

新活力英语丛书

考研英语全真试题解析

(1997~2004)

余高峰 华 燕 李 川 编著



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前 言

自 1978 年实行全国研究生入学考试以来,英语一直是门举足轻重的科目。英语科目考试的好坏,往往成了考生能否被录取的关键,许多考生因英语成绩未能达线而遗憾终生。

为了帮助广大考生在尽可能短的时间内更好地了解全国英语统一考试试题的结构,掌握命题原则,使自己的语言知识和语言能力在考试中得到充分的发挥,我们特组织编写了《考研英语全真试题解析》一书。本书对 1997~2004 年全国硕士研究生入学考试英语全真试题进行了精辟的解析和详细的解答,试题的解析既紧扣考题特点,又兼顾考生的学习实际,具有较强的针对性和启发性,可谓是广大考生的良师益友。

我们相信,广大考生如能认真学习此书,对其备考将大有裨益,能达到事半功倍的效果。

本书的作者多年来一直从事研究生英语教学和考研辅导工作,教学经验相当丰富,对历年考题的命题特点和考生存在的问题有深刻的认识和体会。

在本书的编写过程中,我们得到了付爱莲、郭永霞、张志伟等同志的大力帮助,在此我们一并向他们表示衷心的感谢!我们也衷心希望广大考生能认真、踏实地学习此书,顺利地获取高分,圆自己的考研梦。

编 者

2004 年 2 月于上海

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第一部分 全真试题

全国硕士研究生入学统一考试英语试题

1997 年卷

Part I Structure and Vocabulary

Section A (5 points)

Directions: *Beneath each of the following sentences, there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET by blackening the corresponding letter in the brackets.*

Example:

I have been to the Great Wall three times _____ 1979.

- A) from B) after C) for D) since

The sentence should read, "I have been to the Great Wall three times since 1979." Therefore, you should choose D.

Sample Answer [A] [B] [C] [●]

- The Social Security Retirement Program is made up of two trust funds, _____ could go penniless by next year.
A) the larger one B) the larger of which
C) the largest one D) the largest of which
- Nowhere in nature is aluminum found free, owing to its always _____ with other elements, most commonly with oxygen.
A) combined B) having combined
C) combine D) being combined
- Andrew, my father's younger brother, will not be at the picnic, _____ to the family's disappointment.
A) much B) more C) too much D) much more
- I would have gone to visit him in the hospital had it been at all possible, but I _____ fully occupied the whole of last week.
A) were B) had been C) have been D) was
- Help will come from the UN, but the aid will be _____ near what's needed.
A) everywhere B) somewhere C) nowhere D) anywhere

6. The chief reason for the population growth isn't so much a rise in birth rates _____ a fall in death rates as a result of improvements in medical care.
A) and B) as C) but D) or
7. He claims to be an expert in astronomy, but in actual fact he is quite ignorant on the subject. _____ he knows about it is out of date and inaccurate.
A) What little B) So much C) How much D) So little
8. Although we feel dissatisfied with the election results, we have to become reconciled _____ the decision made by our fellow countrymen.
A) for B) on C) to D) in
9. Just as the value of a telephone network increases with each new phone _____ to the system, so does the value of a computer system increase with each program that turns out.
A) adding B) to have added C) to add D) added
10. The vocabulary and grammatical differences between British and American English are so trivial and few as hardly _____.
A) noticed B) to be noticed C) being noticed D) to notice

Section B**(5 points)**

Directions: Each of the following sentences has four underlined parts marked A, B, C and D. Identify the part of the sentence that is incorrect and mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET by blackening the corresponding letter in the brackets.

Example:

A number of foreign visitors were taken to the industrial exhibition which they saw many new products.
A B C D

Answer C is wrong. The sentence should read, "A number of foreign visitors were taken to the industrial exhibition where they saw many new products." So you should choose C.

