

Advanced Reading Test Preparation

高级英语应试阅读系列

Reading For TEM-4

英语专业四级阅读

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内 容 简 介

本书共 10 个单元, 110 篇文章。每一个单元都是一份按英语专业四级考试真题阅读部分设计的模拟试题。本书的特点是: 所选文章全部都是未经简化的原汁原味的英文; 既有生词解释又有语言难点注释; 既有答案也有答案详解。本书方便实用、仿真性强、指导性强。

读者对象: 准备参加英语专业四级考试的读者。

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前 言

本书是根据《高校英语专业四级考试大纲》编写而成，其目的是帮助参加英语专业四级考试的考生了解 TEM-4 阅读部分的题型及特点，并使考生得到充分的阅读训练。

本书真实地反映了近几年 TEM-4 考试阅读部分的走向，无论是在选材、题量和问题设计上都具有很高的仿真性。

本书的语言资料全部选自英美出版物，内容丰富，题材广泛，可扩大考生的知识面。

本书对文章中出现的语言现象作了较详细的注释，这包括词汇、短语、惯用法、语法知识等。每个阅读理解问题本书都作了详细的注释，帮助考生加深理解文章的内容。

阅读在英语专业四级考试中所占的比重最大，而且阅读水平直接影响其他语言知识和技能，因此，抓好阅读这一环节是至关重要的。我们希望通过本书的学习，考生能够提高阅读速度，掌握必要的阅读技巧，扩大知识面，调整知识结构，在以后的考试中能应付自如。

本书共有 10 个单元，每个单元的编排和真题阅读部分的编排一样，有 11 篇文章，要求考生在规定的时间内完成。阅读不仅要有正确的理解，还要有一定的速度，因此，在规定的时间内完成阅读任务是十分重要的。

为了取得最佳学习效果，使用本教材应该采取的方法是：每个单元中的 11 篇文章一次完成。在阅读文章前，首先浏览 Word List 中的生词，然后进行阅读，在全部读完 11 篇文章之后，再阅读 Notes 中的内容。

书中难免有疏漏之处，敬请广大读者批评指正。

Contents

阅读理解题型分析.....	1
Unit One	9
Unit Two	31
Unit Three	53
Unit Four	75
Unit Five	96
Unit Six	117
Unit Seven	139
Unit Eight	160
Unit Nine	183
Unit Ten	208
Key to Comprehension Questions	230
Explanations to Comprehension Questions	232

阅读理解题型分析

第一节 大纲对阅读理解的要求

一、测试目的

1. 阅读理解部分 (TEXT A~TEXT D) 是测试学生通过阅读获取信息的能力。既要求准确, 也要求有一定的速度。

2. 快速阅读部分 (TEXT E~TEXT K) 是测试学生通过快速阅读获取信息的能力。既要求快速, 也要求正确。

二、测试要求和选材范围

《高校英语专业四级考试大纲》对阅读提出如下要求:

1. 能读懂英美国家出版的中等难度的文章和材料, 掌握所读材料的主旨和大意。

2. 了解说明主旨和大意的事实和细节。

3. 既理解字面的意思, 也能根据所读材料进行一定的判断和推论。

4. 既理解个别句子的意义, 也理解上下文的逻辑关系。

5. 能在 5 分钟内速读 900 词左右中等难度的文章, 掌握所读材料的主旨和大意, 理解事实和细节。

三、题材和体裁

1. 题材广泛, 包括社会、文化、日常知识、科普常识、人物传记等。

2. 体裁多样, 包括记叙文、说明文、议论文等。

3. 快速阅读部分的材料与阅读理解部分的材料相仿, 但相对容易些。体裁上除上述之外还可包括广告、说明书等。

四、题型

阅读理解部分有细读和快读两部分。细读部分为四篇短文，1500字左右，要求在25分钟内完成，快读部分为七段短文，900字左右，要求在5分钟内用略读和查读的方法完成。

