

托福阅读之长难句内容解析 25 句

1. Immediately adjacent to the timberline, the tundra consists of a fairly complete cover of low-lying shrubs, herbs, and grasses,

while higher up the number and diversity of species decrease until there is much bare ground with occasional mosses and lichens and some prostrate cushion plants.

难句类型：复杂句子结构+大量生僻名词

本句比较长，理解起来比较有难度，因为句子结构有些复杂，同时夹杂着众多的生僻名词。如果一个句子里有超过 5 个单词不认识或者不熟悉，对

我们的阅读都会构成一定的影响。这句话是一个表示对比关系的复合句，主句和从句都各有一个状语来修饰，表明条件的变化；然后说明在两种不同条件下植被的构成发生了变化。整句的主干结构是这样的：adjacent to timberline, the tundra consists of shrubs and grasses and

so on, while rise up, the species and diversities will decrease. 同学们只要能读出来这句话的核心意思是“靠近林木线的土地上到处覆盖着灌木和草，而海拔高度提高的时候，物种减少直到出现大片的荒地”就可以了。

timberline: n. 林木线（树木生长的极限海拔高度） timber + line

tundra: n. 冻原，苔原

moss: n. 苔藓，

lichen n. 地衣，

prostrate: adj. 俯倒，拜倒

cushion: n. 垫子，垫状物

译文：

由于紧挨着林木线，苔原上比较完整地覆盖着矮灌木、药材和草地。随着海拔的增加物种的数量和多样性会逐渐减少，直到出现大片的空地，这

些空地仅仅伴有零星的苔藓和地衣或者一些伏地植物。

意群训练：

Immediately adjacent to the timberline, the tundra consists of a fairly complete cover of low-lying shrubs, herbs, and

grasses, while higher up the number and diversity of species decrease until there is much bare ground with occasional

mosses and lichens and some prostrate cushion plants.

2.

In order for the structure to achieve the size and strength necessary to meet its purpose, architecture employs methods of support that, because they are based on physical laws, have changed little since people first discovered them—even while building materials have changed dramatically.

难句类型：复杂状语+复杂句子结构+插入成分+不明显的倒装+抽象名词

虽然表面看来这个句子没有什么生词，但是这个句子理解起来并不容易，因为这个句子中出现的单词都是比较抽象的单词，例如 **structure**,

achieve, size, strength, purpose, method,所以读句子的时候让人觉得不舒服。句子开头就是一个目的状语，但是这个状语很长，让同学们搞

不清楚谁是为了实现谁。主句结构是 **architecture employs methods of support**，但是随后作者又用 **that** 引导了一个定语从句来修饰 **method**,并

且在定语从句一开始，**that** 后面直接用 **because** 引导了一个插入的句子，割裂了定语从句。所以完整的复合句是这样的：**architecture employs methods of support that have changed little since people first discovered them**，到此处作者仍不肯收手，用 **even while** 引导了最后一个从句和定语从句做对比。于是整个句子的结构就变的十分混乱了。实际上 **because they are based on physical laws** 在句子中位置稍作调整，同学们就可以比较清楚的理解这句话了：**architecture employs methods of support that have changed little since people first discovered them, because they are based on physical laws**.所以本句意思是“建筑学上采用了一些支撑的方法，这些支撑的方法自它们被人类发现以来就鲜有变化，因为它们是在建立在物理定律上的”。作者隐含的意思是物理定律不变，所以这些方法不变。

译文：

建筑结构必须达到大小和强度的要求，以实现必要的建筑目的，因此建筑学上采用一些支撑的方法，这些方法都是以物理定律为基础的，尽管建筑材料已经发生了翻天覆地的变化，这些支撑的方法却自人们发现它们以来就鲜有变化。

意群训练

In order for the structure to achieve the size and strength necessary to meet its purpose, architecture employs methods of support that, because they are based on physical laws, have changed little since people first discovered them—even while building materials have changed dramatically.

3.

There are two principal influences that shape the terrain: constructive processes such as uplift, which create new landscape features, and destructive forces such as erosion, which gradually wear away exposed landforms.

