破解大学英语四级新题型

阅读分册(第二版)

第 1 章

快速阅读(Skimming and Scanning)

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(Skimming)

(reading and skipping) (glancing),

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restaurant/ and/ you/ throw/ your/ uneaten/ food/, food/ wrappers/, drink/ cups/, utensils/ and/ napkins/ into/ the/ trash/ can/.　　　　　　　，　　　　　　　　　。

　　　　，　　　You have just finished your meal/ at a fast food restaurant/ and/ you throw your uneaten food, food wrappers, drink cups, utensils and napkins/into the trash can.　　　　。

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　，　　however, moreover, in addition　，　　　　　　　　。

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　　　　　　：however, on the contrary, but, by comparison, although, despite, on the other hand

　　　　　　：consequently, as a result, therefore, now that, because, hence

　　　　　　：for example, a case in point, for instance

　　　　　　：firstly, secondly, thirdly; in addition, finally, at last

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"　　　　Passage 1　　　　　　　，　4　　　：Landfills are like compost piles in that they speed up decomposition of the buried trash.　　compost

　What is a landfill? 　　A landfill is not like a compost pile, where the purpose is to bury trash in such a way that it will decompose quickly.　　，　　　。

。　　　8　Typical customers of a landfill are _____.

customers　　　How is a landfill operated?　　Customers are typically municipalities and construction companies, although resients may also use the landfill. municipalities and construction companies。

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Directions：*In this part you will have 15 minutes to go over the passage quickly and answer the questions on Answer Sheet 1. For questions 1 − 7, mark Y (for YES) if the statement agrees with the information given in the passage; N (for NO) if the statement contradicts the information given in the passage; NG (for NOT GIVEN) if the information is not given in the passage. For questions 8 − 10, complete the sentences with the information given in the passage.*

Passage 1

Landfills

You have just finished your meal at a fast food restaurant and you throw your uneaten food, food wrappers, drink cups, utensils and napkins into the trash can. You don't think about that waste again. On trash pickup day in your neighborhood, you push your can out to the curb, and workers dump the contents into a big truck and haul it away. You don't have to think about that waste again, either. But maybe you have wondered, as you watch the trash truck pull away, just where that garbage ends up.

Americans generate trash at an astonishing rate of four pounds per day per person, which translates to 600,000 tons per day or 210 million tons per year! This is almost twice as much trash per person as most other major countries. What happens to this trash? Some get recycled (   ) or recovered and some is burned, but the majority is buried in landfills.

How Much Trash Is Generated?

Of the 210 million tons of trash, or solid waste, generated in the United States annually, about 56 million tons, or 27 percent, is either recycled (glass, paper products, plastic, metals) or composted (   ) (yard waste). The remaining trash, which is mostly unrecyclable, is discarded.

How Is Trash Disposed of?

The trash production in the United States has almost tripled since 1960. This trash is handled in various ways. About 27 percent of the trash is recycled or composted, 16 precent is burned and 57 percent is buried in landfills. The amount of trash buried in landfills has doubled since 1960. The United States ranks somewhere in the middle of the major countried (United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, France and Japan) in landfill disposal. The United Kingdom ranks highest, burying about 90 percent of its solid waste in landfills.

What Is a Landfill?

There are two ways to bury trash:

• Dump—an open hole in the ground where trash is buried and that is full of various animals (rats, mice, birds). (This is most people's idea of a landfill!)

• Landfill—carefully designed structure built into or on top of the ground in which trash is isolated from the surrounding environment (groundwater, air, rain). This isolation is accomplished with a bottom liner and daily covering of soil.

◎ Sanitary landfill—landfill that uses a clay liner to isolate the trash from the environment

◎ Municipal solid waste（MSW）landfill—landfill that uses a synthetic（plastic）liner to isolate the trash from the environment

The purpose of a landfill is to bury the trash in such a way that it will be isolated from groundwater，will be kept dry and will not be in contact with air. Under these conditions，trash will not decompose（　　）much. A landfill is not like a compost pile，where the purpose is to bury trash in such a way that it will decompose quickly.

