

大学实用英语阅读教程

第一册

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前言

《大学英语课程教学要求》将大学英语的教学目标确定为“培养学生的英语综合应用能力，特别是听说能力，使他们在今后的工作和社会交往中能用英语有效地进行口头和书面的信息交流，同时增强其自主学习能力，提高综合文化素养，以适应我国社会发展和国际交流的需要”，并对大学英语教学提出了分层次（即“一般要求”、“较高要求”和“更高要求”）和分类指导的要求。

2013年8月全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会颁发了“关于大学英语四、六级考试题型调整的说明”，原快速阅读理解调整为长篇阅读理解，篇章长度和难度不变。篇章后附有10个句子，每句一题。每句所含的信息出自篇章的某一段落，要求考生找出与每句所含信息相匹配的段落。有的段落可能对应两题，有的段落可能不对应任何一题。原有的选词填空和仔细阅读题型保持不变。针对上述调整，我们组织了多所高等院校的英语专家及一线骨干教师编写了本套教程。

本套教程分为4册，每册8个单元，每个单元分2个部分，每个部分的阅读练习的设计形式基本按照全国大学英语四、六级考试委员会最新调整的阅读题型设计。本套教程在第一册中专设一个“大学英语阅读技巧导读”模块，目的就是帮助广大学生掌握英语阅读技巧，特别是和大学英语四、六级考试阅读题型相关的解题技巧，帮助学生真正提高阅读能力。

本套教程在编写过程中，既注重选材的科学性、实用性、新颖性，又注重话题的新颖性、广泛性。选文的难度和长度逐册依次递增，让学生在使用本套教程后，不管是大学英语四、六级考试的阅读应试技能还是英语实际阅读能力都有一个很大的提高。

本套教程在编写过程中得到了华东师范大学出版社领导和编辑的支持和帮助，编者在此表示最诚挚的谢意！

由于编者水平和经验有限，书中难免有疏漏和不当之处，敬请广大读者和同仁不吝指正。

编者

2014年2月



Contents

大学英语阅读技巧导读	1
第一部分 选词填空题	1
第二部分 信息匹配题	4
第三部分 仔细阅读题	10
Unit 1	36
Section A	36
Passage 1 Analyzing Detroit Property Tax Data	36
Passage 2 Sleep Position Gives Personality Clue	38
Passage 3 Bad Weather?	40
Section B	42
Passage 1 Dancing Is Addictive!	42
Passage 2 Solar Storms	44
Passage 3 Biometric Access	46
Unit 2	48
Section A	48
Passage 1 Food Trucks	48
Passage 2 Different Attitudes toward Corporal Punishment	50
Passage 3 Who Can Save Love?	52
Section B	54
Passage 1 What Pollutes Our Environment?	54
Passage 2 Gliese 581d	56
Passage 3 Scientists Discover True Love	58
Unit 3	60
Section A	60
Passage 1 Love	60
Passage 2 Earth “Unrecognizable” by 2050	62
Passage 3 Fashion or Poison? What You Wear Does Count	64
Section B	66
Passage 1 Water Scarcity: A Big Problem We Are Facing	66
Passage 2 Lunar Space Elevator	68
Passage 3 The Milky Way Opens New Terrain inside Our Heads	70
Unit 4	72
Section A	72
Passage 1 More Exposure to Traumas, More Likely You Will Have Acute Stress	72
Passage 2 Cyclists with Helmets “More Likely to Be Hit”	74
Passage 3 British Pub Etiquette	76

Section B	78
Passage 1 How Dogs Scan Familiar and Inverted Faces: an Eye Movement Study.....	78
Passage 2 Headed into a Mini Ice Age?.....	80
Passage 3 Looks Matter More Than Reputation.....	82
Unit 5	84
Section A	84
Passage 1 Smart Cities.....	84
Passage 2 Intelligence in Dogs, a Secret You May Be Eager to Know.....	86
Passage 3 Man Shoots Up Post Office.....	88
Section B	90
Passage 1 Mobile Karaoke Machines.....	90
Passage 2 The Antarctic Ice Sheet.....	92
Passage 3 South Korean Culture Wave Spreads Across Asia.....	94
Unit 6	96
Section A	96
Passage 1 Beating the Heat—Why Do We Sweat?	96
Passage 2 Michael Faraday: Rose from Humblity.....	98
Passage 3 Words and Their Stories: Proverbs.....	100
Section B	102
Passage 1 General Motors Will Fight with Detroit Against Bankruptcy.....	102
Passage 2 No Matter What Happens, I’ll Always Be There for You!.....	104
Passage 3 Thousands Shiver in Europe’s Big Chill.....	106
Unit 7	108
Section A	108
Passage 1 Lost in the Post.....	108
Passage 2 The Power of “Hello”	110
Passage 3 Stress and Weight Gain.....	112
Section B	114
Passage 1 Can You Imagine Life without Phones?.....	114
Passage 2 Getting the Most out of Meetings.....	116
Passage 3 Changes Caused by Global Warming.....	118
Unit 8	120
Section A	120
Passage 1 Fog and Its Formation.....	120
Passage 2 Why Great Teachers Are Fleeing the Profession.....	122
Passage 3 Love from Parents.....	124
Section B	126
Passage 1 Love and Grammar.....	126
Passage 2 Body Talk.....	128
Passage 3 The Physics Behind Frisbee.....	130

大学英语阅读技巧

第一部分 选词填空题

一、难点分析

自从 2006 年 12 月大学英语四级考试改革以来，新题型选词填空，即从 15 个给出词语中选择 10 个词语填空，一直是深度阅读的“保留节目”，其出题也越显规范、成熟。该题型通过让学生填写空缺词汇，测试学生综合运用语言的能力，考查学生对文章的理解能力、使用词汇和语法结构的能力。

选词填空测试一般是从一篇难度适中、250 个词左右的文章中，去掉 10 个单词，让考生在所提供的 15 个单词中挑选合适的单词填空，使文章能够通畅、得体。选词填空要求考生既要看懂文章的大意，又要认识并了解所列单词的词性和基本搭配。选词填空的考查类似于完形填空，但从答题的成绩统计数据来看，成绩普遍偏低。原因无非是：1) 对应当填写的空档处的词性研究不透；2) 段落阅读能力欠缺。

很多学生的答题现状是：就事论事、逐词逐句、按部就班地阅读，只词片句地理解，导致答题效果不佳，进而使有些学生产生了“谈题色变”的心理。

二、解题技巧

俗话说：知己知彼，百战不殆。我们对此前历届“15 个词选 10 个词”的题目进行筛选、分析和归类，大体得出比较靠谱的“三、三、三、一”结论，即：填写三个名词、三个动词、三个形容词和一个副词。因此，最佳的答题方法为：

1. 速读全文，掌握内容

尽快通读全文（如果文章较长，不止一段的话，至少读完一整段，或读段落的段首句和段尾句），了解篇章大意。

2. 实词归类，正确定位

用自己最熟悉的方法把名词、动词和形容词（包括现在分词和过去分词）进行分类，再确定空档处需要哪类词，以缩小选择范围，提高答题正确率。

3. 逻辑思考，核准答案

结合上下文对整篇文章进行逻辑性的审慎思考，排除干扰，核准正确答案，尤其要关注习语搭配和词组的习惯用法，重视结构词和语法的掌握。另外，还要对复现词汇加以重视。词汇的复现是指一个词以原词、指代词、同义词、反义词、概括词等形式重现在整篇文章的前后。所以，有时一个空格所要求填写的单词往往是该空格之前或之后出现的词。

4. 再读全文，查漏补缺

通篇练习做完之后，再次通读全文，检查答案，避免因粗心大意造成的错误。

下面以最新样卷为例，具体详细地解析如何准确无误地做好这类“15个词选10个词的题目”。

Questions 36 to 45 are based on the following passage.

One in six. Believe it or not, that's the number of Americans who struggle with hunger. To make tomorrow a little better, Feeding America, the nation's largest 36 hunger-relief organization, has chosen September as Hunger Action Month. As part of its 30 Ways in 30 Days program, it's asking 37 across the country to help the more than 200 food banks and 61,000 agencies in its network provide low-income individuals and families with the fuel they need to 38.

It's the kind of work that's done every day at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in San Antonio. People who 39 at its front door on the first and third Thursdays of each month aren't looking for God—they're there for something to eat. St. Andrew's runs a *food pantry* (食品室) that 40 the city and several of the 41 towns. Janet Drane is its manager.

In the wake of the 42, the number of families in need of food assistance began to grow. It is 43 that 49 million Americans are unsure of where they will find their next meal. What's most surprising is that 36% of them live in 44 where at least one adult is working. "It used to be that one job was all you needed," says St. Andrew's Drane. "The people we see now have three or four part-time jobs and they're still right on the edge 45."

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡2上作答。

A) accumulate	I) households
B) circling	J) recession
C) communities	K) reported
D) competition	L) reviewed
E) domestic	M) serves
F) financially	N) surrounding
G) formally	O) survive
H) gather	

