

大学英语 阅读与文化翻译

1



College English:
Reading and
Cultural Translation 1

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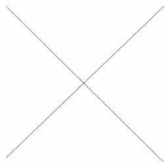
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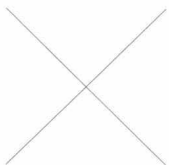
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前言

在英语诸多技能的实践中, 阅读实践无疑是非常重要的, 因为无论是从丰富词汇量还是扩展文化知识的角度来说, 阅读都是重要而又方便的信息来源。根据外语学习理论, 外语学习者使用外语的水平取决于他所接受的外语信息输入的数量与质量, 学习大量的、可理解的、真实而又实用的英语阅读材料是英语学习进步的基本保证。此外, 随着中国国力的增强, 中华文化走出去战略的重要性日益彰显, 因此介绍中华文明和文化已经日益成为英语学习的重要目的之一。但长期以来, 国内的英语教学重点主要放在如何解读国外的各种科学技术和文化信息上, 对于如何教会学生用规范的英语介绍中国的现代文明和传统文化方面做得还不够, 甚至许多英语专业的毕业生都无法较为自如地用英语表达中国的文化精粹。因此, 本套教材的编写紧密围绕英语阅读技能训练和中华文化相关话题的汉译英技能训练这两个当今英语教学的核心问题, 充分注意了阅读材料的题材和体裁多样化、真实性和实用性, 尽量广泛地涉及日常英语使用中的各种话题。对于汉译英的训练, 编者采用了展示中华文明与体现天津特色相结合的方法, 每册将汉译英的训练分为两个部分: 第一部分精心选取了中国历史文化中最有代表性的 20 个话题和参考译文供学生学习领会文化翻译的特点, 第二部分则选取了天津区域文化的 10 个话题, 要求学生模仿第一部分中的参考译文对这 10 个话题的内容进行翻译。

本套教材的另一个特点就是在训练材料的内容和难度编排上都贴近大学英语四六级考试的基本要求, 使教材更好地服务于大学英语教学。本套教材的全体编写人员都具有丰富的英语教学经验, 感谢他们在繁忙的教学工作之余牺牲自己的休息时间, 多次开会探讨编写方案, 反复修改初稿, 最终编写出了这套特色鲜明而又实用的教材。两位总主编负责审定全部稿件, 杨颖重点审定英语阅读部分, 顾钢重点审定汉译英部分。我们尤其要感谢美国专家 Harris Ives 教授对于天津区域文化部分的参考译文所给予的修改建议。高等教育出版社相关工作人员孙宁、汪于祺责任编辑的认真工作也为本教材增色不少, 在此一并感谢。

总主编 顾钢

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2015 年 6 月 1 日

郑重声明

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Getting to Know People



Part One

Reading Comprehension

Section A

Matching

Match the words in the left column as used in the passage with their appropriate explanations in the right column.

1. completely

2. acquaintance

3. promote

4. reception

5. pledge

a. not regularly

b. a chance to do something or an occasion when it is easy for someone to do something

c. the limit of one's idea, knowledge, and experience

d. field on which the buildings of a university are situated

e. feeling or showing a lot of interest and excitement

6. convenience
7. function
8. contact
9. organize
10. hesitating
11. enthusiastic
12. campus
13. horizon
14. opportunity
15. occasionally

- about something
- f. be slow to act, speak, or decide
 - g. put someone or something into working order; make arrangements or preparations for something
 - h. a large gathering of people for pleasure or on some special occasion
 - i. reach someone by message, telephone, etc.
 - j. the state of being suitable; freedom from trouble or difficulty
 - k. make a formal promise that one will do something
 - l. formal social occasion to welcome someone
 - m. help something to develop or increase
 - n. personal knowledge or information about someone or something
 - o. wholly, totally

Passage A

Read the passage and do the exercises.

A Welcome Letter

30th June, 2014

Dear friends,

Warm welcome!

On behalf of the Chinese Student Association (CSA) of the Louisiana State University, we welcome you to join this University, and we 1 to offer you our best service.

In the past few weeks, the CSA has occasionally organized small “get-togethers” to put you newcomers in touch with senior students, to make acquaintance with them, and to learn from them about life on 2. Between July and August, the CSA will offer free airport pick-up service to newcomers from China. Please 3 us if you need assistance.

