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★课课通课外拓展系列★



●选材广泛生动 ●满足教学需要 ●任务设置合理 ●难度循序渐近

主编 程中锐

英语 高分阅读

八年级

Reading Comprehension for Higher Score 8

南京出版社



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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

英语高分阅读. 八年级/程中锐主编. —南京: 南京出版社, 2008. 4

(课课通课外拓展系列)

ISBN 978-7-80718-375-4

I. 英… II. 程… III. 英语—阅读教学—初中—习题
IV. G634.415

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2008)第 043489 号

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书 名: 英语高分阅读 八年级

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出版发行: 南京出版社

社址: 南京市成贤街 43 号 3 号楼 邮编: 210018

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责任编辑: 陆永辉

装帧设计: 周涌

印 刷: 南京溧水秦源印务有限公司

开 本: 787×1092 毫米 1/16

印 张: 10

字 数: 325 千字

版 次: 2008 年 5 月第 1 版

印 次: 2008 年 5 月第 1 次印刷

书 号: ISBN 978-7-80718-375-4

定 价: 19.80 元

南京版图书若有印装质量问题可向本社调换

Preface 前言

新的《英语课程标准》对初中学生的英语阅读能力提出了较高的要求。在英语考试中,阅读理解是最重要的一种题型,它是对初中学生英语阅读能力的一个综合检测,考查学生多方面的阅读能力。

作为一名奋战在外语教学战线数十年的老兵,一个专门研究英语语言测试的教授,我在此郑重说明:要学好英语,千万不要相信“速成英语的神话”,一定要在听、说、读、写、译五个方面狠下功夫,来不得半点虚假;其中,“读”尤为重要。在学习的过程中,阅读是一种输入。只有通过输入过程,我们的大脑才能积累许许多多用来表述的语言素材、语言知识以及文化知识。阅读又是语言输出的主要来源,只有通过大量阅读,我们才能培养语感,更好地用英文听、说、写和译。所以,阅读理解能力的培养和提高被放在了首位。因此,我们根据《英语课程标准》的要求,紧扣最新的中考考试题型,编写了这套《课课通课外拓展系列》丛书之《英语高分阅读》。

《英语高分阅读》分为七年级、八年级和九年级,共三本。每本书选文 100 篇:80 篇客观题和 20 篇主观题。选文以贴近学生生活、围绕教材相关话题为标准。阅读材料、词汇、注释、理解题、参考译文和答案构成了每一篇的内容,既方便老师教学,也方便学生自测自检。客观题为四选一的单选题,主观题包括问答题和首字母填空。

本书的编写目的非常明确:训练学生的阅读技巧,培养阅读的良好习惯,加强猜词悟意能力,提高英语阅读水平,在英语测试中取得高分。学英语,不仅要学好英语语言,还要了解英语系国家的文化。本书选材广泛,内容丰富,阅读材料均选自最新出版的外文书刊。包括小说故事、幽默小品、名人轶事、自然奥秘、科普常识、史地文化、体育卫生等等,多种文风、文体可供学生学习、比较及

欣赏。本套书时代气息强,贴近学生生活。球星姚明、帅哥裴勇俊均在书中闪亮登场,你要认识克隆羊 Dolly 吗? 你知道如何用英语在网上求职、购物吗? 可视电话、火场逃生、计算机病毒、南北极探险、吉尼斯大全、“酷”字的不同含义,甚至解读课程表、到麦当劳 order 简餐等内容均被收入本套书中。

古人云:“有志者,事竟成”,“天道酬勤”。只要你踏踏实实,一步一个脚印,锲而不舍地学习,相信你一定能在本书中找到学习的乐趣,发现你的进步,获得在英语学习上的腾飞。让我们马上跃入英语阅读的海洋中,在阅读实践中获得高分。让我们开始广泛阅读吧!

