

N 新世纪英语丛书
New Century English

高考英语

Golden Key to the Enchanted Door

阅读理解分级进阶

疑难篇目卷

刘 弢 吕春昕 ◎主编



华中理工大学出版社

HUAZHONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PRESS

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高考英语阅读的难点何在

(代前言)

高考英语的阅读材料与我们平时见到的各种引进版本教材相比,有很大的不同。其中最大的差别在于,引进版本的教材经过国外专家的反复锤炼,语言十分规范,学生只要具备了基本的语法知识,借助词典基本上可以完全读懂,《新概念英语》就是其中的典范。而高考英语阅读材料则不同,很多文章直接来源于现代英语,讲究原汁原味。由于外国人的思维模式与我们不同,因而在我们看来句子的跳跃性很强,表面上看生词不多,但常常让人生出前言不搭后语的疑惑。此外,大量的口语、俚语、生造词夹杂其中,其内在含义在常见词典中又无从查找;加之应用文中存在大量的省略现象,这些无疑都加大了阅读的难度。

要想让学生完全读懂这些文章,提供详尽的注释和完整的译文无疑是最好的方法。然而,这对编者却是一种挑战。目前市面上的很多高考英语阅读书籍在答案部分的所谓解析,在我们看来纯属隔靴搔痒、避重就轻。学生做不对题,关键还是没有完全读懂,根本不是什么寻找关键句的问题。因此,在编写本书时,我们查阅了大量资料,不仅对选文中的所有疑难单词和词组详加注释,而且在仔细揣摩文意的情况下,尽力提供最为准确、流畅的译文,并对部分内容提供相应的背景资料,使学生能读一篇就彻底消化一篇,从而真正提高英语水平。

本书所有篇目均选自最近5年高考真题。从目前的高考题型来看,通常阅读理解有5篇文章,排列方式依次从易到难。许多A篇文章高一新生读起来也不吃力,当然,有的E篇文章的难度竟和大学英语四级考题不相上下。鉴于此,我们将高考真题中的疑难篇目挑选出来,并按难度分级,分别编入四章,学生只需循序渐进,高考时自可得心应手。由于高

考真题的权威性毋庸置疑,加之本书的详尽注释和精准对译,因而本书可说是课本之外的首选备考辅导材料。

本书正文由刘弢翻译,错谬之处在所难免,敬请广大读者朋友不吝赐教。

编 者

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第一章 难度等级★

Reading Exercise 1

(A)

Danielle Steel, America's sweetheart, is one of the hardest working woman in the book business. Unlike other productive authors who write one book at a time, she can work on up to five. Her research done before writing takes at least three years. Once she has fully studied her subjects, ready to dive into a book, she can spend twenty hours nonstop at her desk.

Danielle Steel comes from New York and was sent to France for her education. After graduation, she worked in the public relations and advertising industries. Later she started a job as a writer which she was best fit for. Her achievements are unbelievable: 390 million copies of books in print, nearly fifty *New York Times* best-selling novels, and a series of "Max and Martha" picture books for children to help them deal with the real-life problem of death, new babies and new schools. Her 1998 book about the death of her son shot to the top of the *New York Times* best-selling list as soon as it came out. Twenty-eight of her books have been made into film. She is listed in the *Guinness Books of World Records* for one of her books being the *Times* best-seller for 381 weeks straight.

Not content with a big house, a loving family, and a view of the Golden Gate Bridge, Danielle Steel considers her readers to be the most important resource and has kept in touch with them by e-mail. While she is often compared to the heroines of her own invention, her life is undoubtedly much quieter. But, if she does have anything in common with them, it is her strength of will and her inimitable style. There is only one Danielle Steel.

[生词]

productive *adj.* 多产的: During their most productive period, both mills were controlled by the Marling family. 在最高产的时期, 两家磨坊都由马林家族控制。

straight *adj.* 连续的: The New York Rangers have won seven straight games. 纽约游骑兵队已经连赢7场了。

inimitable *adj.* 难以模仿的, 无与伦比的: the inimitable comedian, Charlie Chaplin 盖世无双的喜剧演员查理·卓别林

