

英 语 阅 读 材 料

(供高中二年级学生复习用)

石家庄地区行政公署教育局教研室

一 九 七 九 年

编 者 的 话

为了帮助我区高中二年级学生复习巩固已学英语知识，进一步提高他们的语言实践能力，我们翻印了无锡市教师进修学院外语组编注的《英语阅读材料》，供教师辅导学生课外阅读时参考。

这套阅读材料原是分期印发，这次翻印时将第一、二册合印成一册。学生阅读此材料应紧密结合，教材在教师的指导下有选择地进行阅读学习。

石家庄地区行政公署教育局教研室

1979年3月

Contents 目 录

1. What the River Says 河的自述..... (1)
(Language Point: The Present Tense)
2. A Boy's Coins 男孩的钱币..... (2)
(Language Point: a,the)
3. Two Promises 两个诺言..... (4)
(Language Point: Infinitive)
4. Jet Propulsion 喷气推进..... (7)
(Language Point: The Present Tense in
Scientific Writing)
5. Electricity 电..... (9)
(Language Point: Adverbial Clause of
Condition)
6. The First Postage Stamp in the World 世界
上最早的一张邮票..... (12)
(Language Point: have/has/had to)
7. Cells 细胞..... (15)
(Language Point: Parenthesis; through,
though)
8. Field Crops 大田作物..... (19)
(Language point: Tag Question)
9. Parachute Jumping 跳伞..... (21)
(Language Point: Coordination)

10. Horse Power 马力 (23)
(Language Point : Attributive Clause)
11. Britain 英国 (26)
(Language Point : Negation)
12. Sea Lions 海狮 (30)
(Language Point : V-ing)
13. Queue Jumpers 插队者 (34)
(Language Point : Colloquialism)
14. Electronic Computers 电子计算机 (38)
(Language Point : Gerund; as)
15. A Visit to the Cinema 看电影 (44)
(Language Point : should, would)
16. Semicircles Inside a Semicircle 半圆内的
半圆 (50)
17. Try, Try Again (A Poem) 试试, 再试试
(诗一首) (52)
18. Chinese Ancient Fables 中国古代寓言
(1) Marking the Boat to Locate the Sword
刻舟求剑 (57)
(2) Buying a Pair of Shoes 郑人买履 (57)
(3) Self-Knowledge 自知之明 (58)
- Riddles (7 Pieces) 谜语七则 (60)
19. The Ten Friends 十个朋友 (62)
(Language Point : The Imperative
Sentence)
20. A Bundle of Sticks 一捆柴枝 (63)

- (Language Point: The Simple Past Tense)
21. The Wolf and the Lamb 狼和小羊…… (64)
(Language Point: The Simple Past Tense)
22. Peter and His Key 彼得和他的钥匙…… (66)
(Language Point: The Present Perfect Tense)
23. A Lesson 一个教训…… (67)
(Language Point: Comparison Between the Simple Past Tense and the Present Perfect Tense)
24. A Tibetan Folk Tale 西藏民间故事一则… (68)
(Language Point: The Simple Past Tense)
25. Think Again 再想一想…… (70)
(Language Point: one, a)
26. The Man and the Monkeys 人和猴子…… (71)
(Language Point: one, a, each)
27. The Wise Tortoise 聪明的乌龟…… (72)
(Language Point: Preposition)
28. The Crow 乌鸦…… (74)
(Language Point: enough)
29. An Exchange of Eyes 交换眼睛…… (75)
(Language Point: as…as…)
30. Gulliver and the Little People 格利佛和
小人国…… (77)
(Language Point: too…to…)