第二节 阅读理解的层次

阅读理解一般说来可以分为三个层次，即理解文章的字面意义（reading the lines）、理解文章的隐含意义（reading between the lines）以及理解文外意义，也称评判性阅读（reading beyond the lines）。理解文章的字面意义就是通过对词、句进行解码，理解它们所直接表达的意义。这一层理解要求读者有一定的语言知识，例如要求有一定的词汇量、能够对复杂句型进行分析、了解一些成语或习惯用语的意义。理解文章的隐含意义就是理解文章没有直接表达或作者隐含表达的意义。读者需要通过文章的表层意义，借助常识或上下文逻辑关系来推断无法直接得到的深层含义。理解文章的文外意义或进行评判性阅读，要求读者能够将文章中的信息进行综合、归纳和判断、理解作者的目的、态度和观点、区分事实和观点、掌握文章的结构等。高校英语专业四级考试阅读理解部分，特别是细读部分（TEXT A ~ TEXT D）的问题就是根据这三个层次来设计的。

第三节 阅读理解题型分析

一、复述题

这一类题侧重考生对文章字面意义的理解。这一类问题要求理解文章某一部分的内容，然后通过题干+选项以不同的措辞表达出来。例如2002年考题TEXT B第一段：

The “standard of living” of any country means the average person’s share of the goods and services which the country produces. A country’s

standard of living, therefore, depends first and foremost on its capacity to produce wealth. "Wealth" in this sense is not money, for we do not live on money but on things that money can buy: "goods" such as food and clothing, and "services" such as transport and entertainment.

针对这一段的问题是：

The standard of living in a country is determined by

- A. its goods and services.
- B. the type of wealth produced.
- C. how well it can create wealth.
- D. what an ordinary person can share.

该问题是针对该段的第二句。该句用 **depend on** 这一短语，而题干中用 **be determined by**，虽然表达方式不同，但意思是一样的，题干+选项 C 重新表述了第二句话的意思。选项 C 为正确答案。

有时，问题的设计是针对某个句子，解题的关键是正确分析句子并做出正确的理解。例如 1999 年考题 TEXT C 中有这样一句：

There must be few questions on which responsible opinions is so utterly divided as on that of how much sleep we ought to have.

针对该句的问题是：

The author seems to indicate that

- A. there are many controversial issues like the right amount of sleep.
- B. among many issues the right amount of sleep is the least controversial.
- C. people are now moving towards solving many controversial issues.
- D. the right amount of sleep is a topic of much controversy among doctors.

该句使用 **so...as...** 这一比较结构，意思是说，没有什么问题能像应该有多少睡眠这一问题那样使专家的意见如此分歧。选项 D 重新表述了该句的意思，是正确答案。

二、区分事实和细节题

《高校英语专业四级考试大纲》要求考生能够了解文章的事实和细节。试题中的许多问题是根据这一要求而设计的。这类问题要求对文章的事实和细节进行辨认和推敲，找出相关事实和细节，排除不相关的事实和细节。该类问题的句式通常是：

Which of the following is NOT...?

All of the following are true EXCEPT...

Which of the following is INCORRECT?

例如 2002 年考题 TEXT B 第一、二、三段：

The “standard of living” of any country means the average person’s share of the goods and services which the country produces. A country’s standard of living, therefore, depends first and foremost on its capacity to produce wealth. “Wealth” in this sense is not money, for we do not live on money but on things that money can buy: “goods” such as food and clothing, and “services” such as transport and entertainment.

A country’s capacity to produce wealth depends upon many factors, most of which have an effect on one another. Wealth depends to a great extent upon a country’s natural resources, such as coal, gold, and other minerals, water supply and so on. Some regions of the world are well supplied with coal and minerals, and have a fertile soil and a favorable climate; other regions possess none of them.

