

第一章

阅读理解

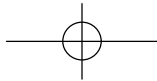
第一节 考纲对阅读理解的要求

考试中的阅读理解 (Part I Reading Comprehension)，要求考生阅读 3 篇短文，每篇文章后有 5 个问题，共 15 题，每小题 2 分，总分为 30 分。考生应根据文章内容从每题 4 个选项中选出一个最佳答案。阅读理解部分主要考核考生通过阅读获取信息的能力，既要求准确，也要求有一定的速度。

阅读理解部分主要测试考生的下述能力：

1. 掌握所读材料的主旨和大意；
2. 了解说明主旨和大意的事实和细节；
3. 既理解字面的意思，又能根据所读材料进行一定的判断和推论；
4. 既理解个别句子的意义，又能在一定程度上理解上下文的逻辑关系。

阅读的主要目的是获取信息。阅读是理解的前提和手段；理解是分析、加工和处理信息的过程，是阅读的目的和结果。考生要能够通过阅读概括文章主旨大意、查找具体细节、根据上下文猜测词义、理解作者的意图和态度以及把握文章的基本结构等。总之，阅读理解强调全面考察考生判断推理、分析归纳、逻辑思维和概括总结等能力。



第二节 阅读理解解题原则和解题技巧

一、阅读理解能力的培养和提高

★ 掌握足够的词汇量

词汇量的不足会导致对全文的把握产生偏颇，误解，甚至看不懂；同时也会极大地影响阅读速度。考生平时应尽量通过各种途径扩充词汇量，有效的做法是通过大量的阅读实践来积累单词量。

★ 打下坚实的语法基础

扎实的语法知识会大大增强阅读理解的能力，这里所指的语法知识主要是指分析复杂句子结构的能力，能够整体把握句子框架的能力，最终达到理解句意的目的。

★ 进行大量而广泛的阅读

很多考生不仅受限于单词量的不足、语法概念的不清，同时也会由于阅读量偏少，影响到阅读的质量和速度。考生应进行大量广泛的阅读，而不要拘泥于逐字逐句的“咬文嚼字”。同时，大量的阅读也可以培养语感，积累词汇。

★ 注意了解和积累相关的背景知识

背景知识的积累对于阅读材料的理解非常有帮助。考生应广泛涉猎不同的领域，了解、积累如天文、地理等自然科学知识以及文化、风俗等社会科学知识都会对文章的理解有很大的帮助。

★ 熟悉英美文化知识

语言和文化是不可分割的，仅仅从字面上理解作者所要表达的意图是远远不够的。因此考生应该多关注文化差异，了解英美国家的文化知识来提高阅读能力。

二、阅读理解解题原则和技巧

★ 培养良好的阅读习惯，掌握正确的阅读方法

在阅读文章的过程中，考生常常会有一些不好的习惯。如“指读”、“唇读”、“回读”和“译读”，这些不良习惯有的会影响对整句或整段意思的理解，有的会影响阅读和思考速度；更严重的是后面的两种阅读习惯会让考生产生心理定势，认为自己第一遍肯定读不懂，同时还要借助母语来辅助理解。

正确的阅读,应该是以较快的阅读速度从大量材料中捕捉有关信息,而不是逐词阅读;应该是按意群连贯阅读,而不是拘泥于个别词句的理解;应该是掌握通篇的结构和中心思想,而不是把文章当成学习语法结构和词汇用法的材料。

具体来说,学生在练习的过程中首先要严格按照考纲规定给自己限定时间,屏蔽一切干扰,专心阅读;其次,考生也要注意合理有效的分配利用时间。有的考生习惯于先读懂全文,再做题,答题时出现困难后再重新返回原文寻找答案。这样无疑会浪费许多宝贵的考试时间;有些考生会先将题目浏览一遍,然后带着问题去阅读原文,这在一定程度上节省了时间,也使得阅读具有一定的针对性。但同时,这种方法也常常会因为对文章的大意不太了解,而不知在什么地方寻找答案,也会造成低效率低准确率的结果。实际上,较好的阅读方法是先看一小段文章,对大意有了一定了解之后,再去看问题。很可能情况是考生根据已经阅读的部分可以选出第一题(大部分为文章大意方面的题)的答案;如果回答不了第一个问题,那么就看看第二个问题;如果已读部分能回答第二个问题,就立刻做出答案,然后往下看第三个问题,在回头读原文,找到答案。找到第三个答案后,就看第四题的问题,然后带着问题再去读原文,以此类推。最后读完文章后,别忘了回答第一题。这种方法的核心是在对文章题材和主题有一个基本的了解后,带着一个问题去读原文,既可以节省时间,又提高了做题的准确性。

