

大学英语六级考试

阅读理解120篇精粹

全国大学英语四、六级考试命题研究组 编

- ★ 北京大学、清华大学原命题、阅卷专家亲自参与编写，讯息权威
- ★ 展现历年试题精华，解析详尽、规避误区，提供最佳的解题思路
- ★ 严格按照最新考试大纲精神编写，精讲精练与模拟实战紧密结合
- ★ 揭示命题原则，总结规律，传授技巧，切实提升综合应试的能力

710分
(新题型)

Listening

Reading

Cloze

Translation

Writing



ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY PRESS

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丛书总序

大学英语考试是一项大规模标准化考试,是一个“标准关联的常模参照测验”。大学英语四、六级考试作为一项全国性的教学考试,由国家教育部高教司主办,分为四级考试(CET-4)和六级考试(CET-6),每年各举行两次。从2005年1月起,成绩满分为710分,凡考试成绩在220分以上的考生,由国家教育部高教司委托全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会发给成绩单。大学英语考试已经得到社会的承认,每年参考人数超过1100万人次,是全球参考人数最多的单次考试,目前已经成为各级人事部门录用大学毕业生的标准之一,产生了一定的社会效益。

根据对考试改革进程的要求,2007年1月起全面实施改革后的四级考试,同年6月全面实施改革后的六级考试。

在考试内容和形式上,四、六级考试加大了听力理解部分的题量和比例,增加了快速阅读理解测试,增加了非选择性试题的比例。

在试卷构成上,对四、六级考试进行的改革主要体现在以下几个方面:

1. 听力理解部分的分值比例从原来的20%提高至35%,增加了长对话听力理解测试,复合式听写由原来的备选题型改为必考题型;
2. 阅读理解部分增加了快速阅读技能测试;
3. 词汇和语法知识不再单独列为考项,而融入了其他各部分试题中进行考核;
4. 增加了句子层面的汉译英测试;
5. 增加了构建型试题的比例,减少了多项选择题的比例。

为了更好地帮助考生复习,了解大学英语四、六级考试的内容、要求、题型以及难易程度,并通过有效的考前试题训练掌握各种题型的答题方法和技巧,提高得分能力,我们根据多年的教学实践经验,倾情奉献了这套《大学英语四、六级辅导丛书》,包括:《710分(新题型)大学英语四级考试历年试题精解》、《710分(新题型)大学英语四级考试标准模拟考场》、《710分(新题型)大学英语四级考试词汇考点详注》、《710分(新题型)大学英语四级考试阅读理解120篇精粹》、《710分(新题型)大学英语四级考试听力高分突破》、《710分(新题型)大学英语四级考试完形填空、翻译与写作高分突破》、《710分(新题型)大学英语六级考试历年试题精解》、《710分(新题型)大学英语六级考试标准模拟考场》、《710分(新题型)大学英语六级考试词汇考点详注》、《710分(新题型)大学英语六级考试阅读理解120篇精粹》、《710分(新题型)大学英语六级考试听力高分突破》、《710分(新题型)大学英语六级考试完形填空、翻译与写作高分突破》,共12本。

这套丛书的特色如下:

一、作者阵容强大、辅导经验丰富、深谙命题动态

本丛书作者长期从事大学英语四、六级考试命题、阅卷与辅导工作,对大学英语四、六级考试的考点非常熟悉。他们有相当丰富的辅导和授课经验,深谙命题规律和出题的动态,从而使本丛书具有极高的权威性。本丛书的出版凝聚着参与编写的专家学者多年教学、命题、评卷的经验。

二、鲜明的创新特色,编写体例非常符合考生的需要

本丛书全面吸收了同类图书的优点,结合作者丰富的辅导经验,博采众长、推陈出新,使丛书结构和内容具有鲜明的特色。

● **阅读理解** 阅读理解是大学英语四、六级考试中的“重中之重”。本书选材系统、全面,具体内容涉及科学技术、经济管理、教育文化、社会生活、环境生态、政治历史、医学保健、宗教信仰、新闻艺术等诸多方面,可以让考生系统见证英语阅读理解材料,强化英语背景知识,在阅读理解考

试中轻松取得高分。

● **历年试题精解** 历史是一面镜子,了解过去可以预知未来!通过对历年试题的详细解析,考生可以了解命题原则与规律,掌握考试脉搏。研习历年真题是复习备考中必不可少的关键环节,也是考生掌握考试动态并赢得高分的最佳捷径。自从实行大学英语四、六级考试以来,也时有真题重现或者与真题极其相似的现象发生,所以对往年真题的研究是最有帮助的。循着命题人的思路,我们就可以把握考试的脉搏,明确考试的重点和难点所在。全书精解历年试题,阅读理解文章均有全文翻译,全面体现题型变化,剖析命题规律和出题动态,明示命题原则。

● **标准模拟考场** 许多考生缺乏实际临场经验,全书精辟阐明解题思路,全面展现题型变化,将浩渺的习题浓缩于有限的模拟题精华中,迅速提高考生快速、准确、灵活的解题能力。为考生全程领航和理性分析,引领考生高效通过考试难关。每套试卷都有详细的标准答案和解析。考生可以利用本套试卷进行考前模拟实战训练,检验自己的学习成果,及时进行查漏补缺,有针对性地进行复习备考。

