

根据高考英语试题题型编写

英语阅读全解

(高中卷)

尹福昌 主编

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前 言

在英语听、说、读、写、译各种语言技能的教学中,阅读理解能力培养占有极其重要的地位。国家教委颁布的、现行的全日制高级中学《英语教学大纲》明确指出:“在高中英语教学中,听、说、读、写要进行综合训练,在进一步提高听说能力的同时,侧重培养阅读能力。阅读是理解和吸收书面信息的能力,有助于扩大词汇量,丰富语言知识,了解英语国家的社会文化背景。要指导学生查阅词典、语法书等工具书,鼓励学生根据上下文猜测词义,使学生逐渐获得独立阅读的能力。因此,在教学中应尽可能加强听读训练,特别要注意增加泛读的训练。”

对于英语学习者来说,听、说、读、写、译五会能力中,读是最基本的要求。在一般人心目中,读似乎应比其他四会容易。掌握 2000~3000 个词汇,借助词典阅读较浅易的文章,确实比听电台的英文广播、用英文和别人交谈或通信要容易一些。但要真正流畅地阅读英文原著,没有庞大的词汇和广博的背景知识,或未曾经过大量的阅读训练,则很难实现。阅读报刊等一般性文章约需 5000~7000 个词汇,阅读文学作品则需要 10000 个或 10000 个以上词汇,涉及到各种专业的题材,又须掌握一批特定的词汇,可见词汇是造成阅读困难的一大原因。目前中学里所学到的 3000 个左右词汇是远远不够的,因此我们有一个努力扩大词汇的任务。反之,熟练地掌握 2000 个甚至 3000 个词汇,我们就可以和英美人交谈和通信,如果有了 4000~5000 个词汇,我们就能大体上听懂英美电台的一般性节目,这岂不证明其他三会比阅读有容易的地方,词义变化多端,再加上西方人的行文习惯和幽默,往往使中国读者在许多地方理解失误,因此透过表面深入内涵亦是阅读理解的训练任务。

我国中学的英语教学有一种偏颇,即太注重精读而忽视了泛读。一篇课文慢咀细嚼,一学期还学不完一册书。如果仅限于此,中学毕业估

计总共念了4万字英文。因此有必要大量补充阅读,至少应读完10倍于课本的文字,也即40万字。英美学生或在英美的中国留学生,往往每天要完成老师布置的100页以上的阅读任务,如此大的量,不进行快速阅读怎么行。精泛读结合是刻不容缓的当务之急,凡有志于学好英文的人,应每天抽一定时间,哪怕十分钟于阅读,聚涓成河,集腋成裘,不断提高自己的阅读速度,锻炼自己的理解能力。

阅读贵在聚精会神。有时虽逐字逐句读一篇文章,却因心不在焉而不知所云,这时还不如快速扫视,反而能略知其要;有时为了训练默不出声地快读,虽眼睛扫描着文字,脑中却未形成印象,这时宜暂且放慢速度,至少要稍微缓慢一点地读开首段落和每段的开首句,得其脉络后再开始扫描。读书应该是有目的的活动,即使是随手翻翻,也包含着一定的寻求。只有专心致志才能读得快、吸收得多。因此凝神贯注是快速有效阅读的精髓所在。

本书所选的阅读材料难度基本上相当于高考英语试卷,检测题型与上海高考卷一致,所选文章的题材也是根据上述考试阅读理解部分的要求而确定的,有政治、经济、文化、教育、天文地理、交通运输、生态环境、文史哲学、科普、社会生活、人物传记及风土人情等方面的文章。其中以自然科学、文化教育、社会风俗、心理行为等方面的文章居多。很多题材都反映了当今社会各种新的社会现象和科技新发展,有助于读者开阔视野,扩大知识面,加深对世界的了解,借鉴和吸收外国优秀的文化精华,提高文化素养。总之,所选材料集知识性、趣味性、科学性、可读性于一体,也是进行素质教育的理想读物。

本书由尹福昌老师主编。参加本书编写的还有许曼华,肖颖,李强,陈明,王丽敏,张明华,江涛,郑萍,李江,黄铭吉等。

由于编者水平有限,缺点在所难免,敬请读者批评指正。

编者

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Step 1

Directions: *Read the following four passages. Each passage is followed by several questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that fits best according to the information given in the passage you have just read.*

(A)

A man once said how useless it was to put advertisements in the newspapers. “Last week,” said he, “my umbrella was stolen from a London church. As it was a present, I spent twice its worth in advertising, but didn’t get it back.”

