

2003年英语一阅读 Text 3

铁路公司合并可能造成垄断

审题干划出关键点，精准定位，提高正确率：

51. According to those who support mergers, railway monopoly is unlikely because \_\_\_\_\_.

52. What is many captive shippers' attitude towards the consolidation in the rail industry?

53. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that \_\_\_\_\_.

54. The word "arbiters" (Line 7, Paragraph 4) most probably refers to those \_\_\_\_\_.

55. According to the text, the cost increase in the rail industry is mainly caused by \_\_\_\_\_.

段1

①In recent years, railroads have been combining with each other, merging into super systems, causing heightened concerns about monopoly. ②As recently as 1995, the top four railroads accounted for under 70 percent of the total ton-miles moved by rails. ③Next year, after a series of mergers is completed, just four railroads will control well over 90 percent of all the freight moved by major rail carriers.

【段1】 \_\_\_\_\_

段1生词：

- combine v. \_\_\_\_\_ (combine with...)
- merge v. \_\_\_\_\_ (merge into...)
- merger n. \_\_\_\_\_
- cause heightened concerns about... 引起对.....的更多关注
- heighten v. 使……加强；提高，增加

- concern n. 担心，关心；令人关切的事
- monopoly n. \_\_\_\_\_；专卖权  
monopolize/monopolise v. \_\_\_\_\_；专卖，专营
- account for... \_\_\_\_\_；\_\_\_\_\_
- a series of... 一系列的.....
- freight n. 货运
- carrier n. 运输公司，运送者

## 段2

①Supporters of the new super systems argue that these mergers will allow for substantial cost reductions and better coordinated service. ②Any threat of monopoly, they argue, is removed by fierce competition from trucks. ③But many shippers complain that for heavy bulk commodities traveling long distances, such as coal, chemicals, and grain, trucking is too costly and the railroads therefore have them by the throat.

【段2】 \_\_\_\_\_

段2生词：

- substantial adj. \_\_\_\_\_；重大的，重要的；实质的，大体上的  
substantially adv. 相当多地；实质上，大体上
- reduction n. \_\_\_\_\_  
reduce v. \_\_\_\_\_
- coordinate v. \_\_\_\_\_  
coordination n. 协调，调和  
coordinator n. \_\_\_\_\_
- threat n. 威胁，恐吓  
threaten v. 威胁，恐吓
- fierce competition \_\_\_\_\_

- fierce adj. 激烈的，强烈的；猛烈的，凶猛的  
fiercely adv. 猛烈地，厉害地
- competition n. \_\_\_\_\_  
competitive adj. 竞争的，比赛的；有竞争力的；好竞争的  
competitor n. 竞争者，对手  
compete v. \_\_\_\_\_
- bulk adj. 大批的，大量的
- commodity n. 商品
- costly adj. 昂贵的，代价高的  
cost n. 成本，费用；代价，损失 v. 价钱为，花费；付出
- have sb. by the throat \_\_\_\_\_ (扼住某人咽喉)

### 段3

①The vast consolidation within the rail industry means that most shippers are served by only one rail company. ②Railroads typically charge such “captive” shippers 20 to 30 percent more than they do when another railroad is competing for the business. ③Shippers who feel they are being overcharged have the right to appeal to the federal government’s Surface Transportation Board for rate relief, but the process is expensive, time consuming, and will work only in truly extreme cases.

【段3】 \_\_\_\_\_

段3生词：

- consolidation n. \_\_\_\_\_；巩固，加强  
consolidate v. \_\_\_\_\_；巩固，加强
- typically adv. 典型地；代表性地  
typical adj. 典型的；代表性的
- charge v./n. \_\_\_\_\_ (charge sb. sth.)；控告；掌管；冲过去；充电

- overcharge v. \_\_\_\_\_
- captive adj. 受控制的；被俘虏的
- compete for... 为.....展开竞争
- have the right to do sth. 有权利做某事
- appeal v. \_\_\_\_\_
- the federal government 联邦政府
- rate n. 费率；比率
- relief n. \_\_\_\_\_
- relieve v. \_\_\_\_\_
- time consuming 耗费时间的
- extreme cases 极端情况

#### 段4

①Railroads justify rate discrimination against captive shippers on the grounds that in the long run it reduces everyone's cost. ②If railroads charged all customers the same average rate, they argue, shippers who have the option of switching to trucks or other forms of transportation would do so, leaving remaining customers to shoulder the cost of keeping up the line. ③It's a theory to which many economists subscribe, but in practice it often leaves railroads in the position of determining which companies will flourish and which will fail. ④"Do we really want railroads to be the arbiters of who wins and who loses in the marketplace?" asks Martin Bercovici, a Washington lawyer who frequently represents shippers.

