

· 高校英语泛读教材 ·

# 英语阅读技巧与实践

*English Reading Skills And Practice*

BOOK 3

吴丁娥 编著



湖南师范大学出版社

高校英语泛读教材

(增订本)

ENGLISH READING SKILLS AND PRACTICE

# 英语阅读技巧与实践

BOOK 3

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## 增 订 说 明

《英语阅读技巧与实践》(1-4册)于1990年出版以来,受到广大师生及自学者的厚爱与好评,先后重印5次,收到了良好的社会效果。1991年获湖南师范大学优秀教材奖,1995年获湖南省优秀教材奖。1996年被湖南省教委确定为湖南省第一批“九五”重点教材。

此次,我们对原出版的1-4册进行了较大篇幅的修订。同时,新增了3册(第5-7册)供高年级使用,其中,第5册为评判性阅读,第6册为报刊阅读,第7册为鉴赏性阅读。增加的内容有经贸方面的,尤其有戏剧、小说和诗歌等题材。这样就形成了从基础阶段到高年级阶段完整的阅读教材体系,并使英语专科(第1-6册)和本科的阅读教材接轨。

为进一步方便教师,我们不再将快速阅读单独成册,而是增加一道快速阅读测试练习题,插入2-4册的每课课文之后。

编 者

1997年6月于长沙

## 前 言

《英语阅读技巧与实践》是为高校英语专业学生编写的一套阅读(以前称为泛读)教材。全书共7册,可供英语专业专科生(1-6册)和本科生使用。本教材也可供教师进修学院、函大和夜大的英语专业学员使用。

该书依据《高等学校英语专业基础阶段英语教学大纲》和《高等学校英语专业高年级教学大纲》编写。按《大纲》的要求,基础阶段以事实性阅读为主,高年级阶段以评判性和鉴赏性阅读为主。

该书编写的目的是:教给学生阅读理论和技巧,培养他们细致观察语言的能力和假设判断、推理验证等逻辑思维能力;培养他们阅读的兴趣,使他们在较短的时间里尽快扩大词汇量,扩大知识面,提高思想和文化素养,从而提高阅读水平和能力,通过阅读更快更好地获取世界上各国有用的政治、经济、文化和科技等方面的信息,为我国的改革开放和社会主义建设服务。

该书的特点是:1. 编排和论述的特独性。全书以阅读理论和技巧为主线,使学生在理论和技巧指导下进行实践。2. 内容的广泛性。书中既有政治、社会、经济、文化、历史、天文、地理、科普、图表等内容,也有小说、戏剧和诗歌等。3. 所选材料的知识性。学生在学语言的同时学到很多领域很多方面的知识;扩大视野。4. 课文的精练性。课文短小精悍,适合于课堂使用,避免文章太长而使学生产生厌烦情绪,以及过长的 **silent reading** 而使课堂死气沉沉(长篇阅读在课外阅读中解决)。5. 练习的丰富性。“练习部分”具有很强的针对性和实用性,能牢牢吸引学生的注意力。

第1册为四个单元,集中介绍各种重要的阅读理论和技巧,并

在技巧指导下进行实践。在第2-4册中,每册有40个 passages, 每篇后注明有单词数并配有各种练习,便于学生综合运用各种技巧,进行计时阅读。第5册为评判性阅读,共四个单元。第6册为报刊阅读,共三个单元。第7册为鉴赏性阅读,共三个单元。

使用该书时,要求学生不进行预习(评判性和鉴赏性阅读除外),否则很多练习(尤其是猜新词和理解练习)将失去意义,而且教师也无法了解学生对技巧的掌握及他们的阅读速度和理解率。为了不让学生有依赖思想,故把注释放在书后,而不是在每课之后,由于该书同时向学校与社会发行,故答案不得不附在书后,以方便自学者。请使用该书的教师对答案作适当处理。

全书主编刘学明(副教授)。1、2册刘学明编著。3、6册吴丁娥(副教授)编著,4、5册刘金玲(副教授)编著,第7册蒋洪新(博士、副教授)编著。

该书的编写和出版得到了湖南省教委、湖南师范大学、湖南师范大学出版社及湖南师范大学外语学院等的大力支持,我们深表谢意。湖南省各高校的英语泛读教师对该书提出了很多宝贵意见,我们在此一并表示感谢。