At the beginning of the fall semester, the CSA will organize a city-tour followed by a welcome 4. On 5th October, the eve of the Mid-autumn Festival, the CSA is throwing

the annual BBQ party. Please mark your calendar now! Another function 5 by the CSA in the fall semester is a networking event in November, about the time of Thanksgiving, in which you can make 6 with other students from China.

If you feel 7 about jump-starting a new university life with more interesting work, come and join our Association; do not waste a minute 8! Being a member of the CSA will help you broaden your 9, meet more people, and more importantly, take advantage of the opportunity to experience life in the university and the city more fully!

Last but not the least, please feel free to contact us any time at your 10. Questions about the university and suggestions for the work of the CSA are always welcome.

Thank you very much for your time and patience in reading this letter. We wish you a wonderful four-year life ahead!

Yours sincerely,
Chinese Student Association
Louisiana State University

(288 words)

Notes

1. BBQ: barbecue 烧烤
2. Thanksgiving: the fourth Thursday of November — a public holiday in the US and in Canada when families have a large meal together to celebrate and be thankful for food, health, families, etc. 感恩节

Filling the Blanks

Select one word for each blank from the word bank given below. Each choice in the bank is identified by a letter. You may not use any of the words in the bank more than once.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| A) completely | B) reception | C) functions | D) hesitating |
| E) horizons | F) acquaintance | G) pledge | H) contact |
| I) enthusiastic | J) opportunity | K) promoted | L) convenience |
| M) organized | N) campus | O) occasionally | |

Section B

Finding Indexes

For each sentence, try to decide some words and phrases as indexes to help you locate the sentence in Passage B.

1. It is not very easy to break the ice and to start the conversation with someone.
2. Many people may be in the same building or in the same school for years without saying anything to each other.
3. You should be neither too confident nor too shy if you want to get to know others.
4. Don't ask personal questions if you do not know the person very well.
5. If you want people to like you and want to get to know you, you need to be polite.
6. If you meet a young man in the same school several times, you can just go over and say hello to him, and from then on, you may possibly begin to know each other better.
7. Learning how to start a conversation is just a kind of social skill.
8. Do not worry too much if someone is a bit blunt with you, acts strangely, or seems disinterested the first couple of times you speak to them.
9. Frank and Mary work for different companies in the same building.
10. Don't try to seek revenge if someone is always rude to you, because you need to know that not everyone is interested in being your friend.

Passage B

Read the passage and do the exercises.

How to Start a Conversation With Someone

A Do you want to overcome shyness or anxiety and be confident? Do you want to make effortless conversation with anyone? Do you want to make friends and get dates easily? Learning how to start a conversation is half the battle. Some people seem to naturally know how to start a conversation, while some people think breaking the ice and starting to talk to someone can be very difficult. Someone you have never spoken to before can seem big and scary. Here are some useful ways of getting people talking that I have figured out.

B Be polite

If you want people to like you and want to get to know you, politeness helps a lot.

I am not saying you should always flatter them, but treat them with respect. There is a trend for being rude these days that comes from the movies and TV. It is fun to watch, but that is not how the real world works. When Clint Eastwood is rude and nasty, it is fascinating — when you are rude or nasty, you are just someone who is not worth having anything to do with. Everyone knows what you are supposed to do: to be polite — put it into practice and you will go far with making new friends.

C If it is someone you have seen before, say “hello”

It is amazing how many people will be in the same office, same school or on the same bus for years and never speak. Simply say “hi” to a person you see regularly and you will move from being a stranger towards being a friend.

D Practice shy confidence

While shyness and confidence are obviously opposites, you can combine them in opening conversation to great effect. Be confident in forcing yourself to speak to other people, but be shy as in letting them know that you respect them enough to worry about their reply. Most people will either try to surprise the other person with their confidence, or never speak to them in the first place. The trick is to combine the two approaches. Simply speaking up with a “How are you?” will break the ice. Then continue with shy, respectful conversation. Most people are not mean enough to reject a politely shy approach.

