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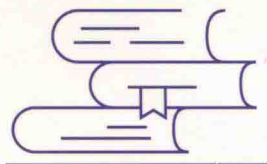
大学英语

主题分类阅读教程


3

主 编：陈莹 曹丽华

CET4



总主编：陈慧

 华中科技大学出版社
<http://www.hustp.com>

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前 言

阅读理解题在大学英语四级考试中占有很大比例,其分值占总分值的 35%,考试时间为 40 分钟。其中,词汇理解(选词填空题)的分值占总分值的 5%;长篇阅读(匹配题)的分值占总分值的 10%,其题型是篇章后附有 10 个句子,每句一题,每句所含的信息出自篇章的某一段落,要求考生找出与每句所含信息相匹配的段落,有的段落可能对应两题,有的段落可能不对应任何一题;仔细阅读(单选题)的分值占总分值的 20%,包含两篇文章,每篇文章后有 5 个选择题。可见,提高阅读速度和效率是决胜大学英语四级考试的关键。有鉴于此,我们组织教学一线的骨干教师,编写了这套《大学英语主题分类阅读教程》。

编写总则

本教材分为三册,以《大学英语四级考试大纲》为准则。教材的整体设计充分体现了时代性、知识性、实用性和鲜活性,并注重培养学生的人文素质、语言能力以及学习策略。每篇文章都标出文章的词数、建议阅读答题时间以及来源,以便学生更好地掌握考试节奏。

选材要求

阅读理解不仅考查学生的英语水平,还在一定程度上考查学生的知识面以及知识结构。本教材紧紧围绕四级考试大纲的要求选材,所选题材广泛,体裁多样,绝大多数文章紧跟时代发展,内容具有时代性、思想性、知识性和趣味性。教材分别以经济、政治、社会热点、时尚、历史文化、习俗、教育、文学、名人、健康、自然、科学、体育等为主题,每个主题里有相应的单元练习。所选文章语言难度适中,超出四级大纲词汇表的单词都用汉语注明词义。

使用对象

本书适合英语专业大一学生、非英语专业在校生以及有意愿提高英语阅读能力的读者使用。通过本套教材的练习,学生可以提高选词填空、快速阅读以及精读方面的能力,最终在大学英语四级考试中取得好成绩。

编写分工

本教材分为三册,总主编是广西民族师范学院外国语学院骨干教师陈慧。本册是第三

册:第一主编陈莹(广西民族师范学院外国语学院)编写 12 万字,第二主编曹丽华(广西民族师范学院外国语学院)编写 1 万字;副主编王珂(华北电力大学外国语学院 2016 级研究生)编写 1 万字,副主编唐婷、孙微微、赵秋英(均为广西民族师范学院外国语学院教师)各编写 2 万字,副主编吴先泽(桂林理工大学外国语学院)编写 2 万字。

由于时间仓促以及自身能力所限,书中难免有不妥之处,敬请广大读者批评指正。

编 者

2018 年 4 月

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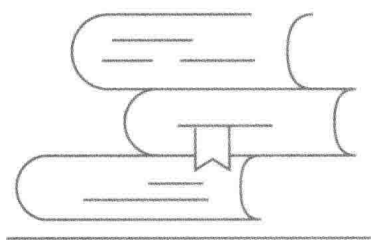
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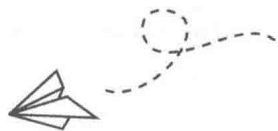
Hot News

本章主题是热点，所选文章内容涉及一些在国内比较热门的话题。在全球化背景下，有些话题还被国外民众所了解，并引起热议。每一种新鲜事物的出现和流行都会造就一批新鲜词汇，掌握这些新鲜事物的英语表达，掌握新的语言知识，能让我们的语言更加丰富多彩、新颖有趣。在阅读这些有趣的话题时，我们也会为国家的进步和成就感到无比自豪。



Unit

1



• Section A •

Directions: In this section, there is a passage with ten blanks. You are required to select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage. Read the passage through carefully before making your choice. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.

