

# GRE阅读理解

## 综合应用2

M A K E I T E A S Y

## Passage 1

In February 1848 the people of Paris rose in revolt against the constitutional monarchy of Louis-Philippe. Despite the existence of excellent narrative accounts, the February Days, as this revolt is called, have been largely ignored by social historians of the past two decades. For each of the three other major insurrections in nineteenth-century Paris—July 1830, June 1848, and May 1871—there exists at least a sketch of participants' backgrounds and an analysis, more or less rigorous, of the reasons for the occurrence of the uprisings. Only in the case of the February Revolution do we lack a useful description of participants that might characterize it in the light of what social history has taught us about the process of revolutionary mobilization.

Two reasons for this relative neglect seem obvious. First, the insurrection of February has been overshadowed by that of June. The February Revolution overthrew a regime, to be sure, but met with so little resistance that it failed to generate any real sense of historical drama. Its successor, on the other hand, appeared to pit key socioeconomic groups in a life-or-death struggle and was widely seen by contemporary observers as marking a historical departure. Through their interpretations, which exert a continuing influence on our understanding of the revolutionary process, the impact of the events of June has been magnified, while, as an unintended consequence, the significance of the February insurrection has been diminished. Second, like other “successful” insurrections, the events of February failed to generate the most desirable kinds of historical records. Although the June insurrection of 1848 and the Paris Commune of 1871 would be considered watersheds of nineteenth-century French history by any standard, they also present the social historian with a signal advantage: these failed insurrections created a mass of invaluable documentation as a by-product of authorities’ efforts to search out and punish the rebels.

Quite different is the outcome of successful insurrections like those of July 1830 and February 1848. Experiences are retold, but participants typically resume their daily routines without ever recording their activities. Those who played salient roles may become the objects of highly embellished verbal accounts or in rare cases, of celebratory articles in contemporary periodicals. And it is true that the publicly acknowledged leaders of an uprising frequently write memoirs. However, such documents are likely to be highly unreliable, unrepresentative, and unsystematically preserved, especially when compared to the detailed judicial dossiers prepared for everyone arrested following a failed insurrection.

As a consequence, it may prove difficult or impossible to establish for a successful revolution a comprehensive and trustworthy picture of those who participated, or to answer even the most basic questions one might pose concerning the social origins of the insurgents.

1. With which of the following statements regarding revolution would the author most likely agree?
- A. Revolutionary mobilization requires a great deal of planning by people representing disaffected groups.
  - B. The objectives of the February Revolution were more radical than those of the June insurrection.
  - C. The process of revolutionary mobilization varies greatly from one revolution to the next.
  - D. Revolutions vary greatly in the usefulness of the historical records that they produce.
  - E. As knowledge of the February Revolution increases, chances are good that its importance will eventually eclipse that of the June insurrection.

2. Which of the following is the most logical objection to the claim made in the last paragraph?
- A. The February Revolution of 1848 is much less significant than the July insurrection of 1830.
  - B. The backgrounds and motivations of participants in the July insurrection of 1830 have been identified, however cursorily.
  - C. Even less is known about the July insurrection of 1830 than about the February Revolution of 1848.
  - D. Historical records made during the July insurrection of 1830 are less reliable than those made during the May insurrection of 1871.
  - E. The importance of the July insurrection of 1830 has been magnified at the expense of the significance of the February Revolution of 1848.

3. The purpose of the second paragraph is to explain why
- A. the people of Paris revolted in February 1848 against the rule of Louis-Philippe.
  - B. there exist excellent narrative accounts of the February Days.
  - C. the February Revolution met with little resistance.
  - D. a useful description of the participants in the February Revolution is lacking.
  - E. the February Revolution failed to generate any real sense of historical drama.



4. It can be inferred from the passage that the author considers which of the following essential for understanding a revolutionary mobilization?
- A. A comprehensive theory of revolution that can be applied to the major insurrections of the nineteenth century.
  - B. Awareness of the events necessary for a revolution to be successful.
  - C. Access to narratives and memoirs written by eyewitnesses of a given revolution.
  - D. The historical perspective provided by the passage of a considerable amount of time.
  - E. Knowledge of the socioeconomic backgrounds of a revolution's participants.

