2011年公共英语考试四级阅读辅导(3) 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_2011_E5_B9_B4_E5_85_AC_c88_645178.htm 为了帮助各位参加2011年下半年全国英语四级考试的考生有效备考，小编特搜集整理了2011年公共英语考试四级阅读辅导(3)，供学习参考。
Passage Three （Method of Scientific Inquiry） Why the inductive and mathematical sciences, after their first rapid development at the culmination of Greek civilization, advanced so slowly for two thousand years-and why in the following two hundred years a knowledge of natural and mathematical science has accumulated, which so vastly exceeds all that was previously known that these sciences may be justly regarded as the products of our own times-are questions which have interested the modern philosopher not less than the objects with which these sciences are more immediately conversant. Was it the employment of a new method of research, or in the exercise of greater virtue in the use of the old methods, that this singular modern phenomenon had its origin? Was the long period one of arrested development, and is the modern era one of normal growth? Or should we ascribe the characteristics of both periods to so-called historical accidents-to the influence of conjunctions in circumstances of which no explanation is possible, save in the omnipotence and wisdom of a guiding Providence? The explanation which has become commonplace, that the ancients employed deduction chiefly in their scientific inquiries, while the moderns employ induction, proves to be too narrow, and fails upon close

examination to point with sufficient distinctness the contrast that is evident between ancient and modern scientific doctrines and inquiries. For all knowledge is founded on observation, and proceeds from this by analysis, by synthesis and analysis, by induction and deduction, and if possible by verification, or by new appeals to observation under the guidance of deduction-by steps which are indeed correlative parts of one method. and the ancient sciences afford examples of every one of these methods, or parts of one method, which have been generalized from the examples of science. A failure to employ or to employ adequately any one of these partial methods, an imperfection in the arts and resources of observation and experiment, carelessness in observation, neglect of relevant facts, by appeal to experiment and observation-these are the faults which cause all failures to ascertain truth, whether among the ancients or the moderns. but this statement does not explain why the modern is possessed of a greater virtue, and by what means he attained his superiority. Much less does it explain the sudden growth of science in recent times. The attempt to discover the explanation of this phenomenon in the antithesis of “ facts ” and “ theories ” or “ facts ” and “ ideas ” -in the neglect among the ancients of the former, and their too exclusive attention to the latter-proves also to be too narrow, as well as open to the charge of vagueness. For in the first place, the antithesis is not complete. Facts and theories are not coordinate species. Theories, if true, are facts-a particular class of facts indeed, generally complex, and if a logical connection subsists between their constituents, have all the positive attributes of theories.

Nevertheless, this distinction, however inadequate it may be to explain the source of true method in science, is well founded, and connotes an important character in true method. A fact is a proposition of simple. A theory, on the other hand, if true has all the characteristics of a fact, except that its verification is possible only by indirect, remote, and difficult means. To convert theories into facts is to add simple verification, and the theory thus acquires the full characteristics of a fact. 1. The title that best expresses the ideas of this passage is [A]. Philosophy of mathematics. [B]. The Recent Growth in Science. [C]. The Verification of Facts. [D]. Methods of Scientific Inquiry. 2. According to the author, one possible reason for the growth of science during the days of the ancient Greeks and in modern times is [A]. the similarity between the two periods. [B]. that it was an act of God. [C]. that both tried to develop the inductive method. [D]. due to the decline of the deductive method. 3. The difference between “ fact ” and “ theory ” [A]. is that the latter needs confirmation. [B]. rests on the simplicity of the former. [C]. is the difference between the modern scientists and the ancient Greeks. [D]. helps us to understand the deductive method. 4. According to the author, mathematics is [A]. an inductive science. [B]. in need of simple verification. [C]. a deductive science. [D]. based on fact and theory. 5. The statement “ Theories are facts ” may be called. [A]. a metaphor. [B]. a paradox. [C]. an appraisal of the inductive and deductive methods. [D]. a pun. Vocabulary 1. inductive 归纳法 2. deductive 演绎法 3. culmination 到达顶/极点 4. conversant （with） 熟悉的，精通的 5. exercise 运用，实行，执行仪式 6.

singular 卓越的，非凡的，独一无二的 7. conjunction 结合 8. omnipotence 全能，无限权/威力 9. Providence （大写）指 10. commonplace 平凡的，陈腐的 11. inquiry 调查，探究（真理，知识等） 更多推荐： #0000ff>2011年公共英语考试四级阅读辅导(2) #0000ff>2011年公共英语考试四级阅读辅导(1) 热点信息： #0000ff>2011年下半年全国英语等级考试报名时间汇总 #0000ff>2011年上半年全国英语等级考试成绩查询时间及入口 考试培训： 为了帮助考生更快捷地通过全国公共英语等级考试，百考试题网校特推出#ff0000>网校辅导课程，该课程由百考试题网校权威专家主讲，课件全部采用视频授课形式呈现给广大学员，学员可以随时报名参加学习，课程自付费之日起#ff0000>可以随时、反复学习。#0000ff> 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com