(words : 261 ; suggested time : 6 minutes ; source : news.xinhuanet.com)

Fleets of brightly-colored shared bikes are becoming ubiquitous in big cities like Beijing and Shanghai. They have also secured backing from the government. However, problems have (1) _____ when users park bikes haphazardly(杂乱地), tarnishing(损害) the city's image and blocking traffic. There have been a number of news reports of angry business owners or security guards who have (2) _____ the bikes or stacked them up because the jumbled(混乱的) vehicles had (3) _____ their work. Some bikes have been damaged by drivers of motorbike, taxis and electric tricycles because bike-sharing has (4) _____ away their passengers.

(5) _____ bike users have also caused trouble. A set of photos have exposed such acts: abandoning bikes in a river, inserting needles into the saddle(座鞍), and (6) _____ QR codes(二维码) in order to steal bikes. Such vandalism has prompted police intervention. Recently, manufacturers are working on technical upgrades to (7) _____ bikes from being dismantled or stolen.

Ofo founder and CEO Dai Wei said bike misuse has not created a notable loss for the company. "During the past three months, (8) _____ bikes, which means they might have been damaged or taken home, only (9) _____ for 1 percent of the total," he said, while calling all users to treat the vehicles nicely. Ofo has hired workers to (10) _____ the bikes are returned in good condition and parked properly. Rival Mobike has enlisted (招募) its users to help track down lost bikes and maintain orderly parking. Some local governments have rolled out rules to regulate parking.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| A) destroying | I) prevent |
| B) affected | J) accounted |
| C) benefit | K) damaged |
| D) arisen | L) rarely |
| E) irregular | M) ill-behaved |
| F) taken | N) secured |
| G) inactive | O) ensure |
| H) protect | |

• Section B •

Directions: In this section, you are going to read a passage with ten statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once.

(words : 1,158 ; suggested time : 14 minutes ; source : shanghai daily . com)

Investors Jockey to Ride the Shared-Bike Craze

To much, too soon!

【A】Bicycle-sharing programs have become big business as their popularity grows. But as more players jump into the trend, skeptics wonder if it's all too much, too soon. The crowded market of shared-bicycle services in Shanghai is expected to swell even further this year, leaving some market watchers wondering just how much more capacity is actually left to tap. The number of shared-rental bikes in Shanghai nearly doubled in less than three months to 280,000 bicycles by the end of February. "Major shared-bike operators are resorting to price wars and increasing the supply of vehicles, but none has really developed a sustainable business model, meaning that operating costs soar as they grab a bigger market share," said Dong Yizhi, a researcher at China E-Commerce Research Center.

【B】Public rental bike programs first emerged in China about six years ago, giving people the option of leasing bikes for short trips and then returning them to designated parking areas or service stations at their destination. District authorities often teamed up rental bike companies to set up parking spaces near popular transport and retail hubs. The trend quickly expanded from a public service to the private sector money-spinner as smartphone applications offered users more efficient ways of finding available bikes and paying for their hire through mobile payment services. Bicycles are unlocked via codes provided on smartphones. Renting a bicycle has never been easier.

【C】Ofo, Mobike and Youon emerged as the three biggest players in the industry by the end of 2016, according to Analysys International. Changzhou-based Youon Public Bicycle Co. is backed by Shenzhen Capital Group Co. and Alibaba Group's Ant Financial as major investors. Its Internet-based bike rental arm launched its service in Shanghai late last month, making 5,000 bikes available in the Lujiazui area on the eastern shore of the downtown district. The majority of Youon's revenue comes from government purchases of public rental bikes. In 2014, the company reported profit of 68 million yuan (\$9.9 million), according to initial public offering documents submitted to the securities watchdog in 2015.

【D】Shenzhen Capital Vice President Liu Bo said he expects Youon's presence in public rental bike programs in more than 200 cities to help its expansion in Internet bike sharing. Youon, which is teamed up with Ant Financial unit Zhima Credit (芝麻信用), waives the 200-yuan deposit for users with a Zhima Credit rating of more than 600 points. It also encourages commuters to park bikes at designated spots by awarding them a one yuan bonus each time. Ofo requires a deposit of 99 yuan to hire a bike, and Mobike demands a 299 yuan deposit.

