B2 经典外刊阅读

阅读理解必备技能——词义推测

词义推测

- 词义推测能力是英语学习中一种重要的阅读能力。
- 单词是语言的基础,阅读者通过理解单词的意义,进一步掌握语篇的大意。因此,具备一定的词汇量是阅读顺利进行的前提条件。
- 然而,面对体裁多样,题材广泛,浩如烟海的英语短文,即使掌握了相当可观的英语词汇,也难免会在阅读时遇到生词。但是,一遇到生词就去翻阅字典,这无疑会影响阅读速度,而且还有可能打断阅读的思路;另一方面在有些特殊的环境中是不允许借助工具书籍的,如平时的考试等。
- 词汇固然是所有英语语言考试的重要考察内容,但认识单词并不是全部。

词义推测

- 很多同学往往会根据以前参加英语考试的经验,在词汇方面产生一些误解。比如"词汇量越大分数就一定会越高","只要题目或文章中出现我不认识的词汇,我做不对这道题","我的错题原因都是由于我的词汇量不够大造成的"。
- 一定的词汇储备是取得理想成绩必不可少的条件,但是更重要的是要理解 英文考试考察的标准和方式究竟是怎样的。在很多标准当中,推测词义其 实也是一个理解层面的考查方向。很多考纲上都会明确写出考生并不需要 认识每一个单词,需要根据语境进行一定的分析和推测。
- 很多外刊阅读都是出资真实出版物中的具有科普性质的学术文章,其中不可避免地会涉及相关科学领域的专业术语,而这些我们不熟悉的术语如果在阅读过程中出现,是不会对我们理解文章和完成题目构成障碍的。

词义推测常见方法

依托语境推测词义

- 这里所说的语境指的是上下文, 亦是词语、句子、段落所处的语言环境。
 - 一个生词的语境就是它的背景,即其周围的词语句子以及段落。
- 利用语境推测生词的大意,就是通过识别生词及其周围的词语、句子和段落之间的关系来实现的。关键是要找出语境线索。所谓语境线索,就是指语境中表明特定关系的信号词和某些标点符号。
- 利用全文的思维过程,篇章结构及篇章主旨来推导生词的大意,生词的意义用法并顺带处理相关语法。词、句、篇三者之间的关系应该是"词不离句,句不离篇"。

利用重述推断

- 确定词汇在文章中的准确含义,有时取决于词汇所在的位置,所以我们可根据 其所在的上下文线索暗示,来推断词义。
- 重述推断法是阅读中常出现的一种形式。有时在一篇文章中,作者估计到某一个词一般读者不熟悉,就常用另一种方式进行解释。这种解释可能是一种陈述,即在某篇文章中作者对前面一句所作的补充陈述。这种补充陈述往往包含前面句子某个生词的大意。表示此类情况常用的词语有means, that is, in other words, likewise, similarly等。

利用重述推断

例句:

- "She said the movie was a bit predictable." "In other words, she didn't like it."
- I was brought up to be polite. <u>Similarly</u>, I have tried to teach my own children good manners.
- Just water these plants twice a week, and <u>likewise</u> the ones in the bedroom.
- That would mean voting no, that is to say, using the veto.

举例助推法

举例助推法

举例是用来帮助说明某种情况或目的的,也可以算作重述解释的一种。在语篇中,作者经常要用一些例子来说明一种抽象的理论或者阐述某种观点。

在许多情况下,可以借助短文中的例子来猜测有关生词的大意,关键是要了解和 辨识作者进行例证时所采用的方式。

一般地说,像是for instance, for example, such as ,like, particularly, especially, or等,这些词常被用作指示例证关系的信号词,在阅读过程中,应当指导学生关注此类词语,并提醒自己后面的部分是用来说明前面部分的。

举例助推法

举例助推法

比如:

As a result, farmers are forced to plant "cash crops", like coffee, tea, cocoa, nuts, and tobacco that are sold abroad to pay off the country's debts.

解析:根据信息词like提示, cash crops应该就是coffee, tea, cocoa, nuts, and tobacco之类的东西,即"经济作物"了。

再如:

Some costumes also have an <u>emblem</u>, such as Superman's S or the 4 for members of the Fantastic Four.