难句类型：并列句做主语从句+插入成分

本句的主句结构是一个 **there be** 结构，句子的主语应该是 **two principal influences**，主句的意思是“两个主要的影响决定了地形”，后面的标点符号用冒号，表示冒号后面使用并列句对主语进行具体解释，并在每个并列的分句中都插入了一个定语从句。省略掉两个并列分句中的由 **which**

引导的定语从句，并列句应当如下：**There are two principal influences that shape the terrain: constructive processes such as uplift, and destructive forces such as erosion.**在并列结构中两次对称地插入了定语从句，把一个好好的句子弄得四分五裂，虽然作者的思路是清晰的，但是对同学的阅读造成了不利的影响。此类型的句子在托福阅读中出现的频率很高，同学们要多练，习惯了这种句子就会发现理解它们并不难。

译文：

主要有两种影响会改变地形：建设性的过程，如产生新的地表特征的地壳隆起；和破坏性的力量，如缓慢清除突出地貌的地表侵蚀。

意群训练：

There are two principal influences that shape the terrain: constructive processes such as uplift, which create new landscape features, and destructive forces such as erosion, which gradually wear away exposed landforms.

4. The same thing happens to this day, though on a smaller scale, wherever a sediment-laden river or stream emerges from a mountain valley onto relatively flat land, dropping its load as the current slows: the water usually spreads out fanwise, depositing the sediment in the form of a smooth, fan-shaped slope.

难句类型：复杂修饰+插入成分

本句的主句结构很简单 **the same thing happens**,但是作者为了说明是什么同样的事情发生而大费周章，**though on a smaller scale** 做插入成分，说明现在是在更小的规模上发生同样的事情，如果跳过这段插入成分，主句和从句连在一起读就是 **The same thing happens to this day, wherever a sediment-laden river or stream emerges from a mountain valley onto relatively flat land.** 到此处句子并不难理解，但是作者用动名词构成的短语 **dropping its load as the current slows** 来修饰从句，表示伴随发生的动作。并在状语结束的时候用冒号，引出了一个句子来解释从句。

译文：

现代也有冰水沉积，尽管规模相对较小。凡是有携带泥沙的河流或者溪流从山谷流至相对平坦的地面时，砂石就随着水流速度的减慢逐渐沉淀；水流通常呈扇形扩散，它们所携带的砂石也会沉淀为光滑的扇形斜坡。

意群训练

The same thing happens to this day, though on a smaller scale, wherever a sediment-laden river or stream emerges from a mountain valley onto relatively flat land, dropping its load as the current slows: the water usually spreads out fanwise, depositing the sediment in the form of a smooth, fan-shaped slope.

5.

Sediments are also dropped where a river slows on entering a lake or the sea, the deposited sediments are on a lake floor or the seafloor at first, but will be located inland at some future date, when the sea level falls or the land rises; such beds are sometimes thousands of meters thick.

难句类型：复杂修饰+插入成分

本句的主句结构应当是 Sediments are also dropped, but will be located inland at some future date; such beds are sometimes thousands of meters thick. 这是一个由分号隔开的并列句，分号前面的句子结构比较复杂，Sediments are also dropped，后面跟了一个由

where 引导的状语从句，紧接着这个状语从句又加上了一个插入结构， the deposited sediments are on a lake floor or the seafloor at first， 然后才开始进行转折 but will be located inland at some future date, 但是马上又跟上了一个由 when 引导的状语从句。分号后面的半句比较简单 such beds are sometimes thousands of meters thick. 同学们面对这样的句子一定要先找主干，把状语从句、插入结构纷纷跳过，从纷繁复杂的句子中找出主干来，才能不被 ETS 出题人改写的句子所迷惑。

译文：

当河流汇入湖泊和海洋的时候也会有沉淀，这些沉淀最初在湖底或海底，但将来海平面下降或者陆地崛起时，它们就会分布于内陆，通常厚达几千米。

意群训练：

Sediments are also dropped where a river slows on entering a lake or the sea, the deposited sediments are on a lake floor or

the seafloor at first, but will be located inland at some future date, when the sea level falls or the land rises; such beds are sometimes thousands of meters thick.