文章大意：在美国人中间，有六分之一的人群是挨饿的。为了让明天更美好，美国国内最大的反饥饿组织发起了为期一个月的“供养美国”的反饥饿运动，旨在缓减挨饿人群的窘况。

36. E) domestic. 此句“...the nation's largest 36 hunger-relief organization, ...”空格处缺少的是形容词。可以判断现在分词和过去分词在此都不合适, 唯有 domestic (国内的) 符合要求。此句意为“……该国国内最大的拯救饥饿的组织……”。
37. C) communities. 原句“As part of its 30 Ways in 30 Days program, it's asking 37 across the country...”意为“作为 30 天 30 种援助方法这一项目的一部分, 要求全国各地的……来援助。”此间缺少的是名词, 因此, communities (社区) 最合适。而 households (一家人、家庭) 是强烈的干扰词。但根据上下文, 帮助 200 多家食品银行和 6.1 万所机构为低收入人群和家庭提供食物的不可能是“全国各地的各个家庭”, 因此可排除 households。
38. O) survive. 空格处在动词不定式符号 to 后面, 明确指示要填写动词。扫描动词 accumulate (积累)、gather (聚集)、survive (活下来) 排除第三人称的动词形式 serves, 准确定位 survive。此句意为“……向低收入家庭和个人提供赖以生存的燃料”。
39. H) gather. 空格位于定语从句中, 要求填入谓语动词, 修饰“人们”。原句“People who 39 at its front door on the first and third Thursdays of each month aren't looking for God...”此句意为“聚集在前门的人们……”, 因此, gather 适合。
40. M) serves.
41. N) surrounding. 40 题和 41 题应该一起解。St. Andrew's runs a food pantry (食品室) that 40 the city and several of the 41 towns. 此句意为“圣·安德鲁开了一家食品室, 为该市和周边城镇提供服务”。从句子结构上看, 40 题缺动词, 41 题缺形容词, 动词 serves (服务于), 形容词 surrounding (周边的), 适合填入, 与上下文语义一致, 不存在其他干扰项。
42. J) recession. 审读该题“In the wake of the 42, the number of families in need of food assistance began to grow.”此句意为“在……之后, 需要食品援助的家庭数量开始增加”。42 题空格缺少名词, 在所剩的三个名词: competition, households 和 recession 中加以筛选, recession (不景气) 最为恰当, 因为没有谈论过竞争和一家人。
43. K) reported. 从 43 题的结构来看: “It is 43 that 49 million Americans are unsure of where they will find their next meal.”这里缺少动词过去分词, reported 最为适合, 意为“据报道……”。reviewed (回顾, 复习) 不构成干扰。
44. I) households. 空格处表明缺少名词。“What's most surprising is that 36% of them live in 44 where at least one adult is working.”句意为“最令人惊讶的是, 挨饿的群体中有 36% 是来自至少有一个成人工作的家庭”。名词 households 是正确答案。
45. F) financially. 从 45 题的原句“The people we see now have three or four part-time jobs and they're still right on the edge 45.”中, 我们可以看出, 此句主语、谓语和宾语都不缺, 空格处需要填副词, financially 是最合适的选择。句意为“我们目前查访的对象都从事三、四份兼职工作, 尽管如此, 他们在经济上还是很拮据的”。



第二部分 信息匹配题

一、难点分析

2013年12月14日的四级考试第一次考阅读段落信息匹配。2013年8月,样卷一公布,各方评论四起,一致认为该题型类似雅思考试中的长段阅读信息匹配(但后者的难度大于我们的四级考试)。我们得出的信号是,大学英语的考试题型有与国际考试题型接轨的趋势。

一篇由字母标号、千字上下,将近十个段落的文章,配数字标号的十个句子,考查学生在15分钟内,迅速准确地将段落文章的主题与数字标号的句子匹配。换言之,学生的阅读速度要达到每分钟100个单词才能顺利完成阅读量(不保证做对),相当于教学大纲中规定的较高要求的阅读水平,这不能说是一件容易的任务。

二、解题技巧

在大多数考生达不到每分钟100个单词阅读速度的情况下,如何取得做好信息匹配阅读题呢?这是我们新近面临的课题。

其实,万变不离其宗。长篇阅读这一部分得分的关键不是理解文章的所有内容,而是根据题干中的主题,找到需要读的句子(即 **scanning**, 查读),与此同时,判断出与题目无关的信息并且略过不读(即 **skimming**, 跳读)。这样,就可以既快速又准确地做到信息匹配。此类题目的解题技巧大致如下:

1. 先题后文定方向

先看标号的单句题目,将每句的关键词(组)或中心思想划底线,然后再快速阅读具体文章,这样能够在较短的时间内先将属于直接信息的简单题做掉,然后再文题配对。

2. 段首段尾最关键

运用阅读方法 **scanning** 和 **skimming** 的关键是速读段首句和段尾句,因为大部分段落的主题或结论都体现在这些句中,即: **topic sentence and conclusion sentence**, 主题句和结论句。熟练掌握和运用 **scanning** 和 **skimming** 是提高阅读速度和答题准确度的关键,考生应当在平时阅读训练中刻意进行大量操练和培训以达到良好的答题效果。

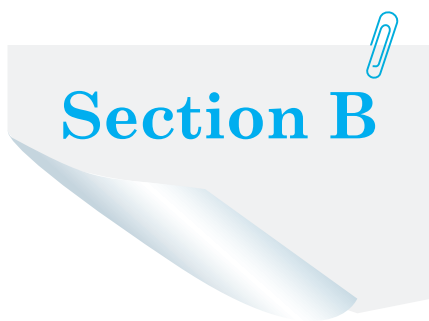
3. 同义转换是答案

Paraphrasing (复述)是出题的常用手段。出题者在题干中用同义词或改变词性的方法,叙述文中段落的主题或中心思想,不改变原文的大意,以此来考核学生的阅读理解能力。考生在平时阅读中要养成用英语解释英语的习惯,扩大词汇量,并从单词解释单词向解释词组或短语过渡和发展,这样就能确保答题的准确率。

4. 原版报刊勤习练

如有可能,学生应在平时多读一般性题材,即:教育、科技、大学生生活、工作和学习、文化娱乐、体育等原版报刊、杂志,达到阅读速度每分钟80词左右,理解程度75~80%,为将来考试做好前期准备。

下面以最新样卷为例，具体详细地解析如何准确无误地做好快速阅读信息匹配的题目。



Directions: *In this section, you are going to read a passage with ten statements attached to it. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter. Answer the questions by marking the corresponding letter on **Answer Sheet 2**.*

Universities Branch Out

- A) As never before in their long history, universities have become instruments of national competition as well as instruments of peace. They are the places of the scientific discoveries that move economies forward, and the primary means of educating the talent required to obtain and maintain competitive advantage. But at the same time, the opening of national borders to the flow of goods, services, information and especially people has made universities a powerful force for global integration, mutual understanding and geopolitical stability.
- B) In response to the same forces that have driven the world economy, universities have become more self-consciously global: seeking students from around the world who represent the entire range of cultures and values, sending their own students abroad to prepare them for global careers, offering courses of study that address the challenges of an interconnected world and *collaborative* (合作的) research programs to advance science for the benefit of all humanity.
- C) Of the forces shaping higher education none is more sweeping than the movement across borders. Over the past three decades the number of students leaving home each year to study abroad has grown at an annual rate of 3.9 percent, from 800,000 in 1975 to 2.5 million in 2004. Most travel from one developed nation to another, but the flow from developing to developed countries is growing rapidly. The reverse flow, from developed to developing countries, is on the rise, too. Today foreign

students earn 30 percent of the doctoral degrees awarded in the United States and 38 percent of those in the United Kingdom. And the number crossing borders for undergraduate study is growing as well, to 8 percent of the undergraduates at America's best institutions and 10 percent of all undergraduates in the U.K. In the United States, 20 percent of the newly hired professors in science and engineering are foreign-born, and in China many newly hired faculty members at the top research universities received their graduate education abroad.

- D) Universities are also encouraging students to spend some of their undergraduate years in another country. In Europe, more than 140,000 students participate in the Erasmus program each year, taking courses for credit in one of 2,200 participating institutions across the continent. And in the United States, institutions are helping place students in summer *internships* (实习) abroad to prepare them for global careers. Yale and Harvard have led the way, offering every undergraduate at least one international study or internship opportunity — and providing the financial resources to make it possible.
- E) Globalization is also reshaping the way research is done. One new trend involves sourcing portions of a research program to another country. Yale professor and Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator Tian Xu directs a research center focused on the genetics of human disease at Shanghai's Fudan University, in collaboration with faculty colleagues from both schools. The Shanghai center has 95 employees and graduate students working in a 4,300-square-meter laboratory facility. Yale faculty, postdoctors and graduate students visit regularly and attend videoconference seminars with scientists from both campuses. The arrangement benefits both countries; Xu's Yale lab is more productive, thanks to the lower costs of conducting research in China, and Chinese graduate students, postdoctors and faculty get on-the-job training from a world-class scientist and his U.S. team.
- F) As a result of its strength in science, the United States has consistently led the world in the commercialization of major new technologies, from the mainframe computer and the integrated circuit of the 1960s to the Internet *infrastructure* (基础设施) and applications software of the 1990s. The link between university-based science and industrial application is often indirect but sometimes highly visible: Silicon Valley was intentionally created by Stanford University, and Route 128 outside Boston has long housed companies spun off from MIT and Harvard. Around the world, governments have encouraged copying of this model, perhaps most successfully in Cambridge, England, where Microsoft and scores of other leading software and biotechnology companies have set up shop around the university.

- G) For all its success, the United States remains deeply hesitant about sustaining the research-university model. Most politicians recognize the link between investment in science and national economic strength, but support for research funding has been unsteady. The budget of the National Institutes of Health doubled between 1998 and 2003, but has risen more slowly than inflation since then. Support for the physical sciences and engineering barely kept pace with inflation during that same period. The attempt to make up lost ground is welcome, but the nation would be better served by steady, predictable increases in science funding at the rate of long-term GDP growth, which is on the order of inflation plus 3 percent per year.
- H) American politicians have great difficulty recognizing that admitting more foreign students can greatly promote the national interest by increasing international understanding. Adjusted for inflation, public funding for international exchanges and foreign-language study is well below the levels of 40 years ago. In the wake of September 11, changes in the visa process caused a dramatic decline in the number of foreign students seeking admission to U.S. universities, and a corresponding surge in enrollments in Australia, Singapore and the U.K. Objections from American university and business leaders led to improvements in the process and a reversal of the decline, but the United States is still seen by many as unwelcoming to international students.
- I) Most Americans recognize that universities contribute to the nation's well-being through their scientific research, but many fear that foreign students threaten American competitiveness by taking their knowledge and skills back home. That they fail to grasp that welcoming foreign students to the United States has two important positive effects: first, the very best of them stay in the States and—like immigrants throughout history—strengthen the nation; and second, foreign students who study in the United States become ambassadors for many of its most *cherished* (珍视的) values when they return home. Or at least they understand them better. In America as elsewhere, few instruments of foreign policy are as effective in promoting peace and stability as welcoming international university students.

注意：此部分试题请在答题卡 2 上作答。

46. American universities prepare their undergraduates for global careers by giving them chances for international study or internship.
47. Since the mid-1970s, the enrollment of overseas students has increased at an annual rate of 3.9 percent.

48. The enrollment of international students will have a positive impact on America rather than threaten its competitiveness.
49. The way research is carried out in universities has changed as a result of globalization.
50. Of the newly hired professors in science and engineering in the United States, twenty percent come from foreign countries.
51. The number of foreign students applying to U.S. universities decreased sharply after September 11 due to changes in the visa process.
52. The U.S. federal funding for research has been unsteady for years.
53. Around the world, governments encourage the model of linking university-based science and industrial application.
54. Present-day universities have become a powerful force for global integration.
55. When foreign students leave America, they will bring American values back to their home countries.