“How did you write your advertisement?” asked one of the listeners, a merchant.

“Here it is,” said the man, taking out of his pocket a slip cut from a newspaper. The other man took it and read, “Lost from the City Church last Sunday evening, a black silk umbrella. The gentleman who finds it will receive ten shillings on leaving it at No. 10 Broad Street.”

“Now,” said the merchant, “I often advertise, and find that it pays me well. But the way in which an advertisement is expressed is of extreme importance. Let us try for your umbrella again, and if it fails, I’ll buy you a new one.”

The merchant then took a slip of paper of his pocket and wrote: “If the man who was seen to take an umbrella from the City Church last Sunday evening doesn’t wish to get into trouble, he will return the umbrella to No. 10 Broad Street. He is well known.”

This appeared in the paper, and on the following morning, the man was astonished when he opened the front door. In the doorway lay at least twelve umbrellas of all sizes and colors that had been thrown in, and his own was among the number. Many of them had notes fastened to them saying that they had been taken by mistake, and begging the

loser not to say anything about the matter.

1. The man once thought advertising was _____.
 - A. of little use
 - B. of some use
 - C. practical
 - D. valuable
2. The merchant suggested that the man should _____.
 - A. buy a new umbrella
 - B. go on looking for his umbrella
 - C. write another better advertisement
 - D. report it to the police
3. Why did the merchant say “I often advertise and find that it pays me well”?
 - A. He knew how to advertise.
 - B. He had more money for advertising.
 - C. He found it easy to advertise.
 - D. He had a friend in the newspaper where he advertised.
4. This is a story about _____.
 - A. a useless advertisement
 - B. how to make an effective advertisement
 - C. how the man lost and found his umbrella
 - D. what the merchant did for the umbrella owner

(B)

Medical science has collected a lot of information about sleepwalking, yet much remains unknown as well. Classic sleepwalking most often occurs in otherwise healthy children, usually from age 6 to 12. What causes sleepwalking? It is genetic(遗传的). There are many ways that can set off sleepwalking in a person. For example, the sleepwalker is asked to travel across time zones or takes medicine. But still we do not know why they are effective. Scientists have found that while sleeping, the sleepwalker's parts of the brain that control sleeping and walking are still working while the other parts of the brain are in a state of rest.

The sleepwalker's action may be simple, such as sitting up in bed or walking about, or more complex, such as dressing and undressing or going to the bathroom. Some sleepwalkers have even driven cars.

Some scientists describe sleepwalking as a state between sleeping and wakefulness. What a person experiences during this state is the biggest secret of all. The sleepwalker will usually have a blank(无表情的) face and be not able to conduct conversations with other people. When they are awoken, sleepwalkers are generally not able to remember anything about their experience. Scientists do not know what they have been going through, because they can not tell you what they have done.

Some statistics show that sleepwalking occurs in 10 to 30 percent of all children, and 1 to 7 percent of all adults. This shows that sleepwalking is more popular among children than among adults.

5. From the passage we know that medical scientists _____.
 - A. have had a complete knowledge of sleepwalking
 - B. know nothing about the cause of sleepwalking
 - C. have invented some new medicine for sleepwalking
 - D. have not yet solved every problem about sleepwalking
6. What is the cause of sleepwalking?
 - A. One gets it from his older generations.
 - B. One travels across time zones.
 - C. One takes too much medicine.
 - D. One's brain is too active.
7. According to the passage, the number of child sleepwalkers is _____.
 - A. much larger than that of adult sleepwalkers
 - B. almost the same as that of adult sleepwalkers
 - C. smaller than that of adult sleepwalkers
 - D. not so astonishing as that of adult sleepwalkers
8. Which of the following about sleepwalking is TRUE according to the passage?
 - A. Doctors have found effective ways to cure sleepwalking.
 - B. Sleepwalking can be cured easily.
 - C. When some children are grown up, their sleepwalking may disappear.
 - D. Once developed, sleepwalking cannot be cured.