● **词汇考点详注** 全书包括大学英语四、六级考试大纲基本词汇及其衍生词汇。其最大的亮点是将词汇复习与考试紧密结合,将词汇测试题按照词汇的分类进行了详细深入的分析,让考生能进一步巩固对该词的掌握和运用熟练程度,做到记单词与考试紧密结合,对考试内容融会贯通。

● **听力** 全书以大学英语四、六级考试听力重点、难点和疑点为依据,在精研历年真题的基础上,精心组织了同步练习试题,相信会对考生有所裨益。全书难易结合,试题与考试真题相当,系统、全面地对大纲规定的知识点从多方位、多角度进行考查。让考生将重要考点融会贯通,举一反三,为最后赢得高分打下坚实的基础。

● **完形填空、翻译与写作** 在认真研究大学英语四、六级考试历年阅读理解、翻译与写作部分的相关考点以后,编写了符合考试深度的同步辅导与强化训练习题,让考生能见证考查的各种题型,达到熟能生巧的目的。

实践证明,一套好的复习资料能够帮助考生收到事半功倍的良好效果。本套丛书以大学英语四、六级考试命题研究组专家辅导经验的深厚积累,以在继承中创新、在开拓中前进的精神,凭借阵容强大的专家编写队伍,向广大考生奉献这套辅导系列,希望考生在考试中能蟾宫折桂,夺得高分!

由于时间仓促,错误和纰漏之处诚望广大读者批评指正。

编者 于北大燕园

前言

本书专门为参加全国大学英语六级考试的考生编写。改革后的大学英语六级考试题型变化很大，题目难度相应增加，这对考生的综合应试能力提出了更高的要求。为此，许多考生感到困惑和茫然，不知道如何利用现有的真题进行复习。为了让广大考生在考场上能轻松应对全国大学英语六级考试的阅读理解难关，我们依据最新考试大纲精神，深入分析了近年来全国大学英语六级考试的命题套路和趋势，倾力推出这本《710分（新题型）大学英语六级考试阅读理解120篇精粹》。

本书的主编都是大学英语六级考试的首席主讲专家，他们都在全国一线亲自辅导广大考生的考前复习，有相当丰富的辅导和教学工作经验，深谙命题规律和出题的动态，集合清华大学、北京大学和中国人民大学等名校的权威信息，编撰成本书。

阅读理解是英语考试中的“重中之重”，该部分在整个试卷中的分值最高，而且阅读理解能力也是做好其他部分的基础。在复习时，把阅读理解作为考试的切入点可以“一石三鸟”，对于提高考生的整体英语水平具有重要的意义。

本书的内容和特色如下：

一、严格按照最新考试大纲编写，精讲精练与模拟实战紧密结合

本书系统、全面，与考试大纲紧密相关。其编写严格按照考试大纲的要求，突出英语考试的特点。第一部分为精讲精练，第二部分为模拟测试，两者相辅相成。

二、囊括社会科学、自然科学等阅读题材，试题难度近似或略高于真题

在选编文章题材、体裁方面尽可能拓展空间，广泛涉猎，包括社会科学、自然科学等各个领域的知识。具体内容涉及科学技术、经济管理、教育文化、社会生活、环境生态、政治历史、医学保健、宗教信仰、新闻艺术等诸多方面，可以让考生系统涉猎英语阅读理解材料，强化英语背景知识，轻松取得阅读理解考试高分。广泛的阅读可以提高考生的阅读理解能力，也可以巩固和提高语言应用能力，达到事半功倍的目的。

三、长难例句分析、全文参考译文与解题技巧分析有机结合，全面提升应试能力

全面、细致的分析与讲解及完整的参考译文有助于考生全方位地进行复习自测，从而全面提升应试能力。

编撰此书的初衷就是力求提高考生的应试水平和阅读理解能力，不辜负考生的期望和对知识追求的挚诚。本书从选题策划、编写到完稿历时一年多，几易其稿。

本书的出版得到了北京大学和清华大学部分专家和教授的大力支持，在此表示深深的谢意。

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第一部分 精讲精练 80 篇

Unit One 环境生态类

Text 1

Directions: In this part, you will have 15 minutes to go over the passage quickly and answer the questions on Answer Sheet 1.

For questions 1-4, mark

Y (for YES) if the statement agrees with the information given in the passage;

N (for NO) if the statement contradicts the information given in the passage;

NG (for NOT GIVEN) if the information is not given in the passage.

For questions 5-10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.

Animal Einsteins

When it comes to intelligence, human beings are the top dogs of the animal kingdom. Or so we tell ourselves. But in recent years, scientists have been documenting surprising intelligence and emotional depth in animals ranging from humble honeybees to thundering elephants. Through studies in labs and in the wild, researchers have found animals communicating complex ideas, solving problems, using tools and expressing their feelings—behaviors once thought to be uniquely human.

The intelligence we're talking about is more than, say, training a dog to detect cancer in humans, a feat that may save many lives. It's the ability of the animal to use an innate trait for a complex purpose. Here are some amazing examples.