Sample Answer [A] [B] [●] [D]

11. Although Professor Green's lectures usually ran over the fifty-minute period, but none of his students ever objected as they found his lectures both informative and interesting.
A B C D
12. When Edison died, it was proposed that the American people turned off all power in their homes, streets, and factories for several minutes in honor of this great man.
A B C D

13. They pointed out the damage which they supposed that had been done by last night's storm.
 A B C D
14. Because of the recent accidents, our parents forbid my brother and me from swimming in the river unless someone agrees to watch over us.
 A B C D
15. A great many teachers firmly believe that English is one of the poorest-taught subjects in high schools at present.
 A B C D
16. In this way these insects show an efficient use of their sound-produced ability, organizing two sounds delivered at a high rate as one call.
 B C D
17. I thought the technician was to blame for the blowing of the fuse, but I see now how I was mistaken.
 A B C D
18. For him to be re-elected, what is essential is not that his policy works, but that the public believe that it is.
 A B C D
19. As far as I am concerned, his politics are rather conservative compared with other politicians.
 A B C D
20. I'd say whenever you are going after something that is belonging to you, anyone who is depriving you of the right to have it is criminal.
 A B C D

Section C

(10 points)

Directions: *Beneath each of the following sentences, there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that best completes the sentence. Mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET by blackening the corresponding letter in the brackets.*

Example:

The lost car of the Lees was found _____ in the woods off the highway.

A) vanished B) scattered C) abandoned D) rejected

The sentence should read, "The lost car of the Lees was found abandoned in the woods off the highway." Therefore, you should choose C.

Sample Answer [A] [B] [●] [D]

21. When workers are organized in trade unions, employers find it hard to lay them _____.
- A) off B) aside C) out D) down
22. The wealth of a country should be measured _____ the health and happiness of its people as well as the material goods it can produce.
- A) in line with B) in terms of C) in regard with D) by means of
23. He has failed me so many times that I no longer place any _____ on what he promises.
- A) faith B) belief C) credit D) reliance
24. My students found the book _____ — it provided them with an abundance of information on the subject.
- A) enlightening B) confusing C) distracting D) amusing
25. Nobody yet knows how long and how seriously the shakiness in the financial system will _____ down the economy.
- A) put B) settle C) drag D) knock
26. In this factory the machines are not regulated _____ but are jointly controlled by a central computer system.
- A) independently B) individually C) irrespectively D) irregularly
27. Every chemical change either results from energy being used to produce the change, or causes energy to be _____ in some form.
- A) given off B) put out C) set off D) used up
28. If businessmen are taxed too much, they will no longer be motivated to work hard, with the result that incomes from taxation might actually _____.
- A) shrink B) delay C) disperse D) sink
29. American companies are evolving from mass-production manufacturing to _____ enterprises.
- A) moveable B) changing C) flexible D) varying
30. If you know what the trouble is, why don't you help them to _____ the situation?
- A) simplify B) modify C) verify D) rectify
31. I can't _____ what has happened to the vegetables, for they were freshly picked this morning.
- A) figure out B) draw out C) look out D) work out
32. I tried very hard to persuade him to join our group but I met with a flat _____.
- A) disapproval B) rejection C) refusal D) decline
33. From this material we can _____ hundreds of what you may call direct products.
- A) derive B) discern C) diminish D) displace

34. She had clearly no _____ of doing any work, although she was very well paid.
A) tendency B) ambition C) intention D) willingness
35. What seems confusing or fragmented at first might well become _____ a third time.
A) clean and measurable B) notable and systematic
C) pure and wholesome D) clear and organic
36. The public opinion was that the time was not _____ for the election of such a radical candidate as Mr. Jones.
A) reasonable B) ripe C) ready D) practical
37. Hudson said he could not kill a living thing except for the _____ of hunger.
A) sensation B) cause C) purpose D) motive
38. For the new country to survive, _____ for its people to enjoy prosperity, new economic policies will be required.
A) to name a few B) let alone C) not to speak D) let's say
39. Foreign disinvestment and the _____ of South Africa from world capital markets after 1985 further weakened its economy.
A) displacement B) elimination C) exclusion D) exception
40. When a number of people _____ together in a conversational knot, each individual expresses his position in the group by where he stands.
A) pad B) pack C) squeeze D) cluster

Part II**Cloze Test****(10 points)**

Directions: For each numbered blank in the following passage, there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the best one and mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET by blackening the corresponding letter in the brackets.