文章大意：本文主要介绍了在附和推动世界经济向前发展的同一力量方面，大学已具有更自觉的全球性意识，以及美国对维持研究型大学模式的深深犹豫。

答案解析：

46. 答案 D。本题的题干“...prepare their undergraduates for global careers by giving them chances for international study or internship.”（……通过给予国际研究或实习的机会为本科生谋求全球职业化做准备。）与 D 段的主题相吻合。学生只要阅读该段段首句和倒数第二句就能正确定位。
47. 答案 C。通过查读，快速查阅年代和百分比：the mid-1970s 和 at an annual rate of 3.9 percent（句意：20 世纪 70 年代中期以来，海外学生的入学人数每年增加 3.9%。），C 段前半段的内容与此相符，故选 C。
48. 答案 I。从本题“The enrollment of international students will have a positive impact on America rather than threaten its competitiveness.”（国际学生的招收将对美国产生积极的影响而不是威胁其竞争力。）可以看出下划线部分是关键，与 I 段的第一和第二句句意相吻合，故选 I。
49. 答案 E。本题是结论：The way research is carried out in universities has changed as a result of globalization.（由于全球化的结果，在大学进行研究的方式已经发生了改变。）通过同义转换的阅读方式，读 E 段首句：Globalization is also reshaping the way research is done. 我们顺利地得出 E 为正确答案。
50. 答案 C。该题与具体数据有关，通过查读 C 段最后一句“In the United States, 20 percent of the newly hired professors in science and engineering are foreign-born.”

- ...”与本题“Of the newly hired professors in science and engineering in the United States, twenty percent come from foreign countries.”（在美国，20%新聘用的科学与工程教授来自国外。）如出一辙，故选 C。
51. 答案 H。我们可以清晰地找出该句的关键词：The number of foreign students applying to U.S. universities decreased sharply after September 11 due to changes in the visa process.（9.11 事件后，申请赴美大学读书的外国学生人数因签证程序的变化急剧下降。）循着 9.11 和 学生数下降 这两个关键词，我们可以定位至 H 段中“In the wake of September 11, changes in the visa process caused a dramatic decline in the number of foreign students seeking admission to U.S.”，通过同义转换的方法再次验证答案正确。
52. 答案 G。本题“The U.S. federal funding for research has been unsteady for years.”（美国联邦政府支持研究的资助多年来一直不甚稳定。）属细节题，其关键词为：funding 和 unsteady。与 G 段第二句后半句“...but support for research funding has been unsteady.”完全匹配，故选 G。
53. 答案 F。查读 F 段段首句和段尾句，我们得知其中心思想与本句“Around the world, governments encourage the model of linking university-based science and industrial application.”（在世界各地，政府鼓励以大学为基地的科研和工业应用的联合模式。）相匹配，故答案选 F。
54. 答案 A。查读第一段段尾句“...has made universities a powerful force for global integration, mutual understanding and geopolitical stability.”与本题“Present-day universities have become a powerful force for global integration.”（当代大学已成为全球一体化的强大力量。）属于同义转换，故选 A。
55. 答案 I。跳读 I 段后半段“...foreign students who study in the United States become ambassadors for many of its most cherished (珍视的) values when they return home.”与本句“When foreign students leave America, they will bring American values back to their home countries.”（当外国学生离开美国，他们会把美国的价值观带回本国。）属于同义转换，故选 I。



第三部分 仔细阅读题

一、难点分析

仔细阅读的目的是考察考生通过阅读获取书面信息的能力。这类文章的题材主要包括：科普知识、社会生活、文化教育、名人名著、政治经济；体裁包括：议论文、说明文、记叙文等。教育部颁发的《大学英语课程教学要求》（试行）中还要求学生能够读懂工作、生活中常见的应用文体材料，包括各类表格、个人信函或内容一般的商业信函、产品说明书、广告、海报及互联网信息等。

众所周知，阅读在任何一类考试中都占较大的百分比，如果再加上其他与阅读有密切关系的考项，阅读的重要性就更加不言而喻了。因此，我们说阅读是重中之重，怎么强调都不为过。可以这么说，把握住阅读，就等于拿到了通向考试成功的金钥匙。

在此，笔者根据考试委员会的出题原则，撇开复杂的阅读理论，再次祭出简单易行的顾氏阅读口诀，可以助你一臂之力：

段首段尾最关键，路标信号细分辨；
重要结构巧梳理，同义转换是答案。

二、解题技巧

大学英语四级考试大纲规定阅读理解主要测试以下能力：

- ◆ 掌握所读材料的主旨大意；
- ◆ 了解说明主旨大意的事实和细节；
- ◆ 既理解字面意义，又能根据所读材料进行一定的判断和推论；
- ◆ 既理解个别句子的意思，又理解上下文的逻辑关系。

根据上述四大要求，阅读理解部分的题型可大致分为：

主旨大意题、事实细节题、推论题、语气题、态度判断题和词汇指代题等。

再细分得更具体些：每篇阅读中主旨大意题占 20%、事实细节题占 60%、其他题型占 20%。所以，抓住前两类题型，我们就会立于不败之地。

限于篇幅，我们多用近几年的试卷进行分析。

一、主旨大意题

题型简介

文章的中心思想和段落大意是作者要阐述的最重要的信息，是串联全文和全段的主线。总体上说，大部分句子都是围绕主题展开论述和说明的，它们与主题思想保持一致。因此，把握文章的主题思想和段落大意对于理解全文非常关键。**通常，每篇文章都含有一道主旨题。**

解题方法

1) 在演绎性文章中, 主题句一般位于篇章、段落的开头部分, 开头就明确主题, 然后展开讨论;

2) 在归纳性文章中, 主题句常出现于段末或篇末。

从经验来看:

a) 篇章的主旨句多出现在文章段首;

b) 有时跟在 *however*, *but* 之类的转折连词后面;

c) 此外, 第一段的开头或结尾倘出现问句, 则对这个问句的回答往往就是文章的主旨大意。

寻找主题的关键在于找出主题句或段落大意。口诀是: **段首段尾最关键**。具体做法如下:

(1) 迅速浏览全文, 以对文章有一个大致的了解;

(2) 寻找文章主题句或段落大意, 明确文章的中心大意;

(3) 注意区分局部信息和全文中心思想;

(4) 注意选项的概括范围不可太宽或太窄;

(5) 这类题目的正确选项决不会是原文主题句的简单重复, 而是其意思的重新表达。

样题研究

【例一】

To say that the child learns by imitation and that the way to teach is to set a good example oversimplifies. No child imitates every action he sees. Sometimes, the example the parent wants him to follow is ignored while he takes over contrary patterns from some other example. Therefore we must turn to a more subtle theory than “Monkey see, monkey do”.

1. The statement that children learn by imitation is incomplete because _____.

A. they only imitate authorities and experts

B. they are not willing to copy their parents

C. the process of identification has been ignored

D. the nature of their imitation as a form of behavior has been neglected

【解析】 我们通读段首句和段尾句, 就非常清楚地得出结论: 原先我们对于孩子“照葫芦画瓢”模仿学习的理解过于简单化了, 因此, 我们必须透过现象看本质, 探究更深层次的理论。答案 D 是该段的主题。

【例二】

Recent stories in the newspapers and magazines suggest that teaching and research contradict each other, that research plays too prominent a part in academic promotions, and that teaching is **badly underemphasized**. There is an element of truth in these

statements, but they also ignore deeper and more important relationships.

62. What ideas does the author want to convey in the first paragraph?

- A) ***The relationship between teaching and research should not be simplified.***
- B) Teaching and research are contradictory to each other.
- C) Research can never be emphasized too much.
- D) It is wrong to overestimate the importance of teaching.

【解析】 我们可以通过信号词“but”得出段落主旨所在：“教学和科研之间还有更深层和更重要的关系”，言外之意是：我们不能把它们之间的关系简单化，故选 A。

【例三】

As a writer I know about winning contests, and about losing them. I know what it is like to work hard on a story only to receive a rejection slip from the publisher. I also know the pressures of trying to live up to a reputation created by previous victories. What if she doesn't win the contest again? That's the strange thing about being a parent. **So many of our own past scars and dashed hopes can surface.**

63. What did the author say about her own writing experience?

- A) She did not quite live up to her reputation as a writer.
- B) ***Her way to success was full of pains and frustrations.***
- C) She was constantly under pressure of writing more.
- D) Most of her stories had been rejected by publishers.

【解析】 这一段主要谈论了作者自己作为作家的感受。通过对这段的理解和总结，可以得出 B 为正确选项。

【例四】

Exercise is one of the few factors with a positive role in long-term maintenance of body weight. Unfortunately, that message has not gotten through to the average American, who would rather try switching to “light” beer and low-calorie bread than increase physical exertion. The Centres for Disease Control, for example, found that fewer than one-fourth of overweight adults who were trying to shed pounds said they were combining exercise with their diet.

In rejecting exercise, some people may be discouraged too much by caloric-expenditure charts; for example, one would have to briskly walk three miles just to work off the 275 calories in one delicious Danish *pastry* (小甜饼). Even exercise professionals concede half a point here. “Exercise by itself is a very tough way to lose weight,” says

York Owen, program director of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.

Still, exercise's supporting role in weight reduction is vital. A study at the Boston University Medical Centre of overweight police officers and other public employees confirmed that those who dieted without exercise regained almost all their old weight, while those who worked exercise into their daily routine maintained their new weight.

If you have been *sedentary* (极少活动的) and decide to start walking one mile a day, the added exercise could burn an extra 100 calories daily. In a year's time, assuming no increase in food intake, you could lose ten pounds. **By increasing the distance of your walks gradually and making other dietary adjustments, you may lose even more weight.**

30. What is the author's purpose in writing this article?

- A) To justify the study of the Boston University Medical Centre.
- B) To stress the importance of maintaining proper weight.
- C) To support the statement made by York Owen.
- D) To show the most effective way to lose weight.**

【解析】 提问“作者写这篇文章的目的是什么？”根据文章第一段首句、第三段首句和文章的最后一句，D项“为了指出减肥的最有效的方法”为正确答案。

【例五】

It is natural for young people to be critical of their parents at times and to blame them for most of the misunderstandings between them. They have always complained, more or less justly that their parents are out of touch with modern ways; that they are possessive and dominant that they do not trust their children to deal with crises; that they talk too much about certain problems—and that they have no sense of humor, at least in parent-child relationships.