Easy to shift

【E】How newcomers in the industry will compete with entrenched services like Mobike and Ofo remains unclear. But for riders, shifting between service providers is no sweat. "I'd be more

than happy to give it a try when Youon's bikes are available in the Puxi area, especially since it doesn't require a deposit," said freelance writer Rachel Ren, who rides a rental bike three to four times a week to do her grocery shopping. According to online tracking firm Questmobile, the average daily use of the two biggest Internet rental bike firms began to pick up significantly in August last year. By the end of January, Mobike had a 6.9-million-users base and Ofo had 3.2 million. However, more than 1.2 million users overlapped both providers.

【F】Although users laud the convenience of rental bicycles in daily commutes, the services are still suffering growing pains. Glitches such as electronic locking devices that don't open, malfunctioning(故障) vehicles and miscalculation(误估) of locations or driving distances still prevail. Where to park the increasing number of bicycles has become a headache in congested areas, such as transport hubs and Metro stations. Jasmine Zhang, whose home is a five-minute walk away from a downtown Metro station, said she finds hard to navigate pedestrian walkways during peak hours because sidewalks are overflowing with rental bikes.

【G】According to a survey of 6,000 online consumers by Tencent in December, 58 percent of respondents said they preferred to riding bikes to walking, and 49 percent said they had used online bike leasing for short-distance trips. The majority said they used the bikes for commuting. Mobike and Ofo have launched promotions, such as free rides during weekends, to attract more customers. Mobike last week started to offer up to a 50 percent discount when users topped up their account balances with the company. Bicycle-sharing has certainly caught the attention of investors. Mobike reported raising more than US \$ 315 million in less than a year, and Ofo said it raised over \$ 580 million. The figures suggest much faster and bigger fund-raising than online car-hailing service companies once enjoyed. But maybe the car-hailing experience tells us something about the future of two-wheel rentals.

A lesson to learn

【H】Just three years ago, cutthroat competition reigned among online car-hailing applications. Didi and the smaller rivals Kuaidi and Uber fought for consumers with cheap fares and occasional free rides and coupons. Before long, investors called a halt to the money-losing price war and costs to consumers went up. Didi finally acquired Kuaidi and Uber in an industry consolidation. Too much hype(炒作), too many gimmicks(噱头) and too many players in a blind market expansion portend a lack of critical focus on consumers and their needs, possibly sowing the seeds of major upheaval in the industry.

【I】Guo Jianrong, secretary general of the Shanghai Bicycle Association, said he thinks the city has the capacity to meet consumer demand for 600,000 rental bicycles. The association is drawing up industry standards for bicycles leased via online platforms, including maintenance criteria and parking issues. Clashes between private operators of shared bikes and district transportation authorities are increasing. Huangpu District traffic authorities last week removed

thousands of Mobike and Ofo bikes from public parking areas, arguing that they are jamming pedestrian walkways and squeezing out parking spaces for privately owned bikes. Technology companies are not fully utilizing data to detect the locations where rental bikes are dropped off and left unattended.

【J】Local transportation authorities complain that unattended bikes often invite theft and vandalism. But with each district responding to the problem in its own way, online rental companies are facing a tangle of regulations. Wu Ting, a partner at McKinsey & Co., said companies operating in the sharing economy must adopt sustainable business models, either by offering premium services to charge consumers with higher prices or by lowering operation cost through technology upgrades. Indeed, the benefits of the sharing economy shouldn't be defined merely by cost savings. Rather, they should take into account social value and the well-being of drivers, riders and pedestrians alike.

11. Shenzhen Capital Group Co. and Alibaba Group's Ant Financial are the two major investors of Youon Public Bicycle Co.

12. The service of rental bicycles brings both convenience and growing pains to people in daily commute.

13. Transportation authorities argue that the growing bikes are jamming pedestrian walkways and squeezing out parking spaces for privately owned bikes.