由于水平有限,尤其是对高年级阅读教材的编写经验不足,书中一定会有许多不足之处,敬请广大读者,尤其是使用该书的同行们提出宝贵意见,以便进一步修正。

编 者

1990年11月于湖南师范大学

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## PASSAGE 1

### Shooting A film

[1] There is excitement in the film studio. They are shooting a scene from the film "The Path of Power". The Director of the film is there with a team of technicians. His task is a difficult one. He has to be creative, but at the same time he has to satisfy popular taste. He has to consider many different elements such as the story and the scenario, the dialogue and the action, the camerawork and lighting, and he has to get them all combined into an intelligible motion picture. His assistants — the cameraman, the make-up artist and several others — are all helping him in his task. The Director has told his chief cameraman in what part of the stage set the action is going to take place. The chief cameraman has the camera set up, adjusted and focused by his assistants. An assistant brings in new film and the chief cameraman has the camera loaded with it. The actors are on the set. The set is a large apartment, expensively furnished. The Director tells the actors, for the last time, what the action is going to be and how he wants to have it performed. He is quite satisfied with the rehearsals he has had already. The actors take up their positions. The cameramen get the camera focused on the scene. The man in charge of the lighting has the set lit up with the necessary lights. The chief technician has two microphones hidden out of sight of the camera. These are to catch the words of the

actors. In the recording room the Director of Sound gets the recording apparatus adjusted to record the dialogue between the actors. The chief cameraman has the electric current turned on. The current is needed to drive the motors of the cameras. Everything is ready for the shooting of the scene.

[2] Now the Assistant Director gets the studio door shut. A buzzer signals that the scene is going to be shot. The Director's voice calls out, 'Silence! Get ready'. A green light comes on. A board, giving the details of the scene and shot number, is held before the camera. The camera is switched on. The board is then removed, leaving the camera focused on the actors. This is the moment when the action begins. The whirr of the camera indicates that the shooting of the scene is taking place. The leading actor speaks his line. 'Cut!' shouts the Director. The camera stops immediately. All look round in surprise. The Director angrily tells the make-up artist to fix the actor's beard.

[3] Instinctively the actor's hand goes up to his chin. The beard is not there! He hurriedly gets it fixed by the make-up artist. The shooting of Scene 10-Shot 12 begins again. The action and dialogue continue without interruption. 'Cut!' shouts the Director. 'What's wrong this time?' asks an angry actor who has been on the set for two whole hours. 'There's nothing wrong. It's perfect.' Smiles back the Director. Everyone sighs with relief. (about 500 words)

## Exercises

### I. Are these statements true or false?

1. A Film Director has to consider many different things when he

- is making a film. (✓)
2. Directors do not usually take any notice of popular taste. (X)
3. All the scenes are carefully rehearsed before they are shot. (X) ✓
4. The make-up artist is responsible for focusing the cameras. (X)
5. Special lights are needed when filming is taking place. (✓)
6. Hidden microphones help to light up the set. (✓) ✓
7. The voices of the actors are recorded at the same time as their actions are photographed. (X) ✓
8. The same length of film can be used over and over again for shooting scenes. (✓)
9. The Director shouts 'Cut!' when he wants the shooting to begin. (X)
10. If an actor's false beard falls off, he has to go on acting without it until the scene is finished. (X)

## II . Answer these questions.

1. Who directs the film? *director*
2. Who switches on the lighting? *cameraman*
3. Who makes the actors up? *the make-up artist*
4. Who looks after the cameras? *cameraman*

## III . Put the letter of the suitable definition next to each word.

1. C studio (1) a. a set of instruments
2. G scenario (1) b. understandable
3. J rehearsals (1) c. a room or place where films are made
4. M apparatus (1) d. the acts to learn and practice for later

performance

5. \_\_\_\_\_ intelligible(1) e. written outline of a play or film with details of the scene

6. \_\_\_\_\_ whirr(2) f. the sound like beating against air

#### IV. Cloze test.

Birds use many different materials to 1 nests. Some 2 use bits of grass. The tailor-bird of Africa and India 3 grass to sew leaves together. 4 birds find twigs and pebbles useful.

Building a 5 takes time and effort. But some starlings 6 Australia have had human help. People in Inham, a town 7 northern Queensland, cut rope 8 short lengths. The 9 was frayed and dyed in bright colors. Then the pieces were left for the 10 to find.

The result pleased the people as 11 as the birds. In one week the starlings had 12 a large tree into a blaze of color.

#### V. Fast reading.

Most people know that water is unevenly distributed over the earth's surface in oceans, rivers, and lakes. Few realize, however, how very uneven the distribution actually is. It is important to think of the total amount of water on the planet Earth, the areas where the water occurs, and the longterm importance of the findings.

The oceans of the world cover 140 million square miles of the Earth's surface. The average depth of the ocean basins is about 12,500 feet. If the basins were shallow, seas would spread far onto the continents. Dry land areas would consist mainly of a few major island groups with high mountain ranges rising above the sea.

Considered as a continuous body of fluid, the atmosphere is another kind of ocean. Yet, in view of the total amount of rain and

~

snow on land areas in the course of a year, one of the most amazing water facts is the very small amount of water in the atmosphere at any given time. The volume of the lower seven miles of the atmosphere — the realm of weather events — is roughly four times the volume of the world's oceans. But the atmosphere contains very little water. It is chiefly in the form of invisible vapor, some of which is carried over land by air currents. If all vapor suddenly fell from the air onto the Earth's surface, it would form a layer only about one inch thick. A heavy rainstorm on a given area may use up only a small percentage of the water from the air mass that passes over. How, then, can some land areas receive more than 400 inches of rain per year? How can several inches of rain fall during a single storm in a few minutes or hours? The answer is that rain-yielding air masses are in motion and as the driving air mass moves on, new moist air takes its place.