7. The first paragraph is mainly about _____.

- A) the teenagers' criticism of their parents**
- B) misunderstandings between teenagers and their parents
- C) the dominance of the parents over their children
- D) the teenagers' ability to deal with crises

【解析】 本段段首句“**It is natural for young people to be critical of their parents at times and to blame them for most of the misunderstandings between them.**”与A项属于 paraphrasing: to be critical of 等于 criticism of, 因此, A 为正确答案。

【例六】

It is, everyone agrees, a huge task that the child performs when he learns to speak, and the fact that he does so in so short a period of time challenges explanation.

Language learning begins with listening. Individual children vary greatly in the amount of listening they do before they start speaking, and late starters are often long listeners. Most children will “obey” spoken instructions some time before they can speak, though the word obey is hardly accurate as a description of the eager and delighted cooperation usually shown by the child. ***Before they can speak, many children will also ask questions by gesture and by making questioning noises.***

Any attempt to trace the development from the noises babies make to their first spoken words leads to considerable difficulties. It is agreed that they enjoy making noises, and that during the first few months one or two noises sort themselves out as particularly indicative of delight, distress, sociability, and so on. But since these cannot be said to show the baby’s intention to communicate, they can hardly be regarded as early forms of language. It is agreed, too, that from about three months they play with sounds for enjoyments, and that by six months they are able to add new sounds to their *repertoire* (能发出的全部声音). This self-imitation leads on to *deliberate* (有意识的) imitation of sounds made or words spoken to them by other people. ***The problem then arises as to the point at which one can say that these imitations can be considered as speech.***

62. The third paragraph is mainly about _____.

- A) ***the development of babies’ early forms of language***
- B) the difficulties of babies in learning to speak
- C) babies’ strong desire to communicate
- D) babies’ intention to communicate

63. The author’s purpose in writing the second paragraph is to show that children _____.

- A) usually obey without asking questions
- B) are passive in the process of learning to speak
- C) are born cooperative
- D) ***learn to speak by listening***

64. From the passage we learn that _____.

- A) early starters can learn to speak within only six months
- B) children show a strong desire to communicate by making noises
- C) ***imitation plays an important role in learning to speak***
- D) children have various difficulties in learning to speak

65. The best title for this passage would be _____.

- A) *How Babies Learn to Speak*
- B) Early Forms of Language
- C) A Huge Task for Children
- D) Noise Making and Language Learning

【解析】这是一篇难得的、非常典型地运用读段首和段尾方法的文章。其中既有问文章主题的（64、65题），又有问段落大意的（62、63题）。几乎不用解释，只要读懂每段的段首和段尾，我们就知道62，63，64，65的答案分别为：A，D，C，A。

【例七】

It is said that the public and Congressional concern about deceptive (欺骗性的) packaging rumpus (喧嚣) started because Senator Hart discovered that the boxes of cereals consumed by him, Mrs. Hart, and their children were becoming higher and narrower, with a decline of net weight from 12 to 10.5 ounces, without any reduction in price. There were still twelve biscuits, but they had been reduced in size. Later, the Senator rightly complained of a store-bought pie in a handsomely illustrated box that pictured, in a single slice, almost as many cherries as there were in the whole pie.

1. What started the public and congressional concern about the deceptive packaging rumpus?
 - A) Consumers' complaints about the changes in the package size.
 - B) Expensive packaging for poor quality products.
 - C) *A senator's discovery of the tricks in packaging.*
 - D) The rise in the unit price for many products.
5. The author is critical mainly of _____.
 - A) *dishonest packaging*
 - B) inferior packaging
 - C) the changes in package size
 - D) exaggerated illustrations on packages

【解析】这篇文章非常典型地为我们揭示了段首句的重要意义。尽管句子很长，经过筛选，我们得知第一题运用同义转换的方法，原文中“...started because Senator Hart discovered that the boxes of cereals consumed by him,...”和题干中C项吻合（原文中用动词：discovered与题干中discovery互为转换，不改变意思），故答案为C。第5题：作者主要批评的是_____。再读第一句：“It is said that the public and Congressional concern about deceptive packaging rumpus ...”，可知讲的是欺骗性包装，答案A dishonest packaging，为正确答案，dishonest

packaging 与 deceptive packaging 为同义转换。

二、事实细节题

题型简介

细节性问题是关于 Supporting Details 之类的问题，通过 skimming 找出主题后，应进一步掌握阐述和发展主题的主要事实，或按要求找出特定细节。在回答此类问题时，应采用查读法（Scanning），因为这些具体细节内容（details）是用来拓展、说明、论证或分析文章中心思想的。

这类题目常以“Wh-”形式来提问，如 who, what, when, where, why, how 等形式。此外，还要特别注意一些表示细节的信号词或关联词：

转折类	<i>but, still, yet, however, though, no matter, nevertheless, nonetheless, in spite of, in any case</i>
因果关系类	<i>because, due to, owing to, thanks to, since, for, as, so, therefore, then, as a result, according to, thus</i>
递进类	<i>moreover, besides, in addition, also, too, not only ... but also ..., furthermore</i>
对比类	<i>in contrast, on the contrary, just as</i>
顺序类	<i>first, second, third...; firstly, secondly, thirdly...; first, next, then...; in the first place, in the second place...; for one thing, for another thing...; to begin with, to conclude...; and so on</i>
条件类	<i>if, suppose, unless, in case, so (as) long as, so far as, on condition (that)..., provided (that)</i>

路标信号细分辨！ 这些问题的表达通常不采用文章中的原话提问，而是使用同义词语等，因此，在选择答案前应首先看准题干，看清问题所在；然后，在查读时注意寻找与题目相关的关键词语；最后，在充分理解原文、原题的基础上确定正确答案。

当然，这类细节性问题所涉及的面是很广的。有的涉及数字计算，如问时间、距离、次数、数量、价钱等，要认真计算后方可选定正确答案；有的涉及正误判断，要先看选项，根据选项提供的线索，寻找文中相应部分，最后在题中选出肯定或否定答案；还有的询问事实、原因、结果、目的等。总之，做细节题切忌通过自己对某类知识的主观臆想和认识作判断，一定要建立在文章基础之上，不可随心所欲。

解题方法

- 1) 阅读文章寻找中心思想；
- 2) 寻找与中心思想相关的事实或细节；
- 3) 重读你确定为最重要的事实或细节，以确定它们准确体现的中心思想；

- 4) 利用词义转换确定正确答案;
- 5) 注意引号、冒号、破折号、括号等特殊符号后的内容;
- 6) 有意识地运用查读法、排除法。

样题研究

【例一】

When they do not have to speak unprepared, most speakers write their own speeches. Politicians and business executives sometimes employ professional writers who prepare their speeches for them. These professional writers may work alone or in small teams. Although the speaker may have some input into the contents of the speech, the writers sometimes have a great influence over the opinions expressed by their employers. **Regardless of how a speech is prepared, the person who delivers it is given credit for its effect upon its hearers.**

66. No matter who writes the speech, the audience _____.

- A) *believe it expresses the speaker's idea*
- B) know very well who wrote it
- C) know whose idea the speech really expresses
- D) do not believe what the speaker says

【解析】原文最后一句指出，无论谁写发言稿，听众都会将演讲效果归功于演讲人，答案应该选 A。

【例二】

“Tear'em apart!” “Kill the fool!” “Murder the *referee* (裁判)!”

These are common remarks one may hear at various sporting events. At the time they are made, they may seem innocent enough. ***But let's not kid ourselves. They have been known to influence behavior in such a way as to lead to real bloodshed. Volumes have been written about the way words affect us.*** It has been shown that words having certain *connotations* (含义) may cause us to react in ways quite foreign to what we consider to be our usual humanistic behavior. I see the term “opponent” as one of those words. Perhaps the time has come to delete it from sports terms.

The dictionary meaning of the term “opponent” is “adversary”; “enemy”; “one who opposes your interests”. Thus, when a player meets an opponent, he or she may tend to treat that opponent as an enemy. At such times, winning may dominate one's intellect, and every action, no matter how gross, may be considered justifiable. I recall an incident in a handball game when a referee refused a player's request for a time out for a glove

change because he did not consider them wet enough. The player proceeded to rub his gloves across his wet T-shirt and then exclaimed. “Are they wet enough now?”

In the heat of battle, players have been observed to throw themselves across the court without considering the consequences that such a move might have on anyone in their way. I have also witnessed a player reacting to his opponent’s intentional and illegal blocking by deliberately hitting him with the ball as hard as he could during the course of play. Off the court, they are good friends. Does that make any sense? It certainly gives proof of a court attitude which departs from normal behavior.

Therefore, I believe it is time we *elevated* (提升) the game to the level where it belongs thereby setting an example to the rest of the sporting world. Replacing the term “opponent” with “associate” could be an ideal way to start.

The dictionary meaning of the term “associate” is “colleague”; “friend”; “companion”. Reflect a moment! You may soon see and possibly feel the difference in your reaction to the term “associate” rather than “opponent”.

26. Which of the following statements best expresses the author’s view?

A) Aggressive behavior in sports can have serious consequences.

B) The words people use can influence their behavior.

C) Unpleasant words in sports are often used by foreign athletes.

D) Unfair judgments by referees will lead to violence on the sports field.

【解析】 提问“选项中哪个选项最能表达作者的观点？”根据第二段第三句开始（注意 but 这个转折词，[路标词]）：But let’s not kid ourselves. They have been known to influence behavior in such a way as to lead to real bloodshed. Volumes have been written about the way words affect us. 据此，B项“人们使用的语言能够影响他们的行为”为正确答案。

【例三】

No government will adopt rigid restrictions on economic growth and personal freedom (limits on electricity usage, driving and travel) that might cut back global warming. Still, politicians want to show they’re “doing something”. **Consider the Kyoto Protocol** (《京都议定书》). **It allowed countries that joined to punish those that didn’t. But it hasn’t reduced CO₂ emissions (up about 25% since 1990), and many signatories** (签字国) **didn’t adopt tough enough policies to hit their 2008-2012 targets.**

60. The author believes that, since the signing of the Kyoto Protocol, _____.

- A) politicians have started to do something to better the situation
B) few nations have adopted real tough measures to limit energy use
 C) reductions in energy consumption have greatly cut back global warming
 D) international cooperation has contributed to solving environmental problems

【解析】由题干定位到最后三句话。这里指出《京都议定书》“并未减少二氧化碳排放量”，因为“许多签字国并未采取足够严厉的措施来争取达到2008-2012年的目标”。

【例四】

In a time of low academic achievement by children in the United States, many Americans are turning to Japan, a country of high academic achievement and economic success, for possible answers. **However, the answers provided by Japanese preschools are not the ones Americans expected to find.** In most Japanese preschools, surprisingly, little emphasis is put on academic instruction. In one investigation, 300 Japanese and 210 American preschool teachers, child development specialists, and parents were asked about various aspects of early childhood education. Only 2 percent of the Japanese *respondents* (答卷者) listed “to give children a good start academically” as one of their top three reasons for a society to have preschools. In contrast, over half of the American respondents chose this as one of their top three choices. To prepare children for successful careers in first grade and beyond, Japanese schools do not teach reading, writing, and mathematics, **but rather skills such as persistence, concentration, and the ability to function as a member of a group.** The vast majority of young Japanese children are taught to read at home by their parents.

