

雅思阅读题型【第二篇】

---阅读 heading 题

Heading 题型是雅思考试的经典题型之一。自从雅思诞生之日，它就出现在阅读题目中，直到现在仍在考察之中，只是出现的比率似乎有下降的迹象。该题型的考察目的是测试考生对于段落大意的理解。对于很多考生而言，本题型有相当的难度。解答它需要具备一定的能力，主要包括略读的能力（skimming）和归纳的能力。该题型的解答本质上是寻找某一段的主题句，即 **topic sentence**，而确定主题句的关键首先是了解它的根本特征以及经常出现的位置。

所谓主题句，通常是能够概括某段大意的一句话，它必须提供该段文字谈论的一个主题（**topic**），一般要与文章的标题直接相关。主题句经常出现的位置为：段落首句、段落尾句、段落第二句、段落中间句、段落无主题句。其中，段落首句为主题句，其目的是先总体概括本段的大意，而出现在段落尾句的作用是总结该段内容。主题句为段落第二句的原因较为复杂，大致可以划分为：段落首句是过渡句，而且只是承接上段内容；段落首句完毕，后面用转折词引起第二句、段落首句只是本段的引子，主要内容的解释来自其后的第二句。如果段落中间句是主题句，它的位置会在段落偏中间的位置，出现在这个位置的原因通常是该段的前半部分仍在论述上段内容，而在该段中间的某个地方话题突然转折，开始谈论另外一个主题。这种情况在考试中非常少见。段落无主题句，顾名思义就是该段没有主题句，需要考生自己总结，最常见的情形包括该段文字都是引用数据或者调查结果来论证；该段文字主要在描述一个事实等等。这样的段落主题句是暗藏的，需要自己总结归纳。

Heading 题目的解答方法一直有不同的见解。我们大致可以把这些方法划分为两大派别，笔者称之为：“全篇统筹”和“段落分解”。两种方法有共通的地方，解题的第一步都主张先把给出的配对选项 **List of Headings** 认真阅读，仔细审核每个选项的关键词。但接下来就分道扬镳了，下面详细解释。

所谓“篇章统筹”，指的是先把文章的整体逻辑理清，然后统一匹配。该法要求考生按照文章的段落顺序，一一进行略读（skimming），尽可能找出每一段的主题句，并能在阅读完整个篇章后，归纳出该文章的写作逻辑顺序，最后与给出的选项匹配。该法的基本解题理念是，任何一段文字的主题都应该是整个文章逻辑的一环。只有在掌握了整个文章脉络的基础上，再统筹考虑具体某一段文字的大意才比较合理。整个解题过程可以分成几个小的阶段：

1. 略读阶段：按照主题句经常出现的位置规律，快速略读每一段，寻找该段的主题句，一般情况下只是阅读每段的首句、尾句、第二句。如阅读完这些句子，仍然无法搞清楚该段大意时，可以认定该段的主题句可能是在段落中间或者需要自己总结，此时可能需要快速阅读剩余的文字。不过，不用担心，因为这样的段落在考试中比例非常小，所以即使全部阅读该段文字也不会占用很多时间。

2. 匹配阶段：匹配时不一定按照段落先后顺序一一进行，即先配完 A 段，再配 B 段，然后依次类推。更合理的匹配顺序是按照段落难易程度决定匹配顺序，比如，根据前面的略读过程发现最后一段主题句非常明显，把握很大，那就应该先匹配该段，接下来可能发现 C 段主题句也很明显，就先把该段进行匹配，以此类推，最后剩余的段落往往是主题句不明显的段落，而此时剩余的匹配选项也所剩无几，最后再把这些较难的段落进行处理即可。

举例说明：Cambridge7-Test1-passage 2

List of Headings	
i	Scientists' call for a revision of policy
ii	An explanation for reduced water use
iii	How a global challenge was met
iv	Irrigation systems fall into disuse
v	Environmental effects
vi	The financial cost of recent technological improvements
vii	The relevance to health
viii	Addressing the concern over increasing populations
ix	A surprising downward trend in demand for water
x	The need to raise standards
xi	A description of ancient water supplies