6. In lowland country almost any spot on the ground may overlies what was once the bed of a river that has since become buried by

soil; if they are now below the water's upper surface (the water table), the gravels and sands of the former riverbed, and its sandbars, will be saturated with groundwater.

难句类型：复杂修饰+省略

本句也是一个由分号隔开的并列句，主句结构是 almost any spot on the ground may overlies what was once the bed of a river; if they are now below the water's upper surface,

they will be saturated with groundwater.但是作者在 river 后面用 that 引导了一个定语从句修饰

饰一下 river, 在 surface 后面用括号和两个插入成分 the gravels and sands of the former riverbed, and its sandbars,打乱了分号前后两个并列句自己内部的主谓宾结构的连贯性。所以阅读时就十分困难。所以我们的对策仍然是先读主干, 不重要的定语、状语、同位语、插入成分纷纷略过, 读出核心意思来即可。

译文:

低区域上的任何位置可能就是曾经的河床, 后续被土壤覆盖而变成现在的样子。如果那些河床和沙洲现在位于地下水位之下, 一定会有大量的地下水浸在它们的沙砾和沙石之间。

意群训练

In lowland country almost any spot on the ground may overlies what was once the bed of a river that has since become buried

by soil; if they are now below the water's upper surface (the water table), the gravels and sands of the former riverbed, and its sandbars, will be saturated with groundwater.

7. For example, some early societies ceased to consider certain rites essential to their well-being and abandoned them, nevertheless, they retained as parts of their oral tradition the myths that had grown up around the rites and admired them for their artistic qualities rather than for their religious usefulness.

难句类型: 复杂修饰

本句的主句结构应该是 some early societies ceased to consider certain rites and abandoned them, nevertheless, they retained as parts of their oral tradition and admired them for their artistic qualities.在 rites 后面有 essential to their well-being 做后置定语的修饰成分, 在 tradition 后面有一个 the myths that had grown up around the rites 的同位语从句, 在 artistic qualities 后面有一个 rather than for their religious usefulness 进行转折。同学们只要能够读出来本句的核心意思是“一些早期社会的人们取消了仪式。虽然如此, 人们还是保留了那些口头传述故事的传统, 是因为出于它们的艺术性。”

译文：

例如，一些早期社会的人们认为有的仪式对他们的幸福生活来说不再是必需品，并且取消了那些仪式。虽然如此，人们还是保留了那些口头传述故事的传统并且热爱从这些仪式里发展起来的神话，出于它们的艺术性，而不是宗教原因。

意群训练：

For example, some early societies ceased to consider certain rites essential to their well-being and abandoned them, nevertheless, they retained as parts of their oral tradition the myths that had grown up around the rites and admired them for their artistic qualities rather than for their religious usefulness.

8. Estimates indicate that the aquifer contains enough water to fill Lake Huron, but unfortunately, under the semiarid climatic conditions that presently exist in the region, rates of addition to the aquifer are minimal, amounting to about half a centimeter a year.

难句类型：插入结构

本句其实并不是很难，就是有个插入结构和同位语在作怪，如果我们跳过插入结构和省略掉最后的同位语，句子就变成了 Estimates indicate

that the aquifer contains enough water to fill Lake Huron, but unfortunately, rates of addition to the aquifer are minimal.这个句子就不难理解，同学们只要能读出来这个句子的核心意思是：这个含水层水很丰富，但是蓄水率却很低。理解这个句子就足够了。

译文：

据估计，奥加拉拉蓄水层的含水量足以填满休伦湖，但不幸的是，在目前该地区半干旱的气候条件下，奥加拉拉蓄水层的蓄水能力极低，每年仅半厘米左右。

意群训练：

Estimates indicate that the aquifer contains enough water to fill Lake Huron, but unfortunately, under the semiarid climatic conditions that presently exist in the region, rates of addition to the aquifer are minimal, amounting to about half a centimeter a year.

