving a single person behind.” It is possible that similar “compassionate” rhetoric might yet play a role in the general election.

But it is striking how much less talk there is about the poor than there was eight years ago, when the country was economically uncertain, or in previous eras, when the country felt flush. Even last summer, when Clinton spent several days on a remarkable, Bobby Kennedy-like pilgrimage through impoverished areas from Indian reservations in South Dakota to ghetto neighborhoods in East St. Louis, the administration decided to refer to the effort not as a poverty tour but as a “new markets initiative.”

What is happening is partly a logical, policy-driven reaction. Poverty really is lower than it has been in decades, especially for minority groups. The most attractive solution to it—a growing economy—is being applied. The people who have been totally left out of this boom often have medical, mental or other problems for which no one has an immediate solution. “The economy has sucked in anyone who has any preparation, any ability to cope with modern life,” says Franklin D. Raines, the former director of the Office of Management and Budget who is now head of Fannie Mae. When he and other people who specialize in the issue talk about solutions, they talk analytically and long-term: education, development of work skills, shifts in the labor market, adjustment in welfare reform.

But I think there is another force that has made this a rich era with barely visible poor people. It is the unusual social and imaginative separation between prosperous America and those still left out. . . It’s simple invisibility, because of increasing geographic, occupation, and social barriers that block one group from the other’s view.

1. The main idea of the passage is that _____.
 - A. the county is enjoying economic growth
 - B. the poor are benefiting from today’s good economy
 - C. we were more aware of the poor than we are today

- D. there were many more poor people than there are today
2. The organizational pattern of the first two paragraphs of this passage is _____.
 - A. order of importance
 - B. comparison and contrast
 - C. chronological order
 - D. classification and division
3. In the first paragraph, the word "straitened" means _____.
 - A. prosperous
 - B. difficult
 - C. relaxing
 - D. significant
4. From this passage, we can conclude that _____.
 - A. the status quo of the rich and the poor has changed
 - B. the good and prosperous economy will soon end
 - C. poverty will be removed as a result of increased wealth
 - D. all people benefit from good economic conditions
5. According to the author, one important reason that we do not talk much about poverty is that _____.
 - A. the separation between prosperous America and poor people
 - B. poverty really is lower than in the past
 - C. no one has been left out of the current boom
 - D. the president is not concerned about the poor

Text 2

Local government in Britain is the responsibility of elected local authorities, which provide local services under specific powers conferred by Parliament. Government on a local basis can be traced back at least 1,000 years, but this concept of a comprehensive system of councils locally elected to manage various services provided for the benefit of the community was first cooperated into law in the late nineteenth century. The local authorities' major responsibilities nowadays include education, housing, the police, environmental health, personal social services, traffic administration, town and country planning, fire services, libraries and many minor functions.

There are 6 metropolitan local authorities, and Greater London and the remaining 47 “non-metropolitan” authorities, or counties. Each separate authority has power to levy a “rate” (a form of local property tax) to pay for the work for which it has responsibility. Rates are a local tax paid by the occupiers of non-agricultural land and building in a local authority area as contributions to the cost of local services. The amount paid by the individual depends on the value of the property in relation to the total sum needed by the authority.

Total expenditure by local authorities in England and Wales exceeds £9,000 million a year. A clear distinction is made between capital expenditure and current expenditure. Capital expenditure (about a quarter of the total) is normally financed by borrowing. Current expenditure is financed from three main sources; local rates; Government grants, in the form of a "rate support" grant, and grants towards the cost of specific services; other income, including rents from local authority-owned properties. Housing and education are the two major areas for which local authorities are responsible. Each local authority area is divided into two districts—36 in metropolitan counties, 296 in non-metropolitan counties. The heavily populated metropolitan districts (e.g. Birmingham, population 1.1 million) have the resources to undertake provision of services such as education and personal social services which the majority of non-metropolitan districts could not undertake.

County and district councils consist of directly elected councilors. Broadly speaking, county councils have 60-100 members, metropolitan district councils 50-80 members, non-metropolitan district councils 30-60 members. The councilors elect annually one of their members as chairman. On certain district councils with historical status the chairman is called "mayor" or "Lord Mayor". This has ceremonial significance, but makes no difference to the administrative functions of the area. Councillors are voluntary and unpaid, though they claim an attendance allowance of up to £10 a day.

All county councils are elected at four-yearly intervals. The pattern of election to district councils varies. All local elections due in any one year are held on the same day, normally the first Thursday in May. The people entitled to vote at local government elections are those who are resident in the local authority area on the qualifying date, are 18 or over on election day, are British subjects or citizens of the Irish Republic (this will therefore include Commonwealth citizens e. g. Australians). Candidates for councilors must have British nationality and be over 21, and must either have lived or worked in the area for a year. Most candidates stand as representatives of one of the national political parties (Labour, SDP, Conservatives or Liberal for the most part), a few as members of associations representing some local interests or as independents.

