

GRE 阅读小笔记 Exercise 6

Some modern anthropologists hold that biological evolution has shaped not only human morphology but also human behavior. The role those anthropologists ascribe to evolution is not of dictating the details of human behavior but one of imposing constraints—ways of feeling, thinking, and acting that —come naturally in archetypal situations in any culture. Our —frailties—emotions and motives such as rage, fear, greed, gluttony, joy, lust, love—may be a very mixed assortment, but they share at least one immediate quality: we are, as we say, —in the grip of them. And thus they give us our sense of constraints. Unhappily, some of those frailties—our need for ever-increasing security among them—are presently maladaptive. Yet beneath the overlay of cultural detail, they, too, are said to be biological in direction, and therefore as natural to us as are our appendixes. We would need to comprehend thoroughly their adaptive origins in order to understand how badly they guide us now. And we might then begin to resist their pressure.

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1. Which of the following most probably provides an appropriate analogy from human morphology for the —details versus —constraints distinction made in the passage in relation to human behavior?
- (A) The ability of most people to see all the colors of the visible spectrum as against most people's inability to name any but the primary colors
- (B) The ability of even the least fortunate people to show compassion as against people's inability to mask their feelings completely
- (C) The ability of some people to dive to great depths as against most people's inability to swim long distances
- (D) The psychological profile of those people

who are able to delay gratification as
against people's inability to control their
lives completely

(E) The greater lung capacity of mountain
peoples that helps them live in oxygen-poor
air as against people's inability to fly
without special apparatus

2. It can be inferred that in his discussion of
maladaptive frailties the author assumes that

(A) evolution does not favor the emergence of
adaptive characteristics over the emergence
of maladaptive ones

(B) any structure or behavior not positively
adaptive is regarded as transitory in
evolutionary theory

(C) maladaptive characteristics, once fixed,
make the emergence of other maladaptive
characteristics more likely

(D) the designation of a characteristic as being
maladaptive must always remain highly
tentative

(E) changes in the total human environment can
outpace evolutionary change

阅读 2: 该文是 GRE 阅读中最难的（没有之一。。。）下面上翻译

某些当代人类学家坚持认为，生物进化不仅仅塑造了人类形体，而且亦塑造了人类

行为。这些人类学家所归诸于生物进化的作用，不是规定人类行为的种种细节，而是将

各种限制强加于人类——即在任何文化的典型情景中都会“自然表露”的情感、思维、

以及行动方式。我们的“弱点”——诸如愤怒、恐惧、贪婪、暴食、快乐、淫欲、爱恋

等情感和动机——或许是一种极为含浑的范畴，但它们至少会享着一个直接的特性：如

同我们所说的那样，我们受着它们的“控制支配”。因而，它们赋予我们以某种压抑感。

不幸的是，在所有这些弱点中，某些弱点——其中对不断增加的安全感的需要——

目前处于失调状态。然则，透过文化功节的层迭覆盖，它们同样也被说成是带有生物演

化的趋向，因此对我们来说如同我们的阑尾那样与生俱有，自然正常。我们需要彻底理解它们适应性的起源，方能看懂它们现在何等不利地在误导我们。这样一来，我们或许可以开始抵制它们的压力。

Q1: Detail 是可控的，**Constrains** 是不可控的。问题问的是 **human morphology**（人类形态学）的类比哦，**D** 说的是 **psychological profile**（心理因素），而不是 **physical profile** ~ 生活在高山地区的人肺活量比平常人大，是人类物理上的适应性的变化，是 **detail** 可控的；而所有人不会飞（**without special apparatus**）则是 **constrain**，任何人都无法逾越的。

Q2: "Yet beneath the overlay of cultural detail, they, too, are said to be biological in direction, and therefore as natural to us as are our appendixes."

这句话说这些不适应性在各种东西的作用下，和阑尾一样，是生物进化的正常现象。

而 **ABCD** 选项都表现出（在某个方面）不正常，与文章相反，排除法选 **E**。

PS，该题目当时我也错了，还望大家一起讨论讨论。

The molecules of carbon dioxide in the Earth's atmosphere affect the heat balance of the Earth by acting as a one-way screen. Although these molecules allow radiation at visible wavelengths, where most of the energy of sunlight is concentrated, to pass through, they absorb some of the longer-wavelength, infrared emissions radiated from the Earth's surface, radiation that would otherwise be transmitted back into space. For the Earth to maintain a constant average temperature, such emissions from the planet must balance incoming solar radiation. If there were no carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, heat would escape from the Earth much more easily. The surface temperature would be so much lower that the oceans might be a solid mass of ice. (120 words)

