

21世纪高校英语规划教材

新编大学英语教程

New College English

上

主 编 李孝敏
李 萍
杨红梅

河南大学出版社

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21 世纪高等院校英语规划教材

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前 言

英语是当今世界上主要的国际通用语言之一,也是世界上最广泛使用的语言。世界上70%以上的邮件是用英文写或用英文写地址的。全世界的广播节目中,有60%是用英语进行的。国际上的资料绝大部分是用英语发表的。绝大部分的国际会议是以英语为第一通用语言,它也是联合国的正式工作语言之一。总之,在国际政治、军事、经济、科技、文化、贸易、交通运输等领域,英语是一个重要的交际工具。

本书有以下突出特点:

1. 所有文章选材都很新颖

注重文章内容的社会性和实用性;题材涉及社会文化、科技信息、经济管理等;体裁主要以议论文和说明文为主,包括少部分应用性文章,如产品介绍、文献阅读等。

2. 所有文章难易适度

突出“适度偏难”的特点,即少部分文章略长于或难于大纲样题,目的是为了让学生在复习过程中准备得更加充分,具备比考试要求略高的水平。

3. 命题紧密依照考研大纲要求

包括事实细节题、推理引申题和选择搭配题等各种常考题型,突出阅读技能和解题思路训练。

4. 所有短文与试题均配译文

一方面,帮助学生彻底理解短文大意及试题内容;另一方面,增强学生的自信心和做阅读理解题的兴趣。有许多学生在看别的同类书时,就因那些书不配译文而看不懂短文意思导致心灰意冷。

在本书的编写和出版过程中,得到了河南农业大学、郑州轻工业学院、中原工学院、河南教育学院、商丘师范学院、铁道警官高等专科学校、郑州师范高等专科学校、三门峡职业技术学院、驻马店教育学院、郑州大学升达经贸管理学院和郑州市委党校的大力支持,在此由衷地表示感谢!

限于编者水平有限,本书难免存在疏漏之处,恳请广大师生和读者批评指正。

编 者

2009年8月

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Unit 1

Text one

As America moves into the 21st century, the changing composition of the workforce will become more evident to both the general public and American businesses. In the early part of the 21st century, growth in the US labor supply is expected to slow considerably. If labor demand remains as strong as in recent years, firms will have to continue their active recruitment of new workers to fill job openings. This increased emphasis on recruitment has created and will continue to create new employment opportunities for a broader group of job seekers from relatively untapped labor pools. Demographically, the share of whites and males in the labor force will continue to fall in the 21st century, while the share of women and ethnic and racial minority workers, especially Hispanics and Asians, will grow. The characteristics of this more diverse group of individuals could have important implications for American workplaces.

High skills and knowledge are important to American firms competing in a global economy and the best measure of skills and knowledge is educational attainment. While the US workforce as a whole has a higher educational level than ever, some problems are clear. Levels of educational attainment are quite low among recent immigrant groups. For example, less than 25 percent of the Mexican-born population residing in the US has a high school diploma or higher. As growth in the US labor force slows, improvements in the overall skills and competence of the workforce will depend primarily on upgrading the skills of existing workers. Attempts to improve the educational attainment of future cohorts of workers through educational reform are vitally important. Strong recruitment of new workers coupled with continued interest in cultivating workplace diversity means that businesses must be aware of current and future trends in the racial, ethnic, age, and gender composition of the workforce.

1. A trend in the new American workforce is _____.
[A] a declining number of males entering the workforce.
[B] a growing oversupply of workers in relation to demand.
[C] a growing oversupply of immigrant workers.
[D] a decreasing share of white workers in the workforce.
2. One characteristic of the new workforce is _____.
[A] the low educational level of it compared to previous years.
[B] the large share of Mexican immigrants.
[C] the low educational level of its immigrants.
[D] a gap between educational levels in certain immigrants.
3. By referring to problems with the Mexican immigrant workforce the author means to

say that _____.

- [A] the government should be more selective about which immigrants they allow.
 [B] employers must improve their recruitment methods to avoid hiring them.
 [C] the education system needs to create programs to upgrade workers' skills.
 [D] the result will be a decrease in American competitiveness.
4. The main idea of the second text is _____.
- [A] diversity of the workforce has its disadvantages.
 [B] besides new opportunities, the changing workforce also contain challenges.
 [C] the low educational levels of immigrants is a challenging problem.
 [D] America had better face the problem of declining skills or it will suffer.
5. Which of the following would be the best title for the text? _____.
- [A] The drawbacks of immigrant labor.
 [B] Reasons behind declining skills in the American workforce.
 [C] The advantages and disadvantages of workplace diversity.
 [D] The opportunities and challenges ahead in our changing workforce.