14. Major shared-bike operators have their operating costs raised as they grab a bigger market share.

15. The benefits of the sharing economy should take into account social value and the well-being of other members of the society.

16. Commuters who park bikes at designated spots will be awarded with one yuan bonus each time.

17. Congested areas like transport hubs and Metro stations are overflowing with rental bikes.

18. The public rental bike must be returned to designated parking areas when it first emerged in China.

19. Didi acquired Kuaidi and Uber in an industry consolidation after the money-losing price war.

20. More than half of the respondents said they preferred cycling to walking, according to a survey by Tencent in December.

• Section C •

Directions: There are 2 passages in this section. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You should decide on the best choice.

Passage One

Questions 21 to 25 are based on the following passage.

(words: 336; suggested time: 9 minutes; source: news.xinhuanet.com)

More than two weeks after 1,000 bikes of Chinese bike-sharing company Mobike arrived in Manchester, Britain, there have been complaints that many locals don't know how to share. "There are Mobikes in the canal, Mobikes in bins and I am fed up with following the app to a residential street where there is clearly a Mobike stashed in someone's garden," Helen Pidd, North of England editor of the Guardian, wrote in an article published Sunday on the newspaper's website.

Steve Pyer, Mobike UK's general manager, said 50 bikes have been trashed so far. He added that many more have indeed ended up on private property, and the bike redistribution team will be knocking on doors themselves to clear up "misunderstanding".

"In Singapore we launched our scheme in March with 5,000 bikes and there have been just two reports of broken locks," he was quoted by the article as saying.

"I would like to live in a city where people know how to share," Pidd wrote. "I hope my pessimism is ill-placed."

On June 29, Mobike, one of China's largest bike-sharing companies, launched its service in the Greater Manchester. For the special month of July, Mobike will offer a discounted 29-pound deposit to users. Usage is charged at 50 pence per 30mins.

Earlier this year, Ofo, a rival company of Mobike in China, launched 20 bikes in the British city of Cambridge. Using specially designed bikes equipped with GPS and proprietary smart-lock technology, Mobike enables users of its smartphone app to find a bike near them, reserve and unlock it. After reaching their destination, the user parks the bike by the roadside and locks it, automatically making the bike available to the next rider.

The company officially launched its service in Shanghai in April 2016. In just over a year, it has raised more than 600 million U.S. dollars to finance overseas expansion. It now has 6.5 million

shared bikes in 150 cities globally. Britain, Singapore, and the United States are among the markets Chinese bike-sharing firms have entered.

21. Why do people complain about the bike-sharing in London?
 - A. Because local people don't know how to use the bike.
 - B. Because the bikes are difficult to find.
 - C. Because some local people took the bike for themselves privately.
 - D. Because the bicycle app system is too complex and not clear.
22. Which of the following problems of shared-bikes is NOT mentioned?
 - A. Having the locks broken.
 - B. Blocking the traffic.
 - C. Being trashed.
 - D. Becoming private property.
23. Which city's users will be offered a discounted 29-pound deposit?
 - A. Shanghai
 - B. The Greater Manchester.
 - C. City of Singapore.
 - D. Cambridge.
24. Which of the following statements about Mobike is NOT true?
 - A. Mobike launched 20 bikes in the British city of Cambridge.
 - B. The usage of Mobike is charged at 50 pence per 30mins.
 - C. Mobike enables users to use its smartphone app to find a nearest bike.
 - D. Mobike launched its service in the Greater Manchester on June 29.
25. How many bikes does Ofo have all over the world?
 - A. 600 million.
 - B. 50 million.
 - C. 6.5 million
 - D. 20 million.

Passage Two

Questions 26 to 30 are based on the following passage.

(words: 345; suggested time: 9 minutes; source: chinadaily.com)

The ongoing bike-sharing boom in China has led detachable (可拆卸) front-mounted child bicycle seat to become a bestseller online, at the same time raising safety and legal concerns. Various bike-sharing companies have declared that carrying others while riding their bikes violates

the one-user only agreement, warning that those who break the rule could assume full responsibility in case of accidents, *The Beijing News* reported.