Making Every Drop Count

- A. The history of human civilisation is entwined with the history of the ways we have learned to manipulate water resources. As towns gradually expanded, water was brought from increasingly remote sources, leading to sophisticated engineering efforts such as dams and aqueducts. At the height of the Roman Empire, nine major systems, with an innovative layout of pipes and well-built sewers, supplied the occupants of Rome with as much water per person as is provided in many parts of the industrial world today.
- B. During the industrial revolution and population explosion of the 19th and 20th centuries, the demand for water rose dramatically. Unprecedented construction of tens of thousands of monumental engineering projects designed to control floods, protect clean water for irrigation and hydropower brought great benefits to hundreds of millions of soaring populations mainly because of the expansion of artificial irrigation systems that make possible the growth of 40% of the world's food. Nearly one fifth of all

the electricity generated worldwide is produced by turbines spun by the power of falling water.

- C. Yet, there is a dark side to this picture: half of the world's population still suffers, with water services inferior to those available to the ancient Greeks and Romans. As the United Nations report on access to water reiterated in November 2001, more than one billion do not have adequate sanitation services. Preventable water-related diseases kill an estimated 10,000 to 20,000 children every day, and the latest evidence suggests that we are falling behind in efforts to solve these problems.
- D. The consequences of our water policies extend beyond jeopardising human health. Tens of millions of people have been forced to move from their homes – often with little warning or compensation – to make way for the reservoirs behind dams. More than 20% of all freshwater fish and species are now threatened or endangered because dams and water withdrawals have destroyed the free-flowing river ecosystems where they thrive. Certain irrigation practices degrade soil quality and reduce agricultural productivity. Groundwater aquifers are being pumped down faster than they are naturally replenished in parts of India, China, the USA and elsewhere. And disputes over shared water resources have led to violence and continue to raise local, national and even international tensions.
- E. At the outset of the new millennium, however, the way resource planners think about water is beginning to change is slowly the provision of basic human and environmental needs as top priority – ensuring 'some for all' instead of 'more for some'. Some water experts are now demanding that existing infrastructure be used in smarter ways rather than building new facilities, which is increasingly considered. This shift in philosophy has not been universally accepted, and it comes with strong opposition from some established water organisations. Nevertheless, it may be the only way to address successfully of providing everyone with clean water to drink, adequate water to grow food and a life free from preventable water-related illness.
- F. Fortunately – and unexpectedly – the demand for water is not rising as rapidly as some predicted. As a result, the pressure to build new water infrastructures has diminished over the past two decades. Although population, industrial output and economic productivity have continued to soar in, the rate at which people withdraw water from aquifers, rivers, and lakes. And in a few parts of the world, demand has actually fallen.
- G. What explains this remarkable turn of events? Two factors: people have figured out how to use water more efficiently, and communities are rethinking their priorities for water use. Throughout the first three-quarters of the 20th century, the quantity of freshwater consumed per person doubled on average; in the USA, water withdrawals increased tenfold while the population quadrupled. But since 1980, the amount of water consumed per person has actually decreased, thanks to a range of new technologies that help to conserve water in homes and industry. In 1965, for instance, Japan used approximately 13 million gallons of water to produce \$1 million of commercial output; by 1989 this had dropped from 3.5 million gallons (even accounting for inflation)-almost

a quadrupling of water productivity. In the USA, water withdrawals have fallen by more than 20% from their peak in 1980.

- H. On the other hand, dams, aqueducts and other kinds of infrastructure will still have to be built, particularly in developing countries where basic human needs have not been met. But such projects must be built to higher specifications and with more accountability to local people and their environment than in the past. And even in the regions where new projects seem warranted, we must find ways to meet demands with few resources, respecting ecological criteria and to a smaller budget.