【词汇注释】

change <i>v.</i> 变更, 换车, 兑换	current <i>n.</i> (水、气、电)流, 趋势 <i>adj.</i> 流通的, 现在的, 最近的
workforce <i>n.</i> 劳动力, 工人总数, 职工总数	recruitment <i>n.</i> 征募新兵, 补充
remains <i>n.</i> 残余(余物, 遗物, 化石)	workforce <i>n.</i> 劳动力, 工人总数, 职工总数
relatively <i>adv.</i> 比较地, 相对地	individual <i>adj.</i> 个别的 <i>n.</i> 个人, 个体
educational <i>adj.</i> 教育的	economy <i>n.</i> 节约, 经济
composition <i>n.</i> 作文, 著作, 组织, 合成物, 成份	attainment <i>n.</i> 达到, 成就, 造诣
ethnic <i>adj.</i> 民族的, 种族的某文化群体的	

【题目解析】

1. 答案为 D, 属事实细节题。可以依据原文信息并结合排除法做出选择。文中说男性工人比例将下降, 但并不证明人数会减少, 故 A 项错。文中讲到劳动力需求强劲, B 项与原文信息相违背。同样, 根据原文所说, 移民工人的比例也将上升, 故排除 C 项。只有 D 项与原文相符。

2. 答案为 D, 属信息推断题。第二段谈到, 近期移民群体的学历水平相当低, 说明移民中的教育程度存在差距。A 项信息不准确, B 项信息片面, C 项不是文中所表达的信息。

3. 答案为 C, 属逻辑关系题。作者谈到墨西哥移民的学历问题之后, 随即指出, 努力提高未来工人的学历至关重要。可见, 作者举例的目的是为了建议采取措施, 提高工人技能。A、B、D 项不是文中所表达的信息。

4. 答案为 B, 属主旨思想题, 考查第二段的大意概括。第二段重点涉及美国劳动力构成变化存在的问题。C 项以偏概全, 不够全面, 移民工人学历低只是问题之一。

5. 答案为 D, 属主旨思想题, 考查整篇文章的大意概括。文章涉及美国劳动力构成方面的积极变化以及存在的问题。

【参考译文】

随着美国进入 21 世纪,对于广大公众和美国企业而言,劳动力的构成变化将变得更为明显。在 21 世纪早期,美国劳动力供应的增长可望大幅度减缓。如果劳动力需求仍保持近年来的强劲势头,各公司将继续积极招收新员工以填补职位空缺。对招聘重视有所加强,为来自于相对而言尚未开发的劳动力群体的更为广泛的求职者创造了并且将继续创造新的就业机会。就人口来说,劳动力中白人和男性的比例在 21 世纪将继续下降,而女性和少数民族工人,尤其是西班牙裔美国人和亚裔人,其比例将上升。这种更为多样化的个人群体的特点对美国职场会产生重要意义。

高技能和良好的知识对于在全球经济中竞争的美国公司而言很重要,技能和知识最好的衡量尺度就是学历。尽管美国整体劳动力的受教育程度比以前有了提高,但一些问题显而易见。近期移民群体的学历水平相当低。例如,生于墨西哥、定居美国的人口中有高中或更高学历的人不足 25%。随着美国劳动力增长速度放慢,劳动力全面技术和能力的加强将主要取决于现有工人技能的提高。通过教育改革,努力提高未来工人的学历至关重要。招聘新工人势头强劲,加之发展职场多样化兴趣不减,这意味着企业必须意识到劳动力在种族、年龄和性别构成方面的当前和未来趋势。

Text two

Over the last twenty years, scholarly and popular writers have analyzed and celebrated the worlds of leisure and entertainment in the burgeoning cities of mid nineteenth-century America, greatly expanding the literature on these subjects. They have found an enthusiastic readership by offering glimpses of modes of leisure, performance, and charlatanism that passed from the scene in the early 20th century, indicating how lively they were and how comparatively impoverished our own entertainment choices have become in an era dominated by corporate electronic media.