★ 掌握阅读基本技巧

根据不同的阅读目的,可以采用不同的阅读方法和技巧。

略读(skimming)这种阅读方法是为了抓住文章的大意和主题思想,用较快的阅读速度跳过细节、不重要的描述和例子。

寻读(scanning),指的是快速寻找某一特殊信息的阅读方法。其目的非常明确。寻读时,要自上而下,一目数行地寻找与题干相关的词句,与此无关的内容要很快掠过。

细读(reading for full understanding)在文章中找到相关部分后,逐句进行阅读。不仅要理解其字面意思,还要通过推理和判断,弄清字里行间所隐含的意思。在细读过程中,对没有学过的生词,可根据上下文的背景知识来推测其词意,对难以看懂的长句,可借助语法手段,对其加以分析,以到达正确理解的目的。

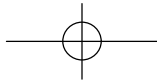
三、掌握基本的问题题型

★ 主旨题

中心思想是全文的核心,也是作者在文章中要表达的主要内容,会在文章中通过许多细节来阐明它。因此,对于全文内容理解对把握中心思想具有重要意义,而中心思想往往需要通读全文后才能做出判断。考生要注意表达中心思想的句子可能出现在文章中的不同位置,阅读时,文章的开头、结尾及段落的段首句和段尾句总是特别重要,因为它们往往包含着文章的中心思想。

这类命题除了会直接问:

What is the main idea / subject / point of this passage?



What is this passage mainly about?

Which of the following best describes the passage as a whole?

还会这样问:

Which is the best title for this passage?

The title that best expresses the idea of the passage is _____.

还可以这样问:

The writer of the text has a _____ attitude toward ...

What is the tone of the author about ...?

★ 细节题

在选择答案前应首先看准题干, 看清问题; 然后在寻读时注意与题目相关的关键词语; 最后, 在充分理解原文的基础上确定正确答案。做细节题切忌通过自己对某类知识的主观了解和认知做出判断, 一定要紧扣文章内容。细节题的命题方式常常有以下几种:

Which of the following is NOT true according to the information in the passage?

Which of the following is mentioned in the passage?

What is the example of ... as described in the passage?

The author mentions all of the following except _____.

The reason for ... is _____.

The author states that _____.

According to the passage, when / where / why / how / who...

★ 词汇题

词汇题要求对文章中的某个单词、短语甚至句子等找出近义词或最合适的解释。一般来说, 词汇题要通过上下文的语境和语义, 文章对该词的解释和举例、构词法知识等来猜测词义。常见的提问方式有以下几种:

According to the author / passage, the word "..." means _____.

Which of the following is the nearest in meaning to "..."?

What's the meaning of "..." in line ... of paragraph...?

★ 推理题

推理题不但要求掌握文章所表达的字面含义, 还要有一定的逻辑判断能力, 因为这类题在文字层面往往找不出答案, 而需要考生从字里行间去体会, 靠自己的逻辑推理能力去判断, 才能发现作者隐含的意思, 才能从文章表面推理出更深层含义。推理题常见的命题方式有:

It can be inferred from the passage that _____.

It can be concluded from the passage that _____.

第三节 阅读理解真题集锦

Passage 1 (科技类; 2013 年真题)

For 20 months the wrecked Costa Concordia has been lying on its side near the coast of Giglio, a small Italian island. But on Tuesday, as part of the largest salvage (打捞) operation ever conducted, the large ship was finally moved to the upright position. The next step is for the vessel to be removed from the area entirely.