Artistic Monkey Business

When Janet Schmid became executive director of the Little River Zoo in Norman, Oklahoma, in 1996, she learned a lot about the intelligence of monkeys. She and her husband adopted a young male who had a naughty personality, and named him Mr Bailey. The monkey particularly liked taking car rides, insisting that he insert the ignition key and ride shotgun in the passenger's seat. "He loved to duck below the window as we'd come to an intersection," Schmid recalls. "When we'd stop, he'd jump up and laugh at the car next to us, just to get a rise out of the passengers."

Now 12 years old, Mr Bailey has become an avid painter. He uses a variety of brush strokes to create colorful, abstract canvases and, like any temperamental artist, prefers not to be disturbed while creating his art. "He'll paint steadily for almost an hour and won't let anyone interrupt him until he puts down his brush," says Schmid. "He's amazing to watch because you can tell there's a thought process occurring.

When we raised him, we quit watching TV because he was so entertaining.”

Ivy League Parrot

The term birdbrain is considered an insult, but some birds actually are pretty brainy. One African grey parrot in suburban Boston is said to have the cognitive abilities of a five-year-old child. Alex (for Avian Learning Experiment) is a 29-year-old bird that's been tutored most of his life by Irene Pepperberg, PhD, a Harvard-educated professor now teaching at Brandeis University. Alex can identify 50 different objects, seven colors, five shapes, quantities up to six, and the concepts of bigger, smaller, same and different. “And he said, ‘I’m sorry,’ ” reports Pepperberg. “He knew what was appropriate to say.”

Pepperberg insists that Alex makes reasoned decisions—meaning he possesses language abilities once thought to separate humans from the rest of the animal kingdom. During an experiment in 2004, researchers gave Alex different-colored blocks in sets of two, three and six. When asked which color group had five blocks, Alex replied, “None.” And he repeated the answer in duplicate tests. Although Alex had previously learned the term to describe the difference between two identically sized objects, he apparently interpreted the concept of “none” as an absence of quantity all on his own.

“The important thing was not just that he understood a zero-like concept,” says Pepperberg, “but that he was able to take information from one domain and apply it to another. That’s a lot like a high school student answering questions on a quiz show.”

Such feats have made Alex a celebrity.

Cultured Orangutans (猩猩)

Because orangutans and humans share 97 percent of the same DNA, it's no surprise that the primates exhibit impressive brainpower. Take Chantek, a 28-year-old living in Zoo Atlanta. Raised like a human child by anthropologist H. Lyn Miles, PhD, Chantek learned to use a toilet, clean his room and receive an allowance, which he spent on trips to McDonald's. Today he knows more than 150 words in sign language and can comprehend spoken English. Likened to a four-year-old child, he can also make necklaces, play Simon Says, and sign that he wants a car ride to the park.

“We can have a conversation and play games together,” says Miles, a professor of anthropology at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. “He might sign ‘bed sleep hug’ if he wants a nighttime hug before going to sleep.” Miles says Chantek has even invented some new words, signing “tomato toothpaste” for ketchup and “eye drink” for contact lens solution. Chantek calls himself an “orangutan person” to distinguish himself from others.

Emotional Elephants

Known for their legendary memories, elephants also exhibit jumbo-sized compassion. When one elephant in a herd is slowed from injury, the rest will wait until it catches up. And if an elephant gets stuck in a mud hole, others help. “They’ll try to get under the elephant like a forklift,” says Marc Bekoff, PhD, a professor of animal behavior at the University of Colorado in Boulder. “Then they’ll push it out.”

Bekoff, author of *Animal Passions and Beastly Virtues*, notes that after an elephant dies, the others in its herd will grieve. He observed a group of elephants in northern Kenya after the death of their matriarch. “They were just moping (闷闷不乐的) around with their heads and tails low,” says Bekoff. “Clearly they were in mourning.”

Elephants also demonstrated their sensitivity and compassion before the 2004 tsunami slammed into the coast of Thailand. Eyewitnesses reported that elephants were screaming and running for higher ground. But on the way, they used their trunks to scoop up and save about a dozen tourists.

Buzzing Prodigies (天才)

It's hard to imagine something as small as a bug having much in the brain department. But the humble honeybee possesses the second-most complex language, after humans. When a honeybee returns to a hive after dining on flower nectar, it performs a complex waggle dance to tell other bees whether the meal is worth a trip. "The honeybee can send 10,000 messages, providing the distance, direction and quantity of food," says James Gould, PhD, a professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at Princeton University. "Not even chimps or dolphins can say as many things."

Some critics argue that bee dances reflect innate behavior rather than intelligence, but Gould insists that the bees are brainy. If they sense a storm coming, they'll stop their dance so other bees won't get caught in the rain while searching for food. And when they're looking for a new home, honeybee scouts who've found a dry spot will suddenly change their dance if an observer pours a glass of water inside. "They're a lot like people judging whether to buy a house," says Gould.

Smart Suckers

Octopuses may be spineless, but they're not brainless. At the Seattle Aquarium, marine biologist Roland Anderson, PhD, reports that giant Pacific octopuses (GPOs) are not only intelligent creatures but also loaded with personality. One female was named Emily Dickinson because she was so shy she used to hide in a narrow space behind the tank's backdrop. A frisky male became Leisure Suit Larry, due to his fondness for groping volunteers who wandered too close to his tank. "If he were a man, he'd have been cited for sexual harassment," says Anderson.