In the recent comparison of Japanese and American preschool education, 91 percent of Japanese respondents chose providing children with a group experience as one of their top three reasons for a society to have preschools. **Sixty-two percent of the more individually oriented (强调个性发展的) Americans listed group experience as one of their top three choices.** An emphasis on the importance of the group seen in Japanese early childhood education continues into elementary school education.

Like in America, there is diversity in Japanese early childhood education. Some Japanese kindergartens have specific aims, such as early musical training or potential development. In large cities, some kindergartens are attached to universities that have elementary and secondary schools.

Some Japanese parents believe that if their young children attend a university-based program, it will increase the children's chances of eventually being admitted to top-rated schools and universities. Several more progressive programs have introduced

free play as a way out for the heavy intellectualizing in some Japanese kindergartens.

16. We learn from the first paragraph that many Americans believe _____.
- A) Japanese parents are more involved in preschool education than American parents
- B) Japan's economic success is a result of its scientific achievements
- C) Japanese preschool education emphasizes academic instruction**
- D) Japan's higher education is superior to theirs
17. Most Americans surveyed believe that preschools should also attach importance to _____.
- A) problem solving
- B) group experience**
- C) parental guidance
- D) individually-oriented development
18. In Japan's preschool education, the focus is on _____.
- A) preparing children academically
- B) developing children's artistic interests
- C) tapping children's potential
- D) shaping children's character**

【解析】这是一篇少见的、有典型意义的运用“路标信号细分辨”方法的文章。

为了解析方便，我们给本文每题答案的出处划了下划线。通过查读信号词（关联词），读者就能轻松获得答案。

16. 解题依据为第一段第二句：However, the answers provided by Japanese preschools are not the ones Americans expected to find. 答案为 C。
17. 解题依据为第二段的第二句话：Sixty-two percent of the more individually oriented (强调个性发展的) Americans listed group experience as one of their top three choices. 答案为 B。
18. 查读第一段倒数第二句：...but rather skills such as persistence, concentration, and the ability to function as a member of a group. 答案由此转述而成，为 D。

【例五】

The 10-country study surveyed product packaging in Britain, Western Europe, Scandinavia and the United States. It found that products sold in Germany and the United Kingdom made the most environmental claims on average.

The report focused on claims made by specific products, such as *detergent* (洗涤剂), insect sprays and by some garden products. **It did not test the claims, but compared them to labeling guidelines set by the International Standards Organization (ISO) in September, 1999.**

Researchers documented claims of environmental friendliness made by about 2,000 products and found many too vague or too misleading to meet ISO standards.

“Many products had specially-designed labels to make them seem environmentally friendly, but in fact many of these symbols mean nothing.” said report researcher Philip Page.

“Laundry detergents made the most number of claims with 158. Household cleaners were second with 145 separate claims, while paints were third on our list with 73. **The high numbers show how very confusing it must be for consumers to sort the true from the misleading.**” he said.

33. A study was carried out by Britain’s NCC to _____.
- A) find out how many claims made by products fail to meet environmental standards
 - B) inform the consumers of the environmental impact of the products they buy
 - C) *examine claims made by products against ISO standards***
 - D) revise the guidelines set by the International Standards Organization
34. What is one of the consequences caused by the many claims of household products?
- A) They are likely to lead to serious environmental problems.
 - B) *Consumers find it difficult to tell the true from the false.***
 - C) They could arouse widespread anger among consumer.
 - D) Consumers will be tempted to buy products they don’t need.

【解析】注意文中划线句子，它们是 33、34 题答案的出处。

33. 提问“英国 NCC 的研究目的是什么”。查读文章第二段第二句：It did not test the claims, but compared them to labeling guidelines set by the International Standards Organization (ISO) in September, 1999. 注意：文段重点都在“但是”（but）后。答案为 C。
34. 提问“家用产品所做出的许多广告语引发的后果是什么”。出处在文章最后一句：The high numbers show how very confusing it must be for consumers to sort the true from the misleading. 由此句划线部分转述而成，注意 how 引导的宾语从句。答案为 B。

【例六】

The difference between the two business culture centers around different definitions of delegation. **While U.S. executives give both responsibility and authority to their employees, Japanese executives delegate only authority—the responsibility is still theirs.** Although the subsidiary that sold the sensitive technology to the Soviets had its own management, the Toshiba top executives said

they “must take personal responsibility for not creating an atmosphere throughout the Toshiba group that would make such activity unthinkable, even in an independently-run subsidiary.”

65. Which of the following statements is true?

- A) Boeing had nothing to do with the JAL air crash in 1985.
- B) American executives consider authority and responsibility inseparable.**
- C) School principals bear legal responsibility for students' crimes.
- D) Persuading employees to take pay cuts doesn't help solve corporate crises.

【解析】 查读该段第二句，答案十分明显，选 B。

【例七】

Al Gore calls global warming an “inconvenient truth”, **as if merely recognizing it could put us on a path to a solution.** But the real truth is that we don't know enough to relieve global warming, and—without major technological breakthroughs—we can't do much about it.

58. According to the author's understanding, what is Al Gore's view on global warming?

- A) It is a reality both people and politicians are unaware of.
- B) It is a phenomenon that causes us many inconveniences.
- C) It is a problem that can be solved once it is recognized.**
- D) It is an area we actually have little knowledge about.

【解析】 由题干定位到该段第一句，“仿佛只要承认这个问题，就能走向解决之路”。由此可知，C 是最符合的选项。

【例八】

Psychologists tell us boundaries are healthy, that it's important to reveal yourself to friends, family, and lovers in stages, at appropriate times. But few boundaries remain. The digital bread *crumbs* (碎屑) you leave everywhere make it easy for strangers to reconstruct who you are, where you are, and what you like. In some cases, a simple Google search can reveal what you think. Like it or not, increasingly we live in a world where you simply cannot keep a secret.

63. What would psychologists advise on the relationships between friends?

- A) Friends should open their hearts to each other.
- B) Friends should always be faithful to each other.

C) *There should be a distance even between friends.*

D) There should be fewer disputes between friends.

【解析】根据题干可以定位到该段第一句：“心理学家告诉我们，适当保持距离是有益的，在向朋友、家人和恋人倾吐（心声）时应该把握适当的时机和程度。”经过同义转述，C 是正确答案。

三、推论题

题型简介

推理题主要测试考生对所阅读短文中的故事情节进行推断及检查考生对短文中所隐含意思做出判断的能力。对于这类试题，考生从原文中找不到可直接回答问题的答案（It is implied but not stated），考生必须根据短文所提供的信息进行综合推理分析、归纳和逻辑推理，领悟作者的言外之意，做出合乎情理、符合逻辑的推断。

推理型试题涉及范围比较广，包括作者的观点、态度、目的、思路、语气、语言的格调、细节、数字、文章的出处等。这类题的题干中常含有 indicate, infer, refer to, imply, suggest, mean, agree with 等特征词。这就应了“重要结构巧梳理，同义转换是答案”的口诀。

解题方法

- 1) 仔细阅读文章，从整体上了解全文，充分理解文章的主题和细节；
- 2) 利用相关部分提供的背景事实和常识；
- 3) 从字里行阅读出作者的言外之意及作者的暗示或真实意图；
- 4) 确定作者措辞的理由；
- 5) 把字面意思和潜在之意结合起来；
- 6) 区分事实和观点；
- 7) 积极运用逻辑推理方法进行分析、归纳并做出正确判断。

样题研究

【例一】

Harvard Business School professor George Lodge calls the ritual acceptance of blame “almost a *feudal* (封建的) way of *purging* (清除) the community of dishonor”, and to some in the United States, such resignations look cowardly. However, in an era in which both business and governmental leaders seem particularly good at evading responsibility, many U.S. managers would probably welcome an *infusion* (灌输) of the Japanese sense of responsibility. If, for instance, U.S. automobile company executives offered to reduce their own salaries before they asked their workers to take pay cuts, negotiations would probably take on a very different character.

64. What's Professor George Lodge's attitude towards the resignations of Japanese

corporate leaders?

- A) Sympathetic. B) Biased. C) **Critical.** D) Approving.

【解析】 本段引述了洛奇对于这种引咎自责行为的看法，从“feudal”一词及下文来看，他是持不认可的态度，因此，答案为 C。

【例二】

Some analysts are less sure. Among consumers, only 18% are even aware that ecofashion exists, up from 6% four years ago. Natalie Hormilla, a fashion writer, is an example of the unconverted consumer. When asked if she owned any sustainable clothes, she replied: “Not that I am aware of.” Like most consumers, she finds little time to shop, and when she does, *she’s on the hunt for “cute stuff that isn’t too expensive”*. *By her own admission, green just isn’t on her mind.* But—thanks to the combined efforts of designers, retailers, and suppliers—one day it will be.

60. What is Natalie Hormilla’s attitude toward ecofashion?

- A) ***She doesn’t seem to care about it.***
 B) She is doubtful of its practical value.
 C) She doesn’t think it has a future.
 D) She is very much opposed to the idea.

【解析】 根据题干定位到末段第三句到第七句，这里指明她对自己穿着的服装是否是环保面料并不关注，她购物的时候“只是找好看而不贵的衣服”，“是否环保不在她的考虑之内”。所以可以综合判断出“她对生态服装业的态度是不关心”，故选 A。

【例三】

They were able to accurately place the hair samples in broad regions roughly corresponding to the movement of rain systems across the country.

“It’s not good for pinpointing (精确定位),” Cerling said. **“It’s good for eliminating a lot of possibilities.”**

Todd Park, a local detective, said the method had helped him learn more about an unidentified woman whose partial skeleton was found near Great Salt Lake.

The woman was 5 feet tall. Police recovered 26 bones, a T-shirt, a necklace, and several strands of hair.

When Park heard about the research, he gave the hair samples to the researchers. Chemical testing showed that over the two years before her death, she moved about every two months.

She stayed in the Northwest, although the test could not be more specific than somewhere between eastern Washington and Oregon and western Wyoming.