The Costa Concordia is twice the weight of the Titanic. The ship itself didn't budge (稍微移动) for the first three hours of the operation, Sergio Girotto told reporters. He and other engineers worked for 19 hours before Concordia was declared completely upright.

The Costa Concordia capsized on January 13, 2012, after its captain, Francesco Schettino, brought the ship too close to the shore. The ship hit coastal rocks, which caused serious damage and allowed water to pour in. Most of the 4,200 people on board made it to land safely, but more than 30 people were killed in the disaster. Two people remain missing. The Concordia's captain is currently on trial for causing a shipwreck and abandoning his ship.

The operation to right the ship is called parbuckling. While parbuckling is a standard operation to right capsized ships, it has never before been used on such a large ship. Workers had been waiting for favorable weather conditions to undertake the operation. On Monday, authorities gave the final go-ahead.

The process was expected to take no more than 12 hours. But problems with the large system of steel chains caused delays. Engineers worked through the night using cables and metal water tanks to roll the ship onto special platforms.

The Concordia is expected to be pulled away from Giglio in the spring of 2014 and turned into scrap metal (废金属). The ship's owner, Costa Cruises, will pay for the recovery, which has already cost more than \$800 million.

- Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
A. Ship Safety Management B. Shipwrecks: an Environmental Threat
C. The Costa Concordia Disaster D. The Costa Concordia Salvage
- The word "capsized" in the third paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.
A. turned over B. delayed C. departed D. set sail
- According to the passage, the Concordia's captain has been charged with causing the crash and _____.
A. drug use B. alcohol abuse C. abandoning his post D. setting fire
- According to the passage, which of the following statements is TRUE?

- A. The Costa Concordia is three times the weight of the Titanic.
- B. Engineers in Italy have successfully righted the wrecked Concordia after an operation that lasted around 12 hours.
- C. The salvage operation went ahead despite bad weather conditions.
- D. As a common means of righting wrecked ships, parbuckling had never been carried out on a vessel of the Concordia's size.
5. What will happen to the Concordia eventually?
- A. It will be pulled away to be broken up for scrap metal.
- B. It will be repaired and put into use again.
- C. It will be turned into a museum for tourists.
- D. It will be sunk to the ocean floor.

Passage 2 (历史类; 2013 年真题)

Would you risk your life for a country that considered you a second-class citizen? Would you join a military that asked you to risk sacrificing your life but separated you from other soldiers because of the color of your skin? That is precisely what the Tuskegee Airmen did. They were brave, intelligent, African-American men and women who fought for the United States in World War II.

In 1940, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt agreed to allow African Americans to fly airplanes in the military. Before that, African Americans could only serve in the Armed Forces as part of the ground troops. The first African American airmen reported for duty in 1941. They began their training outside of Tuskegee, Alabama. The soldiers were completely separated by race and the two races could not communicate. About 450 African American pilots finished the training. These men were the original Tuskegee Airmen.

The Tuskegee Airmen had an amazing record. They did not lose any of the bombers they were escorting (护航). When the war was over in 1945, the Tuskegee Airmen were heroes. But when they returned to America, they were appalled to find out that they were still treated like second-class citizens. They faced the same segregation (种族隔离) and discrimination (歧视) as they had before they began their training.

Frederick Henry, one of the original Tuskegee Airmen, lives in Detroit, Michigan. Because he was from the North, he would often forget the segregation rules of the South. Once, Henry was on a bus alone with a white bus driver. Soon, after the two had talked for a while, a wave of other passengers came on the bus. A problem arose when some white passengers were still standing, which was against the rules. Henry was put off the bus, even though he was the first person to board the bus and had paid his fare.

One thing did change, however. In 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed an executive order prohibiting segregation on the military. Eventually, the Tuskegee Airmen were officially

thanked for their amazing efforts in the war.

