

巧学巧练教研中心  
BEST SMART METHOD

中学生英语学习方略及提高训练丛书

# 初中英语 阅读理解300篇

ENGLISH  
READING PASSAGES

# 300

# 篇

主编：潘宝艳

内蒙古科学技术出版社

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# 前 言

《中学生英语学习方略及提高训练》丛书,编写前我们认真分析、研究并归纳了近几年各地的中考试卷,将英语考试中出现的新题型及其精髓融会贯通于本套丛书之中,本套丛书的编写目的是帮助同学们迅速提高应试能力,在英语考试中取得优异成绩。

近年来,我国英语教学形式发展很快,教育部新制订颁发的《国家基础教育阶段英语课程标准》,对英语教学,特别是英语的阅读能力和英语课外阅读量提出了新的要求,做出了具体规定:初中毕业生要达到英语三级,课外阅读量应达到10万字以上。考虑到随着各地英语教学水平的提高及新版教材的使用,单纯依靠教材已不能完全满足当前初中学生扩大英语阅读量的需求,而且不同地区、不同学校及不同年级也对英语阅读提出了不同的要求,因此我们编写了这本《初中英语阅读理解300篇》。本书共分两篇——“基础篇”和“提高篇”。

“基础篇”主要供一般中学的初中学生使用,语言难度控制在一般初中生的阅读能力以内,文章注重了练习的多样性,例如简答、排序等,目的是将阅读能力的提高与考试的要求相结合。“提高篇”主要供初三毕业生及重点中学的学生使用。收集了反映当前国内外发展潮流的时文,编写了大量不同种类的习题。一般初中学生使用过“基础篇”后如果感到学有余力,可以继续使用“提高篇”。

期盼教师和同学们能喜爱并使用本套丛书,特别希望本套丛书能使广大考生获益,在考试中取得高分,书中凡有疏漏不当之处,敬请指正为盼。

编 者

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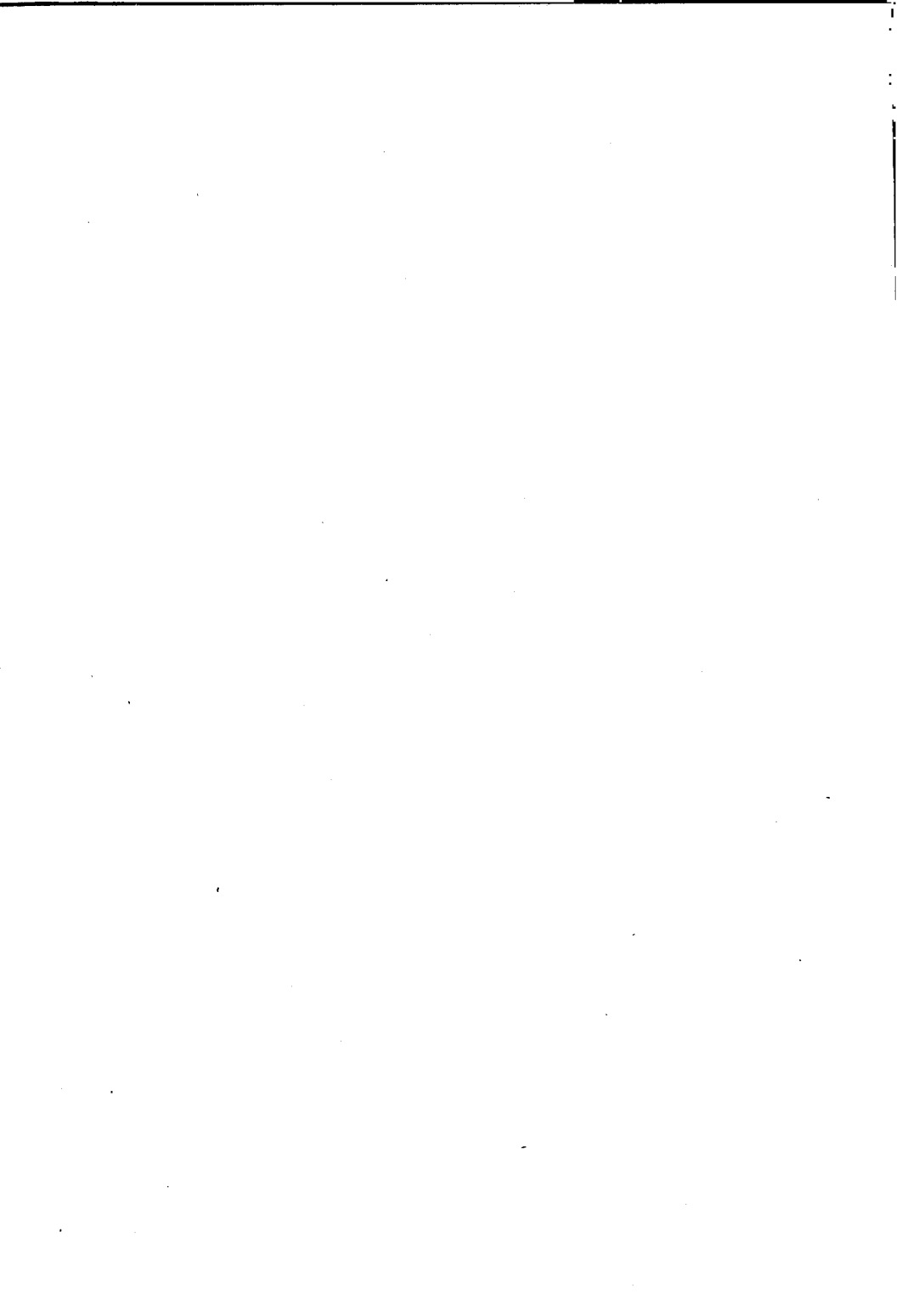
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**Part one**