Manpower Inc., with 560,000 workers, is the world's largest temporary employment agency. Every morning, its people 41 into the offices and factories of America, seeking a day's work for a day's pay. One day at a time. 42 industrial giants like General Motors and IBM struggle to survive 43 reducing the number of employees, Manpower, based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is booming.

44 its economy continues to recover, the US is increasingly becoming a nation of part timers and temporary workers. This "45" work force is the most important 46 in American business today, and it is 47 changing the relationship between people and their jobs. The phenomenon provides a way for companies to remain globally competitive 48 avoiding market cycles and the growing burdens 49 by

employment rules, healthcare costs and pension plans. For workers it can mean an end to the security, benefits and sense of 50 that came from being a loyal employee.

41. A) swarm B) stride C) separate D) slip
 42. A) For B) Because C) As D) Since
 43. A) from B) in C) on D) by
 44. A) Even though B) Now that C) If only D) Provided that
 45. A) durable B) disposable C) available D) transferable
 46. A) approach B) flow C) fashion D) trend
 47. A) instantly B) reversely C) fundamentally D) sufficiently
 48. A) but B) while C) and D) whereas
 49. A) imposed B) restricted C) illustrated D) confined
 50. A) excitement B) conviction C) enthusiasm D) importance

Part III

Reading Comprehension

(40 points)

Directions: *Each of the passages below is followed by some questions. For each question there are four answers marked A, B, C and D. Read the passages carefully and choose the best answer to each of the questions. Then mark your answer on the ANSWER SHEET by blackening the corresponding letter in the brackets.*

Passage 1

It was 3:45 in the morning when the vote was finally taken. After six months of arguing and final 16 hours of hot parliamentary debates, Australia's Northern Territory became the first legal authority in the world to allow doctors to take the lives of incurably ill patients who wish to die. The measure passed by the convincing vote of 15 to 10. Almost immediately word flashed on the Internet and was picked up, half a world away, by John Hofsess, executive director of the Right to Die Society of Canada. He sent it on via the group's on line service, Death NET. Says Hofsess: "We posted bulletins all day long, because of course this isn't just something that happened in Australia. It's world history."

The full import may take a while to sink in. The NT Rights of the Terminally III law has left physicians and citizens alike trying to deal with its moral and practical implications. Some have breathed sighs of relief, others, including churches, right to life groups and the Australian Medical Association, bitterly attacked the bill and the haste of its passage. But the tide is unlikely to turn back. In Australia — where an aging population, life extending technology and changing community attitudes have all

played their part — other states are going to consider making a similar law to deal with euthanasia. In the US and Canada, where the right to die movement is gathering strength, observers are waiting for the dominoes to start falling.

Under the new Northern Territory law, an adult patient can request death — probably by a deadly injection or pill — to put an end to suffering. The patient must be diagnosed as terminally ill by two doctors. After a “cooling off” period of seven days, the patient can sign a certificate of request. After 48 hours the wish for death can be met. For Lloyd Nickson, a 54-year-old Darwin resident suffering from lung cancer, the NT Rights of Terminally Ill law means he can get on with living without the haunting fear of his suffering: a terrifying death from his breathing condition. “I’m not afraid of dying from a spiritual point of view, but what I was afraid of was how I’d go, because I’ve watched people die in the hospital fighting for oxygen and clawing at their masks,” he says.

51. From the second paragraph we learn that _____.
- A) the objection to euthanasia is slow to come in other countries
 - B) physicians and citizens share the same view on euthanasia
 - C) changing technology is chiefly responsible for the hasty passage of the law
 - D) it takes time to realize the significance of the law’s passage
52. When the author says that observers are waiting for the dominoes to start falling, he means _____.
- A) observers are taking a wait-and-see attitude towards the future of euthanasia
 - B) similar bills are likely to be passed in the US, Canada and other countries
 - C) observers are waiting to see the result of the game of dominoes
 - D) the effect-taking process of the passed bill may finally come to a stop
53. When Lloyd Nickson dies, he will _____.
- A) face his death with calm characteristic of euthanasia
 - B) experience the suffering of a lung cancer patient
 - C) have an intense fear of terrible suffering
 - D) undergo a cooling off period of seven days
54. The author’s attitude towards euthanasia seems to be that of _____.
- A) opposition
 - B) suspicion
 - C) approval
 - D) indifference