1. Which of the following is the best title for the passage?
 - A. American Soldiers in World War II
 - B. American Civil Rights Movement
 - C. The Tuskegee Airmen
 - D. Racial Discrimination in the U.S.
2. What does the word "appalled" in the third paragraph probably mean?
 - A. Reluctant.
 - B. Pleased.
 - C. Shocked.
 - D. Relieved.
3. It can be inferred from the passage that Henry _____.
 - A. refused to give up his seat to a white passenger
 - B. refused to pay his bus fare
 - C. had a fight with the bus driver
 - D. was the last person to board the bus
4. In _____, President Harry S. Truman ordered to end military segregation.
 - A. 1940
 - B. 1941
 - C. 1945
 - D. 1948
5. According to the passage, which of the following statements about the Tuskegee Airmen is TRUE?
 - A. In World War II, they never lost a bomber to enemy fire.
 - B. They were the first group of black soldiers ever trained by the ground troops.
 - C. They were not subjected to racial discrimination in the army.
 - D. They were already soldiers in the ground troops before their training at Tuskegee began.

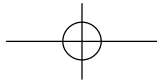
Passage 3 (人文类; 2013 年真题)

Coffee is a powerful drink. On a personal level, it helps keep us awake and active. On a much general level, it has helped shape our history and continues to shape our culture.

Coffee plants grow wild in parts of Africa and were probably used by travelling tribes (部落) for thousands of year, but it wasn't until the 1400s that people figured out they could roast its seeds. "Then it really took off," said historian Mark Pendergrast—author of *Uncommon Grounds: the History of Coffee and How It Transformed Our World*. By the 1500s, the drink had spread to coffeehouses across the Arab world, within another 150 years, it took Europe by storm. "It actually had a major impact on the rise of business," Pendergrast says. Coffeehouses became a spot not just to enjoy a cup but to exchange ideas.

The insurance industry was founded hundreds of years ago in one of London's 2,000 coffeehouses. Literature, newspapers and even the works of great composers like Bach and Beethoven were also inspired in coffeehouses.

It is often said that after the Boston Tea Party of 1773, when American colonists (殖民者) attacked British tea ships and threw large boxes of tea into the harbor, Americans everywhere switched over to drinking coffee. "There's a lot of truth to the story, I found," Pendergrast says.



He mentions a letter John Adams wrote to his wife, Abigail, in which the Founding Father declares his love of tea but says he will have to learn to accept coffee instead, because drinking tea had become unpatriotic (不爱国的) .

For all the upsides coffee has brought the modern world, it also brought its fair share of downsides, too. Europeans carried coffee with them as they colonized various parts of the world, and this frequently meant they made people into slaves in order to grow it.

1. According to the passage, which of the following has nothing to do with coffee?
A. Literature B. Newspaper C. The insurance industry D. The oil industry
2. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT TRUE?
A. The Boston Tea Party took place in 1773.
B. Europeans figured out ways to use coffee during the 1670s.
C. During the 1770s, more and more Americans began to drink coffee.
D. Coffee is a refreshing drink.
3. The author of the book believes that _____.
A. drinking coffee was unpatriotic
B. 2,000 insurance companies were set up hundreds of years ago
C. Europeans were responsible for the existence of slavery
D. coffee actually influenced the rise of business
4. The phrase "took off" in the second paragraph means "_____".
A. dropped to the ground B. became very successful
C. removed its coat D. went away suddenly
5. Which of the following is an appropriate title for this passage?
A. When Coffee Became Popular
B. Coffee Is a Powerful Drink
C. How Coffee Influenced the Course of History
D. What Impact Coffee Has on Human Behavior

Passage 4 (教育类; 2013 年真题)

Imagine a school that expected its students to become literate (有读写能力的) without any formal instruction. Most parents would be alarmed by such an approach, which would leave their children confused and with gaps in their understanding. This, however, has been the philosophy on character development in many of our schools. Why is the development of character seen as somehow different from the other skills that we teach?

Of course there will always be learning by osmosis (耳濡目染) in any school, but as a teacher and primary school head I have found that a child's moral literacy is strengthened when they acquire the building blocks of good character such as consideration, courage and honor: qualities which are commonly known as virtue (美德) .

I personally find that exploring a virtue over a two-week period provides a simple and effective program that allows for the creative input of both teacher and student and a chance for the virtue to embed (使融入) itself. Once a lesson on a virtue such as honesty has been completed we need to allow time for children to practice this concept just as would be the case with fractions or verbs. Allowing children to role play a situation such as making up excuses to cover a mistake can be enormously interesting, and the drama can be frozen allowing the characters to be questioned about their feelings and motives. It's also a safe way for children to experience for themselves how a lie usually goes out of control.

