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阅读与测试

主编 陈渊

第二册

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主 编 陈 渊

主要编写人员 (以姓氏笔画为序)

王臻萍 陈 渊

陈 莹 何业国

吴 芳 赵建群

责任编辑: 王臻萍 责任编辑: 王臻萍 责任编辑: 王臻萍
封面设计: 李 琳 封面设计: 李 琳 封面设计: 李 琳

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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就的优秀外语人才。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文读物,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,上海、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,不读英文原著更是不足为怪了。

近年来,上述情况有所转变。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,均高于没有参加阅读训练的学生。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,我们有意识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。

全套书的编写均与现行英语教材精读课文密切融合。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。

全套丛书,每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。

在这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,上海远东出版社领导和编辑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》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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Unit One Food and Drink



Passage 1

British Pub Culture

Visitors to Britain may find that the best place to sample local culture is in a traditional pub. But these friendly hostleries can be minefields of potential gaffes for the uninitiated.

An anthropologist and a team of researchers have unveiled some of the arcane rituals of British pubs — starting with the difficulty of getting a drink. Most pubs have no waiters — you have to go to the bar to buy drinks. A group of Italian youths waiting 45 minutes before they realized they would have to fetch their own. This may sound inconvenient, but there is a hidden purpose.

Pub culture is designed to promote sociability in a society known for its reserve. Standing at the bar for service allows you to chat with others waiting to be served. The bar counter is possibly the only site in the British Isles in which friendly conversation with strangers is considered entirely appropriate and really quite normal behaviour. If you haven't been to a pub, you haven't been to Britain. This tip can be found in a booklet, *Passport to the Pub: The Tourists' Guide to Pub Etiquette*, a customers' code of conduct for those wanting to sample "a central part of British life and culture". The trouble is that if you do not follow the local rules, the experience may fall flat. For example, if you are in a big group, it is best if only one or two people go to buy the drinks. Nothing irritates the regular customers and bar staff more than a gang of strangers blocking all access to the bar while they chat and

hesitate about what to order.

New Words and Expressions

sample *v.* 取样, 领略

hostelry *n.* 旅店, 客栈

minefield *n.* 布雷区

potential *adj.* 潜在的

gaffe *n.* 丑态, 惹事

the uninitiated 不熟悉某种特定
情况的人

anthropologist *n.* 人类学家

unveil *v.* 揭开

arcane ritual 鲜为人知的文化

fetch *v.* 去取来

sociability *n.* 社交

reserve *n.* 矜持

site *n.* 地点, 场所

normal *adj.* 正常的

booklet *n.* 小册子

passport *n.* 护照

etiquette *n.* 礼节

code of conduct 行为准则

fall flat 未产生预期的效果

irritate *v.* 激怒, 使烦躁

regular customers 常客

the bar staff 吧保

a gang of 一伙

hesitate about 犹豫不决

Main Points for Reading

1. Visitors to Britain may find that the best place to sample local culture is in a traditional pub. 访问英国的人会发现传统英国酒吧是最能领略当地文化的地方。
2. But these friendly hostelries can be minefields of potential gaffes for the uninitiated. 但对于初来乍到的异国人来说, 这些友善的客栈却犹如潜藏着有惹事危险的“地雷区”。
本句采用了隐喻手法, 其结构为 A be B, 把酒吧比作潜在危险的地雷区。the uninitiated 指不了解英国客栈文化的异国他乡之人。
3. An anthropologist and a team of researchers have unveiled some of the arcane rituals of British pubs — starting with the difficulty of getting a drink. 一位人类学家和一组研究人员揭示了某些鲜为人知的英国酒吧文化。人们首先遇到的困难是从买酒开始的。

句中的 *unveil* 与 *reveal*, *disclose* 同义, 其中 *reveal* 较为常用; *unveil* 多用于揭开……的覆盖物, 如面纱或牌匾等, 如 *Princess Anne unveiled her face. The Mayor unveiled the plague to open the new college.*

4. *This may sound inconvenient, but there is a hidden purpose.* 这听上去似乎让人觉得不方便, 可却有它深刻的内涵。