Last year, Anderson devised an unusual intelligence test. He put some small fish into a plastic jar with a wide-mouth screw top and gave them to seven different GPOs. Most of the octopuses had trouble opening the jars. But after Anderson drilled holes in the jar tops so the GPOs could smell the small fish, the octopuses performed better. Then he coated the outside of the jars with frozen fish to keep the GPOs' interest, and this time, they quickly opened the lids. "A sign of their intelligence," says Anderson.

Creative Dolphins

As far back as Aristotle, dolphins have been known as wise guardians of the sea, protecting sailors from sharks and guiding ships to land. What's more impressive is dolphins' ability to communicate with each other, especially over vast distances. Dolphins emit high-pitched whistles to converse with other dolphins they can't see.

Some also can understand sign language. At the University of Hawaii's Dolphin Institute, trainers taught a female named Akeakamai the meaning of words and the word order of sentences. So when trainers signed "person surfboard fetch", Akeakamai knew to "take the surfboard to the person". And when the trainers switched the gestures to say "surfboard person fetch", the dolphin knew she had to "take the person to the surfboard".

In a show of dolphins' inventiveness, trainers may gesture "create tandem", and a pair of dolphins will perform a series of moves in synchrony. "They may swim in a circle, leap out of the water in a spinning motion and spit water out of their mouths together," says Louis Herman, PhD, director of the Dolphin Institute. "We never know what they'll do. And to this day, researchers are uncertain how the dolphins tell each other what moves they'll display."

1. Such behaviors as communicating complex ideas and using tools are not unique to human any more.

2. Monkey Bailey once lived in Little River Zoo.
3. Among the animals referred to in the passage, monkey is the most intelligent.
4. Mr Bailey, the “monkey artist”, prefers to finish its drawing with the help of others.
5. The term birdbrain is used to describe _____ people.
6. The orangutans’ DNA is _____ to the humans’.
7. Chantek, the “orangutan person”, signs “tomato toothpaste” and “eye drink” for _____ respectively.
8. Elephants mourn for the dead by _____.
9. About the buzzing prodigies, people argue _____.
10. It is reported by Roland Anderson that the GPOs are filled with _____.

内容提要 文章介绍了动物令人震惊的智力和情感，能够交流复杂的思想、解决问题、使用工具、表达感情，具有利用本能来达到复杂目的的能力。

1. 【答案】Y

【解析】本题考查细节知识。第一段最后一句 Through studies in labs and in the wild, researchers have found animals communicating complex ideas, solving problems, using tools and expressing their feelings—behaviors once thought to be uniquely human. 通过这句话可知，通过实验室和野外的研究，研究员发现动物可以交流复杂的思想、解决问题、使用工具和表达情感——这些行为曾一度被认为是人类所特有的。据此判断，本题答案为 Y。

2. 【答案】Y

【解析】本题考查细节知识。标题 Artistic Monkey Business 下第一段 When Janet Schmid became executive director of the Little River Zoo in Norman, Oklahoma, in 1996, she learned a lot about the intelligence of monkeys. She and her husband adopted a young male who had a naughty personality, and named him Mr Bailey. 通过这段话可知，当 Janet Schmid 于 1996 年当上俄克拉何马州小河公园的执行主管时，她对于猴子的智力有了更多的了解。她和丈夫收养了一只生性淘气的小公猴，给它起名叫贝利先生。据此判断，本题答案为 Y。

3. 【答案】NG

【解析】本题考查细节知识。通过文章内容可知，文章提到了许多在动物身上出现的让我们人类感到惊讶的行为。比如，猴子、鹦鹉、章鱼、蜜蜂、大象、猩猩和海豚，这些动物的一些行为展现了它们令人惊讶的聪明。然而，文章并未就各种动物的聪明度进行排序。据此判断，本题答案为 NG。

4. 【答案】N

【解析】本题考查细节知识。标题 Artistic Monkey Business 下第二段 He’ll paint steadily for almost an hour and won’t let anyone interrupt him until he puts down his brush. 通过这句话可知，贝利会静静地画将近一个小时，不允许外人妨碍它，直到它放下画笔。据此判断，本题答案为 N。

5. 【答案】brainless 或者表示愚笨的词 foolish / stupid / silly 等

【解析】本题考查语义分析。标题 Ivy League Parrot 下第一段第一句 The term birdbrain is considered an insult, but some birds actually are pretty brainy. 通过这句话可知，单词 birdbrain 被认为是一种侮辱，但一些鸟类实际上很聪明。在这里，birdbrain 的意思是“笨蛋，轻佻的人，轻率浮躁的人”。据此判断，本题答案为 brainless，或者表示愚笨的词 foolish / stupid / silly 等。

6. 【答案】similar

【解析】本题考查猩猩和人类的关系。标题 Cultured Orangutans (猩猩) 下第一段 Because orangutans and humans share 97 percent of the same DNA, it’s no surprise that the primates exhibit impressive brainpower. 通过这句话可知，猩猩和人类的 DNA 有 97% 是相同的。据此判断，本题答案为 similar。