3. According to the passage, the greatest part of the solar energy that reaches the Earth is
- (A) concentrated in the infrared spectrum
 - (B) concentrated at visible wavelengths
 - (C) absorbed by carbon dioxide molecules
 - (D) absorbed by atmospheric water vapor
 - (E) reflected back to space by snow and ice

For the following question, consider each of the

choices separately and select all that apply

4. According to the passage, atmospheric carbon dioxide performs which of the following functions

- ☐A absorbing radiation at visible wavelengths
- ☐B absorbing outgoing radiation from the Earth
- ☐C helping to retain heat near the Earth's surface

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Initially the Vinaver theory that Malory's eight romances, once thought to be fundamentally unified, were in fact eight independent works produced both a Line sense of relief and an unpleasant shock. Vinaver's 5 theory comfortably explained away the apparent contradictions of chronology and made each romance independently satisfying. It was, however, disagreeable to find that what had been thought of as one book was now eight books. Part of this response was the natural 10 reaction to the disturbance of set ideas. Nevertheless, even now, after lengthy consideration of the theory's refined but legitimate observations, one cannot avoid the conclusion that the eight romances are only one work. It is not quite a matter of disagreeing with the 15 theory of independence, but of rejecting its implications: that the romances may be taken in any or no particular order, that they have no cumulative effect, and that they are as separate as the works of a modern novelist. (154 words)

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For the following question, consider each of the choices separately and select all that apply

5. It can be inferred from the passage that the author believes which of the following about Malory's works?

- ☐A There are meaningful links between and among the romances.
- ☐B The subtleties of the romances are obscured when they are taken as one work.
- ☐C Any contradictions in chronology among the romances are less important than their over-all unity.

6. The author of the passage concedes which of the

following about the Vinaver theory?

- (A) It gives a clearer understanding of the unity of Malory's romances.
- (B) It demonstrates the irrationality of considering Malory's romances to be unified.
- (C) It establishes acceptable links between Malory's romances and modern novels.
- (D) It unifies earlier and later theories concerning the chronology of Malory's romances.
- (E) It makes valid and subtle comments about Malory's romances.

7. Select the sentence in the passage that suggests that, in evaluating the Vinaver theory, some critics were initially biased by previous interpretations of Malory's work.

阅读 1: 今天这篇阅读比较简单, 主要说的是二氧化碳分子对热平衡的影响。

Q3: the greatest part of the solar energy that reaches the Earth is?

解析: 定位到原文 line4-5 where most of the energy of sunlight is concentrated, 往前看到了 these molecules

Line allow radiation at visible wavelengths, 所以正确答案选 B;

Q4: atmospheric carbon dioxide performs which of the following functions?

解析: 看到 A B 选项都有 absorb, 定位到 line6, they absorb some of the longer-wavelength, 已经不是可见光波长了, 所以 B 选项正确; C 定位到 line11-13 If there were no carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, heat would escape from the Earth much more easily. 所以 C 选项正确; 选 BC;

阅读 2, 这篇的思路可谓百转千回, 先说 Initially 是八个独立的作品, 但是在这之前是 once thought to be fundamentally unified, 后来一个 Nevertheless, 又说其实它还是一个作品。

Q5: 作者觉得这个作品是怎么样的?

解析: 作者觉得这 8 个作品是统一的, 所以 A 正确; C 选项, 由 chronology 定位到 line6, 这是 V 的 theory, 然后由原文最后一句话 It is not quite a matter of disagreeing with the theory of independence, but of rejecting its implications: that the romances may be taken in any or no particular order, that they have no cumulative effect, and that they are as separate as the works of a modern novelist. 可知, C 选项正确。

Q6: 对于 V 的 theory, 文章承认哪一个?

解析: 看到文中有这样一句话 line 11-12, after lengthy consideration of the

theory's refined but legitimate observations, 然后看选项, E 中有这样两个词 **valid and subtle**, 与 **refined but legitimate** 遥相呼应啊, 就选它了。

The historian Frederick J. Turner wrote in the 1890's that the agrarian discontent that had been developing steadily in the United States since about 1870 had been Line precipitated by the closing of the internal frontier--that is, 5 the depletion of available new land needed for further expansion of the American farming system. Actually, however, new lands were taken up for farming in the United States throughout and beyond the nineteenth century. The emphasis of the presumed disappearance of 10 the American frontier obscured the great importance of changes in the conditions and consequences of international trade that occurred during the second half of the nineteenth century. Huge tracts of land were being settled and farmed in Argentina, Australia, Canada, and in 15 the American West, and these areas were joined with one another and with the countries of Europe into an interdependent market system. Consequently, agrarian depressions no longer were local or national in scope, and they struck several nations whose internal frontiers had 20 not vanished or were not about to vanish. Between the early 1870's and the 1890's, the mounting agrarian discontent in America paralleled the almost uninterrupted decline in the prices of American agricultural products on foreign markets.