E Ask questions

This is an old technique, but it works well. Since you do not know the person very well, you do not want to pry into anything too personal to begin with. Just keep it friendly and respectful, do not go into the interrogation mode. Look for something about them to ask which is likely to receive more than just a “yes” or “no” answer — “I like your watch, where did you get it?”, “Are you guys busy up there at the moment?”, “Do you work in the city?”, “Did you watch the tennis match last night?”.

F Find something in common

What you are really looking for is something you have in common that you can begin a conversation with. Here is an example of a man starting a conversation with a woman. They work for different companies in the same building.

Frank: Hi, there, how is it going?

Mary: Fine, thanks.

Frank: Your team seems pretty busy these days. I’ve seen you all rushing around like ants.

Mary: Yeah, we've got the auditors in at the moment.

Frank: Oh, I think they're coming our way next. They're being difficult, aren't they?

Mary: You wouldn't believe it. I've been here until eight every night this week.

Frank: That's no good. Any advice for getting ready for them?

G Do not worry too much if someone is not immediately friendly back to you

Everyone gets nervous when talking to someone they do not know very well. Sometimes we react badly even if we do not mean to. If someone is a bit blunt with you, acts strangely, or seems disinterested the first couple of times you speak to them, do not worry too much. They are probably just nervous and need to get used to the idea that you are just being friendly. Give them a bit of space and time to think it over and often they will come around. You will be surprised how often such people soon earn respect for you when you continue being friendly with them.

H Realize that not everyone is interested in being your friend

Some people are never going to be your friend no matter how hard you try. That is just their loss. They are probably like that with almost everyone anyway, so do not take it personally. If someone is continually rude to you when you are trying to be nice, just shrug your shoulders and move on. While it may be tempting to get revenge, it is often not even worth doing so. Rude people usually do not get ahead in their personal relationships. Their nastiness is probably much more damaging to them than it will ever be to you.

I Learning how to start a conversation is just a process of practicing your social skills. By practicing these new skills until they become your second nature, you will increase your own self-esteem and learn how to start a conversation easily. If you are a little interesting and act with confidence you will appear to be the kind of person people like to have as a friend.

(896 words)

Notes

Clint Eastwood: American motion-picture actor who is regarded as one of the most popular Hollywood stars in the 1970s and a respected director-producer 克林特·伊斯特伍德

Comprehension Checking

Read these ten statements again. Each statement contains information given in one of the paragraphs. Identify the paragraph from which the information is derived. You may choose a paragraph more than once. Each paragraph is marked with a letter.

1. It is not very easy to break the ice and to start the conversation with someone.
2. Many people may be in the same building or in the same school for years without saying anything to each other.
3. You should be neither too confident nor too shy if you want to get to know others.
4. Don't ask personal questions if you do not know the person very well.
5. If you want people to like you and want to get to know you, you need to be polite.
6. If you meet a young man in the same school several times, you can just go over and say hello to him, and from then on, you may possibly begin to know each other better.
7. Learning how to start a conversation is just a kind of social skill.
8. Do not worry too much if someone is a bit blunt with you, acts strangely, or seems disinterested the first couple of times you speak to them.
9. Frank and Mary work for different companies in the same building.
10. Don't try to seek revenge if someone is always rude to you, because you need to know that not everyone is interested in being your friend.

Section C

Finding Alternatives

Choose the words or phrases with the same meaning for the italicized words and phrases in the following sentences.

1. I laughed and enthusiastically *responded*, "Of course you can!" and she gave me a giant squeeze.
 A. answered B. asked C. showed
2. I was curious what had *motivated* her to be taking on this challenge at her age.
 A. forbidden B. encouraged C. taught
3. I *was* always *absorbed in* listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.
 A. was worried about B. was interested in C. was annoyed by

4. She leaned into the **microphone** and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so nervous ..."
- A. a telephone
 - B. an equipment that one speaks into to record the sound
 - C. an equipment that one speaks into to make the sound louder
5. She concluded her speech by **courageously** singing *The Rose*.
- A. respectfully
 - B. bravely
 - C. carefully

Passage C

Read the passage and do the exercises.

Rose

On the first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we had not met before. I stood up and looked around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder.