“It’s still a substantial area,” Park said. “But it narrows it way down for me.”

66. What is the practical value of Cerling’s research?

- A) It helps analyze the quality of water in different regions.
- B) It helps the police determine where a crime is committed.
- C) *It helps the police narrow down possibilities in detective work.***
- D) It helps identify the drinking habits of the person under investigation.

【解析】 综合阅读文章，得知“这个研究不能精确定位，但是可以排除许多可能性”；通过后面的案件调查实例，我们也可以知道通过这个方法虽然不能确定受害者具体来自哪里，但是可以把范围缩小很多。由此推断，C 是最佳选项。

【例四】

Scratchy throats, stuffy noses and body aches all spell misery, but being able to tell if the cause is a cold or flu may make a difference in how long the misery lasts.

The American Lung Association (ALA) has issued new guidelines on combating colds and the flu, and one of the keys is being able to quickly tell the two apart. That’s because the prescription drugs available for the flu need to be taken soon after the illness sets in. As for colds, the sooner a person starts taking over-the-counter remedy, the sooner relief will come.

13. According to the passage, to combat the flu effectively, _____.

- A) one should identify the virus which causes it
- B) one should consult a doctor as soon as possible
- C) *one should take medicine upon catching the disease***
- D) one should remain alert when the disease is spreading

【解析】 注意上述划线句子，它们是本题答案的出处。提问“根据文章，为了有效战胜流感，人们应该做什么”。本题存在一定难度，且有相当争议。根据文中划线部分：...and one of the keys is being able to quickly tell the two apart. That’s because the prescription drugs available for the flu need to be taken soon after the illness sets in. 我们得知：治疗流感的处方药应当在流感刚开始时就立即服用。因此，答案为 C。

【例五】

Lead deposits, which accumulated in soil and snow during the 1960’s and 70’s, were

primarily the result of leaded gasoline emissions originating in the United States. In the twenty years that the Clean Air Act has mandated unleaded gas use in the United States, the lead accumulation world-wide has decreased significantly.

A study published recently in the journal *Nature* shows that air-borne leaded gas emissions from the United States were the leading contributor to the high concentration of lead in the snow in Greenland. The new study is a result of the continued research led by Dr. Charles Boutron, an expert on the impact of heavy metals on the environment at the National Centre for Scientific Research in France. A study by Dr. Boutron published in 1991 showed that lead levels in *arctic* (北极的) snow were declining.

In his new study, Dr. Boutron found the ratios of the different forms of lead in the leaded gasoline used in the United States were different from the ratios of European, Asian and Canadian gasoline and thus enabled scientists to *differentiate* (区分) the lead sources. The dominant lead ratio found in Greenland snow matched that found in gasoline from the United States.

In a study published in the journal *Ambio*, scientists found that lead levels in soil in the North-eastern United States had decreased markedly since the introduction of unleaded gasoline.

Many scientists had believed that the lead would stay in soil and snow for a longer period.

The authors of the *Ambio* study examined samples of the upper layers of soil taken from the same sites of 30 forest floors in New England, New York and Pennsylvania in 1980 and in 1990.

The forest environment processed and redistributed the lead faster than the scientists had expected.

Scientists say both studies demonstrate that certain parts of the *ecosystem* (生态系统) respond rapidly to reductions in atmospheric pollution, ***but that these findings should not be used as a license to pollute.***

25. It can be inferred from the last paragraph that scientists _____.

- A) are puzzled by the mystery of forest pollution
- B) feel relieved by the use of unleaded gasoline
- C) still consider lead pollution a problem**
- D) lack sufficient means to combat lead pollution

【解析】注意上述划线句子，它是本题答案的出处。提问“从文章最后一段可以推断出，科学家们_____。”最后一段的大意为：“科学家们说这两项研究表明，当大气污染状况减缓时，生态系统的某些部分很快会感受到，但这些研究结果不应成为污

染环境的正当理由。”据此，可以推断出：科学家们仍然认为铅污染是个问题。答案为 C。

【例六】

Consumers are being ***confused and misled*** by the *hodge-podge* (大杂烩) of environmental claims made by household products, according to a “green labeling” study published by Consumers International Friday.

Among the report’s more *outrageous* (令人无法容忍的) findings—a German fertilizer described itself as “earthworm friendly” a brand of flour said it was “non-polluting” and a British toilet paper claimed to be “environmentally friendlier”.

The study was written and researched by Britain’s National Consumer Council (NCC) for lobby group Consumer International. It was funded by the German and Dutch governments and the European Commission.

“While many good and useful claims are being made, ***it is clear there is a long way to go in ensuring shoppers adequately informed about the environmental impact of products they buy.***” said Consumers International director Anna Fielder.

31. According to the passage, the NCC found it outrageous that _____.
- A) all the products surveyed claim to meet ISO standards
B) the claims made by products are often unclear or deceiving
 C) consumers would believe many of the manufacturer’s claim
 D) few products actually prove to be environmentally friendly
32. As indicated in this passage, with so many good claims, the consumers _____.
- A) are becoming more cautious about the products they are going to buy
 B) are still not willing to pay more for products with green labeling
 C) are becoming more aware of the effects different products have on the environment
D) still do not know the exact impact of different products on the environment

【解析】这两道题都符合“同义转换是答案”这条口诀，指的是原文中的某些关键词汇或结构在对应的备选项中被同义词或结构转换替代，因为照抄原文词句移植为备选项的往往是排除项，这一点十分重要。

31. 提问“根据文章，NCC 发现下面哪一条是令人无法容忍的？”解题依据是文章的第一段开头（尽管题干出现在第二段开头）：Consumers are being ***confused and misled*** by the *hodge-podge* (大杂烩) of environmental claims made by household products,

...“消费者对家庭日用品上纷繁复杂的环保标签说明感到困惑，容易上当受骗”。答案为 B，原文中 *confused and misled* 分别被选项 B 中的 *unclear and deceiving* 转换替代。

32. 查读第四段 “... it is clear there is a long way to go in ensuring shoppers adequately informed about the environmental impact of products they buy ...”，划线部分与 D 项为同义转换，答案为 D。

【例七】

On average, American kids ages 3 to 12 spent 29 hours a week in school, eight hours more than they did in 1981. They also did more household work and participated in more of such organized activities as soccer and *ballet* (芭蕾舞). Involvement in sports, in particular, rose almost 50% from 1981 to 1997: boys now spend an average of four hours a week playing sports; girls log half that time. All in all, however, children's leisure time dropped from 40% of the day in 1981 to 25%.

“Children are affected by the same time *crunch* (危机) that affects their parents,” says Sandra Hofferth, who headed the recent study of children's timetable. A chief reason, she says, is that more mothers are working outside the home. (Nevertheless, children in both double-income and “male breadwinner” households spent comparable amounts of time interacting with their parents, 19 hours and 22 hours respectively. In contrast, children spent only 9 hours with their single mothers.)

22. According to the author, the reason given by Sandra Hofferth for the time crunch is _____.
- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| A) quite convincing | B) <i>partially true</i> |
| C) totally groundless | D) rather confusing |

【解析】第二段紧接着 Sandra Hofferth 的原因分析，括号内的句子体现了作者对 Sandra Hofferth 的看法。在解这类题目的过程中，先要对文章进行略读。

注意：选项中过于绝对化的答案多数是错误的，应排除。反之，含有 “*likely*, *probably* 可能”，“*partially* 部分”这类词的可考虑为答案项。按照这一原则，正确答案为 B。

【例八】

It's no secret that many children would be healthier and happier with adoptive parents than with the parents that nature dealt them. That's especially true of children who remain in abusive homes because the law blindly favors biological parents. It's also true of children who suffer for years in *foster homes* (收养孩子的家庭) because of parents who can't or won't care for them but refuse to give up *custody* (监护) rights.

Fourteen-year-old Kimberly Mays fits neither description, but her recent court victory could eventually help children who do. Kimberly has been the object of an angry custody baffle between the man who raised her and her biological parents, with whom she has never lived. A Florida judge ruled that the teenager can remain with the only father she's ever known and that her biological parents have "no legal claim" on her.

The ruling, though it may yet be reversed, sets aside the principle that biology is the primary determinant of parentage. That's an important development, one that's long overdue.

Shortly after birth in December 1978, Kimberly Mays and another infant were mistakenly switched and sent home with the wrong parents. Kimberly's biological parents, Ernest and Regina Twigg, received a child who died of a heart disease in 1988. Medical tests showed that the child wasn't the Twiggs' own daughter, but Kimt only was, thus sparking a custody battle with Robert Mays. In 1989, the two families agreed that Mr. Mays would maintain custody with the Twiggs getting visiting rights. Those rights were ended when Mr. Mays decided that Kimberly was being harmed.

The decision to leave Kimberly with Mr. Mays rendered her suit debated. But the judge made clear that Kimberly did have standing to *sue* (起诉) on her own behalf. Thus, he made clear that she was more than just property to be handled as adults saw fit.

Certainly, the biological link between parent and child is fundamental. ***But biological parents aren't always preferable to adoptive ones***, and biological parentage does not convey an absolute ownership that cancels all the rights of children.