(198 words)

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8. The author is primarily concerned with
- (A) showing that a certain interpretation is better supported by the evidence than is an alternative explanation
 - (B) developing an alternative interpretation by using sources of evidence that formerly had been unavailable
 - (C) questioning the accuracy of the evidence that most scholars have used to counter the author's own interpretation
 - (D) reviewing the evidence that formerly had been thought to obscure a valid interpretation
 - (E) presenting evidence in support of a

controversial version of an earlier interpretation.

10. The author implies that, after certain territories and countries had been joined into an interdependent market system in the nineteenth century, agrarian depressions within that system

(A) spread to several nations, excluding those in which the internal frontier remained open

(B) manifested themselves in several nations, including those in which new land remained available for farming

(C) slowed down the pace of new technological developments in international communications and transportation

(D) affected the local and national prices of the nonagricultural products of several nations

(E) encouraged several nations to sell more of their agricultural products on foreign markets

11. The author's argument implies that, compared to the yearly price changes that actually occurred on foreign agricultural markets during the 1880's, American farmers would have most preferred yearly price changes that were

(A) much smaller and in the same direction

(B) much smaller but in the opposite direction

(C) slightly smaller and in the same direction

(D) similar in size but in the opposite direction

(E) slightly greater and in the same direction

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When the same parameters and quantitative theory are used to analyze both termite colonies and troops of rhesus macaques, we will have a unified science of sociobiology. I have been increasingly impressed with the functional similarities between insect and vertebrate societies and less so with the structural differences that seem, at first glance, to constitute such an immense gulf between them. Consider termites and macaques. Both form cooperative groups that occupy territories. In both kinds of society there is a well-marked division of labor. Members of both groups communicate to each other

hunger, alarm, hostility, caste status or rank, and reproductive status. From the specialist's point of view, this comparison may at first seem facile—or worse. But it is out of such deliberate oversimplification that the beginnings of a general theory are made. (134 words)

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12. Which of the following best summarizes the author's main point?

- (A) Oversimplified comparisons of animal societies could diminish the likelihood of developing a unified science of sociobiology.
- (B) Understanding the ways in which animals as different as termites and rhesus macaques resemble each other requires training in both biology and sociology.
- (C) Most animals organize themselves into societies that exhibit patterns of group behavior similar to those of human societies.
- (D) Animals as different as termites and rhesus macaques follow certain similar and predictable patterns of behavior.
- (E) A study of the similarities between insect and vertebrate societies could provide the basis for a unified science of sociobiology.

13. Select the sentence in the passage in which the author suggests that There are significant structural differences between insect and vertebrate societies.

阅读 1:

Q8: 文章主要讲什么?

解析: 文章开篇给出 **Frederick J. Turner** 的一个观点, 然后 line6 处 **Actually, however...**给出了作者认为的观点, 后面都在证实这个观点。所以正确答案选 **A: showing that a certain interpretation is better supported by the evidence than is an alternative explanation.**

Q9: changes in the conditions of international trade 导致了什么样的结果?

解析: 由关键词定位至 line11-12, **changes in the conditions and consequences of international trade**, 然后看到了后面的 **consequently**, 所以结果就是其后的 **agrarian depressions no longer were local or national in scope**。正确答案 **D**;

Q10: line 19-20 they struck several nations whose internal frontiers had
20 not vanished or were not about to vanish 确定选 B;

Q11: 由文章最后一句话, 1870-1990, the mounting agrarian discontent in America
paralleled the almost uninterrupted
decline in the prices of American agricultural products on foreign markets. 确定选
D;

阅读 2:

Q12: 文章主要讲什么?

解析: 开篇即说道相同理论来研究 termite 和 macaques, 然后说更加被他们的
similarities 吸引而不是不同点, 后面更是对他们的相同之处展开描述, 所以真确
选项 E;

Q13: 选出一句话, 说明昆虫和脊椎动物结构上有显著差异?

解析: 由 structure difference 定位至第二句话: I have been increasingly impressed
with the functional similarities between insect and vertebrate societies and less so
with the structural differences that seem, at first glance, to constitute such an
immense gulf between them.