Many scholars have been lured into a fascination with the extinct demimonde of dime museums, exhibition halls, saloons, and industrial exhibitions. During this period entertainment relied upon artful deception, comparable in importance to such contemporary forms of amusement as minstrelsy and melodrama. The cultural activities were forms of representational play in which spectators are caused to doubt their perceptions and judgment. Entertainments that tricked, or duped the paying public flourished in America's cities in the 19th century. What distinguished these cohorts of entertainers was not their ability to perpetrate fraud but that they understood the dynamics of a new urban audience that enjoyed distinguishing the genuine from the fake and the authentic from the concocted. The willing audience for artful deceptions maintained a double consciousness in which it simultaneously marveled at the qualities of the object or action displayed while enjoying the act of appraising the quality, audacity, and performance of the deception.

By offering semiotic analyses of a range of Victorian performances, we learn there was more to these exhibitions than appeared at first viewing. The tricks and lures of these entertainers deserve a more than marginal position in American cultural history.

1. The author thinks current entertainment is inferior to that from the past because _____.
[A] it is not lively and doesn't have enough charlatanism.
[B] the choices are controlled by corporate electronic media.
[C] there is a lack of funding towards quality entertainment.
[D] people's values have changed for the worse.
2. It can be learned from this text that the types of entertainment discussed _____.
[A] have become increasingly popular among scholars since the 1980s.
[B] were so sophisticated that audiences suspected nothing.
[C] actually involved very little actual fraud.
[D] were successful in discouraging people from doubting their perceptions.
3. According to the author, the entertainment he discusses was so popular because _____.
[A] people didn't know they were being tricked.
[B] people liked the performances and the chance to test their own judgment.

- [C] people had a double consciousness of love and hate of it.
 [D] people merely treated it an interesting game of deciding which was real and not.
4. It can be concluded from the text that _____.
 [A] the entertainment died out as society became more skeptical.
 [B] the skills the entertainment employed were part of its ultimate demise.
 [C] the entertainment used highly skilled understanding of human nature.
 [D] the entertainment served a very important part role in the lives of people.
5. Which of the following best summarizes the main idea of the text? _____.
 [A] We should regard such entertainment as an important part of our cultural heritage.
 [B] Entertainment was much better in the past than today.
 [C] We should never underestimate the skills used to deceive.
 [D] We need to make more people aware of this unique form of entertainment.

【词汇注释】

scholarly <i>adj.</i> 学究气的(学者派头的)	semiotic <i>adj.</i> 记号语言的, 症状的
celebrated <i>adj.</i> 著名的	entertainer <i>n.</i> 表演娱乐节目的人, 演艺人员
greatly <i>adv.</i> 很, 非常	deserve <i>vi.</i> 应该得到 <i>vt.</i> 应受, 值得
entertainment <i>n.</i> 娱乐	position <i>n.</i> 位置, 职位, 状态 <i>v.</i> 安置, 决定...的位置
melodrama <i>n.</i> 音乐剧, 通俗剧, 戏剧似的事件	appeared <i>v.</i> 出现, 发表, 出席
genuine <i>adj.</i> 真正的, 真实的, 诚恳的	choices <i>n.</i> 选择
performance <i>n.</i> 表演, 表现 <i>n.</i> 性能	

【题目解析】

1. 答案为 B, 属于逻辑关系题。在第一段结尾, 作者写道, 在一个被商业化的电子媒体所左右的时代, 我们自己的娱乐取向相对贫乏。可以看出, 这句话的前后两部分应为因果关系。
2. 答案为 A, 属于事实细节题。第一、二段开头都表明, 学者们对 19 世纪的娱乐业越来越感兴趣。
3. 答案为 B, 属于信息归纳题。在第二段, 作者介绍当时娱乐业的迷人风情, 娱乐业受到欢迎, 一方面是由于人们喜欢表演, 同时也由于观众可以检验自己的判断力。
4. 答案为 C, 属于信息归纳题。第二段指出, 表演者的高超之处并不在于他们实施骗术, 而在于他们了解城市的一批新观众乐于辨别真伪, 区分虚实。这说明, 当时的娱乐业运用了对人性的高超理解。
5. 答案为 A, 属于主旨思想题。本文介绍 19 世纪美国的休闲娱乐业, 说明这是文化遗产的重要组成部分。

【参考译文】

在过去 20 年间, 雅、俗作家们对 19 世纪中叶美国蓬勃发展的城市中出现的休闲娱乐业加以分析并给予赞赏, 从而大大推动了这些题材的文学的发展。他们对这些在 20 世纪初已不复