



初中英语

阅读 与 测试

主编 陈渊

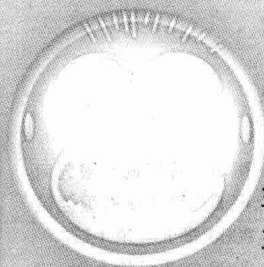
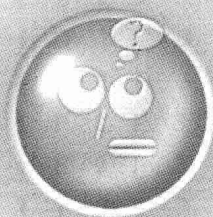
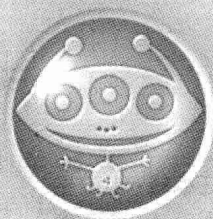
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初中英语

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前 言

在历史跨入新世纪的今天,经济全球化进程日益加速,其影响已深入到全社会各个方面。作为世界性语言的英语已成为国际间沟通、交流必不可少的工具。随着我国经济的快速持续发展,综合国力不断增强,我国各领域各个层面涉外活动日益频繁。在这种形势下,全国范围内的“外语热”便悄然兴起。尤其是英语教育,如今已受到举国上下从未有过的重视。对于广大青年学生来说,这无疑是绝好的客观环境。通过良好的学校教育,近二十年来,已经涌现了一批又一批学有所成的优秀外语人才。不过,就在学青年而论,在英语学习过程中,长期存在这样或那样困难,或学习上事倍功半的问题却不在少数。例如,不少勤奋青年废寝忘食地死记硬背大量单词释义,过于迷信商业运作介入后的某些所谓的英语速成法,造成了不少学习上的误区,以致不少学生误以为只要精读课本,熟记大量生词,不断扩大词汇量,便可精通英语,运用自如。殊不知,忽视英语泛读,不保持精读、泛读的适当比例并持之以恒,英语学习效果必然大打折扣。其实,历来英语教学大纲均有明确规定:中学英语教学目的是对学生进行听、说、读、写的综合训练,培养他们在口头上和书面文字上运用英语的基本能力,其中十分侧重培养阅读能力。现行大纲也着重指出,提高学生英语阅读能力,单纯通过课文教学是不易达到的,必须指导学生在课外阅读相当数量的原著,而绝不是突击记忆大量单词能够毕其功于一役的。这充分表明,英语精读与泛读是相辅相成、不可偏废的,而且要保持适当的阅读量比例,并持之以恒。

然而,教育系统调查材料显示,包括上海在内的华东地区以及内地,一般普通中学生读到高中毕业,除教材课文外,从未看过任何英文原著,也未读过经压缩简写的阅读材料的学生,绝非少数。有些条件较差的学校,甚至连教材规定的课文也未读完。至于偏远地区或经济发展相对滞后地区,连英语教师也难得见到不同题材、体裁的英文阅读材料;不读英文原著更是不足为怪了。

近年来,上述情况有所改变。各地区不少学校均加强了英语阅读能力的培养,其中沿海发达地区有些学校还进行了阅读能力强化训练的实验。结果表明,凡参加英语阅读能力强化训练的学生,课内英语知识、技能的巩固和熟练程度、综合运用英语的能力,以及阅读速度,均高于没有参加强化训练的学生。因此,坚持精读、泛读并举,使精读、泛读量始终保持适当比例是十分必要的。

目前,中学生课本精读量与课外泛读量的比例,在发达地区一般为1:1~1:1.5。重点中学二者之比充其量不过1:2左右,这与教学大纲的要求仍有相当距离。按要求,初中一般应不少于1:3;高中应不少于1:4,以适应高校新生泛读量保持在高于精读量4~5倍左右的要求。为达到这一基本要求,就必须从中学抓起,抓得越早越好。

有鉴于此,编者根据英语教学目的和要求,综合考察了各地区的情况,有针对性地编写了这套《英语阅读与测试》丛书。这套丛书共分初中和高中两个阶段,每阶段三册,分别适应初一至初三和高一至高三学生的需要。为了照顾到不同地区、不同学校英语水平各异的实际情况,我们有意地在以上两个阶段的每册书中,选编了难度有所差别、具有一定跨度的阅读材料。广大师生可视自身情况和教学实际需要加以使用。

本套丛书的编写均与现行英语教材精读课文密切联系。无论在原文题材、体裁上,抑或语法内容上,均力求做到与课内教材同步,以期达到事半功倍的效果。此外,为了适应学生迎考需要,初、高中之第三册,均分别编列了英语中考和高考仿真模拟试卷各两套,供广大师生使用。