句中的 *a hidden purpose* 即指下面提到的促进社交的文化内涵。

5. *Pub culture is designed to promote sociability in a society known for its reserve.* 在因其矜持而出名的英国社会里, 酒吧文化的形成是为了促进社会交往。

句中 *design* 意为“设计”, 但此处宜译作“形成”。*known for its reserve* 作 *a society* 的后置定语, 它由定语从句省略 *which is* 转化而成。

6. *The bar counter is possibly the only site in the British Isles in which friendly conversation with strangers is considered entirely appropriate and really quite normal behaviour.* 在英伦诸岛, 和陌生人亲切地交谈被认为是完全适宜的正常行为的唯一场所可能就是吧台了。

此句 *in which* 引导的定语从句修饰 *the British Isles*

7. *The trouble is that if you do not follow the local rules, the experience may fall flat.* 问题是如果你不入乡随俗的话, 你将一无所获。

此句的表语为 *that* 引导的从句, 表语从句中又有一个 *if* 引导的条件状语从句。句中的 *fall flat* 是比喻说法, 意为 *fail to have the intended effect*。

8. *Nothing irritates the regular customers and bar staff more than a gang of strangers blocking all access to the bar while they chat and hesitate about what to order.* 酒吧常客和酒保最腻味的就是一大伙人一边聊着一边又犹豫着不知喝什么酒好, 把通往吧台的路

给堵住。

此句中 Nothing ... more than ... 是否定词与比较级连用,表示最高级之意:“没有……比……更……”。

Comprehension Questions

1. Why did the writer consider the friendly pubs as dangerous minefields for foreigners who come to Britain for the first time?
 - A. Because they are places where accidents often happen.
 - B. Because they are places where special cultures lie, which is unfamiliar to foreigners.
 - C. Because they are places where pub staff often quarrel with customers.
 - D. Because they are places where regular customers are easily irritated.
2. What is the purpose of having no waiters in British pubs?
 - A. To promote communication between people for such an indifferent race.
 - B. To save labour and money for the company.
 - C. To let customers take more initiative to do everything by themselves.
 - D. To give people chances to be self-disciplined (自律的).
3. What is looked on as proper and normal in the British pubs?
 - A. Getting a drink from a waiter.
 - B. Waiting for the drinks at the table.
 - C. Chatting with strangers.
 - D. Arguing with the boss of the pub.
4. What does the sentence “If you haven't been to a pub, you haven't been to Britain.” imply?
 - A. British pubs are the most famous tourist attractions for travellers.

- B. If foreigners visit Britain, be sure to visit the pubs to know about British culture.
- C. When in Rome, do as the Romans do.
- D. The experience of visiting British pubs is one of the most important parts of learning about Britain.
5. Under what condition will the bar staff be angry?
- A. Customers' waiting in line for the drinks they have ordered.
- B. Those who do not obey the British regulations chat freely in the pubs.
- C. If customers do not go to fetch their drinks on time.
- D. Many people gather together at the counter discussing what to order but block the way to the bar.

**Passage 2**

The Story of Ice Cream

Is there anyone who doesn't love ice cream? It is the most popular dessert in America. People can not get enough of its smooth texture and great taste. But where did this great food come from, and how is it made? This dessert has more surprises than you might think.

Some say that Marco Polo first brought ice cream to Europe from China. Others claim that Queen Catherine of France had a cook who discovered ice cream's recipe. There are many different stories, but nobody can be sure exactly where or when it came into being.

History is also uncertain about who invented the first ice cream cone, but most say it all started at the St Louis World Fair in 1904. An ice cream vendor ran out of dishes for his chilled dessert, and noticed that the vendor beside him was selling waffles. He decided to use the waffles to hold his ice cream, and the ice cream cone was born.

Coincidences like this are responsible for other delicious ice cream

treats as well. When ice cream got popular, many shops appeared to see the new treat. A popular drink at these shops were soda, cream and sugar. When one shop ran out of cream, they started using ice cream instead, and it was an instant success with their customers. The ice cream float was born.