9. The incentive of the farmers who wish to conserve water is reduced by their knowledge that many of their neighbors are profiting by using great amounts of water, and in the process are drawing down the entire region's water supplies.

难句类型：并列句+复杂修饰+倒装

本句是一个由 **and** 引导的并列句，但是 **and** 前面的句子比较复杂，后面有一个倒装，所以句子读起来比较不舒服。首先来看 **and** 前面的句子，在

farmers 后面有一个由 **who** 引导的定语从句，隔开了主语 **The incentive** 和谓语 **is reduced**，谓语后面是由 **by** 引导的原因状语，然后又由 **that** 引导了

一个定语从句来修饰 **knowledge**，其实前半句要表达的意思非常简单，就是这种节水的热情降低了，**and** 后面的句子是一个倒装，全句正常的语序应

该是 **The incentive of the farmers is reduced, and the entire region's water supplies are drawing down.**，就是说“节水的热情降低

了，整个地区的水资源供应在减少”就可以了。

译文：

当那些想节水的农民得知邻居们通过大量耗水的种植而盈利的时候，他们的热情降低了，从而导致了整个区域的供水量的减少。

意群训练：

The incentive of the farmers who wish to conserve water is reduced by their knowledge that many of their neighbors are

profiting by using great amounts of water, and in the process are drawing down the entire region's water supplies.

10.

Timberline trees are normally evergreens, suggesting that these have some advantage over deciduous trees (those that lose their

leaves) in the extreme environments of the upper timberline.

难句类型：插入成分和状语衔接构成了复杂的从句

本句的主句结构其实特别简单，就是 Timberline trees are normally evergreens，但是后面跟了一个 suggesting that 引导的从句，说这个显示了什么，从句的内容比较复杂，让同学们读了之后忘记了主句结构其实很简单。其实从句就读 these have some advantage over deciduous trees 就足够了，后面的括号中的插入成分和表示地点的状语都是次要内容，(those that lose their leaves) in the extreme environments of the upper timberline，同学们扫一眼就行了。

译文：

树带界线内通常是常绿树木，他们和处于上行树带界线处极端恶劣环境中生长的落叶树木相比，具有一定的优势。

意群训练：

Timberline trees are normally evergreens, suggesting that these have some advantage over deciduous trees (those that lose their leaves) in the extreme environments of the upper timberline.

11 Without this knowledge we can appreciate only the formal content of Egyptian art, and we will fail to understand why it was

produced or the concepts that shaped it and caused it to adopt its distinctive forms.

难句类型：并列句+复杂修饰

本句是由两个并列句构成的，Without this knowledge 是状语，主句是 we can appreciate only the formal content of Egyptian art, and we will fail to understand why or the concepts，就是说我们只能在形式上理解埃及的艺术，不能理解为什么埃及艺术会是这样和内容会是这样的，在 why 后面的从句和 concepts 后面各有一个句子来具体讲它们的内容，频繁出现的 and 扰乱了同学们对于句子结构的把握。concepts 后面 that

引导的 shaped it and caused it to adopt its distinctive forms.都是用来修饰 concepts 的。在第二个并列分句中宾语非常长，使用了层层追加修饰的方法，使句子变得难于理解。

译文：

没有这些知识，我们对于古埃及艺术的欣赏就仅仅局限在形式上，而无法理解这种艺术为什么会被创造出来，以及决定艺术品采用某种特殊形式

的内在理念。

意群训练：

Without this knowledge we can appreciate only the formal content of Egyptian art, and we will fail to understand why it was produced or the concepts that shaped it and caused it to adopt its distinctive forms.

12

In fact, a lack of understanding concerning the purposes of Egyptian art has often led it to be compared unfavorably with the art of other cultures: Why did the Egyptians not develop sculpture in which the body turned and twisted through space like classical Greek statuary?