Proposing the Landfill

For a landfill to be built，the operators have to make sure that they follow certain steps. In most parts of the world，there are regulations that govern where a landfill can be placed and how it can operate. The whole process begins with someone proposing the landfill.

In the United States，taking care of trash and building landfills are local government responsibilities. Before a city or other authority can build a landfill，an environment impact study must be done on the proposed site to determine：

- the area of land necessary for the landfill
- the composition of the underlying soil and bedrock
- the flow of surface water over the site
- the impact of the proposed landfill on the local environment and wildlife
- the historical value of the proposed site

Building the Landfill

Once the environmental impact study is complete，the permits are granted and the funds have been raised，then construction begins. First，access roads to the landfill site must be built if they do not already exist. These roads will be used by construction equipment，sanitation（　　）services and the general public. After roads have been built，digging can begin. In the North Wake County Landfill，the landfill began 10 feet below the road surface.

What Happens to Trash in a Landfill?

Trash put in a landfill will stay there for a very long time. Inside a landfill，there is little oxygen and little moisture. Under these conditions，trash doesn't break down very rapidly. In fact，when old landfills have been dug up or sampled，40-year-old newspapers have been found with easily readable print. Landfills are not designed to break down trash，merely to bury it. When a landfill closes，the site，especially the groundwater，must be monitored and maintained for up to 30 years！

How Is a Landfill Operated?

A landfill，such as the North Wake County Landfill，must be open and available every day. Customers are typically municipalities and construction companies，although residents may

also use the landfill.

Near the entrance of the landfill is a recycling center where residents can drop off recyclable materials（aluminum cans, glass bottles, newspapers and paper products）. This helps to reduce the amount of material in the landfill. Some of these materials are banned from landfills by law because they can be recycled.

As customers enter the site, their trucks are weighed at the scale house. Customers are charged tipping fees for using the site. The tipping fees vary from ＄10 to ＄40 per ton. These fees are used to pay for operation costs. The North Wake County Landfill has an operating budget of approximately ＄4.5million, and part of that comes from tipping fees.

Along the site, there are drop-off stations for materials that are not wanted or legally banned by the landfill. A multi-material drop-off station is used for tires, motor oil, and lead-acid batteries. Some of these materials can be recycled.

In addition, there is a household hazardous waste drop-off station for chemicals（paints, pesticides, other chemicals）that are banned from the landfill. These chemicals are disposed of by private companies. Some paints can be recycled and some organic chemicals can be burned in furnaces or power plants.

Other structures alongside the landfill are the borrowed area that supplies the soil for the landfill, the runoff collection pond and methane（   ）station.

Landfills are complicated structures that, when properly designed and managed, serve an important purpose. In the future, new technologies called bioreactors will be used to speed the breakdown of trash in landfills and produce more methane.

1. The passage gives a general description of the structure and use of a landfill.

2. Most of the trash that Americans generate ends up in landfills.

3. Compared with other major industrialized countries, America buries a much higher percentage of its solid waste in landfills.

4. Landfills are like compost piles in that they speed up decomposition of the buried trash.

5. In most countries the sleclection of a landfill site is governed by rules and regulations.

6. In the United States the building of landfills is the job of both federal and local governments.

7. Hazardous wastes have to be treated before being dumped into landfills.

8. Typical customers of a landfill are _____ .

9. To dispose of a ton of trash in a landfill, customers have to pay a tipping fee of _____ .

10. Materials that are not permitted to be buried in landfills should be dumped at _____ .

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1. Y。　　　　。　　　　　　　　　　　,　　　　　　　landfill　　　　　。　　　　。

2. Y。　　　　。　　　　　2　　　　Some get recycled or recovered and some is burned, but the majority is buried in landfills.　　　　　。

3. N。　　　　。　　　bury　　　4　　The United States ranks somewhere in the middle of the major countried (United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, France and Japan) in landfill disposal. The United Kingdom ranks highest, burying about 90 percent of its solid waste in landfills.　　　　　　　　　,　　　　　　　。

