

2009年12月英语四级阅读考试训练(二九)英语四级考试 PDF转换可能丢失图片或格式，建议阅读原文

https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/645/2021_2022_2009_E5_B9_B412_E6_c83_645734.htm tb42"> 建议做题时间：8.5分钟

As regards social conventions, we must say a word about the well-known English class system. This is an embarrassing subject for English people, and one they tend to be ashamed of, though during the present century class-consciousness has grown less and less, and the class system less rigid. But it still exists below the surface. Broadly speaking, it means there are two classes, the “ middle class ” and the “ working class ” . (We shall ignore for a moment the old “ upper class ” , including the hereditary aristocracy, since it is extremely small in numbers. but some of its members have the right to sit in the House of Lords, and some newspapers take a surprising interest in their private life. The middle class consists chiefly of well-to-do businessmen and professional people of all kinds. The working class consists chiefly of manual and unskilled workers. 本文来自:百考试题网 The most obvious difference between them is in their accent. Middle-class people use slightly varying kinds of “ received pronunciation ” which is the kind of English spoken by BBC announcers and taught to overseas pupils. Typical working-class people speak in many different local accents which are generally felt to be rather ugly and uneducated. One of the biggest barriers of social equality in England is the two-class education system. To have been to a so-called “ public school ” immediately marks you out as one of the middle class. The

middle classes tend to live a more formal life than working-class people, and are usually more cultured. Their midday meal is “ lunch ” and they have a rather formal evening meal called “ dinner ” , whereas the working man ’ s dinner, if his working hours permit, is at midday, and his smaller, late-evening meal is called supper. As we have said, however, the class system is much less rigid than it was, and for a long time it has been government policy to reduce class distinctions. Working-class students very commonly receive a university education and enter the professions, and working-class incomes have grown so much recently that the distinctions between the two classes are becoming less and less clear. However, regardless of one ’ s social status, certain standards of politeness are expected of everybody, and a well-bred person is polite to everyone he meets, and treats a labourer with the same respect he gives an important businessman. Servility inspires both embarrassment and dislike. Even the word “ sir ” , except in school and in certain occupations (e.g. commerce, the army etc.) sounds too servile to be commonly used.

1. The middle class mainly refers to people . A. who were born as aristocrat B. who have the right to sit in the House of Lords C. who speak in many different local accents D. who are prosperous businessmen or who work in some professions
2. The most obvious difference between the working class and the middle class in English is their . A. dress B. work C. accent D. meal
3. Why isn't the word "sir" commonly used in Britain? A. Because it sounds too servile and is likely to cause embarrassment. B. Because it can only be used in some certain occupations. C. Because it is an impolite word. D.

Because it shows that the speaker is not a well-bred person. 4. The "upper class" in England today . A. are extremely small in number so that media pays no attention to them B. still uses old words like "Sir" in their everyday life C. includes the hereditary aristocracy D. refers only to the royal family 5. Which of the following is not true about the English class system? A. It is an embarrassing subject for English people. B. Working-class students cannot receive a university education. C. The class system is much less rigid than it was. D. The class system still exists below the surface. 难句突破 请翻译以下两句 1. This is an embarrassing subject for English people, and one they tend to be ashamed of, though during the present century class-consciousness has grown less and less, and the class system less rigid. 2. Working-class students very commonly receive a university education and enter the professions, and working-class incomes have grown so much recently that the distinctions between the two classes are becoming less and less clear. 1. convention n. 习俗 2. embarrass v. 使困窘 3. rigid adj. 严格 4. hereditary adj. 世袭的 5. manual adj. 体力的 6. accent n. 口音 7. received pronunciation adj. (英语的)标准发音 8. well-bred adj. 有教养的 9. servility n. 卑屈 10. occupation n. 职业 答案 【短文大意】本文主要讲述英国等级意识虽然越来越淡，但在表层下，等级仍然存在。而"阶层"的最大区别是他们的口音。 1. D细节题。意为"那些比较富裕的生意人或有一定的职业的人"。见第一段的倒数第二句：中产阶级主要包括富裕的生意人和有一定的职业的人。所以正确答案应该是 D。 2. C细节题。意为"口音"。见第二段的第一句：他们之间最明显的区别是他们的口音

。所以正确答案应该是 C。 3. A推断题。意为"因为它听起来太过谦卑，很可能会引起尴尬"。见文章的最后两句：谦卑会引起尴尬和不悦。甚至像"先生"这样的词，除了在特定的职业中(如商业、军队)外，也不太常用，因为它听起来太过谦卑。所以正确答案应该是 A。 4. C细节题。A选项前半是对的。上流社会人数很少，后半是错的，媒体还在关注他们，注意一定要看清楚再选。B选项相关内容在文末。D没有提到。B在第一段中间出现，是正确答案。 5. B细节题。意为"来自工人阶级家庭的学生不能接受大学教育"。见第三段第二句的前半句：来自工人阶级家庭的学生接受大学教育并且某种职业的情况已十分普遍。所以选项 B的答案与文章不相符，是正确答案。

长难句解析 【解析】这是一个复合句，主句由"and"引导的两个并列句组成，"though"引导的让步状语从句，也是由两个并列的句子组成。 【译文】尽管本世纪等级意识越来越淡，等级制度也越来越不严格，但对于英国人来说它仍是一个尴尬的话题，仍旧引以为耻。 【解析】这是一个复合句，由"and"引导的两个并列句组成，"so...that"作"grown"的状语。 【译文】劳工家庭中的孩子上大学成为非常平常的事情，此后他们也加入各种专业行当。劳工阶层的工资近来也快速增长，使得两个阶层间的界线越来越模糊。

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