【段4】

段4生词：

- justify v. \_\_\_\_\_
- discrimination n. 歧视
- on the grounds that... \_\_\_\_\_
- in the long run 从长远来看
- have the option of... \_\_\_\_\_
- switch v. 转换
- transportation n. 运输工具；运输，运送
- shoulder the cost of... 负担.....的成本
- shoulder v. \_\_\_\_\_ n. 肩部，肩膀
- subscribe v. \_\_\_\_\_；订购，认购
- in practice 实际上，事实上；在实践中
- in the position of... 处在.....位置上
- flourish v. \_\_\_\_\_
- frequently adv. 时常地；频繁地，屡次地
- frequent adj. 时常发生的；频繁的
- frequency n. (某事发生可重复的)频率；频繁
- represent v. 代表，象征；表示，表达

段5

①Many captive shippers also worry they will soon be hit with a round of huge rate increases. ②The railroad industry as a whole, despite its brightening fortunes, still does not earn enough to cover the cost of the capital it must invest to keep up with its surging traffic. ③Yet railroads continue to borrow billions to acquire one another, with Wall Street cheering them on. ④Consider the \$10.2 billion bid by Norfolk Southern and CSX to acquire Conrail this year. ⑤Conrail's net railway operating income in 1996 was just

\$427 million, less than half of the carrying costs of the transaction. ⑥Who's going to pay for the rest of the bill? ⑦Many captive shippers fear that they will, as Norfolk Southern and CSX increase their grip on the market.

【段5】

段5生词：

- a round of... 一轮
- increase n./v. \_\_\_\_\_
- decrease n./v. \_\_\_\_\_
- cover the cost \_\_\_\_\_
- invest v. \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_
- investment n. \_\_\_\_\_
- keep up with... 跟上..., 保持同步发展
- surge v. 汹涌, 奔腾 (本文中指“急剧增加、飞涨”)
- acquire v. \_\_\_\_\_
- cheer sb. on 为某人加油、叫好
- carrying costs 持有成本
- transaction n. \_\_\_\_\_
- grip n. 抓牢; 控制

51. According to those who support mergers, railway monopoly is unlikely because \_\_\_\_\_.

- [A] cost reduction is based on competition
- [B] services call for cross-trade coordination
- [C] outside competitors will continue to exist
- [D] shippers will have the railway by the throat
- [D] strive to develop new cures

我的答案：\_\_\_\_\_ 正确答案：\_\_\_\_\_

本题的难点：\_\_\_\_\_

静姐的“填坑指南”：\_\_\_\_\_

52. What is many captive shippers' attitude towards the consolidation in the rail industry?

[A] Indifferent.

[B] Supportive.

[C] Indignant.

[D] Apprehensive.

我的答案：\_\_\_\_\_ 正确答案：\_\_\_\_\_

态度题要先把\_\_\_\_\_

经典的错误选项：\_\_\_\_\_

53. It can be inferred from Paragraph 3 that \_\_\_\_\_.

[A] shippers will be charged less without a rival railroad

[B] there will soon be only one railroad company nationwide

[C] overcharged shippers are unlikely to appeal for rate relief

[D] a government board ensures fair play in railway business

我的答案：\_\_\_\_\_ 正确答案：\_\_\_\_\_

推断题的关键：\_\_\_\_\_

静姐的“填坑指南”：\_\_\_\_\_

54. The word “arbiters” (Line 7, Paragraph 4) most probably refers to those \_\_\_\_\_.

[A] who work as coordinators

[B] who function as judges

[C] who supervise transactions

[D] who determine the price

我的答案：\_\_\_\_\_ 正确答案：\_\_\_\_\_

语意题的关键：\_\_\_\_\_

静姐的“填坑指南”：\_\_\_\_\_

55. According to the text, the cost increase in the rail industry is mainly caused by \_\_\_\_\_.

[A] the continuing acquisition

[B] the growing traffic

[C] the cheering Wall Street

[D] the shrinking market

我的答案：\_\_\_\_\_ 正确答案：\_\_\_\_\_

本题的难点：\_\_\_\_\_

静姐的“填坑指南”：\_\_\_\_\_