程中锐

2008 年 4 月

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Passage 1

Mails, games, music, news, chat rooms and shopping! The Internet is part of the way we live today. It's easy to get onto the Internet. The only thing we need to do is to use a modem which is used for connecting a computer to a telephone line. The Internet is changing and growing all the time. More and more people have computers and use the Internet. Using the Internet means surfing the World Wide Web (That's the 'www' you always hear about). The Web has large numbers of websites. In it, they are the places you go to get information and do things.

Where do these websites come from? They are made by web designers. What happens when you click on a word or a picture? You are sent to another page. It's all because of the web designer. Web designers do a lot of work by using a computer programming language.

Is Web design all about computer programming? No. It's about making something new. Web designers must imagine a lot when they are making a website. It must look good and be fun to use. A big part of Web design is art. They choose the best pictures and colors to make the website look good. They also write the things that you see on the website. An important part of their job is to share ideas with the website manager about how to design the website well.

(240 words)

Words and Expressions:

modem ['məʊdəm] *n.* 调制器

connect [kə'nekt] *v.* 连接

surf [sɜ:f] *v.* 上网冲浪

website ['websaɪt] *n.* 网址

imagine [ɪ'mædʒɪn] *v.* 想象

Notes:

1. web designer 网页设计者
2. a computer programming language 计算机编程语言
3. web manager 网页管理员

Reading Comprehension:

1. This passage is mainly about _____.
 A. computer programming language
 B. the web designers' work
 C. the website manager's work
 D. the way to get onto the Internet
2. More and more people are using the Internet because it's _____.
 A. easy and useful
 B. beautiful and funny

- C. colorful and hopeful
D. changing and growing
3. It's possible for us to change websites by just a click because of _____.
A. the modem's help
B. the telephone line's help
C. the web designers' work
D. the website manager's work
4. Which of the following is wrong?
A. 'www' means 'World Wide Web'.
B. We can do things like shopping on the Internet.
C. There're a few websites on the web.
D. The Internet has changed people's lives.
5. The web designers do a lot of work except _____.
A. making the websites new and beautiful
B. writing things on the Internet
C. doing the computer programming
D. following the manager's ideas

参考译文:

邮件、游戏、音乐、新闻、聊天室和网上购物！因特网成为我们今天生活方式的一部分。上网很容易。我们唯一需要的就是用一只调制器，用来连接电脑和电话线。因特网一直在改变和发展。越来越多的人拥有电脑，使用因特网。使用因特网就是浏览世界网页（也就是我们常听到的3W）。网络上有大量的网页。在网络上，你就可以搜取信息，做你想做的事。

那么这些网页来自哪里？它们是由网页设计者制作的。当你点击一个词或一幅画，会怎样？你就看到另一个网页。这全是因为网页设计者，他们通过使用计算机编程语言做了大量的工作。

网页设计都是关于计算机编程的吗？不是的，更多的是关于网页更新。网页设计者在制作网页的时候必须展开丰富的想象，使网页好看，用起来又有趣。网页设计的很大一部分是美术。设计者选择最好的图片和颜色使网页好看，他们也写些你在网页上看到的東西。他们工作中重要的一个部分是和网络管理员交流怎样把网页设计得很好。

Answers: 1. B 2. D 3. C 4. C 5. D

Passage 2

The most interesting part of the town was the market, where there were a lot of cafés, restaurants and small shops full of kinds of cheap goods. At this time of the year it was not crowded. It was a lovely day with only a few little white clouds in the sky. It was not hot, as it sometimes was during the summer, but pleasantly warm.

Edward and Ann sat at a table outside one of the cafés. After they had been sitting there enjoying the sunlight for a few minutes, a young waiter, not much more than a boy, came to take their order. He spoke no English, but pointed at the menu with a smile. They thought they had managed to make him understand that all they

wanted was ice-cream. There were few flavors: coffee and orange, and they both chose coffee. "I love coffee ice-cream," said Ann.

After a little while the waiter returned. He was carrying a big tray which he set down very carefully on the table in front of Edward and Ann. There were two cups of coffee and two ice-creams on the tray.

"We didn't want coffee," said Edward angrily, "but coffee ice-cream. He ought to be able to understand some English."