## Passage 2

Although, recent years have seen substantial reductions in noxious pollutants from individual motor vehicles, the number of such vehicles has been steadily increasing. Consequently, more than 100 cities in the United States still have levels of carbon monoxide, particulate matter, and ozone (generated by photochemical reactions with hydrocarbons from vehicle exhaust) that exceed legally established limits. There is a growing realization that the only effective way to achieve further reductions in vehicle emissions—short of a massive shift away from the private automobile—is to replace conventional diesel fuel and gasoline with cleaner-burning fuels such as compressed natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, ethanol, or methanol.

All of these alternatives are carbon-based fuels whose molecules are smaller and simpler than those of gasoline. These molecules burn more cleanly than gasoline, in part because they have fewer, if any, carbon-carbon bonds, and the hydrocarbons they do emit are less likely to generate ozone. The combustion of larger molecules, which have multiple carbon-carbon bonds, involves a more complex series of reactions. These reactions increase the probability of incomplete combustion and are more likely to release uncombusted and photochemically active hydrocarbon compounds into the atmosphere. On the other hand, alternative fuels do have drawbacks. Compressed natural gas would require that vehicles have a set of heavy fuel tanks—a serious liability in terms of performance and fuel efficiency—and liquefied petroleum gas faces fundamental limits on supply.

Ethanol and methanol, on the other hand, have important advantages over other carbon-based alternative fuels: they have a higher energy content per volume and would require minimal changes in the existing network for distributing motor fuel. Ethanol is commonly used as a gasoline supplement, but it is currently about twice as expensive as methanol, the low cost of which is one of its attractive features. Methanol's most attractive feature, however, is that it can reduce by about 90 percent the vehicle emissions that form ozone, the most serious urban air pollutant.

Like any alternative fuel, methanol has its critics. Yet much of the criticism is based on the use of “gasoline clone” vehicles that do not incorporate even the simplest design improvements that are made possible with the use of methanol. It is true, for example, that a given volume of methanol provides only about one-half of the energy that gasoline and diesel fuel do; other things being equal, the fuel tank would have to be somewhat larger and heavier. However, since methanol-fueled vehicles could be designed to be much more efficient than “gasoline clone” vehicles fueled with methanol, they would need comparatively less fuel. Vehicles incorporating only the simplest of the engine improvements that methanol makes feasible would still contribute to an immediate lessening of urban air pollution.

1. According to the passage, incomplete combustion is more likely to occur with gasoline than with an alternative fuel because
- A. the combustion of gasoline releases photochemically active hydrocarbons.
  - B. the combustion of gasoline involves an intricate series of reactions.
  - C. gasoline molecules have a simple molecular structure.
  - D. gasoline is composed of small molecules.
  - E. gasoline is a carbon-based fuel

2. Which of the following most closely parallels the situation described in the first sentence of the passage?
- A. Although a town reduces its public services in order to avoid a tax increase, the town's tax rate exceeds that of other towns in the surrounding area.
  - B. Although a state passes strict laws to limit the type of toxic material that can be disposed of in public landfills, illegal dumping continues to increase.
  - C. Although a town's citizens reduce their individual use of water, the town's water supplies continue to dwindle because of a steady increase in the total population of the town.
  - D. Although a country attempts to increase the sale of domestic goods by adding a tax to the price of imported goods, the sale of imported goods within the country continues to increase.
  - E. Although a country reduces the speed limit on its national highways, the number of fatalities caused by automobile accidents continues to increase.



3. It can be inferred from the passage that a vehicle specifically designed to use methanol for fuel would
- A. be somewhat lighter in total body weight than a conventional vehicle fueled with gasoline.
  - B. be more expensive to operate than a conventional vehicle fueled with gasoline.
  - C. have a larger and more powerful engine than a conventional vehicle fueled with gasoline.
  - D. have a larger and heavier fuel tank than a “gasoline clone” vehicle fueled with methanol.
  - E. average more miles per gallon than a “gasoline clone” vehicle fueled with methanol.

4. The passage suggests which of the following about air pollution?
- A. Further attempts to reduce emissions from gasoline-fueled vehicles will not help lower urban air-pollution levels.
  - B. Attempts to reduce the pollutants that an individual gasoline-fueled vehicle emits have been largely unsuccessful.
  - C. Few serious attempts have been made to reduce the amount of pollutants emitted by gasoline-fueled vehicles.
  - D. Pollutants emitted by gasoline-fueled vehicles are not the most critical source of urban air pollution.
  - E. Reductions in pollutants emitted by individual vehicles have been offset by increases in pollution from sources other than gasoline-fueled vehicles.