I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady looking at me whose smile lit up her entire being. She said, "Hi, handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?" I laughed and enthusiastically **responded**, "Of course you can!" and she gave me a giant squeeze. "Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked. She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, have a couple of children, and then retire and travel." "No seriously," I asked. I was curious what had **motivated** her to be taking on this challenge at her age, "I always wanted to have a college education and now I'm getting one!" she told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I **was** always **absorbed in** listening to this "time machine" as she shared her wisdom and experience with me.

Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up.

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I will never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the platform. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed, she leaned into the **microphone** and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so nervous. I'll never get my speech back in order, so let me just tell you what I know."

As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, "We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy and achieving success." "You have to laugh and find humor every day." "You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it!" "There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up. If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding the opportunity in change." "Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets." She concluded her speech by **courageously** singing *The Rose*. She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives.

At the end of the years, Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it is never too late to be all you can possibly be.

Remember, life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you react to it.

(626 words)

Comprehension Checking

Choose the best answer from the four choices given below according to the passage.

1. What is the main idea of this passage?
 - A. Art is long, and life is short.
 - B. It is not easy for old people to learn new things.
 - C. It is never too late to do what you want.
 - D. Genius is 10% inspiration and 90% perspiration.
2. The reason why the old woman entered the college is that _____.
 - A. she wanted to meet a rich husband
 - B. she had dreamed of college education
 - C. she wanted to attract others' attention
 - D. she did not want to grow old

3. How well did Rose get along with others in the university?
 - A. Very badly because of the generation gap.
 - B. Very well because she enjoyed staying with young people.
 - C. Just so-so because she only made one or two friends.
 - D. Very badly because she only paid attention to her lessons.
4. In this passage, "Rose" is _____.
 - A. the name of an old woman
 - B. the song that the old woman taught us
 - C. the flower which the old woman always wore
 - D. both A and B
5. What regret did she have when the old lady died?
 - A. She regretted she could not learn more knowledge.
 - B. She regretted she could not share her life experience with more students.
 - C. She regretted she could not put what she had learned into reality.
 - D. She had no regrets.



Part Two

Chinese-English Translation

Section A

Translation Study

Study the following passages of Chinese-English translation.

段落
翻译

瓷器

英语中的“china”一词有两个意义，一个是中国，一个是瓷器 (porcelain)。西方人很早就把中国与瓷器联系在一起，这是因为制瓷技术是中国人发明的。瓷器是从陶器 (pottery) 发展来的，如果从生产原始瓷器的商代 (Shang Dynasty) 算起，中国的瓷器大约有3 000多年的历史了。中国的制瓷技术从东汉 (Eastern Han Dynasty) 以后发展很快，各个历史时期都出现了别具特色的制作瓷器的名窑 (kilns) 和陶瓷新品种。

1

参考
译文

Porcelain

China has two meanings in English: China as a country and china as porcelain. Westerners have linked the country of China with porcelain since a long time ago, because the technique of manufacturing porcelain was originally invented in China. Porcelain was developed on the basis of pottery. If calculated from the appearance of the primitive porcelain in the Shang Dynasty (C. 1600BC–C. 1046BC), porcelain has a history of about 3,000 years. The techniques of manufacturing porcelain have developed rapidly since the Eastern Han Dynasty (25–220). There constantly came forth famous kilns producing various porcelain products with unique features.

段落
翻译

风筝

风筝，古时候也叫纸鸢、鹞子，是中国人发明的。相传2 000多年前，中国著名的能工巧匠鲁班用竹木削制成了会飞的木鸢 (magpie)。五代 (Five Dynasties) 时，李邕用纸扎糊成鹰形纸鸢，放飞到天空。后来，古人又在纸鸢头上安了丝弦，风吹丝弦，发出了好像古筝一样的声音，从此，人们把纸鸢称为风筝。

参考
译文

A Kite

A kite, also called Zhiyuan or Yaozi in ancient China, was invented by the Chinese people. It is said that more than 2,000 years ago, Lu Ban, a well-known ingenious carpenter, made a bamboo magpie that could fly. During the Five Dynasties period (907–960), a man named Li Ye invented a paper kite in the shape of an eagle and flew it in the sky. Later on, people began to fix strings on the kite. The kite would ring like a Zheng (an ancient Chinese musical instrument) when the wind blows the strings. Thereafter, Zhiyuan was called Fengzheng (since Feng means wind in Chinese).