31. The Vase 花瓶 (81)
(Language Point: Comparison)
32. The Old Man and the Monkey 老人和猴子 ... (84)
(Language Point: so...that, such...that)
33. Aesop and the Traveller 伊索和旅行者 (86)
(Language Point: Object Clause)
34. The Treasure 珍宝 (87)
(Language Point: Object Clause)
35. The Ant and the Dove 蚂蚁和鸽子 (88)
(Language Point: Object Complement)
36. The Sea 海洋 (89)
(Language Point: The Complex Sentence)
37. Journey to the Moon(I) 月球旅行(一) (92)
(Language Point: The Present Perfect Tense)
38. Journey to the Moon(II) 月球旅行(二) (95)
(Language Point: So (Neither) do I.)
39. Tower of Strength 力量之塔 (97)
(Language Point: Cardinal Numerals)
40. Dr Robot 机器人医生 (100)
(Language Point: if)
41. Machine Tools 机床 (102)
(Language Point: The Passive Voice)
42. Edison's Thinking Cap 爱迪生动脑筋 (105)
(Language Point: it)
43. Breathing 呼吸 (109)

- (Language Point: V-ing)
44. Proteins 蛋白质 (111)
- (Language Point: Gerund and Attributive
Clause)
45. How Many Units Long Is the Longest Side?
最长的边是多少单位长? (113)
- (Language Point: The Past Participle
Used as Attribute)
- Humour (Seven Pieces) 笑话七则 (115)
- Riddles (Eight Pieces) 谜语八则 (120)

1. What the River Says

(Language Point : The Present Tense)

I am a river.

I rise¹ far, far away among the mountains.

At first I am a little brook. I flow down the mountain-side² into the valley.

Many other brooks join me there.

I rush on and on³. I grow larger and larger. Then people call me a river.

I water the land. There are fine farms on my banks. I flow by many villages and towns. Then I rush by a great city. At last I join the sea.

I am a very useful river. I carry ships from place to place⁴. Even very big ocean-going ships can go up as far as ten miles from the sea⁵.

But I am not always gentle⁶ and useful, you know.

Sometimes too much rain falls. Then my water rises higher and higher. I used to overflow⁷ my banks. Then the villages along my banks were under water. People called it a flood. Now they have built dams⁸ and reservoirs⁹. They want to make full use of¹⁰ my water.

1. rise——发源于;起因于。 2. mountain-side——山腰。 3. on and on——without stopping。 4. from place to place——从一个地方到另一个地方。 5. ocean-going ships... the sea——远洋轮船可从大海向上游行驶达10哩。 6. gentle[/'dʒentl]——温柔的。 7. overflow——从……溢出。 8. dam——水闸。 9. reservoir [/'rezəvwa:]——水库。 10. to make full use of——充分利用。

2. A Boy's Coins¹

(Language Point: a, the)

There was a little boy in a small country in the East. His mother worked day after day. In the morning, she baked cakes. In the afternoon, she stayed in the park with the cakes. In the evening, she was back home with some coins.

One day, she was sick in bed. She handed a box to her boy. "There are one hundred cakes in this box. Go to the park with these cakes and sell them all. Now, listen. There are many people in the park. Some of them are bad people. Come home early."

There were a lot of people in the park. The boy opened the box and cried, "Cakes! Cakes!

Try the best cakes in the country!"

A man tried one of the cakes. "Oh, it's delicious!" he cried. "This cake is more delicious than any other cake. It's the most delicious of all the cakes in the country."

"Thank you. My mother bakes them with the best oil in the country."

Many people were listening. Some wanted three cakes, and others wanted five.

After a little time, there were not any cakes in the box. There were one hundred coins in it.

Then there was a woman's cry. "Help! Help!" A big dog was near the woman. The boy went up to the dog and cried, "Go away, bad dog! Go away!" The dog soon went away from the woman.

The boy came back to his box. But there were no coins in it.

"Oh, my coins! Where are they? Oh! Oh! Oh!" cried the boy. "I can't go home."

An old man was standing near him.

"Where were your coins, boy?" said the man.

"They were in this cake box," said the boy.

"Well," said the man. "I can get back your coins..... Listen, all of you. There is a bad man among us. Come here, all of you."