通过后面所举的例子,即超人衣服身上S和神奇四侠衣服上4的图案,不难猜出 emblem指的是"标志,徽章"。

• 线索信息指的是从上下文的有关信息中获得某个词或词组的线索或暗示中找到正确的答案。

例I:

All the people watching <u>clapped</u>. It was clear that she had done well in the show.

解析:在表演中她做到很出色,因此观众就clapped,大胆推测,应该就是"鼓掌"相关的意思。

例2:

The house was beginning to get cold, so Daisy pulled her red, woolen <u>cardigan</u> out of her bag and put it on.

解析:从屋子里面冷了,Daisy从包中拿出来的一件羊毛的物品,然后把它穿上这样的情景,可以推断cardigan应该是一件衣服,它表示"开襟羊毛衫"。

例3:

A good supervisor can recognize instantly the adept workers from the unskilled ones.

解析:该句中并未出现上面提到的表示对比关系的词或短语,但是通过上下文可以判断出句子前后是对比关系,即把熟练工人与非熟练工人区分开。这时我们也能够推断出生词adept的词义,"熟练的"。

例4:

Doctors believe that smoking cigarettes is <u>detrimental</u> to your health. They also regard drinking as harmful.

句中detrimental是个生词,但利用并列关系中的线索词harmful替代detrimental后,不难推断出其词义为"不利的,有害的"。

例5:

One night Mrs. Rochester succeeded in setting the house on fire. Mr. Rochester managed to lead the servants to safety and then went back into the burning mansion to rescue his wife.

第二个句子中的mansion是可能是生词。从前后两个句子来看,我们不难发现mansion指的就是第一句中的house。

练习:

We are glad that we live near the ocean because we love to eat <u>flounder</u>.

如果单从"我们爱吃flounder"这部分,无法判断它的意思,而前面提到the ocean,则可以判断出flounder是一种鱼类或水产品,是一种比目鱼。

练习:

She read my letter slowly to the end and then tore it to shreds.

这个句子中的shreds是生词。但我们从整句来理解,"她慢慢地把我的信看完,然后把它撕成……",从"撕成……",我们可以猜出shreds是"碎片"的意思。

练习:

We like our new house because it has a few <u>elms</u> in the back yard that will give us shade and keep the house cooler.

通过elms的作用,能有阴凉使房屋凉爽些,我们可以猜测出elms是一种树。 意思是"榆树"。阅读时大胆猜测即可,非精读训练是不必过于纠结具体含 义,只要方向对了即可,培养阅读的流畅度是非常重要的。

逻辑关系词即文章中用于表示并列,转折,举例,因果,递进,让步,总 结等逻辑关系的固定单词或词组。

了解和掌握逻辑关系词可以帮助我们把握文章中语意的转换和发展,理解 文章重点表达的意思。比如,比较和对照关系常表示意义相似和相反的关 系。作者在比较事物时,常强调它们相同和不同之处。我们可以利用此类 逻辑关系来理解不熟悉的词汇。

- 因果关系 because of, since, so, therefore, thus
- 递进关系 even, indeed, not only ... but also, let alone
- 转折关系 although, though, even though, but, however, even if, while, despite, in spite of nevertheless, nonetheless, on the contrary, whereas, paradoxically
- 对比关系 on the other hand, on the contrary, in contrast
- 比较关系 similarly, like, just as, also, 比较级 + than, as ... as ...
- 否定关系 not, no, never
- · 最高级 -est, most

比如:

- The questions were civil enough in form, but Ms Taylor thought she could detect
 a hidden malice.
- Some corpora include a wide range of language while others are used to focus on a particular linguistic feature.
- 根据but, while表示对比或转折的逻辑关系词,可以判断这两个句子前后部分 是对比或反义关系。

练习 猜划线单词的意思

• She is usually <u>prompt</u> for all her classes, but today she arrived in the middle of her first class .

• but表示意思的转折,因此可以看出but前后的意思是相反的。后半句说,她今天在第一节课上了一半时才来。反推回去,她平时应该是一向"准时"的了,prompt表示"准时的,及时的"。

练习

 Andrew is one of the most <u>supercilious</u> men I know. His brother, in contrast, is quite humble and modest.