**基 础 篇**





## 文化教育



American schools begin in September after a long summer. There are two terms in a school year. The first term is from September to January, and the second is from February to June. Most American children begin to go to school when they are 5 years old. Most students are 17 or 18 years old when they finish high school.

High school students take only 4 or 5 subjects each term. They usually go to the same classes, and they have homework for every class. After class they do many interesting things.

After high school, many students go to college. They can go to a small one or a large one. They usually have to pay a lot of money. So many college students work after class to get money for their studies.

### True or False:

- ( ) 1. In America a school year has three terms.
- ( ) 2. Most American children begin to go to school when they are five.
- ( ) 3. After high school most students go to work.
- ( ) 4. High school students take nine subjects each term.
- ( ) 5. In America, new school year begins in September.
- ( ) 6. Many college students work after class because they need money.



You speak, write a letter, make a telephone call. Your words carry a message. People communicate with words.

Do you think you can communicate without words? A smile on your face shows you are happy. Tears in your eyes tell others that you are sad. When you put up your hand in class, the teacher knows you want to say something or ask a question. You shake your head, and people know you are saying "No". You nod and people know you are saying "Yes".

Other things can also carry messages. For example, a sign at the bus stop helps you to know which bus to take. A sign on the wall of your school helps you to find the library. Signs on doors tell you where to go in or out. There are a lot of signs around you and you can receive messages from them all the time.

People can communicate in many other ways.

An artist can use his drawings to tell us about beautiful mountains, about the sea and many other things. A writer can use his books to tell you about all the wonderful things in the world.

Books, magazines, TV and films all help us to communicate with others. They all help us to know what is going on in the world and what other people are thinking about.

**True or False:**

- ( ) 1. We can't communicate without words, because we can hear nothing.
- ( ) 2. A sign at the bus stop can tell us which bus to take.
- ( ) 3. If you agree with somebody, you can nod.
- ( ) 4. There are no letters or words in drawings, so we can't get any message from them.
- ( ) 5. Sometimes we know someone is happy from his face.



Christmas is the biggest festival of the year, but people in the West enjoy many other festivals too. Here are a few of them.

**Saint Valentine's Day: 14 February**

Saint Valentine's Day is the day for lovers. On this day, people send a card to the person they love. You do not write your name in

the card: The person you love must guess who sent the card. Some people receive more than one card! Husbands and wives often give each other presents on this day. These presents may be roses or a box of chocolates. All these cards and presents give the same message: "I love you."

### **Easter Day: a Sunday in March or April**

Easter is a three-day religious(宗教的) holiday. It starts on a Friday called "Good Friday." On this day, people eat a kind of bread called hot cross buns(圆面包). These buns have a cross which is drawn on them in sugar. They taste good either hot or cold. Easter Day is the following Sunday. On this day, people eat chocolates in the shape of large eggs. There are usually some sweets inside the eggs. The day after Easter Day is a holiday in many countries. People often travel during Easter to see friends or have a holiday. Easter marks the beginning of spring.