难句类型：复杂修饰

其实本句从逻辑结构的角度上来分析并不复杂。冒号后面的句子是在对冒号前面的部分进行解释和说明。但是本句就是在各种句子成分的修饰上比较繁琐。主语是 a lack of understanding concerning the purposes of Egyptian art, 谓语是 has often led, 宾语部分是 it to be compared unfavorably with the art of other cultures, 冒号后面的 Why did the Egyptians not develop sculpture in which the body turned and twisted through space like classical Greek statuary 是对这个不利的比较进行的说明，其中由 which 引导了一个从句来修饰雕塑。但是整体来说，这个句子并不很复杂。

译文：

事实上，缺乏对于古埃及艺术目的的了解经常会导致古埃及艺术被拿来和其他文明的艺术相比较，而这种比较对于古埃及艺术来说是相对不利的：为什么古埃及人不像古希腊人那样创作一些身体扭转或者弯曲的雕塑？

意群训练：

In fact, a lack of understanding concerning the purposes of Egyptian art has often led it to be compared unfavorably with the art of other cultures: Why did the Egyptians not develop sculpture in which the body turned and twisted through space like

classical Greek statuary?

13 He then set up experiments with caged starlings and found that their orientation was, in fact, in the proper migratory direction except when the sky was overcast, at which times there was no clear direction to their restless movements.

难句类型：插入语+复杂修饰

本句有一个很短的插入语 in fact，但是它出现的位置很讨厌，打乱了我们读句子时连贯的思维，所以还是要先跳过去，主句其实是 He then set up experiments with caged starlings and found that their orientation was in the proper migratory direction except when the sky was overcast 核心意思就是说他做的试验除了阴天的时候，其他时候鸟类都能准确的找到自己的方向。at which times there was no clear direction to their restless movements 用来修饰阴天时候鸟类的活动，属于典型的次要成分，但是同学们如果没有分清主次，读完对吼这个句子就会忘记主句的核心意思，得不偿失。

译文：

事实上，一般它们都扑向它们迁徙飞行的方向，除了天阴多云的时候，此时它们拍打翅膀乱扑的行为没有明确的方向。

意群训练：

He then set up experiments with caged starlings and found that their orientation was, in fact, in the proper migratory direction except when the sky was overcast, at which times there was no clear direction to their restless movements.

14

In fact, when tapes of begging tree swallows were played at an artificial swallow nest containing an egg, the egg in that “noisy” nest was taken or destroyed by predators before the egg in a nearby quiet nest in 29 of 37 trials.

难句类型：复杂修饰

本句结构其实不难，但是有很多人读不懂，when tapes of begging tree swallows were played at an artificial swallow nest containing an egg 是状语从句，主句是 the egg in that

“noisy” nest was taken or destroyed by predators before the egg in a nearby quiet nest in 29 of 37 trials. 影响同学们理解本句的关键是在 before 这个词上，很多同学一看到它就认为是在什么之前，以为是方位上的比较，其实这是时间上的比较，就是说比较喧闹的鸟巢中的鸟蛋先被破坏。主谓宾都有修饰成分，所以句子读起来不是很舒服。

译文：

事实上，当在一个放有鸟蛋的人工燕巢里播放燕子乞讨的录音时，37 次实验中有 29 次，在“喧闹”环境中的鸟蛋比在附近安静燕巢中的蛋先被捕食者夺走或毁坏。

意群训练：

In fact, when tapes of begging tree swallows were played at an artificial swallow nest containing an egg, the egg in that “noisy” nest was taken or destroyed by predators before the egg in a nearby quiet nest in 29 of 37 trials.

15

The hypothesis that begging calls have evolved properties that reduce their potential for attracting predators yields a prediction: baby birds of species that experience high rates of nest predation should produce softer begging signals of higher frequency than nestlings of other species less often victimized by nest predators.