## Passage 3

When on an airplane, Consuelo never enjoys movies that have been widely recommended because the poor quality of the picture spoils her enjoyment. Since in no circumstances does she ever enjoy movies that have been widely derided, it follows that she never enjoys movies on airplanes.

Which of the following, if true, would enable the conclusion of the argument to be properly drawn?

- A. The only place where Consuelo enjoys widely recommended movies is a movie theater.
- B. Widely recommended movies are never shown on airplane.
- C. If a movie shown on an airplane is not widely derided, then it is invariably widely recommended.
- D. If the picture quality of the movies shown on airplanes was better, Consuelo would enjoy the widely recommended movies.
- E. Some movies are neither widely recommended nor widely derided.

## Passage 4

Newspaper Editorial: Last year, Mayor Stephens established a special law-enforcement task force with the avowed mission of eradicating corruption in city government. The mayor's handpicked task force has now begun prosecuting a dozen city officials. Since all of these officials were appointed by Mayor Bixby, Mayor Stephens' predecessor and longtime political foe, it is clear that those being prosecuted have been targeted because of their political affiliations.

Which of the following, if true, most weakens the editorial's argument?

- A. Complaints of official corruption in city government have decreased since the anticorruption task force began operating.
- B. Former mayor Bixby did not publicly oppose Mayor Stephens' establishment of the anticorruption task force.
- C. Almost all of the officials who have served in city government for any length of time are appointees of Mayor Bixby.
- D. All of the members of the anticorruption task force had other jobs in city government before the task force was formed.
- E. During the last mayoral election campaign, then-Mayor Bixby hotly disputed the current mayor's claim that there was widespread corruption in city government.

## Passage 5

In the shallow end of Lake Tomwa, there are remains of numerous Jeffery pine trees that grew there during a lengthy drought. Researchers had believed that this drought lasted at least 150 years, but carbon dating reveals that pines were growing in the lake bed for only 120 years, from 1200 until 1320. Since the Jeffrey pines, which cannot survive in water, must have died at the end of the drought, the dating shows that the drought lasted less than 150 years.

The argument given relies on which of the following as an assumption?

- A. No other species of tree started growing in the bed of Lake Tomwa after 1200.
- B. No tree remains of any kind are present at the bottom of deeper parts of Lake Tomwa.
- C. There was at least one tree in the lake bed that was alive for the entire period from 1200 to 1320.
- D. There has not been a more recent drought that caused a drying up of the shallow end of the lake.
- E. The shallow end of the lake had been dry for less than 30 years by the time Jeffrey pines started growing in the lake bed.



## Passage 6

During the day in Lake Constance, the zooplankton *D. hyalina* departs for the depths where food is scarce and the water cold. *D. galeata* remains near the warm surface where food is abundant. Even though *D. galeata* grows and reproduces much faster, its population is often outnumbered by *D. hyalina*.

Which of the following, if true, would help resolve the apparent paradox presented above?

- A. The number of species of zooplankton living at the bottom of the lake is twice that of species living at the surface.
- B. Predators of zooplankton, such as whitefish and perch, live and feed near the surface of the lake during the day.
- C. In order to make the most of scarce food resources, *D. hyalina* matures more slowly than *D. galeata*.
- D. *D. galeata* clusters under vegetation during the hottest part of the day to avoid the Sun's rays.
- E. *D. galeata* produces twice as many offspring per individual in any given period of time as does *D. hyalina*.

## Passage 7

People widely believed that the controlled use of fire originated 200,000 years ago with the human species *Homo sapiens*. However, a site containing a deposit, estimated to be nearly 500,000 years old, consisting of charcoal, burned animal bones, and charred rocks, has recently been found. Although *Homo sapiens* did not exist at that time, this discovery provides no basis to the claim that the controlled use of fire preceded the *Homo sapiens*, since \_\_\_\_\_.

Which of the following most logically completes the passage?

- A. the use of fire might have originated independently in several different parts of the world
- B. it is possible that fire was used much earlier than 500,000 years ago
- C. the charred rocks found in the deposit included several different kinds of stone, all of which are common in the immediate vicinity of the site
- D. animal bones could have been discarded in a fire used for purposes such as protection or heat rather than for cooking
- E. it is impossible to determine whether a charred deposit dating from so long ago resulted from a fire caused by lightning or from the purposeful use of fire

# Thanks

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