"Here is another box," said the old man.

"There is some water in it. Put a coin in it, all of you. This box can find the bad man."

"I didn't take the boy's coins," said one man. He put a coin in the box.

All the people in the park put coins in the box. The old man said to the last man, "That's the boy's coin. Did you take it?"

"No, I didn't," he said.

"Yes, you did," said the old man. "Look at the oil on the water in the box. The oil was on the boy's coin. Put all his coins here."

In this way, the boy got back all his coins. He was very happy.

(from New Prince English Course)

1. coin——硬币,钱币。 2. Help!——(呼救用语)救人啊!救命啊!

3. Two Promises

(Language Point: Infinitive)

In ancient China two girls were married to¹ two brothers who lived with their father. The young wives were often lonesome² in their new home. To go to see their mothers in their old homes was their long-cherished³ hope. As their

mother-in-law⁴ was dead, they had to ask their father-in-law⁵ for leave to visit their mothers. They asked to go so often that the old father thought out a Plan to keep them at home.

One day he said, "You're always begging to go to see your mothers. Now you may go. But when you come back, each of you must bring me something that I want. One of you must bring me some fire wrapped in Paper. The other must bring me some wind, wrapped in Paper too. Unless⁶ you Promise to bring these things, you must never ask to go again. If you can't bring them, you must never come back." The women Promised and did not think much of it at first. After they had walked a long way, they were very tired. Then they sat down to rest. As soon as they thought of the Promise, they began to cry. "We can never carry fire in Paper," they said. "And how can we wrap wind in Paper?"

Just then a beautiful girl came along. She stopped, and asked why they were so sad, and what she could do to help them. "You can't do anything for us," they said. But they told her their story. The young girl told them that if they would go home with her, she would show them a way to get out of⁷ their trouble. Not knowing

what else to do, they went with her to her father's house.

"To carry fire in paper," said the young girl after consulting⁸ her father, "is quite easy. All you need is to have a paper lantern⁹. Light¹⁰ the candle, and you'll have fire wrapped in paper." One of the wives was glad when she heard this.

But the other said, "How can I ever take wind in paper?"

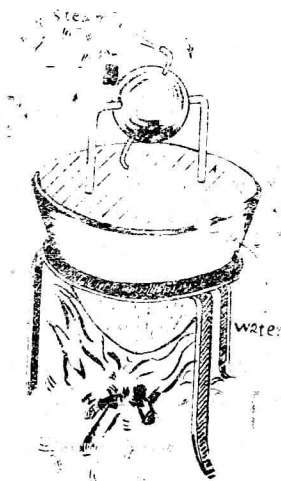
"Well," said the young girl, "to have a fan will do¹¹. When you move the fan, you'll get wind in the paper." The girls thanked her, and went on their way.

After the visit to their mothers, they took a lantern and a fan. They went back to the house of their father-in-law. The old father was surprised to see how easy it was to do the hard things he had asked of them.

1. were married to——嫁给,和…结婚. 2. lonesome [ˈləʊnsəm]——寂寞的. 3. long-cherished——长期怀有的, 被长期渴望的. 4. mother-in-law——岳母; 婆婆. 5. father-in-law——岳父; 公公. 6. unless——if not. 7. to get out of——摆脱. 8. consulting——consult [kənˈsʌlt]; 与……商量. 9. lantern [ˈlæntən]——灯笼. 10. light——点燃. 11. will do——就行了.

4. Jet Propulsion¹

(Language Point: The Present Tense
in Scientific Writing)



Look at this picture. Do you know what it is? What makes the sphere² rotate?

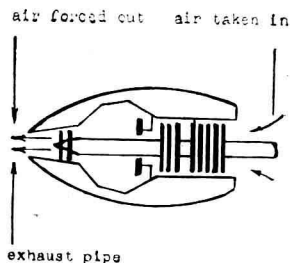
It is a simple jet engine which was built by a Greek scientist many, many years ago. So the principle of jet propulsion is not a new one!