(C)

Nothing was going right for Dr. Turner at the hospital. He made a mistake while operating on a patient. He felt sure he was no longer

trusted and decided to change his job. One day he learned from the paper that a doctor was looking for a partner. The doctor, whose name was Johnson, lived in Thorby, a small town in the north of England.

A few days later Dr. Turner went to Thorby, and arrived at Dr. Johnson's home early in the afternoon. Though old and a little deaf, Dr. Johnson still had a good brain. He kept talking to the visitor about the town and its people. When they turned to the question of partnership, it was already seven in the evening. Dr. Johnson invited Dr. Turner to have dinner with him in a restaurant before catching the train back to London. Dr. Turner noticed that Dr. Johnson was fond of good food and expensive wines. They had an excellent meal. When the bill was brought, Dr. Johnson felt in his pocket. "Oh, dear," he said. "I've forgotten my money." "That's all right," Dr. Turner said. "I'll pay the bill." As he did so, he began to wonder whether Dr. Johnson was worthy of trust.

9. Dr. Turner decided to leave his present job because _____.
 - A. he had never been trusted
 - B. it demanded too great skills
 - C. he believed it offered little hope for his future
 - D. he thought the hospital would like him to leave
10. The two doctors spent most of the afternoon talking about _____.
 - A. things of no interest to Dr. Johnson
 - B. things of no importance to Dr. Turner
 - C. health matters
 - D. food and drink
11. The story suggests that _____.
 - A. Dr. Johnson did not like Dr. Turner
 - B. the two doctors would become friends
 - C. the two doctors would not work together
 - D. Dr. Turner decided to stay at his present job

(D)

If you can find a tree which has been cut down, you will see many rings, or circles, on the base of the trunk. By learning to read these

rings, you can find out about the tree's life.

The number of rings tells you how old the tree is. Each year, new wood is formed on the outside of the tree. This new wood is light in colour when the tree is growing in spring and summer, and dark in winter when the tree is not growing much. So, if you count the rings of dark-or-light-coloured wood, you can often find out how old the tree is.

You can also tell which years have been good years and which years have been bad years. When the light-coloured rings are very wide, it means that the tree has been growing quickly that year. If the light rings are narrow, it has been growing slowly. If the rings on a tree trunk were greatly magnified(放大), you would be able to see why the rings are light-coloured when the tree is growing quickly, and dark-coloured when the tree is growing slowly. The tree trunk is made up of microscopic tubes(毛细管), like long pipes, carrying water from the soil, through the trunk, and up to the leaves. They are wide and thin-walled when the tree is growing quickly and they are carrying a lot of water. They are narrow and stuck together when the tree is not growing so quickly.

When a tree is old, the tubes in the centre of the tree don't carry water. The walls of the tubes have become thick with materials which have stuck along them over the years, forming a kind of wood called "heartwood". This kind of wood is darker in colour than the young, growing wood on the outside of the tree.

You don't very often see whole tree trunks which have been cut across. But once you learn to read a cross section of the wood, you can see much more in wood which has been used to make boxes, houses, and other things.

In most wood, instead of seeing the trunk cut across, you are seeing it cut along its length. Because you don't see the whole tree, you can't tell how old it was.