At that time, religious Americans never drank soda on Sundays. One clever shopkeeper decided to serve an ice cream float without the soda on Sundays, and the ice cream Sunday was born. The name was later changed to sundae to be respectful.

Since then, ice cream has gone from being a popular treat to an important food item. The average American now eats almost 23 litres of ice cream a year. Ice cream is now mostly mass produced, but it still comes from the same basic materials: milk, sugar, eggs and fruit or chocolate. Whether it's made in a factory or at home, the key to perfect ice cream is still its smooth, soft texture.

To produce that texture, ice cream must be whipped while it is being frozen. Therefore, ice cream is actually almost 50% air. But don't let that fool you because the other 50% is the sweetest and most delicious treat you will ever taste.

New Words and Expressions

texture *n.* 质地, 结构

coincidence *n.* 巧合

recipe *n.* 食谱

instant *adj.* 即刻的

cone *n.* 圆锥体

float *n.* 饮料

World Fair *n.* 世界博览会

sundae *n.* 圣代冰淇淋

vendor *n.* 小贩

whip *v.* 搅成糊状

waffles *n.* 华夫饼

treat *n.* 美食

Main Points for Reading

1. An ice cream vendor ran out of dishes for his chilled dessert, and

noticed that the vendor beside him was selling waffles. 售冰淇淋的摊贩把装冷冻食品的碟子用完了,但他注意到旁边卖华夫饼的摊贩。

- The name was later changed to sundae to be respectful. 为了表示尊敬,这名字后来改为圣代冰淇淋。
- Ice cream is now mostly mass produced, but it still comes from the same basic materials: milk, sugar, eggs and fruit or chocolate. 如今冰淇淋多半是大规模生产的,但它仍旧由牛奶、糖、鸡蛋和水果或巧克力等主要原料组成。
- To produce that texture, ice cream must be whipped while it is being frozen. 为了生产出这样质地的冰淇淋,在冰冻的过程中必须将其搅成糊状。

Comprehension Questions

- Some people say _____ first discovered ice cream's recipe in Europe.
A. Marco Polo B. Queen Catherine of France
C. Chinese people D. a cook
- An ice cream vendor decided to use waffles to hold his ice cream because _____.
A. he found that many people liked to eat waffles
B. there were not enough dishes to hold his ice cream
C. he found that the waffles could make the ice cream cone
D. another vendor wanted to sell him some waffles
- How did the ice cream float begin?
A. People found the ice cream was delicious.
B. People liked some new types of ice cream.
C. One shop used ice cream instead of cream.
D. People liked to enjoy ice cream quickly.
- The name of sundae came from _____.

- A. the ice cream Sunday B. soda
C. religious Americans D. chocolate

**Passage 3****Lunch in Urban District**

Most people who work in Shanghai get a break of about an hour and a half for lunch. As they generally live too far from home to go back there for lunch, they are obliged to make other arrangements for their midday meal.

Many large firms and government bodies have a canteen on the premises for their employees. In such canteens the food served is plain but adequate, and although there are some variety of choices, the number of dishes is usually small. The employees themselves fetch their dishes from a counter at which they are served. There they can find a tray, on which to carry their knives, forks, spoons, plates, cups, chopsticks, saucers, and of course, their food. A meal in a canteen is inexpensive and may consist of soup, fish, shrimp or meat and two or three vegetables, with some Chinese staple food, such as rice, steamed rolls or fried noodles. Some firms that do not run a canteen provide their staff with luncheon-vouchers, which many restaurants will accept in place of money.

As there are so many people at work in Shanghai, there are numerous cafes and restaurants in every area that is not purely residential. A meal may cost anything from a modest sum to quite a few RMB, depending on the restaurant and the food chosen. Moreover, one can generally get a meal, or at least a snack, in a buffet, or a snack bar (buffet, or snack bar, is the usual word for a place where people go to eat and drink such things as dessert, hamburger, beer and spirits). A number of well-known caterers run popular cafes in practically every