4. N。　　　　。　　　　　compost　　　　What Is a landfill?　　　A landfill is not like a compost pile, where the purpose is to bury trash in such a way that it will decompose quickly.　　　。

5. Y。　　　　。　　　Proposing the Landfill　　　In most parts of the world, there are regulations that govern where a landfill can be placed and how it can operate.　　　。

6. N。　　　　。　　　buidling landfills　　　Proposing the Landfill　　　In the United States, taking care of trash and building landfills are local government responsibilities.

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7. NG。　　　　。　Hazardous　　　　3　　In addition, there is a household hazardous waste drop-off station for chemicals (paints, pesticides, other chemicals) that are banned from the landfill.　　　　　　,　　　　　。

8. municipalities and construction companies

　　　How Is a Landfill Operated?　　　Customers are typically municipalities and construction companies, although residents may also use the landfill.　　　。

9. $10 to $40

　　　How Is a Landfill Operated?　　　The tipping fees vary from $10 to $40 per ton.

　　　　。

10. drop-off stations

　　　How Is a Landfill Operated?　　　Along the site, there are drop-off stations for materials that are not wanted or legally banned by the landfill.　　　。

Passage 2

The business potential for the Internet is beyond doubt. It offers a future of ultra-quick, efficient and, above all, global business. But to date the greatest commercial use seems to have been as a glorified advertising forum for corporations desperate to gain youthful credibility.

Until a safe, convenient and recognized form of electronic money arrives, it remains a huge

global marketplace without a means of barter. The real net revolutionaries are not the prophets of the information superhighway, whose science-fiction visions of the future have colored coverage to date, but the small band of companies working on Internet payment systems. If they are successful, the repercussions will go far beyond giving office workers the opportunity to order pizzas online.

Analysts estimate there will be a potential Internet market worth 400 billion by the end of the decade. Electronic money offers the perfect means of exchange, providing instant settlement, and easy storage, and savings on bank fees. It will also open the door to anyone seeking to place money in tax havens, enabling floods of currency to circulate around the globe, far from the state's reach.

As Ray Hammond, who is writing a book on the subject, entitled *Digital Money*, to be published by Hodder and Stoughton in the spring, says："Electronic money will be a major threat to national economic sovereignty. Its growth will diminish the role of the state and encourage the rise of new money providers—economic corporations."

And yet, there is no clear indication which of the electronic money schemes is going to be a winner. But choices made now will have a profound effect on what kind of system evolves. The big guns, Microsoft, Visa and Mastercard, have only recently entered the fray. They are working on protocols for encrypted credit card payments to ensure that a hacker will not be able to pick up your credit card number online and take it on an instant shopping spree. The original concept was for Visa and Mastercard to work together to establish a single system, but Visa has teamed up with Microsoft and Mastercard with Netscape to launch competing systems.

Credit card systems will give Internet commerce a boost, providing mail order companies with a novel outlet for their wares, but ultimately they can only be part of the solution. Much net commerce is likely to revolve around small payments for data, whether it is paying pennies to read an online database or taking part in an interactive game.

What is needed is an Internet payment system that more closely resembles cash, and this is where the small dedicated companies, with names such as Cybercash and Digicash, come in. Cybercash has developed a system that goes one step beyond the credit card. The user deposits money with a bank afflicted to the scheme—there are currently ten participating institutions—and then downloads an electronic purse to spend in Internet shops. After a purchase is made, the shopkeeper contacts the customer's bank—the electronic money provides the necessary information—and converts the digital money back into real cash.

Cybercash's system most closely resembles a switch card, and the company itself cautiously refers to it as an electronic method of messaging money.