Passage 2

A report consistently brought back by visitors to the US is how friendly, courteous, and helpful most Americans were to them. To be fair, this observation is also frequently made of Canada and Canadians, and should best be considered North

American. There are, of course, exceptions. Small-minded officials, rude waiters, and ill-mannered taxi drivers are hardly unknown in the US. Yet it is an observation made so frequently that it deserves comment.

For a long period of time and in many parts of the country, a traveler was a welcome break in an otherwise dull existence. Dullness and loneliness were common problems of the families who generally lived distant from one another. Strangers and travelers were welcome sources of diversion, and brought news of the outside world.

The harsh realities of the frontier also shaped this tradition of hospitality. Someone traveling alone, if hungry, injured, or ill, often had nowhere to turn except to the nearest cabin or settlement. It was not a matter of choice for the traveler or merely a charitable impulse on the part of the settlers. It reflected the harshness of daily life; if you didn't take in the stranger and take care of him, there was no one else who would. And someday, remember, you might be in the same situation.

Today there are many charitable organizations which specialize in helping the weary traveler. Yet, the old tradition of hospitality to strangers is still very strong in the US, especially in the smaller cities and towns away from the busy tourist trails. "I was just traveling through, got talking with this American, and pretty soon he invited me home for dinner — amazing." Such observations reported by visitors to the US are not uncommon, but are not always understood properly. The casual friendliness of many Americans should be interpreted neither as superficial nor as artificial, but as the result of a historically developed cultural tradition.

As is true of any developed society, in America a complex set of cultural signals, assumptions, and conventions underlies all social interrelationships. And, of course, speaking a language does not necessarily mean that someone understands social and cultural patterns. Visitors who fail to "translate" cultural meanings properly often draw wrong conclusions. For example, when an American uses the word "friend", the cultural implications of the word may be quite different from those it has in the visitor's language and culture. It takes more than a brief encounter on a bus to distinguish between courteous convention and individual interest. Yet, being friendly is a virtue that many Americans value highly and expect from both neighbors and strangers.

55. In the eyes of visitors from the outside world, _____.

- A) rude taxi drivers are rarely seen in the US
- B) small-minded officials deserve a serious comment
- C) Canadians are not so friendly as their neighbors
- D) most Americans are ready to offer help

56. It could be inferred from the last paragraph that _____.

- A) culture exercises an influence over social interrelationship
B) courteous convention and individual interest are interrelated
C) various virtues manifest themselves exclusively among friends
D) social interrelationships equal the complex set of cultural conventions
57. Families in frontier settlements used to entertain strangers _____.
A) to improve their hard life
B) in view of their long-distance travel
C) to add some flavor to their own daily life
D) out of a charitable impulse
58. The tradition of hospitality to strangers _____.
A) tends to be superficial and artificial
B) is generally well kept up in the United States
C) is always understood properly
D) has something to do with the busy tourist trails

Passage 3

Technically, any substance other than food that alters our bodily or mental functioning is a drug. Many people mistakenly believe the term **drug** refers only to some sort of medicine or an illegal chemical taken by drug addicts. They don't realize that familiar substances such as alcohol and tobacco are also drugs. This is why the more neutral term **substance** is now used by many physicians and psychologists. The phrase "substance abuse" is often used instead of "drug abuse" to make clear that substances such as alcohol and tobacco can be just as harmfully misused as heroin and cocaine.

We live a society in which the medicinal and social use of substances (drugs) is pervasive: an aspirin to quiet a headache, some wine to be sociable, coffee to get going in the morning, a cigarette for the nerves. When do these socially acceptable and apparently constructive uses of a substance become misuses? First of all, most substances taken in excess will produce negative effects such as poisoning or intense perceptual distortions. Repeated use of a substance can also lead to physical addiction or substance dependence. Dependence is marked first by an increased tolerance, with more and more of the substance required to produce the desired effect, and then by the appearance of unpleasant withdrawal symptoms when the substance is discontinued.

