

<<英语专业四级考试模拟试题集>>

图书基本信息

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内容概要

《英语专业四级考试（单项突破）系列：英语专业四级考试模拟试题集》根据2004年出版的高等学校英语专业四级考试大纲的基本精神和要求编写，力图真实反映考试的特点和要求，使读者熟悉和了解考试的基本项目和所涉及的语言技能和能力。

本书主要由8套模拟试卷（其中2套为历年真题）、8套模拟试卷详细解析和8套模拟试卷参考答案组成。

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章节摘录

TEXT A "There is very little in my life that is more personal and more important to me than comets." The amateur astronomer David H. Levy told Terence Dickinson in an interview. "Not just discovering them but watching them, learning about them, writing about them, understanding what they do. It makes observing the sky intensely personal. I feel when I find a new comet that a door has been opened and I have seen a slightly new aspect of nature. There is this object in the solar system that - for a few minutes or a few hours - only I know about. It is like trying to pry a secret out of nature. It is a very special feeling." Ever since he was a child, David Levy has been fascinated by the night sky and the wonders it reveals to devoted watch man. He developed a special feeling for comets before he reached his teens, though it was not until 1984 - after nineteen years and more than nine hundred hours of combing the sky in search of them - that he discovered his first one, from a small observatory that he had built in his backyard. Since then, he has discovered or co-discovered twenty more, making him one of the world's most important comet hunters. His most celebrated find is periodic comet Shoemaker Levy 9, which he made with the husband-and-wife comet and asteroid hunting team Eugene and Carolyn Shoemaker. The comet's aramatic collision with Jupiter in July 1994, which constituted "the greatest planetary show in recorded history," to quote Malcolm W. Browne of the New York Times, captivated not only professional astronomers, but many amateurs. Although he is "only" an amateur astronomer, he earns his living by lecturing and writing books and by working with project artists. They're projects devoted to introducing astronomy to elementary school children. He has won tremendous respect from his professional colleagues for his success in tracking comets. "David Levy is one of those rare individuals blessed with the gift of discovery," David Hartsel, who serves on the board of directors of the Richland Astronomical Society, in Ohio, has said. "Even rarer is his ability to let others share in the excitement and wonder of those discoveries through his writing and lectures."

81. The primary purpose of this passage is to _____.
 A. praise Levy for his contribution to the observation of comets
 B. show that an amateur can do things as well as a professional
 C. introduce David Levy as an astronomer and his profession
 D. demonstrate that strong interest can help a person succeed in his life
82. All of the following are suggested in this passage as reasons for Levy's success as a respectable astronomer EXCEPT that _____.
 A. he had the books and articles published on astronomy
 B. he worked on a project intended to introduce astronomy
 C. he was endowed with the gift of the discovery of comets
 D. he was highly praised by his colleagues for his unselfishness
83. According to David Hartsel, he most appreciates Levy's _____.
 A. gifted ability of comet hunting
 B. way of expressing himself
 C. curiosity to the sky and comets
 D. spirit of devotion to astronomy
84. It can be inferred from the passage that _____.
 A. Levy's parents are astronomers
 B. Levy was born in the 1960s
 C. Levy achieved his fame in the 1980s
 D. Levy himself has discovered 21 comets altogether

TEXT B
 Being a man has always been dangerous. There are about 105 males born for every 100 females, but this ratio drops to near balance at the age of maturity, and among 70-year olds there are twice as many women as men. But the great universal of male mortality is being changed. Now, boy babies survive almost as well as girls do. This means that, for the first time, there will be an excess of boys in those crucial years when they are searching for a mate. More important, another chance for natural selection has been removed. Fifty years ago, the chance of a baby (particularly a boy baby) surviving depended on its weight. A kilogram too light or too heavy meant almost certain death. Today it makes almost no difference. Since much of the variation is due to genes, one more agent of evolution has gone. There is another way to commit evolutionary suicide: stay alive, but have fewer children. Few people are as fertile as in the past. Except in some religious communities, very few women have 15 children. Nowadays the number of births, like the age of death, has become average. Most of us have roughly the same number of offspring. Again, differences between people and the opportunity for natural selection to take advantage of it have diminished. India shows what is happening. The country offers wealth for a few in the great cities and poverty for the remaining tribal peoples. The grand mediocrity of today - everyone being the same in survival and number of offspring - means that natural selection has lost 80 percent of its power in

upper-middle-class India compared to the tribes.

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