Next to natural resources comes the ability to turn them to use. Some countries are perhaps well off in natural resources, but suffering for many years from civil and external wars, and for this and other reason have been unable to develop their resources. Sound and stable political conditions, and freedom from foreign invasion, enable a country to develop its natural resources peacefully and steadily, and to produce more wealth than another country equally well served by nature but less well ordered. Another important factor is the technical efficiency of a

country's people. Industrialized countries that have trained numerous skilled workers and technicians are better placed to produce wealth than countries whose workers are largely unskilled.

针对这一部分的问题是：

A country's capacity to produce wealth depends on all the factors EXCEPT

- A. people's share of its goods.
- B. political and social stability.
- C. qualities of its workers.
- D. use of natural resources.

文章第一段提到个人所享有的生活资料，但它是用来定义什么是生活水平，它并不决定国家创造财富的能力；相反，从第二、三段可以知道，利用自然资源、稳定的政治环境和社会以及良好的员工素质决定一个国家创造财富的能力。选项 A 为正确答案。

三、主旨题

这类问题要求考生把握文章或段落所讨论的主要内容和表达的中心思想，或者理解作者的的目的和意图。通常的句式是：

What does the passage mainly discuss?

Which is the main idea of...?

The purpose of the passage is to...

例如 2002 年考题 TEXT B 最后一段：

At the same time, appearance is still important in certain circumstances and then we must choose our clothes carefully. It would be foolish to go to an interview for a job in a law firm wearing jeans and a sweater; and it would be discourteous to visit some distinguished scholar looking as if we were going to the beach or a night club. However, you need never feel depressed if you don't like the latest fashion photo. Look around you and you'll see that no one else does either!

针对该段的问题是：

Which is the main idea of the last paragraph?

- A. Care about appearance in formal situations.
- B. Fashion in formal and informal situations.
- C. Ignoring appearance in informal situations.
- D. Ignoring appearance in all situations.

该段第一句是主题句，二、三句是支撑主题句的细节。不难看出，作者讨论的是在正式场合下的穿着问题。选项 A 为正确答案。

但是，并不是所有文章和段落都有这么清晰的结构。有时我们并不能读到主题句，这就要我们将文章的内容加以综合和归纳，从而得出文章所讨论的主题或中心思想。

四、推断题

对文章内容进行推论是阅读的一个重要技能，要求考生根据文章提供的文字线索，借助常识和上下文的逻辑关系来推断没有直接表述的内容。

通常的句式是：

The author seems to suggest that...

It is implied in the passage that...

From the last paragraph we can infer that...

例如 1999 年试题 TEXT A 中的第三段：

Little wonder the latest survey concludes that the extent and type of hospital teaching available differ a great deal across the country. It is found that half the hospitals in England which admit children have no teachers. A further quarter have only a part-time teacher. The special children's hospitals in major cities do best; general hospitals in the country and holiday areas are worse off.

针对该段的问题是：

It can be inferred from the last survey that

- A. hospital teaching across the country is similar.
- B. each hospital has at least one part-time teacher.

C. all hospitals surveyed offer education to children.

D. only one-fourth of the hospitals have full-time teachers.

该题正确答案应选 D。虽然该段没有直接陈述四分之一的医院有全职教师，但从所给的信息（一半的医院没有教师，另外四分之一的医院只有兼职教师）可以推断剩下的四分之一医院有全职教师。

五、归纳题

该类问题在阅读理解中的比重较大，要求考生将文章或段落中的信息加以综合以便得出正确的结论。该类问题常用的句式是：

We can conclude from the passage that...

In the first paragraph the author emphasizes...

We learn that...is mainly...

例如 2002 年考题 TEXT C 第五段：

Today, society is much freer and easier than it used to be. It is no longer necessary to dress like everyone else. Within reason, you can dress as you like or do your hair the way you *like* instead of the way you *should* because it is the fashion. The popularity of jeans and the “untidy” look seems to be a reaction against increasingly expensive fashions of the top fashion houses.