The waiter smiled and looked pleased.

"No," said Ann laughing, "It's his country. We ought to be able to speak his language."

(284 words)

Words and Expressions:

café ['kæfeɪ] *n.* 咖啡馆

crowded ['kraʊdɪd] *adj.* 拥挤的

flavors ['fleɪvə] *n.* 风味

tray [treɪ] *n.* 托盘

Notes:

1. take their order 拿他们的订单/点餐
2. point at 指着
3. manage to make him understand 设法使他明白
4. ought to 应该

Reading Comprehension:

1. The weather that day was _____.
A. hot and cloudy
B. sunny and warm
C. warm and cloudy
D. cold and cloudy
2. The waiter _____.
A. was a little younger than a boy
B. was only a boy
C. was a little older than a boy
D. looked like a boy
3. The waiter brought them _____.
A. ice-cream instead of coffee
B. coffee with ice-cream in it
C. coffee as well as ice-cream
D. coffee but no ice-cream
4. It seems that the waiter _____.
A. liked playing jokes
B. didn't speak clearly
C. was unable to speak
D. had made a mistake
5. According to the passage, which of the following is TRUE?
A. The waiter was a native speaker.
B. The story took place in England.

- C. Edward and Ann were doing shopping.
D. Edward and Ann were angry because they couldn't get what they had wanted.

参考译文:

小镇最有趣的地方是集市,那里有许多咖啡馆、餐馆和卖各种便宜货的小商店。今年的这个时候集市不太拥挤。那是一个晴朗的日子,空中飘着几朵小小的白云,天不太热,有时似乎有夏天的感觉,但相当暖和。

爱德华和安妮坐在其中一家咖啡店外面的桌子旁,在那儿坐着晒着太阳。几分钟后,一位年轻的服务生,只不过是小孩,过来拿他们的点餐单。他没有说英语,而是笑着指着菜单。他们以为已经设法让他明白了他们要的是冰激凌。几乎没什么其他口味,就咖啡味和橘子味两种,他们都选择了咖啡型的。“我喜欢咖啡冰激凌。”安妮说。

过了一会儿,服务生端了一只很大的托盘回来了,他轻轻地把托盘放在爱德华和安妮前面的桌子上,托盘里有两杯咖啡和两只冰激凌。

“我们没有要咖啡,”爱德华气愤地说,“只要咖啡冰激凌,他应该能听懂一些英语。”

服务生笑着,看上去很高兴。

“不,”安妮笑着说,“这里是他的国家,我们应该能说他的语言。”

Answers: 1. C 2. D 3. C 4. D 5. A

Passage 3

Mobile phones have become a problem for middle schools. Some middle schools in Australia have banned students from carrying mobile phones during school hours.

Mobile phone used among children has become a problem for the school this year. Several children have got mobile phones as Christmas gifts, and more students will want them.

Bluett, an official, said mobile phone use is a distraction to students during school hours and it also gives teachers so much trouble in their classrooms. Teachers were also saying that sometimes students might use phone messages to cheat during exams.

She said some schools had tried to ban mobile phones at school. Some parents felt unhappy because they couldn't get in touch with their children.

Many teachers said students should not have mobile phones at school, but if there was a good reason, they could leave their phones at school offices. They also said there were many reasons why the students should not have mobile phones at school; they were easy to lose and were a distraction from studies.

Many people said that they understood why parents would want their children to have mobile phones, but they thought schools should let the students know when they could use their mobile phones.