1. Danielle Steel is different from other writers in that _____.
 - A. she can write several books at the same time
 - B. she often does some research before writing a book
 - C. she is one of the most popular American women writers
 - D. she can keep writing for quite a long time without a break
2. Children who have read "Max and Martha" picture books may know _____.
 - A. how to deal with affairs at school
 - B. what to do if Max and Martha die
 - C. what to do when new babies are born into their families
 - D. how to solve the difficult problems in their writing classes
3. One of Danielle Steel's achievements is that _____.
 - A. some TV plays were based on her books
 - B. her picture books attracted a lot of young men
 - C. one of her books became a best-seller in 1998
 - D. she wrote the *Guinness Book of World Records*
4. We can learn from the passage that Danielle Steel _____.
 - A. lives an exciting life
 - B. values her readers a lot
 - C. writes about quiet women
 - D. is pleased with her achievements

[参考译文]

美国甜心丹尼尔·斯蒂尔是出版行业最勤奋的女性之一。和其他多产作家一次

只写一本书不同,她能同时开工5本书之多。在写作前,她至少要花上3年时间搞研究。一旦完全弄清课题准备投入写作了,她就能20小时不停顿地工作。

丹尼尔·斯蒂尔是纽约人,曾被送到法国读书。毕业后,她在公共关系和广告业工作。后来,她开始从事最适合自己的写作工作。她的成就让人难以置信:她的图书总印量达3亿9千万册,有将近50本书登上了纽约《时代周刊》最畅销小说排行榜,她还写了供儿童阅读的“麦克斯和玛莎”插图故事书系列,内容是帮助他们应对现实生活中的困境,比如死亡、新生儿和新学校等。她1998年出版的关于她儿子死亡的书一上市就冲上了纽约《时代周刊》最畅销书排行榜的榜首。她的28本书被拍成电影。她也因一本书连续381周登上《时代周刊》最畅销书排行榜而跻身《吉尼斯世界纪录》。

她对拥有大房子、充满爱的家庭和看得见金门大桥风景的房间并不满足,她认为读者才是最重要的创作源泉,她一直和他们通过电子邮件保持联系。尽管人们经常把她比作她书中的女主人公,但无疑她本人的生活要平静得多。如果说她和故事中的人物有什么共性的话,那就是坚强的意志和独特的风格。这就是独一无二的丹尼尔·斯蒂尔。

(B)

A month after Hurricane Katrina, I returned home in New Orleans. There lay my house, reduced to waist-high ruins, smelly and dirty.

Before the trip, I'd had my car fixed. When the office employee of the garage was writing up the bill, she noticed my Louisiana license plate. "You from New Orleans?" she asked. I said I was. "No charge," she said, and firmly shook her head when I reached for my wallet. The next day I went for a haircut, and the same thing happened.

As my wife was studying in Florida, we decided to move there and tried to find a rental house that we could afford while also paying off a mortgage on our ruined house. We looked at many places, but none was satisfactory. We'd begun to accept that we'd have to live in extremely reduced circumstances for a while, when I got a very curious e-mail from a James Kennedy in California. He'd read some pieces I'd written about our sufferings for *slate*, the online magazine and wanted to give us ("no conditions attached") a new house across the lake from New Orleans.

It sounded too good to be true, but I replied, thanking him for his

exceptional generosity, that we had no plans to go back. Then a poet at the University of Florida offered to let his house to me, while he went to England on his one-year paid leave. The rent was rather reasonable. I mentioned the poet's offer to James Kennedy, and the next day he sent a check covering our entire rent for eight months.

Throughout this painful experience, the kindness of strangers has done much to bring back my faith in humanity. It's almost worth losing your worldly possessions to be reminded that people are really nice when given half a chance.

[生词]

waist-high *adj.* 高至腰部的, 齐腰高的; waist-high maize 齐腰高的玉米

smelly *adj.* 有臭味的, 发臭的; smelly socks 臭袜子

mortgage *n.* 抵押贷款; On my present salary I can't get a mortgage. 靠目前的工资我得不到抵押贷款。

slate *n.* (书写用的)石板; I hang a slate in my kitchen for memos. 我在厨房里挂了一块记事用的石板。

exceptional *adj.* 特别的, 格外的; These works of art must be handled with exceptional care. 搬动这些艺术品时必须格外小心。

generosity *n.* 慷慨, 大方; He was known for his generosity to his colleagues. 大家都知道他对同事很慷慨。

worldly *adj.* 俗世的, 尘世的; They were ambitious for worldly power and possessions. 他们有追逐世俗权势和财富的野心。 || **sb. 's worldly possessions** 某人的全部财产

half a chance 一点机会; Be careful of that fellow, he'll cheat you if he gets half a chance. 当心那个家伙; 只要有一点机会, 他就要诈骗你。