We know that water evaporates and expands when it is heated.³ One cubic centimetre⁴ of water produces about twelve cubic centimetres of steam. When water changes into steam, the heat gives energy to the water molecules. They move in all directions, thus causing expansion. This is why compressed steam is a valuable source of energy⁵.

A modern jet plane uses the same sort of energy. Backward thrust⁶ produces forward motion⁷. Action is equal to reaction.⁸ You don't need the above apparatus⁹ to test this basic scien-

tific principle. Just blow up a balloon¹⁰. Let it go¹¹ and ask yourself what makes it move.

Now look at this diagram¹² of a turbo-jet aeroplane engine¹³.



The burning of the fuel heats the air, which is forced out through the exhaust pipe¹⁴ and provides the forward thrust. It is the smoke from the exhaust pipe which can be seen behind a jet plane in the sky. A jet plane can reach much higher speeds than a normal plane. The world's fastest jet plane has reached a speed of 2,200 miles per hour and a height of nearly 100,000 feet.

(from Learn English for Science, 1)

1. jet propulsion[prə'pʌljən]——喷气推进。 2. sphere[sfiə]——球体。 3. water...heated——水受热后就蒸发和膨胀。 evaporate [i'væpəreit]: 蒸发。 expand [iks'pænd]: 膨胀。 4. cubic['kju:bik] centimetre——立方厘米。 5. compressed steam is a valuable source of energy——压缩蒸汽是一种重要的能源。 compressed: pushed together in a small space. valuable ['væljuəbl]: important, worth a lot of money. 6. backward thrust——后向推力。 7. forward motion

——前进运动。 8. Action is equal to reaction.——作用等于反作用。 9. apparatus [ˈæpə'reɪtəs]——设备, 仪器。 10. blow up a balloon [bə'lu:n]——吹鼓一个气球。 11. Let it go——(松手)放开它。 12. diagram [ˈdaɪəgrəm]——示意图。 13. turbo-jet aeroplane engine——涡轮喷气飞机发动机。 14. exhaust [ɪg'zɔ:st] pipe——排气管。

5. Electricity

(Language Point: Adverbial Clause of Condition)

About 2,000 years ago, Wang Chong¹, a Chinese scientist, discovered that if one² rubbed a piece of amber³ with a piece of fur or wood, he could always produce electricity. Scientists say that the amber has become charged with electricity⁴. When this happens, there are sometimes sparks, and the amber will attract to it⁵ small pieces of paper or other very light objects.

Until the 19th century, no one knew much more about electricity than this. Now, though there are still some things that we do not understand, we know a great deal about how it behaves⁶ and how to use it. We also know that everything is made up of atoms, and that these atoms contain elec-

tricity. Therefore everything has electricity in it.

If you stroke⁷ a cat, especially in very dry weather, you may notice that its hair often seems to stand up and crackle⁸. The same sort of thing sometimes happens to your own hair if you comb it hard. Another way to produce electricity is to pull a nylon vest or shirt over your head. In case⁹ you do this in a dark room, you may not only hear a crackle, but you may sometimes see a spark or flash of light¹⁰, made by the electricity. In all these cases, the electricity is caused by the rubbing of one thing against another.

Supposing¹¹ you want to experiment with electricity, what materials would you use? Amber is a good thing to use, but in case you do not have any, a plastic fountain-pen or the handle of a toothbrush will do. As long as¹² you hold the tooth brush by its brush and rub the handle hard against the sleeve of your coat, or a piece of fur, both the toothbrush and your sleeve will often become electrically charged. If you now tear up a bit of thin paper into tiny pieces and put them on the table, your electrically-charged toothbrush handle will pick them up on condition that¹³ it is held closely above the pieces of paper.

When you pull your nylon vest or shirt over