(206 words)

Words and Expressions:

ban [bæn] *v.* 禁止

distraction [dis'trækʃən] *n.* 分心的事

message ['mesɪdʒ] *n.* 信息

cheat [tʃi:t] *v.* 作弊

Notes:

get in touch with 和……联系

Reading Comprehension:

- Some middle schools in Australia have banned students from carrying mobile phones _____.
A. because they are students
B. when they are free
C. when they are at school
D. because they are children
- We know from the passage that some children get mobile phones from _____.
A. the makers and sellers
B. the passers-by and strangers
C. their parents and friends
D. some mobile phone users
- What does the underlined word "cheat" mean in the passage? It means _____.
A. 聊天
B. 核对
C. 查询
D. 作弊
- Some parents felt unhappy because they couldn't _____ during school hours.
A. use their mobile phones
B. leave their mobile phones at school offices
C. help the teachers with their work
D. get in touch with their children
- The passage tells us that _____.
A. students shouldn't have mobile phones at school except for some special reasons
B. it is impossible to ban students from using mobile phones at school
C. some parents felt unhappy because they couldn't teach their children how to use mobile phones during school hours
D. parents should teach their children how to use mobile phones during school hours

参考译文:

手机已经成为中学里的一大问题。在澳大利亚,一些中学已经禁止学生在上学期间携带手机。

今年孩子中使用手机已成为学校的一大问题。一些孩子收到的圣诞礼物是手机,更多的学生想要手机。

一位叫布鲁特的官员说,在上学期使用手机很容易使学生分心,也给老师在教室里带来很多的麻烦。老师们也说有时学生可能在考试中使用手机短信作弊。

她还说一些学校已经设法在校禁止使用手机,一些家长却感到不高兴,因为他们不能和自己的孩子取得联系。

许多老师说学生不应该在校有手机,但如果有适当的理由,学生可以把手机放在老师的办公室。老师们还有很多理由认为学生不应该在学校有手机,如手机容易遗失,使学生对学习分心等。

许多人说他们理解父母为什么想让孩子拥有手机,但同时认为学校应该让学生知道什么时候可以使用手机。

Answers: 1. C 2. C 3. D 4. D 5. A

Passage 4

Television has taken the place of schools as the main educator in America. There are several reasons for this. First, there is the number of hours. While Americans spend about 13,000 hours in schools, they spend 15,000 to 16,000 hours in front of a TV set. Second is the age at which viewers start watching TV. People start watching and understanding TV at about the age of 3, which is several years before they start to do school work. Finally, there is the number of viewers. About 90,000,000 young people are attending school, but most of the Americans watch TV every day. It seems, then, that TV shows are taking the place of teachers and professors as the educators in America.

(121 words)

Words and Expressions:

educator ['edju:kertə] *n.* 教育者

viewer ['vju:ə] *n.* 观看者

professor [prə'fesə] *n.* 教授

Notes:

1. take the place of... 代替……
2. at the age of... 在……岁的时候
3. attend school 上学

Reading Comprehension:

1. The main idea of this passage is _____.
A. TV is more important than school
B. fewer and fewer children go to school
C. There is not a school which has no TV set in America

- D. TV plays a great part in American people's life
2. How many reasons that television has become the main educator are mentioned in the passage?
- A. Two B. Three C. Four D. Five
3. The first reason shows that _____.
 A. now children go to school less often than their parents did
 B. in his life an American spends more time watching TV than at school
 C. a TV program usually gives lessons of 15,000—16,000 hours
 D. parents think 13,000 hours of school is not enough
4. In America, a child starts going to school _____.
 A. when he is 3 B. when he is about 6 or 7
 C. when he is able to understand TV D. after he starts to do school work
5. Every day in America _____.
 A. teachers and professors watch TV B. 90,000,000 young people watch TV
 C. not only young people watch TV D. 15,000—16,000 people watch TV

参考译文：

在美国作为主要的教育者，电视已经替代了学校。有几个原因，首先是看电视的小时数。美国人在学校受教育的时间大概是 13000 个小时，而看电视的时间是在 15000 至 16000 小时之间。其次是观看者开始看电视的年龄，人们开始看并理解电视的年龄大概是三岁的时候，这要比人们开始做学校作业的时间要早几年。再次是观看者的数量，大约有 90,000,000 的年轻人在上学，而大多数的美国人每天看电视。电视节目似乎正在替代作为美国教育者的老师和教授。

Answers: 1. D 2. B 3. B 4. B 5. C

Passage 5

Have you ever heard the old saying, "Never judge a book by its cover?" This is a good rule to follow when trying to judge the intelligence of others.