本套丛书的每一册均附列了各单元阅读理解答案和练习答案;初中第三册和高中第三册还附列了模拟试卷的全套答案,供师生检索参考。

在本套丛书的编写过程中,参与编写工作的各位经验丰富的重点中学英语高级教师,密切配合主编,做了不少工作,尤其在练习的编写上,提高了针对性;编写过程中还蒙退休老教师程敏芳女士参与了部分具体工作,上海远东出版社给予了热情的支持和帮助,特在此一并表示由衷的感谢。相信这套丛书的出版,必将有利于英语教学工作,并有助于广大初、高中学生提高英语阅读能力。

这套《英语阅读与测试》丛书共六册,工作量较大。尽管已有前期资料准备,但实际编写过程中仍感时间紧、任务重,其中难免不足之处。希望广大师生多提宝贵意见和建议,以便今后修订。

主编 陈 渊

于上海外国语大学

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Reference Answers



Unit One Culture and Customs



Passage I

What Does Uncle Sam Mean?

Did you know that everyone in America has one relative in common? Have you ever heard of Uncle Sam? Who is this Uncle Sam? Where did he come from? What does he look like? And if he's everyone's uncle, where does he go for family dinners?

Well, Uncle Sam is not a real person. He was created sometime during the War of 1812 to symbolize the United States of America. Where did the name come from? No one is really sure, but most people think he was named for Samuel Wilson.

Samuel Wilson was born in Massachusetts in 1766. He moved to New York, where he became a meat supplier. There, he put meat into barrels to send to United States armies. The barrels of meat were marked with the letters "U. S." to show that they came from the United States. One story says that the soldiers jokingly called the meat supplier "Uncle Sam" to stand for the letters on the barrels. Since the meat came from the American government, when people thought of Uncle Sam they thought of the government.

Even though Uncle Sam is thought to have gotten his name from Samuel Wilson, the drawings that cartoonists created in the 1800's looked nothing like him. A cartoonist named Thomas Nast was the first to draw him the way he is most often drawn today. He is usually

drawn as a tall, thin, white haired man. He wears a blue coat over red and white striped pants, with a top hat on his head. Have you ever seen him?

Uncle Sam seems to show up just about everywhere today. Some places you might want to look for him are television, newspapers, magazines, and history books. He's even shown up in cartoons!

New Words and Expressions

common *n.* 共同

cartoonists *n.* 画家

symbolize *v.* 象征

create *v.* 创造

supplier *n.* 供应商

striped pants 条纹裤子

barrel *n.* 桶

Main Points for Reading

1. have sth. in common 有共同点。

这是常用词组,其用法如 *Peter and Tom are good friends. They have almost everything in common, such as hair style, hobbies and favourite stars.* 彼得和汤姆是好朋友,他们几乎每件事都有共同点,比如发型、兴趣和喜欢的明星。

2. symbolize *v.* 象征。symbol *n.* 符号,记号,象征。

He was created sometime during the War of 1812 to symbolize the United States of America. 他是在 1812 年战争的某一时期被创造出来象征美国的。

句中的 He 指代 Uncle Sam (山姆大叔)。

3. stand for 代表,表示;支持,主张;忍耐,容忍。

stand for 是个使用频率较高的惯用词组,如 *CPC stands for the Communist Party of China. / You should stand for what is right. / I will not stand for their behaving like that.*

应注意,作“忍耐,容忍”解时,该词组多用于否定句,如上面最后一个例句。

4. show up 出现,显现出来,相当于 to appear, be able to be seen.
如: The mark *shows up* only in the strong sunlight.
5. Since the meat came from the American government, when people thought of Uncle Sam they thought of the government. 由于肉来自美国政府,(所以)当人们想到山姆大叔的时候,人们就想到政府。
句中 since 引导的是原因状语从句。

True or False

- () 1. The real Uncle Sam wears a blue coat over red and white striped pants with a top hat on his head.
- () 2. The letters "U. S. " stand for United States of America.
- () 3. Uncle Sam shows up everywhere today.
- () 4. Uncle Sam is every American's uncle.

**Passage 2****Festivals Are Fun, Fun, Fun!**

With the Double Ninth Festival coming on October 30 and Halloween on October 31, many people are asking this question: Should Chinese kids celebrate Western festivals? I think the answer is Yes, Yes and Yes!

It is not that important what each festival stands for, because every festival is about having a good time. Anybody can do that! Festivals are a great chance to learn about other cultures — and in a fun way.

Halloween is one of my favourites. When I was younger, we would go trick or treating on Halloween. All the kids would dress up

in costumes and go door-to-door yelling “trick or treat”! At each house, we’d get candies and chocolate. Things haven’t changed much for me. This Halloween I’ll be going to a party where everyone will dress up. I’m lazy, so I’ll just throw a white sheet over my head, cut out two holes for eyes and call myself a ghost.