The basic source of most water vapor is the ocean. Evaporation, vapor transport, and precipitation make up a major arc of the hydrologic cycle — the continuous movement of water from ocean to atmosphere to land, and back to the sea. Rivers return water to the sea along one chord of the arc. In an underground arc of the cycle, flowing bodies of water discharge some water directly into rivers and some directly to the sea. (400 words)

1. What is the average depth of the ocean basins?
  - a. 5,500 feet.
  - b. 12,500 feet.
  - c. 23,500 feet.
  - d. 24,000 feet.
2. How high into the atmosphere does weather occur?
  - a. Three miles.
  - b. Five miles.
  - c. Six miles.
  - d. Seven miles.

3. The atmosphere is described as a continuous body of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. gases      b. fluid      c. particles      d. oil
4. The basic source of atmospheric water is \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. rivers      b. streams      c. lakes      d. oceans
5. How much annual rainfall do some areas receive?  
a. 60 inches.      b. 250 inches.  
c. 400 inches.      d. 500 inches.
6. This article is concerned primarily with the \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. atmosphere      b. ecology of oceans  
c. water pollution      d. water cycle
7. According to the author, most people realize that \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. water is distributed unevenly on the earth  
b. precipitation never falls in some parts of the world  
c. some lakes are deeper than oceans ~~X~~  
d. water is rare ~~X~~
8. We may describe the author's style as \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. factual and informative      b. light-hearted and humorous ~~X~~  
c. instructive and helpful      d. ironical
9. The process of water returning to the atmosphere is called \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. condensation      b. evaporation  
c. precipitation      d. running
10. According to the author, a change in the ocean's depth would have an effect on \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. the size and shape of dry land areas  
b. our water and food supplies  
c. the delicate balance of the water cycle  
d. climates

## PASSAGE 2

### Hitch-hikers

hike ( hiking ) 远足

过路客

[1] Mr Machin felt somewhat tired. He had been driving all day, and now, the evening drawing on, he could have done with a little nap. However, he was only a hundred miles away from his destination. The food-canning firm he worked for had a rule prohibiting salesmen from picking up hitch-hikers, but he often ignored it; therefore on seeing the two young men thumbing a lift<sup>①</sup>, he immediately pulled up.

[2] They seemed decent enough. The thinner one with the crew-cut<sup>②</sup> had an engaging smile and a polite manner. While his pal, harmonica in one hand, travel-bag in the other, looked shy but amiable. In any case, Mr Machin, totally ignorant of their intentions, was happy to have someone to chat to and keep him awake until he arrived home.

[3] "I can take you boys as far as Ashville," he said after introducing himself and learning that the one next to him was Paul and the one behind was David.

[4] "Thanks a lot, sir," Paul said. "Just where we were heading. Hoping to find a job, I'm a great carpainter. Mechanic, too. Made big money. Just come from Arizona. Anything doing in Ashville?"

[5] "Well, now. There might be something I could do for you," their host said.



[6] It was an ideal set-up — just what they had been looking for. They had been hitch-hiking for the last four days without coming across a likely victim. Mind you, they had been given plenty of lifts from truckdrivers or soldiers; once two Negro prize-fighters<sup>③</sup> in a pink Cadillac had stopped for them. But Machin suited them to a T<sup>④</sup>. As they drove on, he and Paul made small-talk. David felt inside one of the pockets of the leather windcheater he was wearing. The pocket bulged with a bottle of pills, and a jagged rock wrapped up in a handkerchief. He unfastened his belt, gold-buckled and studded with multicoloured beads. He took it off. He laid it across his lap. He waited, watching the landscape rolling by. He was waiting for Paul to say: 'Hey, David, got a match?'

[7] It was getting darker. Ahead, the road was straight, with neither a building nor a human being in sight. All David could see was land stripped bare by the winter. 'This is the time,' he thought, 'right now.' He stared at Paul as if to communicate the fact. Paul's lips were quivering. Sweat was beginning to show above his mouth. A few such little signs indicated that Paul had already come to the same conclusion.

[8] Yet when Paul finally did speak, it was only to tell their host another joke. Mr Machin had a hearty sense of humour. David was getting edgy. He was impatient.

[9] Then: "Hey, David, got a match?"

David raised his hand. The rock was on the verge of coming down. But just at that moment something extraordinary happened. Out of the blue<sup>⑤</sup> there appeared another hitch-hiker, a G. I.<sup>⑥</sup> "The more the merrier," Machin said, braking his car. (about 520 words)