12. The writer says you can tell the age of a tree by _____.

- A. the rings on the outside of the tree
- B. the colour of its rings
- C. the size of the base of its trunk

- D. the number of rings in its trunk
13. When the wood of a tree is mostly light in colour, this means that the tree _____.
 A. only grew in summer B. only grew in winter
 C. grew quickly D. grew slowly
14. Heartwood is wood which is _____.
 A. slow-growing B. younger and lighter in colour
 C. fast-growing D. older and darker in colour
15. If all the rings in the cross section of a tree trunk are wide and about the same width, then we can tell that the tree _____.
 A. grew slowly when it was young and more quickly later
 B. grew quickly when it was young and more slowly later
 C. grew slowly all its life
 D. grew quickly all its life

(E)

Directions: Read the following text and choose the most suitable heading from A-F for each paragraph. There is one extra heading which you do not need.

- | |
|---|
| A. Difficult to cope with her studies
B. A strong character
C. Study coming first
D. Easy to get credits
E. Happy with her job
F. Not good at writing essays |
|---|

16. _____ Florence Sephton is 77 and lives in Deganwy, North Wales. She is reading for an arts degree. "I'm more of a creature to polish my mind than polish my furniture. The house takes second place while I put the studying first."
17. _____ "I was very happy at school and had wonderful teaching. I passed the university entrance examination and was ready to go to university but with World War II I went into banking. I was paid £1 a week. Manchester University kept my place open for three years but I was enjoying the money and the freedom so I turned it down."

18. _____ Mrs. Sephton is now in the second year of her Open University course and is finding it hard work. “I’m feeling tired more frequently. I can’t do more than an hour’s work at a time. The memory’s shocking. I’m supposed to be reviewing and I look up notes I took earlier this year and think,” Have you read this before? “So I’m doing it very slowly—one credit(学分) a year, so it’ll take six years.”
19. _____ “At the moment the greatest reward is simply the increase in knowledge—and the discipline. I had an essay failed this week. The professor said I hadn’t answered the question. I’ve been thinking about it all week. I know I haven’t got the facility(能力) for essay construction. I just let myself go and get excited. I feel more emotionally than I do mentally. I’m very ordinary really.”
20. _____ While claiming to be ordinary and lazy, Mrs. Sephton is still working hard daily at her assignments. Mrs. Sephton sees her studies as keeping her fit and independent. “Because of my life I’ve been self-sufficient. It’s not a very nice characteristic. It means I don’t care enough about people. I can’t say I find comfort in what I’m learning, so I’ll be interested to see if there’s a life ahead.”

Step 2

Directions: Read the following four passages. Each passage is followed by several questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the one that fits best according to the information given in the passage you have just read.

(A)

As prices and building costs keep rising, the “do-it-yourself”(DIY) trend in the U.S. continues to grow.

“We needed furniture for our living room,” says John Ross, “and we just didn’t have enough money to buy it. So we decided to try making a few tables and chairs.” John got married six months ago, and like many young people these days, they are struggling to make a home at a time when the cost of living is very high. The Rosses took a 2-week course for \$ 280 at a night school. Now they build all their furniture and make repairs around the house.

Jim Hatfield has three boys and his wife died. He has a full-time job at home as well as in a shoe making factory. Last month, he received a car repair bill for \$ 420. “I was deeply upset about it. Now I’ve finished a car repair course, I should be able to fix the car by myself.”

John and Jim are not unusual people. Most families in the country are doing everything they can to save money so they can fight the high cost of living. If you want to become a “do-it-yourselfer”, you can go to DIY classes. And for those who don’t have time to take a course, there are books that tell you how you can do things yourself.

1. We can learn from the text that many newly married people _____.
 - A. find it hard to pay for what they need
 - B. have to learn to make their own furniture
 - C. take DIY courses run by the government
 - D. seldom go to a department store to buy things
2. John and his wife went to evening classes to learn how to _____.

is used up, the star begins to die.

They also believe that the death of a star is not a quiet event. First there is a huge explosion and its outer part is exploded off into space. After the explosion, gravity pulls in what's left of the star. As the outside of the star sinks toward the center, the star gets smaller and smaller. The more the star shrinks, the stronger the gravity inside it becomes. Soon the star is very tiny, and the gravity is unbelievably strong. In fact, the gravity is so strong that it even pulls light into the star! Since all the light is pulled in, none can go out. The star becomes black when there is no light. Then a black hole is born!