7. 【答案】ketchup and contact lens solution

【解析】本题考查细节知识。标题 Cultured Orangutans (猩猩)下第二段 Miles says Chantek has even invented some new words, signing “tomato toothpaste” for ketchup and “eye drink” for contact lens solution. 通过这句话可知, Chantek 还发明了一些新词, 用 tomato toothpaste 指代番茄酱, 用 eye drink 指代隐形眼镜滴眼液。据此判断, 本题答案为 ketchup and contact lens solution。

8. 【答案】moping around with their heads and tails low

【解析】本题考查大象的一些行为。标题 Emotional Elephants 下第二段 “They were just moping around with their heads and tails low,” says Bekoff. “Clearly they were in mourning.” 通过这段话可知, 大象们闷闷不乐, 耷拉着头和尾巴。很显然, 它们这是在哀悼。据此判断, 本题答案为 moping around with their heads and tails low。

9. 【答案】whether bee dances reflect innate behavior or intelligence

【解析】本题考查蜜蜂的知识。标题 Buzzing Prodigies (天才)下第二段 Some critics argue that bee dances reflect innate behavior rather than intelligence, but Gould insists that the bees are brainy. 通过这段话可知, 一些持反对意见的人认为, 蜜蜂的舞蹈只是本能行为, 并非是智能的体现, 但 Gould 坚持认为蜜蜂是聪明的。据此判断, 本题答案为 whether bee dances reflect innate behavior or intelligence。

10. 【答案】intelligence and personality

【解析】本题考查 Smart Suckers 知识。标题 Smart Suckers 下第一段 giant Pacific octopuses (GPOs) are not only intelligent creatures but also loaded with personality. 通过这句话可知, GPOs 不但非常聪明, 而且还很人性化。据此判断, 本题答案为 intelligence and personality。

参考译文

动物界的爱因斯坦

当提到智力, 人类在动物王国中是首屈一指的。或者至少我们是这样认为的。但近年来, 科学家们一直在证明动物的令人震惊的智力和情感, 从小蜜蜂到大象他们都进行了证明。通过实验室和野外的研究, 研究者发现动物能够交流复杂的思想、解决问题、使用工具、表达感情, 而这些行为曾一度被认为是人类所特有的。

我们所谈论的智力并不仅仅是指训练狗去探查人类癌症这样可以拯救许多生命的技能。我们说的是动物利用本能来达到复杂目的的能力。下面是几个令人震惊的例子。

猴子艺术家

1996 年, Janet Schmid 成为俄克拉何马州诺曼地区小河动物园的执行主管时, 她对猴子的智力也有了更多的了解。她和丈夫收养了一只生性淘气的小公猴, 并给它起名叫贝利先生。这只猴子尤其喜欢乘车, 坚持要自己插车钥匙, 并坐在副驾驶的位置上。“当我们开到十字路口时, 它喜欢蹲在窗子下面,” Schmid 回忆道, “当我们停车时, 它就跳起来朝着我们旁边的车大笑, 就是为了显示自己。”

现在贝利已经 12 岁了, 它成为一位劲头十足的画家。它用各种线条画出色彩斑斓的抽象帆布画。和其他爱激动的画家一样, 它在创作时, 不喜欢被打扰。“它会静静地画一个小时, 不让任何人打扰它, 直到它放下画笔。” Schmid 说道, “它会让你惊讶, 因为你会看出, 它有一个思考的过程。我们养它的时候, 我们都不看电视了, 因为它太有趣了。”

常春藤联盟的鹦鹉

“Birdbrain”这个词被认为是带有侮辱性的, 但一些鸟类实际上是非常聪明的。据说, 非洲郊区波士顿的一只灰色鹦鹉有五岁孩子的认知能力。Alex, 29 岁, 供研究鸟类试验, 由 Irene Pepperberg 博士指导。Irene Pepperberg 曾就读于哈佛大学, 现就职于布兰代斯大学。Alex 可以辨别 50 种不同的物体、七种颜色、五种形状, 数数可以数到六, 有大与小、相同与不同的概念。“而且它会说‘对不起’。”Pepperberg 说道, “它知道什么时候说什么样的话合适。”

Pepperberg 强调 Alex 还能做出合理决定——这证明它有着曾用来区别人类与其他动物的语言能力。在 2004 年的一个实验中, 研究者给 Alex 不同颜色的三组木块, 每组数量分别为两个、三个

和六个。当被问及哪种颜色有五块木块时, Alex 回答: “None (意为没有)。”然后在重复的测试中, 它重复着同样的答案。尽管 Alex 先前知道描述两种相同大小物体区别的词语, 显然, 它还是根据自己的理解, 把 “none” 这一概念认作了数量的缺失。

“重要的不是它明白像 ‘零’ 这样的概念,” Pepperberg 说道, “而是它能够将一个领域的信息应用到其他领域。这就像一个中学生在测试时回答问题一样。”

这种能力使 Alex 出了名。

有教养的猩猩

因为猩猩和人类有 97% 的 DNA 是相同的, 那么猩猩表现出超强的智能就不足为奇了。以亚特兰大动物园 28 岁的 Chantek 为例。人类学家 H. Lyn Miles 博士像养小孩一样将 Chantek 养大, Chantek 会用盥洗室、清理房间, 还会得到去麦当劳的费用支出。现在, 它知道 150 多个手势语单词, 可以理解英语口语。和四岁的孩子一样, 它还会制作项链, 扮演 “Simon Says”, 还用手势表达它想乘车去公园。