On Taobao, an e-commerce site run by China's Alibaba, such a child bicycle seat kit (配件包) generally includes a support bar, a child bike saddle, a pair of foot guards, a front armrest and necessary clamps. The installation almost requires no tools, as the clamps can be simply attached on the bike's original seat post.

Most of the Taobao vendors claim their seats are made of carbon steel, thus able to hold up to 60kg. Similar bike seat accessories are being sold by hundreds of sellers, usually priced between 40 and 60 yuan (about 5.8 to 8.7 USD) and mostly decorated with cartoon prints. Vendors with the highest sales volumes have reported over 500 orders within the past month.

The seat kits are nothing new but have become popular soon after a recent bike-sharing fever swept across China, a seller on Taobao told *The Beijing News*. However, most of the vendors fail to provide legal quality certificates, and disclaimers are posted asserting the sellers won't be held responsible for any accidents involving the bikes and child seats. Online customer reviews show that many buyers claim the seats are "shaky" even after proper installation.

Journalists with *The Beijing News* have consulted Mobike, Ofo and Bluegogo, three leading bike-sharing companies in China, and have been informed that a shared bike is a one-person only service, which means carrying others violates their user agreements.

The companies said no extra mounts should be used on shared bikes, insisting that users should bear responsibility if related accidents occur. Tang Ning, a lawyer with the Beijing King & Capital Law Firm, supported the statements, adding that the sellers of the child seats may also be accused if accidents happen.

26. Which of the following might possibly happen if the user carries a child while riding the shared-bike?
- He/She will receive a warning as he/she violates the agreement.
 - He/She is likely to meet a traffic accident.
 - He/She will assume full responsibility in case of accidents.
 - He/She must install a child bicycle seat in front of the bike.
27. Which of the following statements about child bicycle seat's installation is NOT true?
- The clamp can be attached on the bike's original seat post directly.
 - The bicycle seat kit includes all the parts and installation tools.
 - The clamp is a necessary part.
 - You don't have to prepare the installation tools.
28. What's the real situation of the child bicycle seats people buy from Taobao?
- Those seats are all made of carbon steel.

- B.The seats are all able to hold up to 60kg.
 C.Most of those seats are produced without legal quality certificates.
 D.Those seats are safe after proper installation.
29. Why do the seat kits become popular though they are nothing new?
 A.The seat kits rise with the popularity of the recent bike sharing.
 B.The seat kits sell good in Taobao.
 C.The seat kits'sellers will be held responsible for any accidents.
 D.It is safe and comfortable.
- 30.What will the sellers of the child seats be held responsible for according to the lawyer?
 A.The installation of extra mounts on the shared bike.
 B.Behaviors that violate the user agreements.
 C.Accidents related to carrying others.
 D.Accidents related to child bicycle seats.

答案与解析

· Section A ·

1.答案:[D] arisen

解析:本空前有完成时提示词 have,因此可将过去分词挑出,缩小选择范围。根据前文内容以及该句主语 problem,可推断出答案应为 arisen。

2.答案:[K] damaged

解析:本空前有完成时提示词,需要填入动词过去分词。在 affected、accounted 和 damaged 几个备选项里,只有 damaged 最符合上下文逻辑。

3.答案:[B] affected

解析:本空前有完成时提示词,需要填入动词过去分词,并与上题的动词行为形成因果关联。affected their work 对应上题,解释 damaged the bikes 的原因。

4.答案:[F] taken

解析:本空前有完成时提示词,需要填入动词过去分词。根据文意,共享单车招致破坏的原因之一是同行的 passengers(乘客)被抢走了。能与 away 形成搭配结构,且含义为“抢走”的,此处唯有 taken。

5.答案:[M] ill-behaved

解析:此空承接上文,作为段落开头也负责引出下文,主要说明破坏行为不仅限于同行之间,还包含了一系列不良使用者的行为。从空格后的名词主语可推断,此空须填入形容词来形容这些采取破坏行为的使用者。在备选的两个形容词中,ill-behaved 意为“行为不良的”,符合上下文要求。