1. What are NOT included in the functions of local authorities according to the passage?
 - A. Environment, health and education.
 - B. Housing and country development planning.
 - C. Local libraries and the police.
 - D. Court and charity organizations.
2. How does the government work out the amount of the "rate" paid by the individuals?
 - A. It depends on how many properties the individual own and the amount the authority needs.
 - B. It is calculated by the value of the property and the total sum needed by the authority.
 - C. It depends on the annual income of the individual and the value of the property.
 - D. It is calculated by the family annual income and the total sum needed by the authority.
3. How often are county council elections held?
 - A. Every four years.
 - B. Every two years.
 - C. Twice a year.
 - D. Four times a year.
4. According to the passage, directly elected councilors _____.
 - A. can claim an attendance allowance of more than £10 a day
 - B. would elect one of their members as "mayor" every two years
 - C. will do the voluntary work and are not paid
 - D. must have either British or Irish nationality
5. Which of the following candidates is eligible for the election of councilors?
 - A. A 20-year-old British who has been living in the area for a year.
 - B. A 30-year-old Englishman who has moved to the area half a year ago.
 - C. A 40-year-old British who has been working in the area for 2 years.
 - D. A 50-year-old Irishman who has been working and living in the area for 3 years.

Text 3

Sixty percent of all ethnic minorities in Britain live in London. Ethnic minorities only make up a

small fraction of Britain's population as a whole, but coming to London you could quite easily be mistaken for thinking there were many more. I have taken this for granted having grown up with this fantastic diversity of culture, background and influence. I have people all around me who talk with varying accents, speak different languages, share distinct foods and celebrate special festivals. However, London is far from being without its racial problems.

The Campaign Against Racism and Fascism (CARF), a London based group, tells me that there is little doubt that, with the massive upsurge of xenophobia against asylum-seekers too, the fallout is affecting anyone perceived to be foreign or different. Recent attacks on black people have a ferocity that appalls police and community organizers alike. On March 4th this year, a 19-year-old Sudanese student, unconcernedly chatting to his white friend on a bus traveling through Wardsworth in south London, was suddenly stabbed in the stomach three times by a white youth brandishing a knife.

Police investigations on this and other racist attacks have left many doubting the police's supposed commitment to tackling racial crime. Some say it has all been talk about target indicators with few results on the ground. But on March 24th this year, the Met. Police's Racial and Violent Crimes Task Force, drawing on the slow, painstaking intelligence on racial harassment gathered by their 32 Community Safety Units, carried out its first large-scale operation. In dawn raids on homes in all over London, one hundred people were arrested for offenses including racially aggravated criminal damage, grievous bodily harm, distributing racist literature and threats to kill. Over thirty people have been charged with racial offenses.

Every year on our August public holiday, London, especially Notting Hill, comes alive for the Carnival. This celebration of variety, difference and the end of slavery—where I have seen people of all backgrounds, mixing, laughing and dancing together—is, I hope, the future of inter-racial relations in London.

1. The word "this" in "I have taken this for granted" (para. 1) refers to which of the following?
 - A. Sixty percent of all ethnic minorities in UK live in London.
 - B. Minorities only constitute a small part of UK's population.
 - C. There are more minority people in Britain than it appears.
 - D. It is unwise for many more to come to London.
2. The killing of the Sudanese student is to illustrate _____.
 - A. the brutality of attacks on black people
 - B. the fallout affecting anyone in poverty
 - C. the traffic problems in south London
 - D. the unconcerned attitude of police
3. The word "xenophobia" (para. 2) means _____.
 - A. partiality
 - B. arbitrariness
 - C. discrimination
 - D. antipathy
4. The word "intelligence" (para. 3) is closest in meaning to _____.
 - A. mentality
 - B. aptitude
 - C. information
 - D. interpretation
5. What is the main topic of this passage?
 - A. The increasing rate of crime in London.
 - B. The center of England's cultural diversity.
 - C. The people's criticism of London police.
 - D. The poor inter-racial relations in London.

Text 4

Hawaii's native minority is demanding a greater degree of sovereignty over its own affairs. But much of the archipelagos political establishment, which includes the White Americans who dominated until the Second World War and people of Japanese, Chinese and Filipino origins, is opposed to the idea.