### **Halloween: 31 October**

People believe that ghosts(鬼) and witches(女巫) come out at night on Halloween. Young people like to dress up in frightening clothes and wear masks on their faces. Children go from house to house. They want to receive some sweets. If they get nothing, they will play a trick(恶作剧) on the house owner.

Some people cut out the inside of a pumpkin, make a frightening face on it and put a candle inside it. Then they put the pumpkin in the window of their house to frighten people.

### **True or False**

- ( ) 1. Saint Valentine's Day is on Feb. 14.
- ( ) 2. People don't know who sent them Valentine card because there is no name on it.
- ( ) 3. On Easter Day, People eat hot cross buns.
- ( ) 4. People have a three-day holiday in March or April.
- ( ) 5. Children are too frightened to play on Halloween.
- ( ) 6. Some people put a pumpkin, with a candle inside, in the window of their house.

I was so very scared the first day at my new school. My mother tried to keep me calm. She comforted me as well as she could. She said, "Charlene, you'll feel like a duck rolling in water in no time." I knew my mother was saying what she thought was right, and I believed that she believed it too, but I was still scared and I was sure my knees were shaking.

Then a pretty woman with a pair of glasses came to the classroom door and took me sweetly and firmly by the hand, and she said, "Why, you must be Charlene Webb, I am so happy to have you here in my class." I just knew that pretty woman, whose name was Mrs. Shaw, would not lie to me. I believed her with all my heart.

And so I have always kept my eyes sharp on the first day of school each September for the child who looks a little scared, a little more nervous than the other children. And when I find one, I walk over to her and take her hand in mine so that she knows I'm going to keep a special eye out for her.

**Choose the best answer:**

1. Why was the writer so scared? \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Because it was the first day at her new school.  
 B. Because her mother didn't come with her.  
 C. Because her teacher didn't like her.
2. Which one is the better Chinese meaning for "like a duck rolling in water"? \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. 无拘无束                      B. 轻而易举                      C. 晃晃悠悠
3. What can you infer from the passage? \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A. Mrs. Shaw was a kind old lady.  
 B. All children felt nervous on their first day at new school.  
 C. The writer also became a kind teacher after she grew up.



### Online English Web Sites

**www.english-zone.com**—A site teaches English grammar, vocabulary, reading and writing activities. Also lots of jokes.

**www.theenglishprofessor.com**—ESL (=English as a second language) links, “Learn English free” is his slogan (口号), very good at helping students improve their writing skills.

**www.globalstudy.com/est/**—Directory (名录) of “English as a Second Language” web sites in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain and Ireland.

**www.netsurflearning.com**—A Free English course using materials from the web and catering (迎合) for all levels.

**www.rg-chonang.com**—hundreds of ESL links for you to go to.

**www.wfi.fr/volterre/weblinklearners.html**—A wide variety of English language resource links.

#### Choose the best answer:

1. How many web sites provide free English courses? \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. 2                      B. 3                      C. 4                      D. 5
2. Which web site particularly helps you to improve your writing skills? \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. www.englishclub.net  
B. www.theenglishprofessor.com  
C. www.globalstudy.com/est/  
D. www.netsurflearning.com
3. If you want to improve your listening skill, you should go to \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. www.netsurflearning.com  
B. www.english-zone  
C. www.rg-chonang.com  
D. www.eviews.net

Most dictionaries will tell you a number of things about a language. There are three important things. These three things are spelling, pronunciation and meanings.

First, a dictionary will tell you the spelling of a word. If you are not sure about the spelling of a word, you can try to find the correct spelling in a dictionary. Words are listed in alphabetical order (按字母顺序)—a, b, c and so on. For example, on a dictionary page the word “poor”—p, o, o, r—comes before “poverty” p, o, v, e, r, t, y—and the word “poverty” comes before the word “power”—p, o, w, e, r. The words are always given in alphabetical order.

The second thing, a dictionary will tell you pronunciation. Most dictionaries give phonetic (语音的) or sound alphabet. The phonetic spelling will tell you how a word is pronounced. There are a few different phonetic alphabets. Many dictionaries use the International Phonetic Alphabet to show pronunciation.