Drugs (substances) that affect the central nervous system and alter perception, mood, and behavior are known as psychoactive substances. Psychoactive substances are commonly grouped according to whether they are stimulants, depressants, or hallucinogens. Stimulants initially speed up or activate the central nervous system, whereas depressants slow it down. Hallucinogens have their primary effect on

perception, distorting and altering it in a variety of ways including producing hallucinations. These are the substances often called *psychedelic* (from the Greek word meaning “mind-manifesting”) because they seemed to radically alter one’s state of consciousness.

59. “Substance abuse” (Line 6, Paragraph 1) is preferable to “drug abuse” in that _____.
- A) substances can alter our bodily or mental functioning if illegally used
 - B) “drug abuse” is only related to a limited number of drug takers
 - C) alcohol and tobacco are as fatal as heroin and cocaine
 - D) many substances other than heroin or cocaine can also be poisonous
60. The word “pervasive” (Line 2, Paragraph 2) might mean _____.
- A) widespread
 - B) overwhelming
 - C) piercing
 - D) fashionable
61. Physical dependence on certain substances results from _____.
- A) uncontrolled consumption of them over long periods of time
 - B) exclusive use of them for social purposes
 - C) quantitative application of them to the treatment of diseases
 - D) careless employment of them for unpleasant symptoms
62. From the last paragraph we can infer that _____.
- A) stimulants function positively on the mind
 - B) hallucinogens are in themselves harmful to health
 - C) depressants are the worst type of psychoactive substances
 - D) the three types of psychoactive substances are commonly used in groups

Passage 4

No company likes to be told it is contributing to the moral decline of a nation. “Is this what you intended to accomplish with your careers?” Senator Robert Dole asked Time Warner executives last week. “You have sold your souls, but must you corrupt our nation and threaten our children as well?” At Time Warner, however, such questions are simply the latest manifestation of the soul searching that has involved the company ever since the company was born in 1990. It’s a self-examination that has, at various times, involved issues of responsibility, creative freedom and the corporate bottom line.

At the core of this debate is chairman Gerald Levin, 56, who took over for the late Steve Ross in 1992. On the financial front, Levin is under pressure to raise the stock price and reduce the company’s mountainous debt, which will increase to 17.3 billion after two new cable deals close. He has promised to sell off some of the property and restructure the company, but investors are waiting impatiently.

The flap over rap is not making life any easier for him. Levin has consistently defended the company's rap music on the grounds of expression. In 1992, when Time Warner was under fire for releasing Ice T's violent rap song *Cop Killer*, Levin described rap as a lawful expression of street culture, which deserves an outlet. "The test of any democratic society," he wrote in a *Wall Street Journal* column, "lies not in how well it can control expression but in whether it gives freedom of thought and expression the widest possible latitude, however disputable or irritating the results may sometimes be. We won't retreat in the face of any threats."

Levin would not comment on the debate last week, but there were signs that the chairman was backing off his hard line stand, at least to some extent. During the discussion of rock singing verses at last month's stockholders' meeting, Levin asserted that "music is not the cause of society's ills" and even cited his son, a teacher in the Bronx, New York, who uses rap to communicate with students. But he talked as well about the "balanced struggle" between creative freedom and social responsibility, and he announced that the company would launch a drive to develop standards for distribution and labeling of potentially objectionable music.

The 15-member Time Warner board is generally supportive of Levin and his corporate strategy. But insiders say several of them have shown their concerns in this matter. "Some of us have known for many, many years that the freedoms under the First Amendment are not totally unlimited," says Luce. "I think it is perhaps the case that some people associated with the company have only recently come to realize this."