针对该段的问题是：

Present-day society is much freer and easier because it emphasizes

A. uniformity.

B. formality.

C. informality.

D. individuality.

作者用几个具体的事例来说明当今社会比以往更自由、更轻松。例如，人们的衣着没有必要和其他人看齐，可以穿自己喜欢的衣服，梳自己喜欢的发式，风靡的牛仔装和邋邋的外表是对昂贵时尚的一种反抗。所有这些事例的共同点就是宣扬个性。选项 D 为正确

确答案。

六、作者态度题

作者在叙述人或事物时多半带有自己的看法，是中立、支持、还是反对？是幽默还是嘲讽？因此阅读的一个重要技能是理解作者对所讨论话题的态度和口吻。理解作者的态度和口吻主要从作者的措辞（diction）着手。作者通过对词的取舍来表达自己的看法。该类问题的通常句式是：

What is the author's attitude towards...?

What is the author's opinion of...?

In the last paragraph, the writer thinks that...

例如 2002 年考题 TEXT D 第六段：

So it came as a terrible shock, but not really as a surprise, to learn that some people are now suggesting that soccer change from being a game of two 45-minute halves, to one of four 25-minute quarters. The idea is unashamedly to capture more advertising revenue, without giving any thought for the integrity of a sport which relies for its essence on the flowing nature of the action.

针对该段的问题是：

What is the author's attitude towards the suggestion to change soccer into a game of four 25-minute quarters?

- A. Favorable.
- B. Unclear.
- C. Reserved.
- D. Critical.

作者用 terrible shock（惊愕）和 unashamedly（不知廉耻地）来描述有人企图把足球赛改为四节，每节 25 分钟，并认为这会破坏足球比赛的连贯性。选项 D 为正确答案。

Unit One

SECTION A READING COMPREHENSION [25 MIN]

In this section there are four reading passages followed by questions or unfinished statements, each with four suggested answers marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one you think is the best answer.

TEXT A

Over the years, soap operas have been condemned as little more than “chewing-gum for the eyes”, harmful, corrupting and distracting agents in the daily lives of many thousands of people. Typically, soap viewers have been equally condemned and stereotyped for their addiction to this so-called mindless form of entertainment. Early accounts of the radio-soap listeners envisage groups of educationally backward, emotionally and socially deprived women, all eagerly tuning in to their favourite serial. The typical listener was thought to be a lower-class housewife, using soaps as a form of escapism from mundane isolation in the home and an indisputable source of advice on personal problems. However, the critical stance on this issue has become more diverse over the last decade, with an increase in academic research on the subject. Critics are no longer looking to condemn, and are now seeking to explain what it is that makes this genre so very appealing. It is clear that soap operas should not be dismissed as shameful addiction, and should be regarded more constructively as the essence of cultural articulation on all aspects of living within a given society.

Arguably, one should primarily consider the demands that soaps make of their viewers. It is typically assumed that the average viewer is a “fan”, whose relationship with their favourite programme is one of intense emotional identity. An individual may not be wholly involved with the programme in the emotional sense, but it is reasonable to assume that the viewer does have some prior knowledge of the series before sitting down to watch an episode. What becomes most pronounced is the sheer “openness” of the soap opera text. It is “open” in that it offers multiple levels of interpretation. Dorothy Hobson argues that viewers are free to choose from the infinite variety of readings within a given soap framework, and to be emotionally involved on different levels. Not only does soap opera resist any textual closure, but it thrives on the interplay between these multiple view-points.

The popularity of soaps does not appear to lie in any single, specific aspect of the genre, but is rather explained by combining the multiple reasons viewers have provided for watching their favourite programmes. Soaps are unique in that watching them seems to have become a skilled activity, that demands general knowledge of soap conventions, and the ability to mobilise memory stores that constitute the history of a specific scene. With regard to the notion of cultural competence, one scholar believes that women are highly “competent” readers of soap opera text, and that their skills improve with practice. The more one watches soaps, the more reason one has to tune in on a daily basis.