The islands were annexed by the US in 1898 and since then Hawaii's native peoples have fared worse than any of its other ethnic groups. They make up over 60 percent of the states homeless, suffer higher levels of unemployment and their life span is five years less than the average Hawaiians. They are the only major US native group without some degree of autonomy. But a sovereignty advisory committee set up by Hawaii's first native governor, Joahn Waihee, has given the natives' cause a major boost by recommending that the Hawaiian natives decide by themselves whether to reestablish a sovereign Hawaiian nation.

However, the Hawaiian natives are not united in their demands. Some just want greater autonomy within the state—as enjoyed by many American Indian natives over matters such as education. This is a position supported by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), a state agency set up in 1978 to represent the natives' interests and which has now become the moderate face of the native sovereignty movement. More ambitious is the Ka Lahui group, which declared itself a new nation in 1987 and wants full, official independence from the US.

But if Hawaiian natives are given greater autonomy, it is far from clear how many people this will apply to. The state authorities only count as native those people with more than 50 percent Hawaiian blood.

Native demands are not just based on political grievances, though. They also want their claim on 660,000 hectares of Hawaiian crown land to be accepted. It is on this issue that native groups are facing most opposition from the state authorities. In 1933, the state government paid the OHA \$ 136 million in back rent on the crown land and many officials say that by accepting this payment the agency has given up its claims to legally own the land. The OHA has vigorously disputed this.

- Hawaii's native minority refers to _____.
 A. Hawaii's ethnic groups
 B. people of Filipino origin
 C. the Ka Lahui group
 D. people with 50% Hawaiian blood
- Which of the following statements is true of the Hawaiian natives?
 A. Sixty percent of them are homeless or unemployed.
 B. Their life span is 5 years shorter than average Americans.
 C. Their life is worse than that of other ethnic groups in Hawaii.
 D. They are the only native group without sovereignty.
- Which of the following is NOT true of John Waihee?
 A. He is Hawaii's first native governor.
 B. He has set up a sovereignty advisory committee.
 C. He suggested the native people decide for themselves.
 D. He is leading the local independence movement.
- Which of the following groups holds a less radical attitude on the matter of sovereignty?
 A. American Indian natives.
 B. Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

- C. The Ka Lahui group. D. The Hawaiian natives.
5. Various native Hawaiians demand all the following EXCEPT _____.
 A. a greater autonomy within the state B. more back rent on the crown land
 C. a claim on the Hawaiian crown land D. full independence from the US

Text 5

Extract 1

We, the undersigned, write with reference to the Hightown Local Plan, Consultative Draft, March 1985, published by the Hightown district Council.

While we understand the need for a Relief Road to ease the problems of increasing traffic in the area as a whole, we would like to express our concern at the proposed route. As shown in the Consultative Draft, the Relief Road will cross Fernwood Road, Golfcourse Way and High Lane, effectively cutting in half a prime residential area.

As residents of this particular area, we feel obliged to protest at the proposal on the following grounds:

* There will be a substantial increase in traffic in the area not only with the through-traffic, but also from traffic joining the Relief Road at the junction planned close to Fernwood Road.

* At present, the area in question is a quiet residential area. With the Relief Road and the volume of traffic envisaged, there is no doubt that...

Extract 2

It is foreseen that the Relief Road will be a dual, two-lane carriageway and that there will be junctions at Fernwood Road and at the south end of High Lane. It is felt that such a road is required to allow for the growth of traffic envisaged over the next twenty years and that this route will be essential for through-traffic joining the Hightown Bypass. Thus the Relief Road and the Hightown Bypass together will provide substantial relief to the traffic problems experienced in recent years in the center of Fernwood following the construction of the new Container Port at Highport in 1980.

It is intended that construction of the Relief Road be begun in 1989. This, however, will be subject to approval by regional and central government. The Planning Committee feel that the road is vital to a proper development of the area as a whole and that therefore delays should be avoided. Thus arrangements will be made, through public meetings, for direct representations to be made to the Council regarding the proposals.

Extract 3

Both John and I hope that you are all settling down OK. You must write and tell us what the new house is like.

By the way, your move was probably a good thing for you. We've just heard about the new Local Plan for Hightown and have been busy drumming up support to fight a proposal to bring a Relief Road right through here. In fact, as far as we can see, it would have run right along the back of your garden in Golfcourse Way. I can just imagine what Mike would have had to say about the prospect of massive lorries trundling past his back garden night and day! Fortunately, as far as the plans are concerned, we're not directly affected—I mean, the road won't go past our house—but it

factors included the way questions were asked.