40. The author's attitude towards the judge's ruling could be described as _____.

- A) doubtful B) critical C) cautious **D) supportive**

【解析】 根据文章最后一段的最后一句: *But biological parents aren't always preferable to adoptive ones, ...* (但是生身父母并不见得比养父母好), 可推断出作者对法官的裁决持支持的态度。答案为 D。

可推测用于表示作者态度的特征词汇有:

approving (赞成的), cautious (谨慎的), critical (批评的),
doubtful (怀疑的), humorous (幽默的), indifferent (冷漠的; 无兴趣的),
negative (否定的), neutral (中立的), optimistic (乐观的),
pessimistic (悲观的), subjective (主观的), objective (客观的),
supportive (支持的)

通常，作者写文章总要表明个人的观点，因此，**indifferent** 一般不作为答案项考虑，除非作者在文中有明确的词语表示。这是考学生判断作者态度题的一般出题思路。

四、词汇指代题

题型简介

在阅读中考生往往会遇到一些生词、短语或熟词在特定上下文中的变义。如果不影响对文章的理解，可以将它们略过，继续读下去。如果是一些关键词，又吃不准它们的确切词义，考生就得充分发挥自己猜词的能力，即要求考生根据上下文，运用常识或语法结构知识，通过构词法分析或通过逻辑推理、背景知识等推测词语在特定语言环境中的确切意思，这在教学和考试中都是应该鼓励的。

解题方法

1. 利用上下文猜测词义

“上下文”指的是关键词所在的句子本身，以及这个句子的上下句或更远的前后文。上下文所提示的意义与关键词的关系要么为同义关系，要么为反义关系。

1) 同义关系

(1) 所考词汇在文章中被同义词、同位语、定语从句等解释或定义时，那么它与提示词构成同义关系。这些解释往往伴随过渡词，如 **that is, namely, in other words, this means** 等。

(2) 并列或递进关系表示同义：假如所考词汇与线索提示词之间以如下结构连接，那么二者为同义关系：**and, indeed, just as, also, besides, almost, even, similarly, likewise, correspondingly, accordingly, in the same way** 等。

(3) 因果关系表示同义：假如所考词汇与线索提示词之间以如下结构连接，那么二者为同义关系：**because, since, for, if, thus, so that, so...that..., so...as to..., therefore, consequently, as a result, in that, result in, result from, cause, lead to, be due to** 等。

(4) 举例表示同义：假如所考词汇与线索提示词之间有如下过渡词，即所考词汇被一个例子所解释，那么例子的含义为所考词汇的意义。引出例子的常见词为 **for example, for instance, such as, to specify** 等。

(5) 标点符号暗示语义关系：破折号、冒号或括号均表示同义解释。

样题研究

【例一】

Public speakers usually know well in advance when they are scheduled to make an address. Consequently, they are able to prepare their message before they deliver it. Sometimes, though, speakers must deliver the message unprepared, or **off the cuff**, such as when they are asked to offer a toast at a wedding reception or to participate in a televised debate or interview.

64. In Paragraph 3, the expression “off the cuff” means _____.

2) 反义关系

凡是所考词汇与线索提示词之间以下列结构表示转折或对立关系的, 那么二者之间可能构成反义关系: but, however, although, though, while, despite, in spite of, in contrast, on the contrary 等。

样题研究

【例】

Teaching and learning are two entirely different processes. They differ in kind and function. The function of teaching is to create the conditions and the climate that will make it possible for children to devise the most efficient system for teaching themselves to read. Teaching is also a public activity: it can be seen and observed.

Learning to read involves all that each individual does to make sense of the world of printed language. Almost all of it is private, for learning is occupation of the mind, and that process is not open to public **scrutiny**.

38. The word “scrutiny” (Line 3, Para. 2) most probably means “_____”.

- A) inquiry **B) observation** C) control D) suspicion

【解析】这段话的第一句就旗帜鲜明地表明: 教与学是两种完全不同的过程。然后第一段谈教, 第二段谈学, 这是一种典型的对比论述法, 既然是对比, 两者所论的内容应该是逻辑关系。具体到考查的生词 **scrutiny** 所在的最后一句, **process is not open to public scrutiny** 相对应的应该也是上一段的最后一句: **teaching can be seen and observed** 两者应为相反关系, 也就是说 **not open to public scrutiny = not seen and observed**, 去掉双方的 **not**, 公式就是 **open to public scrutiny = seen and observed**。这样答案就不言自明地应该是 B 了。

2. 利用逻辑猜测词义

有时根据上下文提供的线索或者其他方法, 仍然不能得到唯一答案。这时可以利用语法和逻辑方面的规则来判断, 符合语法和逻辑规则的可能为正确答案, 反之则不是。

样题研究

【例一】

Social support **cushions** stress in a number of ways. First, friends, relatives, and co-workers may let us know that they value us. Our self-respect is strengthened when we feel accepted by others despite our faults and difficulties. Second, other people often provide us with informational support. They help us to define and understand our problems and find solutions to them. Third, we typically find social companionship supportive. Engaging in leisure-time activities with others helps us to meet our social needs while at the same time distracting us from our worries and troubles. Finally,

other people may give us instrumental support—financial aid, material resources, and needed services—that reduces stress by helping us resolve and cope with our problems.

68. Which of the following is closest in meaning to the word “cushions” (Line 1, Para. 1)?

- A) Lays the foundation for. **B) Lessens the effect of.**
C) Adds up to. D) Does away with.

【解析】 这题中的 cushions 的意思从附近的上下文中很难发现线索，但当我们考虑一下整段的逻辑结构，难题就迎刃而解了。这段话采用了典型的总分结构说明法，先提出观点：social support cushions stress，再 first, second, third, finally 分层次说明，到最后一句时终于露出了明显的马脚：support that reduces stress by...，这下我们就可以得出：cushions stress = reduces stress，于是，reduces 的近义词 lessens the effect of 就是我们要找的答案，故正确答案为 B。

【例二】

Living at home, says Knighton, a school teacher, continues to give her security and moral support. Her mother agreed, “It’s ridiculous for the kids to pay all that money for rent. It makes sense for kids to stay at home.” **But** sharing the family home requires adjustments for all. There are the **hassles over** bathrooms, telephones and privacy.

4. The word “hassles” (Line 4, Para. 3) probably means _____.

- A) agreements B) worries
C) disadvantages **D) quarrels**

【解析】 本段前两句的大意是：住在家里继续给予她安全和道德支持。母亲也同意地附和道：“问孩子要房租是极不靠谱的事，让孩子住家里是明智的。”注意，后面话锋一转，But sharing the family home requires adjustments for all. There are the hassles over bathrooms, telephones and privacy. 但是，合住在一起对每个人来说都要作调整。存在对于卫生间、电话和个人隐私的 _____。路标信号词 But 告诉我们这里是转折，根据逻辑推理可排除 agreements，同时，我们知道日常词汇 worry 后面接 about，也排除。在 disadvantages（不利因素）和 quarrels（争吵，吵嘴）[可接 over] 之间作选择，D. quarrels 合情合理地成为答案，因为合住免不了有摩擦和争吵。

3. 借助构词法猜测词义

不少英语单词，尤其是四级大纲之外的难词、复杂词，大都可以分解成前缀、后缀和词根，假如对它们的含义或功能比较了解，就能较准确地推测出它们相互组合形成的新词的词义。

样题研究

【例一】

The statuses we assume often vary with the people we encounter, and change through our life. Most of us can, at very high speed, assume the statuses that various situations require. Much of social interaction consists of identifying and selecting among appropriate statuses and allowing other people to assume their statuses in relation to us. This means that we fit our actions to those of other people based on a constant process of **appraisal** and interpretation. Although some of us find the task more difficult than others, most of us perform it rather effortlessly.

53. The word “appraisal” (Line 5, Para. 2) most probably means _____.

- A) involvement B) appreciation C) **assessment** D) presentation

【解析】“appraisal”可分解为“ap+prais+al”（名词后缀），意为“评价”（由 appraisal 中的词根 prais 推出），这样选项中同义的只有选项 C assessment “对……进行估价，评价”为正确答案。

这道题也可以根据上下文来做。“appraisal”所在的句子为：This means that we fit our actions to those of other people based on a constant process of appraisal and interpretation. 其中的“This means”可以推出这一句话的解释在上一句：Much of social interaction consists of identifying and selecting among appropriate statuses and allowing other people to assume their statuses in relation to us（许多社会交往包含了自我确定与选择合适的身份，也涉及如何使对方根据我们的情况决定他们应采用的身份）。上一句话所说的根据对方情况确定言谈举止方式就是 appraisal and interpretation，选项中只有选项 C 表达了这种评估的意思，为正确答案。

【例二】

The manufacturer who increases the unit price of his product by changing his package size to lower the quantity delivered can, without **undue** hardship, put his product into boxes, bags, and tins that will contain even 4-ounce, 8-ounce, one-pound, two-pound quantities of breakfast foods, cake mixes, etc.

1. The word “undue” (Line 2, Para. 2) means “_____”.

- A) improper B) adequate C) unexpected D) **excessive**

【解析】due 是熟词，有“1) 预定的；2) 应给的；3) 充分的；4) 到期的”这些意思。许多同学就不假思索地选了 A 或 C。注意：考熟词时，往往不会考察它的第一和第二义，多数要考它的引申义。原文的句义是：通过改变包装袋的尺寸大小来增加销售单价，不需要 _____ 困难，将产品装入盒子、袋子和罐子中……。根据上下文，把四个词 improper 不恰当的；adequate 足够的；unexpected 出乎意料的；excessive 过度的，分别代入空格，看看哪个合适。答案为 D。意为：不需要过度

困难就能做到（变相涨价）。

4. 根据指代关系猜测词义

代词指代总的原则就是就近指代，即指代在性、数、格、逻辑、位置等方面与之接近的名词。就位置而言，代词所指代的名词通常在本句或上句之中；就数而言，单数代词指代单数名词，复数代词指代复数名词。例如，it 指代单数名词（单数可数名词或不可数名词），也可指代一个句子；they 指代复数名词主格；them 指代复数名词宾格；one 指代单数可数名词等。除了位置、性、数和格等方面的要求外，逻辑和意义也是衡量的标准，也就是说，正确的答案应该在意义（主要指语法搭配）上和逻辑（主要指思想内容）上都说得通。

样题研究

【例】

The reality that has blocked my path to become the typical successful student is that engineering and the liberal arts simply don't mix as easily as I assumed in high school. Individually they shape a person in very different ways; together **they** threaten to confuse. The struggle to reconcile the two fields of study is difficult.

30. The word "they" in "...together they threaten to confuse" (Line 3, Para. 5) refers to

- _____.
- A) practicality and rationality
 - B) engineering and the liberal arts**
 - C) reality and noble ideals
 - D) flexibility and a value system

【解析】 本句中两次出现代词 they，从分号这个标点符号上我们可以先判定这两个 they 所指相同。同时通过 individually 与 together 这两个限定词，可以判断出 they 这个复数代词所指的对象一定既可单独存在，又可组成一组而存在。再向前看，前面一句中既能分开，又能并成一组的概念只有 engineering and the liberal arts，所以答案只能是 B。

通过上述实例解析，学生只要有意识地抓住重点来培养自己的阅读能力，就能够在今后的各种阅读考试中运用自如、游刃有余、高分在握。

Unit 1

Section A

Passage 1

Analyzing Detroit Property Tax Data

The Detroit News wanted to know, as the city 1 to pay its bills and faced a showdown (紧要关头) with the state over its 2, how well it was collecting taxes.

We began with 200,000 pages of city data on 2011 property taxes, 3 the document into a database that stripped out personal property tax bills and parcels that weren't taxable, including publicly 4 property. The News made a block-by-block map showing which parcels paid taxes, and then updated it with Wayne County records from January that 5 late payments.

All told, taxes were paid in full on 53 percent of taxable properties in 2011. Taxes were paid on time on 6 than half of the city's properties.