不难看出，文中阴影的部分基本上与各段的大意直接或间接相关。把他们识别出来后，前后串联就会浮现出文章的写作顺序：按照时间顺序，说明了水政策的变化以及产生的影响。按照以上分析，接下来进行匹配。先匹配主题句非常明显的 E, F, G, H 段，答案分别是 i, ix, ii, x。然后根据上下段之间的逻辑关系处理剩余的段落。D 段的首句“The consequences of our water policies extend beyond jeopardising human health”，它告诉我们，上一段 C 段的主题应该是水政策对于人类健康的影响，对照选项应该选择 vii。同时，该句暗示我们 D 段应该讲述水政策另一个方面的影响。从第二句到最后一句都是在举例说明，所以大意需要自己总结。划出各句的关键词（如 D 段下划线单词所示），不难得出结论：水政策对于环境产生的影响。对照选项，需要选择 v。剩余的 A 段和 B 段首句明显有时间顺序连接。其中，A 段涉及人类利用水的历史，选项中只有 xi 符合。B 段主题句比较难，因为首句讲到的“the demand for water rose dramatically”看起来非常像 topic sentence，可是我们在选项列表中找不到对应的选项。这时必须把本段剩余的文字全部读完，参照划线的关键词，不难发现本段主要还涉及了一些关于水的措施，连起本段首句，自然就知道本段的大意是面对水需求的上升，人类找到了哪些应对措施。再对照选项，发现答案应该是 iii。

该方法的优点是“先见森林，再见树木”。在搞清整体文章逻辑脉络的大背景下，考虑各个自然段的大意，充分兼顾了各个段落中间的相互关系，使得解题不是“单兵作战”，而是“协同作战”。也因此打破了常规的匹配顺序，取而代之的是对照整个文章的逻辑，按照先易后难的顺序统一配对，有些“一网打尽”的意味。但是，它也有缺陷。其中，最大的困难往往是考生的单词量不足，导致略读过程中假如有较多的段落主题句没有审理清楚，最后就无法把他们串联起来形成整体的文章脉络，如此，略读就几乎变成了浪费时间。最后，时间白白被略读占用，却没有收到实际效果。

另一种方法是“段落分解”。基本做题顺序是按照文章段落的先后次序，逐段推进。以文章的 A 段为例，把整段文字全部读完，但是在阅读的过程中，重心是关注上下句之间的逻辑连接。因为英文是表面逻辑语言，一段文字当中的各句前后之间应该紧密相连，通过审核逻辑来识别本段的大意。即使遇到看不懂的词汇，或者难理解的句子也不必惊慌，因为重点是能够从大部分句子中识别出本段的主题即可。形成对本段主题的认识后，就可以跟之前预览过的选项逐一核对，找到正确答案。然后再处理 B 段，依次类推，直到文章最后一段。在此过程中，可以充分利用段落之间可能存在的逻辑连接进行辅助解题。

举例说明：以上文 A 段为例，我们可以逐句阅读，但是注意力不是放在读懂每一句话上面，而是考察每一句的核心内容，然后把相关的关键词划出来。不难看出，此段主要是用 Rome 为例，讲述人类利用水资源的历史。对照选项列表，答案显而易见是 xi。后面的段落依照此法一一处理。当遇到有过渡句的段落，比如 C 段时，要充分利用过渡句提供的逻辑连接来寻求答案。

这种方法的优点是像推土机一样，稳扎稳打，在基本上搞懂了一段文字大意的基础上进行匹配，即时决定本段答案。但是，它的缺陷是有时候会“只见树木，不见森林”。因为大部分时间里都是等于把文章整体的逻辑分解成各个独立的自然段，单独处理。在没有文章整体逻辑的指引下，这样做有时会对某些段落形成以偏概全的认识，从而配对出错。为了弥补这一不足，笔者建议兼顾相邻段落之间的逻辑，以便辅助理解段落大意。

以上是解答 heading 题型最主要的方法。孰优孰劣，一直都有争论。笔者根据自己的教学经验和亲身体会，提出以下建议：单词量较大，阅读速度快，同时又善于总结的考生可以尝试“全篇统筹”法，而对于单词量有限，阅读速度较慢，同时不善于归纳的考生应该选择“段落分解”法。当然，考生可以根据自己的情况，两种方法都尝试，最后确定哪种更适合自己的，然后不停演练就可以了。