“我们可以与它谈话、一起做游戏,” 查塔努加地区田纳西大学的人类学家 Miles 说道, “如果它睡前想要索取拥抱, 它也会用手势表达。” Miles 说: “Chantek 甚至还创造新单词, 把番茄酱表达为 ‘番茄牙膏’, 把隐形眼镜舒适液表达为 ‘眼睛的饮料’。Chantek 把自己叫做 ‘猩猩人’, 以把自己区别于其他猩猩。”

有感情的大象

有传奇记忆力的大象还表现出极大的同情心。当象群中的一只大象由于受伤速度减慢时, 其他的大象就会一直等到受伤的大象赶上队伍。而如果一只大象陷到泥坑里, 其他的也会来帮忙。“它们会努力进入到遇难大象的下面, 像铲车一样把它救出来。” Boulder 地区科罗拉多大学研究动物行为的教授 Marc Bekoff 博士说道。

《动物热情与野兽的美德》的作者 Bekoff 提到, 一头象死后, 象群中的其他象就会很悲痛。他观察过北肯尼亚的一群象在同伴死后的表现。“它们在周围闷闷不乐的, 低着头, 耷拉着尾巴,” Bekoff 说道, “很显然, 它们是在哀悼。”

在 2004 年席卷泰国海岸的海啸之前, 大象还显示出它们的敏感性和热情。据目击者报道, 大象喊叫着奔向高地。但在奔跑的路上, 它们用鼻子卷起并救下了十几个游客。

嗡嗡叫的天才

很难想象像臭虫一样小的动物脑部都那么复杂。但体态很小的蜜蜂却拥有着复杂的语言, 仅次于人类。当蜜蜂采完花蜜飞回蜂房时, 它就会表演一种复杂的摇摆舞来告诉其他的同伴蜂源是否值得一去。“蜜蜂可以发送 1 万条信息, 提供距离、方向和食物质量等信息。”普林斯顿大学生态学和进化生物学教授 James Gould 博士说, “即使是黑猩猩和海豚也不能传达这么多信息。”

一些持反对意见的人认为蜜蜂的舞蹈只是一种本能, 并非是智能的体现, 但 Gould 却坚持认为蜜蜂是聪明的。如果它们感受到暴风雨要来临, 它们就会停止舞蹈, 以便其他蜜蜂在找食物的过程中不会淋雨。当它们寻找新家时, 如果观察者往里倒一杯水的话, 找到干燥场所的蜜蜂会突然改变它们的舞姿。Gould 说: “它们就像人类判断是否该买房子一样。”

聪明的吸附类动物

章鱼可能是无脊椎动物, 但它们不是没有头脑的。在西雅图水族馆, 据海底生物学家 Roland Anderson 博士报告, 巨大的太平洋章鱼(以下称为 “GPO”)不仅是聪明的生物, 而且还很有个性。一只雌性章鱼被叫做 Emily Dickinson, 因为它特别害羞, 经常躲在水池边的狭窄空间里。一只活泼的雄性章鱼叫做 Leisure Suit Larry, 是因为它特别喜欢探寻靠近它的水域的生物。“他如果是人的话, 就要被说成是性骚扰了。” Anderson 说。

去年, Anderson 设计出一种不同寻常的智力测验。他把一些小鱼放在一个带螺旋盖的广口塑料罐中, 并把这个罐子给了七条不同的 GPO。绝大多数章鱼在打开罐子时都遇到了麻烦。但 Anderson 在灌顶钻了一个口之后, GPO 能够闻到小鱼的味道了, 它们就能做得更好了。然后, Anderson 在罐

子外面涂了一层冻鱼来保持 GPO 的兴趣，这一次，它们很快就打开了盖子。Anderson 说：“这就表明了它们的智能。”

有创造力的海豚

在亚里斯多德时期，海豚就被认作是聪明的海洋守卫者，保护着海员不受鲨鱼的侵害，并引领船只到达陆地。令人印象更深刻的是海豚彼此间的交流能力，尤其是远距离交流。海豚发出尖锐的口哨声来与它们看不见的大海豚进行交谈。

有一些海豚还能明白手势语。在夏威夷大学海豚研究所，培训员教一只叫做 Akeakamai 的雌性海豚单词的意思和句子的语序。当培训员做出“人、冲浪板、取来”的手势时，Akeakamai 知道“把冲浪板拿给人”。而当培训员改变手势，表达“冲浪板、人、取回”时，海豚知道它要“把人带到冲浪板那里”。

在一次有关海豚创造力的演出中，培训员做出手势提出“一前一后”，一对海豚就会同步表演一系列的动作。“它们会在一个圈内游泳，旋转着跳出水面，然后一起从嘴里吐水。”海豚研究所的主任 Louis Herman 博士说道，“我们从不知道它们要做什么。直到现在，研究者们还是不确定海豚是如何告诉对方它们将要表演什么的。”

Text 2

The long, wet summer here in the northeastern U.S. notwithstanding, there's a world shortage of pure, fresh water. As demand for water hits the limits of finite supply, potential conflicts are brewing between nations that share transboundary freshwater reserves.