1. The garage employee's attitude toward the author was that of _____.

A. unconcern B. sympathy C. doubt D. tolerance

2. What do we know about James Kennedy?

A. He was a writer of an online magazine.

B. He was a poet at the University of Florida.

C. He offered the author a new house free of charge.

- D. He learned about the author's sufferings via e-mail.
3. It can be inferred from the text that _____.
A. the author's family was in financial difficulty
B. rents were comparatively reasonable despite the disaster
C. houses were difficult to find in the hurricane-stricken area
D. the mortgage on the ruined house was paid off by the bank
4. The author learned from his experience that _____.
A. worldly possessions can be given up when necessary
B. generosity should be encouraged in some cases
C. people benefit from their sad stories
D. human beings are kind after all

[参考译文]

卡特里娜飓风过后一个月,我重返新奥尔良的家。我的房子已经坍塌成一片半人高的废墟,又脏又臭。

在回来前,我把车送去修理。当修车行的工作人员填写账单时,她注意到我的车牌是路易斯安那州的。“你是新奥尔良人?”她问。我说是的。“不收费了,”她说,当我伸手掏钱包时,她坚定地摇了摇头。第二天我去理发,同样的事再次发生。

因为我妻子在佛罗里达学习,所以我们决定搬到那儿,想办法租一个能承受得起的房子,同时还要偿付塌掉的房子尚未还清的贷款。我们看了许多地方,但都不满意。我们开始有了这样的心理准备:得在很差的环境中生活一段时间了。这时,我收到一封奇怪的电子邮件,寄信人是加利福尼亚州的詹姆斯·肯尼迪。我曾在线杂志《留言板》上讲述了我们遭受损失的故事,他读了些片段,就想给我们一套新房子住(没有附加条件),位置就在与新奥尔良隔湖相望的地方。(该湖指 Lake Pontchartrain,即庞恰特雷恩湖,该湖位于新奥尔良北面,湖上的桥为世界第一长桥,卡特里娜飓风之后,因大多数公路被毁,该桥曾作为紧急救援的主要通道。)

这件事听起来好得让人难以置信,我对他非凡的慷慨表示谢意,但也表示无意重返新奥尔良。这时,佛罗里达大学的一位诗人表示愿意把他的房子租给我,因为他要去英国带薪休假一年。租金相当合理。我把诗人的提议告诉了詹姆斯·肯尼迪,第二天,他就寄了一张支票,足以支付8个月的全部租金。

通过这次痛苦的经历,陌生人的友善极大地挽回了我对人性的信任。只要有一点机会,人们就会表现出真正美好的一面,如果你失去了全部财富,但却让自己重新意识到这一点,那也就值得了。

(C)

Professor Barry Wellman of the University of Toronto in Canada has invented a term to describe the way many North Americans interact these days. The term is “networked individualism”. This concept is not easy to understand because the words seem to have opposite meanings. How can we be individuals and be networked at the same time? You need other people for networks.

Here is what Professor Wellman means. Before the invention of the Internet and e-mail, our social networks included live interactions with relatives, neighbors, and friends. Some of the interaction was by phone, but it was still voice to voice, person to person, in real time.

A recent research study by the Pew Internet and American Life Project showed that for a lot of people, electronic interaction through the computer has replaced this person-to-person interaction. However, a lot of people interviewed for the Pew study say that's a good thing. Why?

In the past, many people were worried that the Internet isolated us and caused us to spend too much time in the imaginary world of the computer. But the Pew study discovered that the opposite is true. The Internet connects us with more real people than expected—helpful people who can give advice on careers, medical problems, raising children, and choosing a school or college. About 60 million Americans told Pew that the Internet plays an important role in helping them make major life decisions.

Thanks to the computer, we are able to be alone and together with other people—at the same time!