1. In the past, soap operas were believed to be able to
 - A. improve the intellect of the viewers.
 - B. relieve loneliness.
 - C. contribute to women’s liberation.
 - D. address social problems.

2. Today, the soap opera has been
 - A. greatly degraded.
 - B. grossly neglected.
 - C. more positively received.
 - D. over-praised.
3. If a soap opera resists textual closure, it most probably means
 - A. it is difficult to understand.
 - B. it fails to arouse emotional responses.
 - C. it has complex story lines.
 - D. it lends itself to different interpretations.
4. According to the passage, watching soap operas
 - A. presupposes certain knowledge.
 - B. is a political activity.
 - C. enhances one's knowledge of history.
 - D. is not an intellectual activity.

Word List

mindless	a. 不用动脑的
envisage	v. 想象
mundane	a. 平凡的, 世俗的

TEXT B

It is a truism to state that architecture composes the immediate physical environment of our lives. But here in America, we too often forget that high-quality architecture means more than that, and European architecture has demonstrated this repeatedly. Public-housing complexes in the Netherlands, where thoughtful design and good construction are the norm, consistently help to integrate marginalized groups (immigrants,

minorities, and the elderly, among others) into their larger communities with a combination of exciting forms and careful attention to the scale and proportions of the buildings in relation to their surrounding context. Innovative civic architecture such as the recent Vuotalo Cultural Center—a hybrid library, art gallery, theater, and café in Finland designed by the firm of Heikkinen-Komonen—serves to draw people out of their homes and into the public realm, encouraging them to identify with their communities and become more active in them.

It's not that Americans aren't interested in good architecture; after all, they often head to Europe on summer vacation. Europe has a longer history, more architectural monuments, and much denser and more richly textured cities. And it has both the old built fabric and the new architecture—some of it designed by American architects—that has captured the media's and the public's imagination: the Reichstag in Berlin, the *grands projets* of Paris, the new Tate Gallery in London, and the Guggenheim in Bilbao, Spain. American tourists make a point of visiting these buildings. Can anything similar be said about Europeans—or Americans, for that matter—who travel around the United States? Europeans who come here go to New York City, where they marvel more at the collective height of the buildings than at their individual quality (the CitiCorp Building and a few others notwithstanding). If they go elsewhere, it is often to revel in the spectacle of kitsch architecture at Disney World. Or to make pilgrimages to the Grand Canyon and Yosemite.

Among practicing architects here and abroad, it is axiomatic that there is much more contemporary architecture of high quality to be found in Europe than in the United States and that innovative, inspiring architecture—as well as architecture that is well built and long lasting—is constructed less frequently here than almost anywhere in Europe.

American architecture is, as a rule, conventional, bland, and dull. This is true almost across the board: from public buildings sponsored by federal or state governments to commercial buildings; from privately sponsored civic institutions, such as museums and concert halls, to local community centers and religious sanctuaries; from public-housing projects to private housing. Our built environment delivers a clear message: We think that high-quality, thought-provoking, innovative buildings — whether institutional or commercial, residential or private — are a luxury or a frivolity.

5. The first paragraph emphasizes the _____ of European architecture.
 - A. artistic design
 - B. social function
 - C. rich texture
 - D. cultural origins
6. The author mentions CitiCorp Building (para. 2) in order to
 - A. point out an exception.
 - B. strengthen a major point.
 - C. illustrate a major argument.
 - D. give an explanation.
7. Which of the following statements is true?
 - A. Americans don't want to build high-quality buildings.
 - B. Americans are unable to design high-quality architecture.
 - C. Americans enjoy living in dull and bland buildings.
 - D. Americans enjoy luxury or frivolity.
8. The author's attitude towards American architecture is
 - A. critical.
 - B. sympathetic.
 - C. somewhat favorable.