Many people ask why we cannot simply take it from the sea, using our sophisticated technology of desalinization but a good water supply must be hygienically safe and pleasant tasting and water containing salt would corrode machinery used in manufacturing in addition to producing chemical impurities. Since more than 95% of our water sits in the salty seas, man is left to face the reality that most water on the surface of the earth is not available for us.

One very feasible way of sustaining our supply of freshwater is to protect the ecology of our mountains. Mountains and water go together, a fact to which Secretary General Kofi Annan has drawn attention more than once. From 30% to 60% of downstream fresh water in humid areas and up to 95% in arid and semi-arid environments are supplied by mountains. Without interference nature has its own way of purifying water—even though chlorination and filtration are still necessary as a precaution. In a mountainous area, aeration, due to turbulent flow and waterfalls, causes an exchange of gases between the atmosphere and the water. Agriculture, industry, hydroelectric generators and homes that need water to drink and for domestic use depend on these resources and, thus, we must protect mountainous areas as a means of survival.

1. The author of this passage states that _____.
 - A. the problem of obtaining good drinking water has plagued man throughout time
 - B. palatability is synonymous with purity of water
 - C. most of the world's water is unusable as a water supply
 - D. man no longer depends on desalinization for his water supply
2. The author believes that industry avoids salt water because _____.
 - A. water is needed for livestock
 - B. crops must be considered before man-made products
 - C. it is used in desalinization plants
 - D. it causes corrosion

3. Streams would purify themselves if not for _____.
 A. human beings B. nature C. chlorination D. mountains
4. By saying that "nature has its own way of purifying water" (Line 4, Para. 3) the author is referring to _____.
 A. aeration B. filtration C. chlorination D. absorption
5. The best title for this passage is "_____".
 A. The Water Problem: The Dangers Ahead B. The Water Supply Problem: Our Options
 C. The Mountains: Our Only Hope for Water D. Water Conservation: The Challenges Ahead

长难例句分析

[长难例句] Since more than 95% of our water sits in the salty seas, man is left to face the reality that most water on the surface of the earth is not available for us.

[结构分析] 本句中，主干是 man is left to face the reality. that 引导的是同位语从句，修饰 reality。前面的 since 引导的是原因状语从句。

[参考译文] 由于 95% 以上的水资源都存在于含盐的海洋，人类只得面对现实：地球表面的大部分水资源我们无法获得。

全文参考译文

尽管美国东北部的夏季漫长而湿润，但在世界范围纯净淡水短缺。随着水的需求达到有限供应的极限，共享跨边界淡水资源的国家之间正酝酿着潜在的争端。

许多人问道，我们为何不利用先进的脱盐技术从海洋获取淡水呢？但是，良好的水资源必须健康安全，味道适宜，而盐水除了产生化学杂质外，还会腐蚀生产设备。由于 95% 以上的水资源都存在于含盐的海洋，人类只得面对现实：地球表面的大部分水资源我们无法获得。

维持淡水供应的一个非常可行的方法是，保护我们山区的生态。山水相伴而生，科菲·安南秘书长不只一次提醒过这个事实。湿润地区 30%~60%，干旱、半干旱环境多达 95% 的下游淡水都是由山脉提供。在没有干预的情况下，大自然有自己的方式净化水源——尽管氯化 and 过滤仍是必要的预防措施。在山区，由于湍急的水流和瀑布，充气导致大气和水之间空气的交换。工农业、水力发电机以及家庭用水依赖于这些资源，因此，我们必须把山区作为生存手段加以保护。

题目答案与解析

1. 本文作者声明：_____。
 A. 获得良好的饮用水这一问题一直困扰着人们
 B. palatability 与纯净水同义
 C. 地球表面的大部分水资源无法使用
 D. 人类不再依靠脱盐作用来获得水的供应

【答案】C

【解析】从第二段的末尾可知，地球表面的大部分水资源我们无法获得。因此 C 项为正确答案。

2. 作者认为工业应避免使用盐水，原因是 _____。
 A. 家畜需要水 B. 比起人造产品，应优先考虑农作物
 C. 它被有脱盐作用的工厂所使用 D. 它引起腐蚀

【答案】D

【解析】从第二段可知，海水腐蚀生产设备。因此 D 项为正确答案。

3. 如果不是因为 _____，河流会自我净化。
 A. 人类 B. 大自然 C. 用氯处理 D. 山脉

【答案】A

【解析】从第三段可知，在没有干预的情况下，大自然有自己的方式净化水源。因此 A 项为正确答案。

4. 通过说大自然“有自己的方式净化水源”(第三段第四行)，作者指的是_____。

A. 充气

B. 过滤

C. 氯化

D. 吸收

【答案】A

【解析】本题中大自然净化水源的方式指的是后文提到的充气。因此 A 项为正确答案。

5. 本文最恰当的标题是_____。

A. 水的问题：面临的危险

B. 水的供给问题：我们的选择

C. 山脉：我们获取水的唯一希望

D. 水的保护：面临的挑战

【答案】B

【解析】综观全文，本文探讨淡水资源的获取并且给出解决办法，因此 B 项为正确答案。

Text 3

An upsurge of new research suggests animals have a much higher level of brainpower than previously thought. Before defining animals' intelligence, scientists defined what is not intelligence. Instinct is not intelligence. It is a skill programmed into an animal's brain by its genetic heritage. Rote conditioning or cuing, in which animals learn to do or not to do certain things by following outside signals is also not intelligence, since tricks can be learned by repetition, but no real thinking is involved. Scientists believe insight, the ability to use tools, and communications using human language are effective measures.