1. According to Mr. Ray Bull's research, which of the following defendants would be more heavily sentenced?
 - A. The defendant with normal behaviour.
 - B. The defendant with attractive character.
 - C. The defendant with unattractive appearance.
 - D. The defendant with psychological problems.
2. According to the passage, people often _____.
 - A. have sensory problems
 - B. foretell what have not yet happened
 - C. distort what they have seen or heard
 - D. neglect what they see or hear
3. The word "episodes" in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to _____.
 - A. witnesses
 - B. incidents
 - C. details
 - D. photographs
4. According to the passage, which of the following statements is NOT true?
 - A. Mr. Ray Bull pointed out that the criminal with abnormal appearance would be sentenced more heavily than the one with attractive appearance.
 - B. Mr. Ray Bull delivered a speech at a conference to psychologists and lawyers on the role of psychology in the legal system.
 - C. Mr. Ray Bull has found out that the addition of one or two small scars to a face leads to the face being judged more dishonest.
 - D. Mr. Ray Bull argued that law enforcement authorities should be less aware of the factors that influence memory and identification.
5. What is the main idea expressed in the passage?
 - A. Witnesses' memory and identification are unreliable.
 - B. British Psychological Society has studied the role of psychology in legal system.
 - C. Both the appearance and the character of a person would influence people's judgment on him.
 - D. What is beautiful is good.

Text 7

Bernard Jackson is a free man today, but he has many bitter memories. Jackson spent five years in prison after a jury wrongly convicted him of raping two women. At Jackson's trial, although two witnesses testified that Jackson was with them in another location at the times of the crimes, he was convicted anyway. Why? The jury believed the testimony of the two victims, who positively identified Jackson as the man who has attacked them. The court eventually freed Jackson after the police found the man who had really committed the crimes. Jackson was similar in appearance to the guilty man. The two women have made a mistake in identity. As a result, Jackson has lost five years of his life.

The two women in this case were eyewitnesses. They clearly saw the man who attacked them, yet they mistakenly identified an innocent person. Similar incidents have occurred before. Eyewitnesses to other crimes have identified the wrong person in a police lineup or in photographs. Many factors influence the accuracy of eyewitness testimony. For instance, witnesses sometimes see photographs of several suspects before they try to identify the person they saw in a lineup of people. They can become confused by seeing many photographs or similar faces. The number of people in the lineup, and whether it is a live lineup or a photograph, may also affect a witness's decision. People

sometimes have difficulty identifying people of other races. The questions the police ask witnesses also have an effect on them.

Are some witnesses more reliable than others? Many people believe that police officers are more reliable than ordinary people. Psychologists decided to test this idea, and they discovered that it is not true. Two psychologists showed a film of crimes to both police officers and civilians. The psychologists found no difference between the police and the civilians in correctly remembering the details of the crimes.

Despite all the possibilities for inaccuracy, courts cannot exclude eyewitness testimony from a trial. American courts depend almost completely on eyewitness testimony to resolve court cases. Sometimes it is the only evidence to a crime, such as rape. Furthermore, eyewitness testimony is often correct. Although people do sometimes make mistakes, many times they really do identify individuals correctly.

American courts depend on the ability of the 12 jurors, and not the judges, to determine the accuracy of the witness's testimony. It is their responsibility to decide if a certain witness could actually see, hear, and remember what occurred.

In a few cases, the testimony of eyewitnesses has convicted innocent people. More importantly, it has rightly convicted a larger number of guilty people; consequently, it continues to be of great value in the American judicial system.

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
 - A. Bernard Jackson spent five years in prison for no crime of his own.
 - B. Eyewitness testimony, although sometimes incorrect, is valuable.
 - C. Police officers are no better eyewitnesses than civilians are.
 - D. American courts rightly convict a larger number of guilty people.
2. Why was Bernard Jackson found guilty and imprisoned for five years?
 - A. He committed the crime of raping two women.
 - B. The victims mistook him for the real criminal.
 - C. He had a previous criminal record.
 - D. No witness testified that he was in another location at the time of the crime.
3. According to the passage, _____ might influence the witness's identification of suspects.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A. the education of the witness | B. the time of day the crime occurs |
| C. the appearances of the suspect | D. the age of the suspect |
4. We know from the passage that _____ will be most helpful in resolving a rape case.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A. a live lineup or a photo of people | B. the questions the police ask |
| C. the responsibility of the jurors | D. the eyewitness testimony |
5. According to the passage, who are in a position to decide whether a witness testimony is reliable?

| | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| A. The police. | B. The prosecutors. |
| C. The judges. | D. The jurors. |

Text 8

Every year thousands of people are arrested and taken to court for shop-lifting. In Britain alone, about HK \$ 3,000,000's worth of goods are stolen from shops every week. This amounts to something like HK \$ 150 million a year, and represents about 4 per cent of the shops' total stock.