Some people have minds that stand out only in certain situations. A young man with an unusual gift in creative writing may find himself speechless in the presence of a pretty girl. He fumbles for words and talks in a halting manner. But don't make the mistake of thinking him stupid. With a pen and paper, he can express himself eloquently.

Other people may fool you into overestimating their intelligence by putting up a good front. A student who listens attentively and takes notes is bound to make a favorable impression on his teachers. But when it comes to exams, he may score near the bottom of the class.

It all boils down to this—you can't judge someone by appearances. The only way to determine a person's intelligence is to get to know him. Then you can observe how he reacts to different situations. The more situations you observe, the more accurate your judgement is likely to be.

(187 words)

Words and Expressions:

fumble ['fʌmbəl] *v.* 笨手笨脚地做; 乱摸, 摸索

eloquently ['eləkwəntli] *adv.* 雄辩地

Notes:

be bound to 必定

Reading Comprehension:

- The best title for the passage is _____.
 A. Judging Intelligence
 B. Choosing a Book
 C. A Speechless Young Man
 D. Putting Up A Good Front
- The main idea of this passage is _____.
 A. don't judge a book by its cover
 B. don't judge a person's intelligence by appearances
 C. don't make the mistakes of thinking the young man stupid.
 D. people may fool you by putting up a good front
- The young man mentioned in the passage _____.
 A. was stupid
 B. was a good student
 C. was a talented writer
 D. was successful with girls
- According to the passage, true knowledge of a person's intelligence comes from _____.
 A. the testimony of his teachers
 B. the grades he gets in school
 C. how he behaves in different situations
 D. his outwards appearance
- The passage suggests that in judging a person's intelligence we should _____.
 A. use caution
 B. be creative
 C. rely on intuition
 D. give him an I. Q. test

参考译文:

你听说过“不要凭封面判定一本书”这句古训吗? 你在评判别人的才智时要切记此训。

有些人的才华只显露在一时一地。一个很有创作天赋的年轻人站在漂亮女孩面前可能笨嘴笨舌。他缩头缩脑, 讷讷难言。但不要错误地认为他很愚蠢。一旦用起纸墨来, 他可以表达自如。

有些人善于装出一副好姿态使你过高地估计他们的才智。听课聚精会神同时还做笔记的学生必定会在老师那里留下较好的印象,但是一旦考试,他可能会落在班上的最后几名中。

总而言之,你不要以貌取人。判定一个人的才智的唯一办法是去了解他,观察他在不同情况下的反应。观察的情况越多,你的判断越有可能准确。

Answers: 1. A 2. B 3. C 4. C 5. A

Passage 6

The world itself is becoming much smaller by using modern traffic and TV, telephone and so on. Life today is much easier than it was hundreds of years ago, but it has also brought new problems. One of the biggest is pollution. Pollution comes in many ways. We see it, smell it, drink it and even hear it.

The more people, the more pollution. Many years ago, the problem was not so serious because there were not so many people. Man is now slowly polluting the whole world. Air pollution is still the most serious. It's bad to all living things in the world. Water pollution kills our fish and pollutes our drinking water. Noise pollution makes us become angry more easily.

Many countries are making rules to fight pollution. They stop people from burning coal in houses and factories in the city.

The pollution of SO₂ is now the most dangerous problem of air pollution. It is caused by heavy traffic. It is sure that if there are fewer people driving, there will be less air pollution.

(178 words)

Words and Expressions:

pollution [pə'lu:ʃən] *n.* 污染

serious ['siəriəs] *adj.* 严重的

coal [kəʊl] *n.* 煤

cause [kəʊz] *v.* 引起

Notes:

1. The more people, the more pollution. 人越多,污染越严重。
2. stop... from 阻止……做

Reading Comprehension:

1. Our world is becoming much smaller _____.
A. because the earth is being polluted day and night
B. because of science development

- 参考译文:

Answers: 1. B 2. D 3. C 4. A 5. D