The third thing, a dictionary will tell you the meanings of words. You can look up a word and find out what it means. Many words have more than one meaning, and good dictionary will tell you all of the word’s meanings. For example, in English the common word “get” has over 20 different meanings.

**Choose the best answer:**

- In the passage, which of the following is one of the three important things? \_\_\_\_\_  
 A. How to write a word well.  
 B. How to use a word.  
 C. How to make a sentence.  
 D. How to read a word correctly.
- Of the three words “remove”, “remote” and “remount”, \_\_\_\_\_ in a dictionary.  
 A. “remount” comes first and “remove” comes last  
 B. “remove” comes first and “remote” comes last

- C. "remote" comes first and "remove" comes last  
D. "remove" comes first and "remount" comes last
3. Many words have \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. several meanings                      B. few meanings  
C. one meaning                            D. no meaning
4. Phonetic alphabets are used to show \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. spelling                                  B. handwriting  
C. meanings                                 D. pronunciation



Many people go to school for an education. They learn languages, history, politics, geography, physics, chemistry and mathematics. Others go to school to learn skills in order to make a living. School education is very important and useful. Yet, no one can learn everything from school. A teacher, no matter how much he knows, can not teach his students everything they want to know. The teacher's job is to show his students how to learn. He teaches them how to read and how to think. So, much more is to be learned outside school by the students themselves.

It is always more important to know how to study by oneself than to remember some facts or a formula (公式). It is actually quite easy to learn a certain fact in history or a formula in mathematics. But it is very difficult to use a formula in working out a math problem. Great scientists before us didn't get everything from school. Their teachers only showed them the way. Edison didn't even finish primary school. But they were all so successful. He invented so many things for human being. The reason for their success is that they know how to study. They read books that were not taught at school. They would ask many questions as they read. They did thousands of experiments (实验). They worked hard all their lives, wasting not a single moment. Most important is that they knew how to use their brain.

**Choose the best answer:**

1. People go to school \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. only to learn several subjects
  - B. to make a living
  - C. to get an education
  - D. only to learn skills
2. According to the passage, what is the most important thing a teacher should do? \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. To teach his students everything he knows.
  - B. To know everything.
  - C. To teach the students how to think.
  - D. To teach the students how to study by themselves.
3. To work out a maths problem, you need to know \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. only a certain formula
  - B. how to memorize some facts
  - C. only some facts
  - D. the method to solve it
4. Why were many scientists so successful? \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. They received good education.
  - B. They were very clever.
  - C. They knew how to learn.
  - D. They learned lots of facts and formulas.
5. How did great scientists study? \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. They read a lot of books and asked many questions while reading.
  - B. They did thousands of experiments.
  - C. They always worked hard and never wasted time.
  - D. All of the above.



A middle school organized a “No TV Week” programme. All the teachers, parents and students worked together for this programme and most of them found it to be a very good one. The headmaster said, “The idea was not to stop watching TV completely



(完全地) but for the students just to find how much time they watch TV and try to use this time for other things.”

What did the students say about this “No TV Week”? One boy said, “I can’t believe I haven’t watched TV for a week, but it’s been fun doing it.” A girl student said, “I’m going to give up all TV programme except (除……之外) for ‘Our Animal World’ and other language-teaching programme. I’m really pleased that I have more time to do things like walking and thinking. I enjoy this ‘No TV Week’ very much...” But not all the students thought it was good. Here one student said something different, “I don’t like ‘No TV Week’ because I like watching TV. I have lots of favourite (喜爱的) programmes and I don’t want to miss them. But we have to do it.”

**Choose the best answer:**

1. “No TV Week” programme was organized \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. for all the students in the country
  - B. by one middle school
  - C. in middle schools all over the country
  - D. by teachers all over the country
2. Watching no TV was \_\_\_\_\_ the boy thought.
  - A. as hard as
  - B. not harder than
  - C. harder than
  - D. easier than
3. The girl decided \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. only to watch some of the TV programmes
  - B. not to watch TV at all
  - C. to watch no TV at all
  - D. to watch TV all the time
4. \_\_\_\_\_ took part in “No TV Week”.
  - A. All the teachers, students and parents
  - B. None of the students in the school
  - C. All the students in the school
  - D. All the teachers in the school except one
5. The writer wanted to tell us \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. not to watch TV
  - B. to stop watching TV for a week