[生词]

term *n.* 名词, 术语: In simple terms, you need more exercise. 简单地说, 你需要多锻炼。

interact *v.* 互动, 交流: We learned about how people and their environment interact. 我们了解了人和环境是如何互相影响的。

network *v.* (使电脑等)联网; (与同行等)接触: You've always got to network and

make new contacts. 你总得与人交流并建立新的联系。

1. The underlined phrase “**networked individualism**” probably means that by using computers people _____.
 - A. stick to their own ways no matter what other people say
 - B. have the rights and freedom to do things of their own interest
 - C. do things in their own ways and express opinions different from other people
 - D. are able to keep to themselves but at the same time reach out to other people
2. According to the Pew study, what do many people rely on to make major life decisions?
 - A. Networks.
 - B. Friends.
 - C. Phones.
 - D. Parents.
3. It can be inferred from the Pew study that _____.
 - A. people have been separated from each other by using computers
 - B. the Internet makes people waste a lot of time and feel very lonely
 - C. the Internet has become a tool for a new kind of social communication
 - D. a lot of people regard the person-to-person communication as a good thing
4. Which would be the best title for this passage?
 - A. We're Alone on the Internet
 - B. We're Communicating on the Internet
 - C. We're Alone Together on the Internet
 - D. We're in the Imaginary World of the Internet

[参考译文]

巴里·韦尔曼是加拿大多伦多大学的一位教授,他发明了一个术语用以形容当今许多北美人的交流模式。那就是“网络化的个人主义”。这个概念不容易理解,因为该术语似乎自相矛盾。我们怎么可能既独处同时又被网络化呢?因为你需要别人才能形成网络。

这就是韦尔曼教授想表达的意思。在互联网和电子邮件发明之前,我们的社会网络包括与亲戚、邻居和朋友的活生生的交流。这种交流有时是通过电话达成的,但也是真实世界中声音对声音、人对人的交流。

皮尤互联网与美国生活课题研究中心所做的最新研究表明,对许多人来说,通过电脑进行电子交流已经取代了传统的面对面的交流。然而,许多人在接受皮尤采访时表示这是一件好事。为什么呢?

(Pew Internet and American Life Project 是美国互联网统计信息发布的权威机构,其地位类似于我国的“中国互联网信息中心”,即 China Internet Network Information Center,简称 CNNIC。只不过 CNNIC 隶属于工业和信息化部,而 Pew 不属于政府,也不属于商业企业。)

过去,很多人担心网络会把我们隔绝开来,会使我们把大量的时间花在电脑的虚拟世界中。但皮尤的研究发现事实正好相反。与预期的情况相比,网络把我们和更多的人联系到了一起——这些热心人给我们提供就业、求医问药、抚养孩子以及选择学校等方面的建议。大约 6 000 万美国人告诉皮尤,互联网在帮助他们做出生活中的重大决定方面起到了重要作用。

幸亏有了电脑,我们既能够独处,又能够和许多人在一起——这是并行不悖的。

(D)

As societies develop, their members start to see things not so much according to what they need, but according to what they want. When people have enough money, these wants become demands.

Now, it's important for the managers in a company to understand what their customers want if they are going to develop effective marketing strategies. There are various ways of doing this. One way at supermarkets, for example, is to interview customers while they're doing their shopping. They can be asked what they prefer to buy and then the results of the research can be studied. This provides information on which to base future marketing strategies. It's also quite normal for top managers from department stores to spend a day or two each month visiting stores and mixing freely with the public, as if they were ordinary customers, to get an idea of how customers act.

Another way to get information from customers is to give them something. For example, some fast food restaurants give away tickets in magazines or on the street that permit customers to get part of their meals for nothing. As well as being a good way of attracting customers into the restaurants to spend their money, it also allows the managers to get a feel for where to attract customers

and which age-groups to attract.

Another strategy used at some well-known parks such as Disneyland is for top managers to spend at least one day in their work, touring the park dressed as Mickey Mouse or something like that. This provides them with a perfect chance to examine the scene and watch the customers without being noticed.

[生词]

strategy *n.* 策略; successful language-learning strategies 成功的语言学习策略

get a feel for 熟悉, 了解, 学会: Once I got a feel for my new job I enjoyed it. 一旦我熟悉了自己的新工作, 我就喜欢上了它。

1. The text is designed for _____.
A. managers B. salesmen C. researchers D. customers
2. Which of the following can help managers get useful information?
A. Visiting customers themselves.
B. Giving customers free food on the street.
C. Visiting parks as ordinary customers.
D. Asking customers questions at supermarkets.
3. What does the word “**this**” underlined in the last sentence refer to?
A. Visiting Disneyland.
B. Wearing attractive clothes.
C. Acting Mickey Mouse.
D. Dressing up and walking around.
4. The main idea of the text is _____.
A. how to do market research
B. how to develop marketing strategies
C. how to find out customers' social needs
D. how to encourage customers to spend more money

[参考译文]

随着社会的发展, 社会成员开始不太按照自身的基本需要来看待事物了, 他们也