I hope that there are lots of Chinese people — young and old — having Halloween parties of their own this year. It’s a good way to bring people together.

In fact, not only should Chinese kids commemorate Western holidays, but Western kids should start celebrating Chinese holidays. It would be great for me to go back to Canada and see all the children giving each other moon cakes on the Mid-autumn Festival or lighting fireworks on the Chinese New Year.

So, join the fun and have a happy Halloween and a great Double Ninth Festival!

New Words and Expressions

Double Ninth Festival 重阳节

ghost *n.* 鬼, 幽灵

Halloween 万圣节前夕

yell *n.* 大叫

trick or treat 不给吃的就捣蛋

commemorate *v.* 纪念

costume *n.* 戏服

Main Points for Reading

1. It is not that important what each festival stands for.

句中 what 引导的是一个主语从句。为了句子的平衡,将主语从句置后。该句也可表达为:

What each festival stands for is not that important. 每一个节日代表了什么,并不是那么重要的。

2. I’m lazy, so I’ll just throw a white sheet over my head, cut out two holes for eyes and call myself a ghost. 我很懒,所以我把一

条白色床单盖在头上,挖了两个洞露出眼睛,自称为幽灵。

3. I hope that there are lots of Chinese people — young and old — having Halloween parties of their own this year. 我希望今年有许多中国人,无论老少都能够有他们自己的万圣节派对。注意, hope 常可搭用 that 引导的宾语从句,如本句中的 that there are ...

True or False

- () 1. Chinese kids should celebrate western festivals instead of Chinese festivals.
- () 2. Festivals are a great chance for us to learn about other cultures.
- () 3. I will dress up as a ghost to go trick or treating this Halloween.
- () 4. Both Chinese and Western children should know about other cultures.
- () 5. Festivals are very important to us because we can have fun.



Passage 3

Australia

Australia is the world's biggest island country. It is located in the southern part of the earth. So when people are having a hot summer there, we have a cold winter here.

Australia has a large area, but it has only a population of over 18,000,000.

The weather in Australia is neither too hot nor too cold. In many

places of this beautiful land, you can either take a walk in the rain forests or go for a swim in its warm seas.

Canberra is the capital of Australia. But to visit the world-famous Opera House, you must go to Sydney. Sydney is the largest city of this country.

Australia has long been a farming country. People call it "a country on a sheep's back". There, you can find lots of sheep and kangaroos. Alice Spring and Ayers Rock — the biggest rock on earth, are two interesting places in the center to many foreign visitors. The Rock rises 348.7 metres above the ground, and the scenery is so magnificent that you can't believe that it changes its colour in the sunlight if you do not see it for yourself.

So, when you go traveling around Australia, there will be lots of things to see and lots of places to visit.

New Words and Expressions

kangaroo *n.* 袋鼠

magnificent *adj.* 壮丽的

Main Points for Reading

1. The scenery is so magnificent that you can't believe that it changes its colour in the sunlight if you do not see it for yourself.

风景太壮观了,除非你亲眼目睹,否则你不会相信它的颜色在阳光下能变化。

句中 if not = unless, 可解释为“除非”。so ... that 引导的是结果状语从句。

True or False

- () 1. Australia is the second biggest island country in the world.

- () 2. Australia is a country with a larger area and fewer people.
- () 3. It often snows in Australia.
- () 4. Sydney is famous for its Opera House.
- () 5. Alice Spring is located in the middle of the country.
- () 6. The Rock changed its colours and size in the sunlight.



Passage 4

Western New Year's Tradition

United States: Times Square countdown

Probably the most famous tradition in the United States is the dropping of the New Year ball in Times Square, New York City, at 11:59 p. m. Thousands of people gather to watch the ball making its one-minute descent, arriving at the ground exactly at midnight. The tradition first began in 1907. The original ball was made of iron and wood; the current ball is made of crystal.

In southern America, a traditional New Year's dish is black-eyed peas and ham hocks. An old saying goes, "Eat peas on New Year's day to have plenty of everything during the rest of the year."

Another American tradition is the Rose Bowl football game in California, which is the sports centerpiece of the festival. The Tournament of Roses parade that comes before the football game on New Year's Day is made up of beautiful floats. The first parade was held in 1886. In that year, Californians decorated their carriages with flowers to celebrate the ripening of the orange crop.

Scotland: First-footing

In Scotland, one of the traditions is "first-footing." Shortly after midnight on New Year's Eve, neighbors pay visits to each other.