难句类型：同位语从句+定语从句等复杂修饰

本句主语是 The hypothesis 后面跟了一个由 that 引导的同位语从句 begging calls have evolved properties 然后又有一个由 that 引导的定语从句

reduce their potential for attracting predators 修饰 properties，其实主句结构很简单，就是 the hypothesis yields a prediction, 然后冒号后面的部分来解释这个假设，baby birds should produce softer begging signals，同学们遇到这样的复杂修饰的句子，一定要先把主句结构读出来，核心意思掌握了，再看那些次要的修饰成分即可。

译文：

关于乞讨声发展演化出一些性质，能够降低幼鸟吸引捕食者的潜在危险的假说产生出一个预言：那些被捕食频率较高的幼鸟种群应该比那些很少被捕食的种群产生出更柔和的高频乞讨信号。

意群训练：

The hypothesis that begging calls have evolved properties that reduce their potential for attracting predators yields a prediction: baby birds of species that experience high rates

of nest predation should produce softer begging signals of higher frequency than nestlings of other species less often victimized by nest predators.

16

The answer lies apparently not in the increased energy costs of exaggerated begging—such energy costs are small relative to the potential gain in calories— but rather in the damage that any successful cheater would do to its siblings, which share genes with one another.

难句类型：插入成分+复杂修饰成分

本句中有一个由两个破折号引导的比较长的插入成分，我们先跳过插入成分，完整的读下来句子应该是 The answer lies not in the increased

energy costs but rather in the damage，其他的都是非重点的次要句子成分，同学们只要能读出来本句的核心意思是答案不在高能量消耗而在

伤害，就可以了。至于其他的修饰成分，只要搞清楚谁修饰谁就可以。ETS 非常喜欢这种层层追加修饰的方法，把句子搞得很长，但是实际上没有什么重要信息。

译文：

答案明显不在于夸张的乞讨叫声需要高能量消耗——这些能量和将要获得的能量相比是很少的——而是在于任何一个成功的欺骗者会对和它有同样基因的亲缘造成伤害。

意群分类：

The answer lies apparently not in the increased energy costs of exaggerated begging — such energy costs are small relative to the potential gain in calories— but rather in the damage that any successful cheater would do to its siblings, which share genes with one another.

17

Most engravings, for example, are best lit from the left, as befits the work of right-handed artists, who generally prefer to have the light source on the left so that the shadow of their hand does not fall on the tip of the engraving tool or brush.

难句类型：插入成分+复杂从句

我们先跳过插入成分读主句结构是 Most engravings are best lit from the left, 由 as 引导的从句 befits the work of right-handed artists

对主句进行解释和说明，然后由 who 引导定语从句嵌套一个目的状语从句来修饰艺术家这么做的原因 generally prefer to have the light

source on the left so that the shadow of their hand does not fall on the tip of the engraving tool or brush.

译文：

例如，大多数时候都是从左侧照射雕刻比较好，这样适于右撇子艺术家工作，他们通常喜欢将光源放在左侧以便自己手的投影不会落在雕刻工具或刷子的末端。

意群训练：

Most engravings, for example, are best lit from the left, as befits the work of right-handed artists, who generally prefer to have the light source on the left so that the shadow of their hand does not fall on the tip of the engraving tool or brush.

18

In stone toolmaking experiments, Nick Toth, a right-hander, held the core (the stone that would become the tool) in his left and the hammer stone in his right.

难句类型：插入成分+易混单词

本句中插入成分实在比较多，在这么短的句子中出现的插入成分将整个句子弄得支离破碎。跳过插入成分，主句结构应该是 Nick Toth held the

core in his left hand and the hammer stone in his right. 其实就是描述了一个很简单的场景，但是 right-hander 和括号 (the stone that

would become the tool) 中的两个插入成分非常讨厌，同学们一定要养成读主干和跳过插入语的习惯。此外句子出现了左右，同学们读句子的时候容易混淆。一定要分清。

译文：

在石器工具制造的实验中，右撇子 Nick Toth 左手握住 the core（将会成为工具的那块石头），右手举着石锤。

意群训练：

In stone toolmaking experiments, Nick Toth, a right-hander, held the core (the stone that would become the tool) in his left hand and the hammer stone in his right.

19

In many instances, spectators in the era before recorded sound experienced elaborate aural presentations alongside movies' visual images, from the Japanese benshi (narrators) crafting multivoiced dialogue narratives to original musical compositions performed by symphony-size orchestras in Europe and the United States.

