

but 在高考阅读理解中的功能

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通过研究近几年广东高考阅读理解试题,我们会发现 but 或 however 重现率极高,且有很强的启示功能,对我们判断上下文文意、推断作者的态度、判明人物心理、理清文章层次都具有举足轻重的作用。考生在文段中如遇到 but 或 however,其后的信息很可能就是文章或段落的中心思想,应特别关注。笔者以2010 及 2011 年广东高考题为例,分析 but 或 however 在阅读理解文段中的功能作用。

一、引出作者观点,反驳 but 前面的观点(普遍观点)

其模式为"普遍观点 + but + 作者观点",利用 but 的这一功能,我们能快速找出作者观点。

例 1: (2011 广东 A) In the animal kingdom, weakness can bring about aggression in other animal. This sometimes happens with humans also. **But** I have found that my weakness brings out the kindness in people. I see it every day when people hold doors for me, pour cream into my coffee, or help me to put on my coat. And I have discovered that it makes them happy.

30. Which of the following is the best title for the passage?

- A. A Wheelchair Experience
- B. Weakness and Kindness
- C. Weakness and Strength
- D. A Driving Experience

分析: 答案为 B。文章开头作者提出了普遍观点, 紧跟着用一个 but 引出了自己的观点, 主题句是 But I have found that my weakness brings out the kindness in people, 由此可提炼出两个关键词 Weakness 和 Kindness。

例 2: (2010 广东 B)When something goes wrong,it can be very satisfying to say, "Well, it's so-and-so's fault." or "I know I'm late, but it's not my fault; the car broke down." It is probably not your fault, but once you form the habit of blaming somebody or something else for a bad situation, you are a loser. You have no power and could do nothing that helps change the situation. However, you can have great power over what happens to you if you stop focusing on whom to blame and start focusing on how to remedy the situation. This is the winner's key to success.

- 46. According to the passage, winners
- A. deal with problems rather than blame others
- B. meet with fewer difficulties in their lives
- C. have responsible and able colleagues
- D. blame themselves rather that others
- 分析: 答案为 A, 作者在陈述普遍观点的前提下用

however 表转折, 引出自己的观点, 即 you can have great power over what happens to you if you stop focusing on whom to blame and start focusing on how to remedy the situation, 据此可知成功者是解决问题而

非责备他人。

二、通过对比引出相反或相对的信息。

利用 but 的这一功能,我们能快速地推断出作者 真正要表达的信息及上下文的意义对比。

例 3: (2011 广东 A) From my wheelchair experience, I see the best in people, **but** sometimes I feel sad because those who appear independent miss the kindness I see daily. They don't get to see this soft side of others often; we try every way possible to avoid showing our weakness, which includes a lot of pretending. But only when we stop pretending we're brave or strong do we allow people to show the kindness that's in them.

- The author feels sad sometimes because _____.
- A. he has a soft heart
- B. he relies much on others
- C. some people pretend to be kind
- D. some people fail to see the kindness in others

分析:答案为 D,本段开头作者陈述了自己的经验体会,紧接着用一个 but 引出了大多数人与之相反的经历体会,即 miss the kindness I see daily。

例4: (2011 广东 C) The position was offered at the last minute, and I was given two weeks to prepare, a period I spent searching for briefcase (公文包) and standing before my full-length mirror, repeating the words, "Hello, class. I'm Mr. Davis." Sometimes I would give myself an aggressive voice. Sometimes I would sound experienced. But when the day eventually came, my nerves kicked in and the true Mr. Davis was there. I sounded not like a thoughtful professor, but rather a 12-year-old boy.

- 37. What can we learn about the author from Paragraph 2?
 - A. He would be aggressive in his first class.
 - B. He was well-prepared for his first class.
 - C. He got nervous upon the arrival of his first class.
 - D. He waited long for the arrival of his first class.
- 分析:答案为 C。本段第三句介绍了作者有时是显得"有经验的" (experienced),紧接着用一个 but 引出了第一节课到来时他的紧张,即 my nerves kicked in。

三、显示作者态度或建议

利用 but 的这一功能,我们能快速地推断出作者 对某一件事或某人所持的真正态度或给出的建议。

例 5: (2011 广东 A) Sometimes situations call for us to act strong and brave even when we don't feel that way.