• 这里supercilious对许多人来说可能是个生词,但是句中短语in contrast,(相对照的,相对比的)可以提示我们supercilious和后面词组humble and modest(谦卑又谦虚)是对比关系。分析出这种关系后,我们便不难猜出 supercilious意为"目空一切的,傲慢的"。

练习

• Green loves to talk, and his brothers are similarly loquacious.

• 该句中副词similarly表明短语loves to talk与生词loquacious之间的比较关系。 以此可以推断出loquacious词义为"健谈的"。

练习

• Tom is considered an <u>autocratic</u> administrator because he makes decisions without seeking the opinions of others.

• 根据逻辑关系词because后陈述的原因,我们可以推断出生词autocratic指"独断专行的"。

练习

• There were so many demonstrators in the Red Square that he had to <u>elbow</u> his way through the crowd.

• 此句为结果状语从句,根据从句的描书"许多示威者",我们便可推知elbow的词意"挤,挤过"。

 其实,在阅读文章中,有些逻辑关系比较隐晦,有时不太容易看出来,我们一般 把这类的情况理解为隐含逻辑关系,这就说明这些逻辑关系的标志词是没有那么 明显的,比如说我们看到 push, make 这两个单词,你会想到它表示哪种逻辑关系 吗?

• 隐含因果关系

导致,造成: cause, lead to, make, let, support, stimulate, encourage, push, result in, be responsible for, on the basis of, attribute to

由...而来: result from, come from, originate from

考虑到..., 依赖于...: given, thanks to, on account of, depend on

• 此外,一般表示条件关系的词,也能够表达因果关系。

隐含比较关系

- 变化、发展: increase, enlarge, decline, improve, remain, still, stable
- 超越,超过: surpass, exceed
- 差异: different, same, similar, distinct

隐含否定关系

fail (to), lack (of), refuse, reject, lost, remove, empty, stop

隐含最高级

• 自身包含最高级含义的词: favorite, supreme, top, peak, maximum, minimum

How things have changed! In 1995 the United States can look back on five years of solid growth while Japan has been struggling. Few Americans attribute this solely to such obvious causes as a devalued dollar or the turning of the business cycle.

The author seems to believe the <u>revival</u> of the U.S. economy in the 1990s can be attributed to the

- [A] turning of the business cycle
- [B] restructuring of industry
- [C] improved business management
- [D] success in education

题目中的revival如果不认识的话,其实是可以根据前面的solid growth分析出是增长的意思。"作者似乎认为90年代美国经济复苏归因于_____"。其中的隐含逻辑关系词"be attributed to"(归因于)表明它考查文章中句间的因果关系。因此,想要做对本题,必须理清90年代美国经济复苏的根本原因。回归原文定位到"Few Americans attribute this solely to such obvious causes as a devalued dollar or the turning of the business cycle."此句中的"attribute...to..."(归因于)以及"causes"(原因)都在表明句间的因果关系。因此,读懂该句,自然也就能够选出正确答案了。原文中提到的"a devalued dollar"(美元贬值)和"the turning of the business cycle"(经济的周期循环)都是90年代美国经济复苏的原因。比对所给四个选项,一眼看出,[A]项turning of the business cycle就是正确答案。

你能找出这里面的逻辑关系吗?

These plants (dandelions) are termed opportunists because they rely on their seeds' falling into settings where competing plants have been removed by natural processes, such as along and eroding riverbank, on landslips, or where a tree falls and creates a gap in the forest canopy.

Which of the sentences below best expresses the essential information in the highlighted sentence in the passage?

- A) Because their seeds grow in places where competing plants are no longer present, dandelions are classified as opportunists.
- B) Dandelions are called opportunists because they contribute to the natural processes of erosion and the creation of gaps in the forest canopy.
- C) The term opportunists apply to plants whose seeds fall in places where they can compete with the seeds of other plants.
- D) The term opportunists apply to plants whose falling seeds are removed by natural processes.

现在我们再来梳理一下刚刚一段当中的逻辑关系。

These plants(dandelions) are termed opportunists because(因果) they rely on(因果) their seeds' falling into settings where competing plants have been removed by(否定) natural processes, such as(解释) along and eroding riverbank, on landslips, or where a tree falls and creates a gap in the forest canopy.

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- D) The term opportunists apply to plants whose falling seeds are removed by natural processes.