难句类型：复杂修饰成分

本句主干结构是 spectators experienced elaborate aural presentations alongside movies' visual images，其实非常简单，就是说观众们既看到影像也欣赏到了音效。但是从句子一开头的状语 In many instances 开始，作者用 in the era before recorded sound 修饰主语 spectators，割裂了谓语 experienced 和主语之间的关系，然后宾语是 elaborate aural presentations alongside movies' visual images 倒不难，但是随

后用一个 from the Japanese benshi (narrators) crafting multivoiced dialogue narratives to original musical compositions performed by symphony-size orchestras in Europe and the United States 来解释这个主干成分的句子。就使句子变得很复杂了。

译文：

很多时候，在有声时代之前，观众们在观看影像的同时也欣赏到了精心制作的音效，从日本多人对话式叙事到欧美交响乐团的原声乐，无不体现

这一点。

意群训练：

In many instances, spectators in the era before recorded sound experienced elaborate aural presentations alongside movies' visual images, from the Japanese benshi (narrators) crafting multivoiced dialogue narratives to original musical compositions performed by symphony-size orchestras in Europe and the United States.

20

Though it may be difficult to imagine from a later perspective, a strain of critical opinion in the 1920s predicted that sound film would be a technical novelty that would soon fade from

sight, just as had many previous attempts, dating well back before the First World War, to link images with recorded sound.

难句类型：层层追加的复杂修饰+插入成分

本句也是 ETS 的老套路了，为了把句子变长，就层层追加修饰成分，先又 Though it may be difficult to imagine from a later perspective 所谓一个转折的分句，然后主句是 a strain of critical opinion in the 1920 s predicted that sound film would be a technical novelty,

接着用 that 引导 would soon fade from sight, just as had many previous attempts, dating well back before the First World War, to link images with recorded sound 的长句嵌套插入成分，来修饰 novelty,但是实际上这些都不是什么重要的成分，大家只要读出来主句结构和句子的核心意思就是以前有一种预言认为有声电影很快就会消失就行了。

译文：

尽管后来人很难理解，但在 20 世纪 20 年代，一种批判性的意见预言：有声电影是一种将很快淡出公众视线的科技新事物，就像的许多先前把图像和声音结合起来的尝试，这些尝试可以追溯到第一次世界大战。

意群训练：

Though it may be difficult to imagine from a later perspective, a strain of critical opinion in the 1920 s predicted that sound film would be a technical novelty that would soon fade from sight, just as had many previous attempts, dating well back before the First World War, to link images with recorded sound.

21

Sociologists view primary groups as bridges between individuals and the larger society because they transmit, mediate, and interpret a society's cultural patterns and provide the sense of oneness so critical for social solidarity.

难句类型：

本句的是一个原因从句修饰主句，Sociologists view primary groups as bridges between individuals and the larger society because,

并不难懂，但是原因从句是由两个并列句构成的，中有第一个并列句有三个并列的谓语 they transmit, mediate, and interpret a society's cultural patterns, 后面又有一个 and 引导的并列句 provide the sense of oneness so critical for social solidarity., 这样句子结构就复杂了。

译文：

社会学家认为主要团体是个人和社会之间的桥梁，因为主要团体传播和解释社会文化模式，并为社会提供统一意识，这对社会的团结是十分重要的。

意群训练：

Sociologists view primary groups as bridges between individuals and the larger society because they transmit, mediate, and interpret a society's cultural patterns and provide the sense of oneness so critical for social solidarity.

22

The relations between animal activity and these periods, particularly for the daily rhythms, have been of such interest and importance that a huge amount of work has been done on them and the special research field of chronobiology has emerged.