And although there are many vacant properties with little 7, most of the nonpayers owed at least \$1,000.

Mapping software showed that, by and large, neighborhoods with the most value had the 8 payment rates. Those areas included the downtown business district, the areas east and west of downtown 9 the river, and Palmer Woods, home to some of the city's most 10 housing.

(200 words)

Select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| A) owned | I) worth |
| B) finances | J) along |
| C) reflected | K) value |
| D) highest | L) least |
| E) occupied | M) struggled |
| F) converted | N) fought |
| G) expensive | O) fewer |
| H) economy | |

Passage 2

Sleep Position Gives Personality Clue

- A) “Whether it’s curled up in the fetal (胎儿的) position, flat on the stomach or stretched out across the bed, the way people sleep reveals their personality,” a British sleep expert said.
- B) Professor Chris Idzikowski, director of the Sleep Assessment and Advisory Service and a visiting professor at the University of Surrey in southern England, has identified six common sleep positions and what they mean.
- C) “We are all aware of our body language when we are awake but this is the first time we have been able to see what our subconscious posture says about us,” he said.
- D) Crouched in the fetal position is the most popular sleep pattern and favored by 51 percent of women, according to the results of the study he conducted for a large hotel group.
- E) Fetal sleepers tend to be shy and sensitive, while people who assume the soldier position, flat on their back with arms at their sides, are quiet and reserved.
- F) Sleeping on one’s side with legs outstretched and arms down in what Idzikowski refers to as the log, indicates a social, easy-going personality. But if the arms are outstretched in the yearner (渴望者) position, the person tends to be more suspicious.
- G) The freefall, flat on the tummy (肚子) with the hands at the sides of the head, is the most unusual position. Only 6.5 percent of people prefer it and they are usually brash (性急的) and gregarious (爱社交的).
- H) Unassuming (谦逊的), good listeners usually adopt the starfish position—on the back with outstretched arms and legs.
- I) Idzikowski, who identified the positions by comparing personality traits of people, their preferred way of sleeping and the most common positions, said once a sleeping style is adopted it is rarely changed.

(306 words)

Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once.

- () 1. Soldier sleepers are quiet and reserved.
- () 2. Log sleepers are social and easy-going.
- () 3. Yearner sleepers are more suspicious.
- () 4. Freefall sleepers are brash and gregarious.
- () 5. Starfish sleepers are unassuming, good listeners.

Passage 3

Bad Weather?

“Snowflakes are kisses from heaven.” But in many parts around the globe, snow is an incredible nuisance (讨厌的东西). It is a great risk to drive the vehicles in the conditions of heavy snow fall. The heavy snow covering driveways and sidewalks is the major concern of people during winter seasons. But things have changed a lot nowadays.

Today there are many snow removal services offered by governments, institutions (公共机构) and snow removal companies. These snow removers remove the snow from your driveway to make travel easier and safer.

Snow could be cleared by individuals or by seeking the help from certain snow removal organizations depending upon the requirement. Some governments anyway offer free snow removal service. There is nothing to worry about if your government doesn't offer a snow removal service, for there are several private firms waiting to serve you.

However, when it snows, you have only two options. One is to shovel and the other is to make snow angels. A snowflake is one of God's most fragile creations. But when they stick together you will definitely need assistance to remove it. No need to worry about the bad weather, just ring up to a snow removal service. And you will think that sunshine is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces you up, and snow is exhilarating (令人兴奋的); there is really no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather.

(237 words)

Choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

1. Why is snow a nuisance?
 - A. Because snowflakes kill people.
 - B. Because snow on the road makes it dangerous to move around.
 - C. Because snow cuts off supplies.
 - D. Because snow makes the weather cold.
2. Snow clearing _____.
 - A. is not as difficult as it used to be

- B. is offered by all governments free of charge
 - C. is only done by professional organizations
 - D. by private firms is more efficient
3. What does the sentence “One is to shovel and the other is to make snow angels” in Para. 4 mean?
- A. One way is to remove the snow and the other is to make snow angels and have fun.
 - B. One man works with a shovel and the other makes angels out of snow.
 - C. One solution is to remove the snow and the other is to make angels out of snow.
 - D. One possibility is to get rid of the snow and the other is to draw angels on the snow.
4. What does the author imply in the last sentence?
- A. If you know how to deal with the bad weather, any weather is good weather.
 - B. People think differently about what is good weather.
 - C. Bad weather doesn’t exist. It is good weather every day.
 - D. Bad weather is all the same, but good weather is different.
5. What is the purpose of this passage?
- A. To advertise for some private snow removal companies.
 - B. To inform people of the various organizations that offer snow removal services.
 - C. To tell people that there’s nothing to worry about heavy snow with better snow removal services and a cheerful mind.
 - D. To advise people that they should not complain about the bad weather.



Section B



Passage 1

Dancing Is Addictive!

If you think you have two left 1 but would love to be a good dancer, then why not try your 2 at dancing?

That's exactly what I did five years ago and I immediately got the 3; I have stayed hooked ever since. To me, dancing is a 4 experience: I've become fitter, look younger and feel more confident. I enjoy it so much that I will never give up this healthy 5.

It's very sociable as well. You meet people and make new friends while dancing the 6 away. Haven't you heard stories about how dancing inspired new romances or rekindled (使恢复) old ones?

No matter what types of dancing you do, one thing is 7: you will become fitter. For office workers like me, dancing is good cardio exercise (有氧运动) after a long day sitting in front of the computer screen. It also strengthens your 8, improves your coordination and 9 your physical confidence.

Few people will end up being queens of the dance floor. The aim is not to win a competition but to enjoy the interaction. As long as you have a good repertoire of cool moves, keep the 10 and most importantly maintain an encouraging smile to your dancing partners, you will always be a winner!

(221 words)

Select one word for each blank from a list of choices given in a word bank following the passage.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| A) pastime | I) winner |
| B) cool | J) hand |
| C) night | K) rhythm |
| D) guaranteed | L) magical |
| E) feet | M) fitter |
| F) important | N) maintain |
| G) muscles | O) bug |
| H) boosts | |

Passage 2

Solar Storms

- A) Solar storms could have “evastating effects” on human technology when they hit a peak in two years’ time, a leading scientist has warned.
- B) U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration assistant secretary Kathryn Sullivan said the storms pose a growing threat to critical infrastructure such as satellite communications, navigation systems and electrical transmission equipment.
- C) Solar storms release particles that can temporarily disable or permanently destroy fragile computer circuits.
- D) Dr. Sullivan, a former NASA astronaut who in 1984 became the first woman to walk in space, yesterday told a UN weather conference in Geneva that “it is not a question of if, but really a matter of when a major solar event could hit our planet”.
- E) She is not the only expert to issue a warning about the threat posed by solar storms.
- F) In February, astronomers warned that mankind is now more vulnerable to such an event than at any time in history—and that the planet should prepare for a global Hurricane Katrina-style disaster.
- G) A massive eruption of the sun would emit waves of radiation and charged particles to Earth, damaging the satellite systems used for synchronising (同步) computers, airline navigation and phone networks.
- H) If the storm is powerful enough it could even crash stock markets and cause power cuts that last weeks or months, experts told the American Association for the Advancement of Science.
- I) The chances of a disruption from space are getting stronger because the sun is entering the most active period of its 11- to 12-year natural cycle. The world got a taster of the sun’s explosive power in February when the strongest solar eruption in five years sent a torrent of charged plasma hurtling towards the world at 580 miles per second.
- J) The storm created spectacular aurorae (激光) and disrupted radio communications.
- K) The last solar maximum occurred in 2001. Its latest minimum was particularly weak and long lasting.

- L) Space storms are not new. The first major solar flare was recorded by British astronomer Richard Carrington in 1859.
- M) Other solar geomagnetic storms have been observed in recent decades. One huge solar flare in 1972 cut off long-distance telephone communication in the mid-western state of Illinois, NASA said.

(361 words)

Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once.

- () 1. In large-scale solar storms, the sun would release large amounts of radiation and charged particles to Earth.
- () 2. A solar storm in 2001 was the recent massive one, but its newest outbreak was scanty, yet with a long duration.
- () 3. The fragile computer circuits can be led to temporary failure or permanent damage due to solar particles.
- () 4. If the solar storm is too strong, it could even trigger a global stock market failure, power cuts for weeks or months.
- () 5. Because the sun is gradually entering the most active period with its sunspot cycle of 11 to 12 years, the chances of a disruption from space are getting stronger.

Passage 3

Biometric Access

Major retailers (零售商) are putting in payment systems that let your finger do the paying. Paying for products with a fingerprint, rather than checks, cards or electronic devices, is among the newest cashless options at checkout.

Biometric access (生物统计访问), as the process is called, might have a Big Brother feeling, but it is expected to speed up customer checkout and cut identity fraud (诈骗). In some ways, biometric access tests consumers' willingness to give up some privacy to gain convenience.

A customer signs up by having a finger scanned into a database by special machines and designating (指定) a credit or debit (借记卡) card to which purchases will be charged. To make a purchase, consumers have their finger read at checkout, often on a pad incorporated into a console (控制台) that also reads swipe cards (磁卡) and provides for personal identification number (PIN) entry.

Though once only commonplace in legal situations, fingerprinting is being used more and more in commerce. Institutions from banks to pawnshops (当铺) are fingerprinting to authenticate (验证) transactions (交易). Transaction processing time is less than 30 seconds, compared with three minutes before using the technology. The increase in interest in biometric access stems from an increase in fraud involving more money, as well as a decline in the cost of the technology. The system now costs about \$ 10,000, experts say.

(233 words)

Choose the best answer to each of the following questions.

1. According to the passage, one of the newest cashless options at checkout is paying with _____.
A. checks
B. cards
C. a fingerprint
D. electronic devices
2. The "Big Brother feeling" in the first sentence of the second paragraph refers to _____.

- A. fraud
 - B. privacy
 - C. family love
 - D. affection for brothers
3. How is the new fingerprint device used in payment?
- A. A customer swipes his identity card on a pad at checkout.
 - B. A customer's fingerprint is scanned by a special machine at checkout.
 - C. A customer signs up on the paper by using one finger in payment.
 - D. A customer has his finger read at checkout and purchases will be charged to a designated card.
4. According to the passage, fingerprinting is not being used in _____.
- A. commerce
 - B. banks and pawnshops
 - C. legal situations
 - D. painting
5. The use of fingerprinting in transaction processing has at least increased its time efficiency by _____.
- A. 3 times
 - B. 10 times
 - C. 30 times
 - D. 6 times