- 平时我们几乎很少去关注阅读中的标点符号,但文章中的各种标点符号是具有不同的作用并能表达不同的含义的。
- 如果能够熟知各种标点符号的功能,那么就可以在阅读中利用一些相关信息 来推测生词的大意,这种推测生词的方法即是标点符号助推法。
- 这一类的标点符号主要有:
- 破折号——
- 括号()
- 冒号:

• 破折号 — 常常被用来表示思维的突然中断或只是表达一种停顿。

• 它可以用来表示其前后的陈述具有特定的关系,它后面的部分是对前面部分的解释。

比如:

They will be on the night shift — from midnight to 6 a.m. — next week.

解析:由破折号之间的解释内容from midnight to 6 a.m.,可以推测"night shift"意思为"夜班"。

再如:

The group was not successful because there was no <u>unity</u> amongst its members — they were always disagreeing.

解析:此句中unity为生词,破折号后的内容即为对生词的解释,成员之间总是有分歧,说明组里面没有达成一致,所以unity的含义为"团结,一致"。

• 括号()的主要作用是引导插入语,补充说明它前面的陈述。

比如:

• You should see <u>prunes</u> (which are dried plums) and <u>raisins</u> (which are dried grapes).

解析:在上面这段话中圆括号中的部分就是对前面的部分所作的补充说明,prunes是dried plums, raisins就是dried grapes,从而推出这两个生词的大意为"李子脯"和"葡萄干"。

• 冒号:后的陈述是对前面的陈述的扩展说明,这种扩展具有多种形式,如解释、例示或者列举。

• 在利用某些标点符号猜测词的大意时,首先应根据标点符号的功能,明确其联结的语段之间的关系,然后再根据这种关系推断生词的大意。

比如:

• The little boy enjoys all kinds of beverages: water, milk, cola, coffee, juice and tea.

解析:在这段话中冒号:就是对beverages的列举,由此断定beverages与water,milk,cola,coffee,juice and tea的关系是上下文关系,据此,可推猜出beverages的大意为"饮料"。

- 构词法,即英语单词的构成规律。包括我们之前在词汇篇讲到的词根和词缀,以及合成词等等。
- 通常在阅读过程中,有时候我们会对一些拼写较长的单词产生本能的畏惧, 但殊不知很多长的单词是通过在某一词根的基础上添加了词缀,而使其看 起来很长的。
- 如果我们能够对于词根和词缀和词语的复合有了解,在推测这一类单词词义的时候就会容易很多。同学们要经常复习我们之前讲的词根词缀相关内容。

后缀

- · 如-ist、-ian是阅读中常见的两个指人(通常是某一领域的专业人士)的后缀。
- 像是zoologist生物学家,economist经济学家,musician音乐家,grammarian文 法家等
- 在阅读文章中经常会出现各领域的专家、科学家,所以我们在不熟悉词根的情况下甚至可以大胆地推测以这两个后缀结尾的单词多半和人或职业有关。
- 再如dermatologist皮肤科医生, pediatrician儿科医师

前缀

- 否定词是阅读的重点之一,因此由否定前缀构成的单词是要引起重视,多多复习的。
- in-、im-、un-、dis-、de-等否定后缀我们应该已经不陌生了,但稍不注意很容易忽略这些词汇中所包含的否定含义。
- 如invisible不可视的, imbalance不平衡, unpredictable不可预测的, disproportionate不成比例的, degrade降级等。

The astonishing distrust of the news media isn't rooted in inaccuracy or poor reportorial skills but in the daily clash of world views between reporters and their readers. (2001, Text 3)

The basic problem of journalists as pointed out by the writer lies in their _____

- [A] working attitude
- [B] conventional lifestyle
- [C] world outlook
- [D] educational background

题目问"正如作者所指,记者的基本问题在于____"这道题考查文章中句间的转折关系。

第一句中distrust通过否定前缀的可以判断出表示"不信任"。原文中有一个特别明显的逻辑关系词"not...but..."(不是......而是......)。我们都知道,一旦句中出现"but",那么该处就是转折部分,而是转折之后才是重点。所以原文想强调的是"新闻媒体让人不信任,其根源并非是报道失实或低下的报道技巧,而是记者与读者的世界观每天都发生碰撞。"也就是说,记者的基本问题在于世界观。分析所给选项,[C]项world outlook(世界观)是正确答案。