难句类型：插入成分+复杂修饰从句+并列句

本句的主句结构是 The relations have been of such interest and importance and the special research field of chronobiology has emerged 其实并不难，就是一个并列句而已。但是 The relations 后面由 between animal activity and these periods 来修饰，紧跟着一个插入成

分 particularly for the daily rhythms 来限制缩小一下范围，这样把主语和谓语割裂开来 have been of such interest and importance 后面用 that 引导一个从句 a huge amount of work has been done on them 来修饰 interest 和 importance, 最后再用一个 and 引导的并列分句 the special research field of chronobiology has emerged 来结束句子。

译文：

因此，生物功能的时机和节奏和周期性的事物，如，太阳日，潮汐，月晕周期和季节，是紧密联系的。

动物活动和这些周期性事件的关系，特别是日间的节奏，是非常有意思和重要的，因此现在有很多人致力于研究这种关系，并且专门研究这种关

系的项目已经出现，叫做时间生物学。

意群训练：

The relations between animal activity and these periods, particularly for the daily rhythms, have been of such interest and importance that a huge amount of work has been done on them and the special research field of chronobiology has emerged.

23

Normally, the constantly changing levels of an animal's activity—sleeping, feeding, moving, reproducing, metabolizing, and producing enzymes and hormones, for example—are well coordinated with environmental rhythms, but the key question is whether the animal's schedule is driven by external cues, such as sunrise or sunset, or is instead dependent somehow on internal timers that themselves generate the observed biological rhythms.

难句类型：插入成分+冗长修饰

本句的插入成分多而且长，但是对付他们的办法非常简单，就是跳过去，先读主干，本句主干是 **the constantly changing levels of an animal's activity are well coordinated with environmental rhythms**, but the key question is whether the animal's schedule is driven by external cues，所以本句的核心意思就是动物活动经常变化的水平是和环境节奏相协调的，但是关键的问题是动物的节奏是否由外界因素决定的。such as 引导成分直到句子结束都是次要的成分，同学们读的时候只要扫一眼就行了。

译文：

通常地，动物活动，如睡眠，进食，移动，繁殖，新陈代谢和酶和激素的分泌等活动的持续变动水平是一直和环境变化的节奏保持一致的，但有

一个关键的问题是：生物钟表是由外界因素，如日出日落，影响，还是自身内在的生物钟决定的？

意群训练：

Normally, the constantly changing levels of an animal's activity— sleeping, feeding, moving, reproducing, metabolizing, and

producing enzymes and hormones, for example— are well coordinated with environmental rhythms, but the key question is whether

the animal's schedule is driven by external cues, such as sunrise or sunset, or is instead dependent somehow on internal

timers that themselves generate the observed biological rhythms.

24

Indeed, stability of the biological clock's period is one of its major features, even when the organism's environment is subjected to considerable changes in factors, such as temperature, that would be expected to affect biological activity strongly.

难句类型：复杂修饰+插入成分

本句的主句结构其实特别简单就是 stability is one of its major features, even when 引导的状语从句 the organism's environment is

subjected to considerable changes in factors,然后用 such as 引导了列举 temperature,之后再用 that 引导从句来说明 temperature would be expected to affect biological activity strongly.

译文：

事实上，即使有机体受到外界因素，如温度，强烈改变的影响，有机体内生物钟的稳定性是影响生物活动的一个主要因素。

意群训练：

Indeed, stability of the biological clock's period is one of its major features, even when the organism's environment is subjected to considerable changes in factors, such as temperature, that would be expected to affect biological activity strongly.

25

Therefore, when observational assessment is used as a technique for studying infant perceptual abilities, care must be taken not to overgeneralize from the data or to rely on one or two studies as conclusive evidence of a particular perceptual ability

of the infant.

难句类型：复杂修饰

本句先用 when 引导了一个状语从句 observational assessment is used as a technique for studying infant perceptual abilities,主句是 care must be taken, 然后 not to overgeneralize

from the data or to rely on one or two studies 来修饰这个谓语，最后由 as 引导的句子
conclusive evidence of a particular perceptual ability of the infant 来修饰 studies。

译文：

因此，当观测评估作为一项技术来研究婴儿的感知能力，必须小心不要把过度归纳的数据或者依赖于一两个研究作为特定的婴儿感知能力的确凿

证据。

意群训练：

Therefore, when observational assessment is used as a technique for studying infant perceptual abilities, care must be taken not to overgeneralize from the data or to rely on one or two studies as conclusive evidence of a particular perceptual ability of the infant