63. Senator Robert Dole criticized Time Warner for _____.
A) its raising of the corporate stock price
B) its self-examination of soul
C) its neglect of social responsibility
D) its emphasis on creative freedom
64. According to the passage, which of the following is TRUE?
A) Luce is a spokesman of Time Warner.
B) Gerald Levin is liable to compromise.
C) Time Warner is united as one in the face of the debate.
D) Stever Ross is no longer alive.
65. In face of the recent attacks on the company, the chairman _____.
A) stuck to a strong stand to defend freedom of expression
B) softened his tone and adopted some new policy
C) changed his attitude and yielded to objection
D) received more support from the 15-member board

66. The best title for this passage could be _____.
- A) A Company under Fire B) A Debate on Moral Decline
C) A Lawful Outlet of Street Culture D) A Form of Creative Freedom

Passage 5

Much of the language used to describe monetary policy, such as “steering the economy to a soft landing” or “a touch on the brakes”, makes it sound like a precise science. Nothing could be further from the truth. The link between interest rates and inflation is uncertain. And there are long, variable lags before policy changes have any effect on the economy. Hence the analogy that likens the conduct of monetary policy to driving a car with a blackened windscreen, a cracked rear view mirror and a faulty steering wheel.

Given all these disadvantages, central bankers seem to have had much to boast about of late. Average inflation in the big seven industrial economies fell to a mere 2.3% last year, close to its lowest level in 30 years, before rising slightly to 2.5% this July. This is a long way below the double-digit rates which many countries experienced in the 1970s and early 1980s.

It is also less than most forecasters had predicated. In late 1994 the panel of economists which The Economist polls each month said that America's inflation rate would average 3.5% in 1995. In fact, it fell to 2.6% in August, and expected to average only about 3% for the year as a whole. In Britain and Japan inflation is running half a percentage point below the rate predicted at the end of last year. This is no flash in the pan; over the past couple of years, inflation has been consistently lower than expected in Britain and America.

Economists have been particularly surprised by favorable inflation figures in Britain and the United States, since conventional measures suggest that both economies, and especially America's, have little productive slack. America's capacity utilization, for example, has historically high levels earlier this year, and its jobless rate (5.6% in August) has fallen below most estimates of the natural rate of unemployment — the rate below which inflation has taken off in the past.

Why has inflation proved so mild? The most thrilling explanation is, unfortunately, a little defective. Some economists argue that powerful structural changes in the world have up-ended the old economic models that were based upon the historical link between growth and inflation.

67. From the passage we learn that _____.
- A) there is a definite relationship between inflation and interest rates

- B) economy will always follow certain models
C) the economic situation is better than expected
D) economists had foreseen the present economic situation
68. According to the passage, which of the following is TRUE?
A) Making monetary policies is comparable to driving a car.
B) An extremely low jobless rate will lead to inflation.
C) A high unemployment rate will result from inflation.
D) Interest rates have an immediate effect on the economy.
69. The sentence "This is no flash in the pan" (Line 5, Paragraph 3) means that _____.
A) the low inflation rate will last for some time
B) the inflation rate will soon rise
C) the inflation will disappear quickly
D) there is no inflation at present
70. The passage shows that the author is _____ the present situation.
A) critical of B) puzzled by C) disappointed at D) amazed at

Part IV**English-Chinese Translation****(15 points)**

Directions: *Read the following passage carefully and then translate the underlined sentences into Chinese.*

Do animals have rights? This is how the question is usually put. It sounds like a useful, ground clearing way to start. (71) Actually, it isn't, because it assumes that there is an agreed account of human rights, which is something the world does not have.

On one view of rights, to be sure, it necessarily follows that animals have none. (72) Some philosophers argue that rights exist only within a social contract, as part of an exchange of duties and entitlements. Therefore, animals cannot have rights. The idea of punishing a tiger that kills somebody is absurd, for exactly the same reason, so is the idea that tigers have rights. However, this is only one account, and by no means an uncontested one. It denies rights not only to animals but also to some people — for instance to infants, the mentally incapable and future generations. In addition, it is unclear what force a contract can have for people who never consented to it, how do you reply to somebody who says "I don't like this contract"?

The point is this; without agreement on the rights of people, arguing about the rights of animals is fruitless. (73) It leads the discussion to extremes at the outset; it invites you to think that animals should be treated either with the consideration humans extend to other humans, or with no consideration at all. This is a false choice. Better to start with another,