Our role as educators is also to look for opportunities to help our students as they attempt to strengthen their characters. When something goes wrong, we guide the young person to the virtue that will prevent it from happening again. For instance, when a student thoughtlessly disturbs the calm atmosphere of the library, instead of a response such as "That was really disrespectful and selfish of you!" we draw out from them the required virtue: "When you're walking through the library, what virtues do you need to use?"

1. Which of the following is the main idea of this passage?
 - A. Teaching morals and values has been a frequently discussed topic in the past few years.
 - B. The author and his staff embed virtues into lessons and school life to encourage character development in children.
 - C. Kids throughout the population face the same needs, the same challenges, and the same realities in their lives.
 - D. Role plays are an excellent way of getting students to practice their English.
2. We can infer from the first paragraph that _____.
 - A. there tends to be disagreement about what character education is
 - B. most parents are not satisfied with the teaching methods adopted in schools
 - C. the approach to character education is generally considered different from the approaches to other skills
 - D. more and more schools are adopting strategies to improve school attendance
3. The word "philosophy" in the first paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.
 - A. study
 - B. subject
 - C. viewpoint
 - D. investigation
4. The author is a _____.
 - A. teacher
 - B. librarian
 - C. reporter
 - D. manager
5. Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the passage as a way to build character in children?
 - A. Story readings and discussions.
 - B. Osmosis.
 - C. Taking every opportunity to teach character.
 - D. Role play.

Passage 5 (动物类; 2013 年真题)

The top of the world is a wonderland. In winter, the temperature often falls to -30°F and the sun never rises. The ocean is surrounded by frozen ground. There are few people or trees, but to polar bears, the Arctic (北极) is home.

Polar bears have thick fur, big paws and other features that make them well prepared for life in their tough environment. In fact, they need the Arctic sea ice for survival. But climate change is causing larger and larger areas of summer sea ice to melt (融化). Experts say that if warming patterns continue, the Arctic could be free of summer sea ice by 2050. That may cause two-thirds of the world's 20,000 polar bears to be gone by then too.

Polar bears can't survive for long on land. Seals are their main source of food. The only place where polar bears can hunt seals is on the ice. Although these bears are strong swimmers, they are no match for lightning swift seals in the water. A polar bear has brilliantly clever strategies to overcome this disadvantage. In winter, the bear waits motionless beside a seal's breathing hole, which is a narrow tunnel through the ice. Often many hours pass before the seal comes up for air and the bear kills it with a powerful blow of its paw. In summer, the polar bears that live on land eat very little and wait for the sea ice to return.

With the sea ice forming later in the year and melting earlier, polar bears do not have enough opportunity to hunt and eat. Less sea ice makes it harder for the bears to catch the seals. The bears must swim longer distances between ice packs (大片浮冰), and they can't always make it. The ice is also getting thinner. These conditions can cause polar-bear cubs to become separated from their mothers, who provide them with food.

Steven Amstrup is the chief scientist of Polar Bears International. The group aims to save the bears and their home. "The more people who see polar bears and understand their difficult situation, the better the chance we'll alter our warming path in time to save them," he says.

1. Which is the best title for the passage?
 - A. Climate Change in the Arctic
 - B. How to Protect the Environment
 - C. The Arctic Is Home to Polar Bears
 - D. Polar Bears in Danger
2. Where do polar bears usually hunt seals?
 - A. On land.
 - B. In open water.
 - C. In openings in the sea ice.
 - D. At the bottom of the sea.
3. The word "cubs" in the fourth paragraph is closest in meaning to _____.
 - A. adults
 - B. babies
 - C. hunters
 - D. enemies
4. According to the passage, which of the following statements is TRUE?
 - A. Starving polar bears are increasingly coming into villages, where they may be killed either for food or safety.
 - B. Polar bears can spend their entire lives on land if the sea ice melts completely.
 - C. Two-thirds of the world's polar bears may disappear by 2050 as global warming continues.