Magdalena Yefil，a co-founder of Cybercash，believes the attraction is that it keeps a tight control on real funds，and says："The money is in the bank account，so there is no question of where the money is. "

Cybercash also offers real benefits for global transactions. Money can be deposited in any denomination，even though，so far，the participating banks are only in the US. Paying in Cybercash will cut out costly currency conversion for both customers and businesses.

Digicash，founded by David Chaum，the guru of cryptology，is far more ambitious in the development of its electronic money scheme，e-cash. It dispenses with the need for an escrow account，working more like an ATM（automated teller machine）. An account is set up，the amount of e-cash to be withdrawn is requested and the amount is downloaded to your personal computer. When asked to pay，you confirm the transaction and your software transfers the required amount. Vendors then deposit coins in their own digital accounts.

Digicash has just gone live，teaming up with the Mark Twain Bank，of St Louis，Missouri，which provides the bank accounts. Swedish Post，whose retail banking arm has direct access to more than 75 percent of Swedish households，has also bought a licence to use e-cash，although it has yet to give a launch date.

Well-reported cases of hackers stealing date have raised fears about the security of money on the Internet. But Digicash maintains that the built-in security provided by e-cash makes it more secure than existing methods of holding money. E-cash uses encryption techniques as powerful as those used for nuclear secrets，to protect it in transfer，and a digital signature that makes any coin unique and usable just once. If you lose your money，through a computer crash for instance，a back-up number allows you to regenerate the coin. If someone refuses to give you a receipt，the digital signature will provide proof that you spent the money.

However，every advance in electronic money technology increases fears that the freedom that digital money offers also increases the potential for abuse. The ability to transfer sums anywhere in the world instantaneously was previously available only to the money markets. Now it will be possible for anyone to send funds to some Internet bank offshore，far beyond the reach of the taxman，or to set up an Internet business in any obliging country in the world，without leaving home.

Mr. Hammond，whose Hammond organization specializes in Internet business，says："The ease with which money can be moved about and the levels of anonymity available will speed up the shift towards relying on indirect taxation. "

If e-cash takes off and banks or even companies decide to start leading electronic currency，the currency begins to take on a life of its own，no longer backed by cash held in ac-

counts or by a direct conversion from hard money. It will develop a value divorced from government-issued cash, and if the money is issued by reputable businesses who can guarantee its value, it could quickly prove more attractive than a number of the weaker currencies around the world.

Mr. Hammond believes that this is a distinct possibility："You will get a situation where Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury's or Microsoft want to issue their own money, a kind of extension of voucher shopping. The money will succeed if they can back it with resources. We are going to see corporate money and companies making payments and valued by their exchange rate and not their stock price."

The flipside is that the world could return to a system of competing private currencies, and when trust breaks down much of the issued e-cash will end up worth no more than monopoly money. In America in the mid-nineteenth century, a number of US banks that privately issued money crashed, leading the government to take control of the money system.

It is trust that is the essential element in the equation. Money can only act as a store of value if people believe in it. For the moment, digital money is likely to preserve its value only if it can be exchanged for traditional currencies like dollar, sterling or the mark.

"People have trust in the existing banking system and it will serve no purpose to undermine that trust," says Ms. Yelif. "This is why we chose to launch Cybercash not so a new denomination but as a way of bringing the benefits of electronic transfers to the existing environment."

This reasoning might also explain why the Bank does not appear too worried by the developments. "The biggest question we will face is deciding whether companies offering e-cash are taking deposits," says Chris Bailey, a spokesman for the Bank. "If it is, and it looks as though in most cases it will be, the company will have to fulfill deposit-taking regulations. Consumers will be protected by existing regulations."

The biggest brake on the development of e-cash is, however, likely to be the consumer, who finds it hard enough already to put trust in the banking and monetary system. To expect digital money to sweep the system away almost overnight is to make the old mistake of assuming technology always drives people. Digital money will only succeed if it adapts to the needs of its users.

1. The business potential for the Internet is doubtable.

2. The real net revolutionaries are the small band of companies working on Internet payment system.

3. There is a clear indication which of the electronic money schemes is going to be a winner.