When judging animal intelligence, scientists look for insight, which they define as a flash of sudden understanding. When a young gorilla could not reach fruit from a tree, she noticed crates scattered about the lawn, piled them and then climbed on them to reach her reward. The gorilla's insight allowed her to solve a new problem without trial and error. The ability to use tools is also an important sign of intelligence. Crows use sticks to pry peanuts out of cracks. The crow exhibits intelligence by showing it has learned what a stick can do. Likewise, otters use rocks to crack open crab and, in a series of complex moves, chimpanzees have been known to use sticks to get at favorite snack-termites. Many animals have learned to communicate using human language. Some primates have learned hundreds of words in sign language. One chimp can recognize and correctly use more than 250 abstract symbols on a keyboard and one parrot can distinguish five objects of two different types and can understand the difference between numbers, colors, and kinds of object.

The research on animal intelligence raises important questions. If animals are smarter than once thought, would that change the way humans interact with them? Would humans stop hunting them for sport or survival? Would animals still be used for food or clothing or medical experimentation? Finding the answer to these tough questions makes a difficult puzzle even for a large-brained, problem-solving species like our own.

1. According to the text, which is true about animals communicating through the use of human language?

A. Parrots can imitate or repeat a sound.

B. Dolphins click and whistle.

C. Crows screech warnings to other crows.

D. Chimps have been trained to use sign language or word symbolizing geometric shapes.

2. The underlined word “upsurge” (Line 1, Para. 1) most nearly means _____.

- A. an increasingly large amount B. a decreasing amount
C. a well-known amount D. an immeasurable amount

3. The chimpanzee's ability to use a tool illustrates high intelligence because _____.

- A. he is able to get his food
B. he faced a difficult task and accomplished it
C. he stored knowledge away and called it up at the right time
D. termites are protein-packed

4. The concluding paragraph of this text infers _____.

- A. there is no definitive line between those animals with intelligence and those without
B. animals are being given opportunities to display their intelligence
C. research showing higher animal intelligence may fuel debate on ethics and cruelty
D. animals are capable of untrained thought well beyond mere instinct

5. Which of the following is NOT a sign of animal intelligence?

- A. Shows insight. B. Cues. C. Uses tools. D. Makes a plan.

长难例句分析

[长难例句] Rote conditioning or cuing, in which animals learn to do or not to do certain things by following outside signals is also not intelligence, since tricks can be learned by repetition, but no real thinking is involved.

[结构分析] 本句中，主干是 Rote conditioning or cuing...is also not intelligence...。介词 in 加 which 引导的是定语从句，修饰本句主语。since 引导原因状语从句，其中包括两个并列复合句，由 but 连接。

[参考译文] 动物通过遵从外界信号，学会做或者不做某些事情，这种机械的条件作用或者提示也不是智能，因为技巧可以通过重复而学会，但并不涉及真正的思考。

全文参考译文

大量新的研究表明，动物的智能比人们以前所认为的要高得多。科学家们在给动物智能下定义之前界定了什么不是智能。本能不是智能。它是通过遗传设置在动物大脑中的一种技能。动物通过遵从外界信号，学会做或者不做某些事情，这种机械的条件作用或者提示也不是智能，因为技巧可以通过重复而学会，但并不涉及真正的思考。科学家们认为，有效的标准是悟性、使用工具的能力以及用人类语言交流。

科学家们在判断动物智力时，在寻找一种悟性，他们将其定义为灵光一现。当一只年幼的大猩猩够不到树上的果实时，它看到草坪上散放着板条箱，于是把箱子堆在一起，然后爬上去得到自己想要的东西。大猩猩的悟性让自己一次性地解决了新问题。智能的另一个重要标志是使用工具的能力。乌鸦使用木棍从裂缝中撬出花生。通过表明自己已经了解木棍的功能，乌鸦来展示其智能。同样地，水獭使用石块砸开螃蟹。根据了解，黑猩猩做出一系列复杂的动作，如使用木棍够到自己爱吃的白蚁作为快餐。许多动物学会使用人类语言进行交流。有些灵长目动物学会了数百个符号语词汇。一只黑猩猩能识别并正确使用 250 多个抽象的键盘符号。一只鹦鹉能区分两个不同类型的五个物体，并能理解数字之间的差别、颜色以及物体的类别。

有关动物智能的研究引出了重要的问题。假如动物比人们从前所认为的更为聪明，这将改变人类与它们相互作用的方式吗？人类会不再为了运动或者生存而捕杀它们吗？还会将动物用于食物、服装或者医学实验吗？找到这些难题的答案，即使对于像我们这样一个高智能、善于解决问题的物种来说，也是难解的困惑。