5. How is astronomy different from other sciences?
 - A. Astronomers cannot experiment with the objects they study.
 - B. Astronomers cannot experiment with rocks and meteorites.
 - C. Astronomers can experiment with light and colour on the moon.
 - D. Astronomers can study the universe directly.
6. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as an example of the theoretical work or observational work in astronomy?
 - A. Working out ways in which stars evolve.
 - B. Developing mathematical equations to compute gravity pulls.
 - C. Observing stars as well as other heavily bodies.
 - D. Analyzing and explaining what is observed.
7. When does a star begin to die?
 - A. After building up its strong gravity.
 - B. After it has become a black hole.
 - C. Before exploding its outer part into space.
 - D. After using up most of its matter as fuel.
8. The passage mainly discusses _____.
 - A. the birth of a black hole
 - B. the work of astronomers
 - C. the definition of stars
 - D. the gravity inside a black hole

(C)

During the summer holidays there will be a revised schedule of services for the students. Changes for dining-room and library service hours and for bus schedules will be posted on the wall outside of the dining-hall. Weekly film and concert schedules, which are being

arranged, will be posted each Wednesday outside of the student club.

In the summer holidays, buses going to the town center will leave the main hall every hour on the half hour during the day. The dining-room will serve three meals a day from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. during the week and two meals from noon to 7:00 p.m. on weekends. The library will continue its usual hours during the week, but have shorter hours on Saturdays and Sundays. The weekend hours are from noon to 5:00 p.m.

All students who want to use the library borrowing services must have a new summer card. This announcement will also appear in the next week's student newspaper.

9. The main purpose of this announcement is to _____.
A. tell students of important schedule changes
B. tell students of new bus and library services
C. show the excellent service for students
D. ask students to renew their library cards
10. At which of the following times will the bus leave the main hall?
A. 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 11:00 B. 8:30, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30
C. 8:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00 D. 8:00, 9:30, 11:00, 12:30
11. We may infer that during the summer holidays _____.
A. the students newspaper will sell more copies
B. there will be a concert or a film once a week
C. many students will stay in the university
D. no breakfast will be served on weekends

(D)

President Ronald Reagan has extended for another year the limited economic sanctions (制裁) he forced on South Africa last year, but presidential spokesman Larry Speakes said the measures had not worked as intended.

The limited sanctions program “clearly has not done what we intended for it to do” in trying to pressure the South African government to end its policy of strict racial separation, Speakes told reporters.

“The intention was to bring about changes in South Africa. We’re

making progress but not nearly enough. The results for the year—while we wish they had been better—have not been,” Speakes said. “We’ve made that clear continually in our statements to the South Africans, and we continue to do so to this day.”

In announcing extension of the sanctions, Reagan mentioned “the failure of the South African government to take adequate steps to eliminate(消灭) racial separation, that government’s security practices, including the recent announcement of another state of emergency, and the continual existence of widespread violence.” He said this would continue to endanger(危及) futures for peaceful change in South Africa and threaten peace in the region as a whole.

Reagan left open the possibility that he might take further measures after talks are complete with U. S. allies. An American official Chester A. Crocker was in London this week talking with allies on possible sanctions. Reagan has said he would not give “punishing” sanctions that would hurt blacks in South Africa.

White House officials said the president was certain to reject a stronger sanction bill being considered in Congress.

After the rejection, Reagan plans to name the nation’s first black ambassador to South Africa and possibly take other actions in an effort to prevent an objection, the officials say. They say it is not certain what other measures Reagan may accept.

12. The measures President Reagan took last year were _____.
A. not as effective as he had expected
B. so effective that he thinks them satisfactory
C. so suitable that they achieved the results he had intended
D. so violent that they made South Africans angry
13. President Reagan extended the economic sanctions because _____.
A. they have brought about peaceful change in South Africa
B. they have been effective in stopping wide spread violence
C. they had failed to make the South African government to put an end to racial separation
D. Chester A. Crocker had succeeded in talks with U. S. allies
14. Reagan will reject the sanction bill proposed by Congress because