
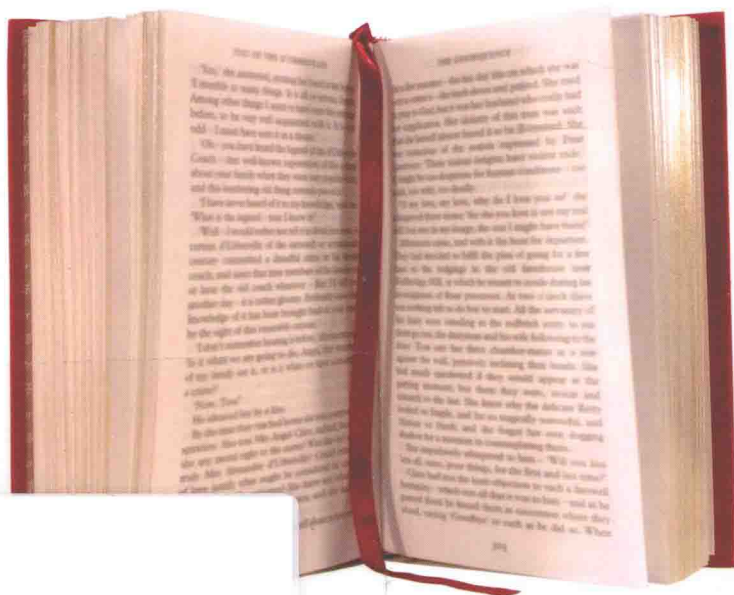


读故事 学SAT

Reading Stories for SAT

 考天下学习网 编



英美故事精品选读，高频词汇巧妙记忆

中英文对照阅读，全面丰富SAT阅读文化背景知识




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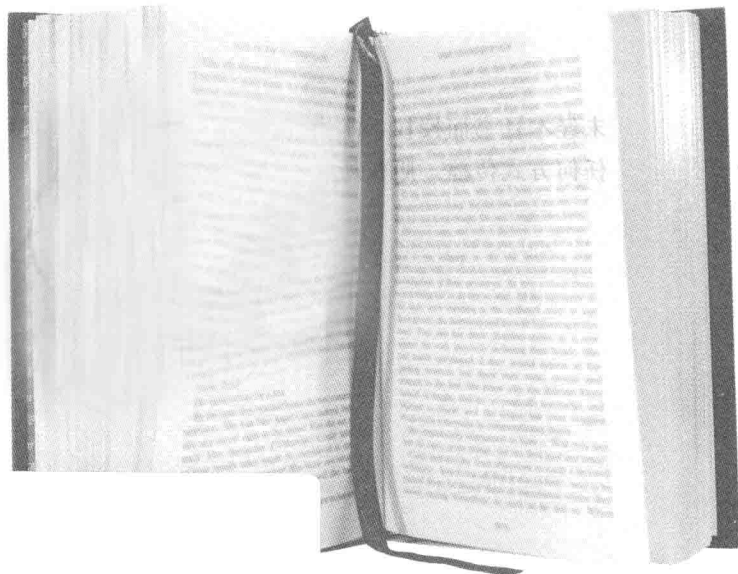
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P 前 言

Preface

对于中国的考生而言，SAT 考试的阅读部分应该是一块最难啃的骨头。SAT 阅读要求考生达到 1 万左右的词汇量，题量大，时间紧，因而要求考生在备考时将积累单词作为一门重要的功课。本书打破传统的词汇记忆方式，将枯燥的 SAT 考试词汇与生动的小故事相结合，在阅读文章的同时记单词，语境记忆，快速高效。

在我们这样一个汉语占绝对主导地位的语言环境里，要想学好英语，一个最简便易行而又经济实用的方法就是阅读。阅读可以提高听、说、读、写、译等多方面的能力，可以学习多方面的知识，可以非常有效地复习、巩固所学语言知识点。阅读在给人们带来快感的同时，从根本上提高了读者的语言感受力。

《读故事 学 SAT》便是让你结合优美、睿智的语境识记单词的一本好书！本书具有以下特点：

1. 突破了同类教材在题材和体裁方面的狭隘性

本书包括名人故事、幽默故事、文化背景等各种题材，极具思想性、趣味性、知识性、挑战性和时代性，内容全面丰富，是培养阅读技巧、增进语言修养的上佳之作。

2. 选材新颖广泛

本书所选文段均与生活息息相关，使读者在洞悉世界最新动态、人情世俗的同时，体验学习英语的价值所在。

3. 文章英汉对照

全书每篇文章均配有准确流畅的中文译文,帮助读者完整地理解和掌握每一个故事的意思。

4. 词汇注解详尽

本书对每一篇选文中的“真题词汇”进行了详细的解释说明,并匹配真题例句,让考生切实感受单词的真实语境,体会该词在真题中的实际用法,大大提高对真题语言的熟悉程度。

在故事语境中记单词,可以全面提升语言运用能力。学生通过阅读故事的上下文熟悉并记忆单词,印象会更加深刻,更适于模仿,更能在实战中运用自如。

《读故事 学 SAT》同时也适合社会上各类英语爱好者阅读,书中文章短小精悍、滴水藏海,将许多人生哲理以最简单、最质朴的方式呈现给读者,寓情于理、催人上进,给人以美的享受。翻开这本书,就如同交上一位良师益友。它可以改变你人生的坐标,奏响生命的乐章;它能让你变得睿智、豁达、优雅、美丽;它虽不能改变你人生的起点,但可以改变你人生的终点。相信通过本书的学习,你的英语水平会有质的飞跃,相信英语词汇不再成为阻碍你进步的绊脚石!

由于时间仓促且编者水平有限,书中错误和不妥之处希望广大读者批评指正。

编 者

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Passage 1

St. Nicholas Described by Irving

欧文笔下的圣·尼古拉

To support the American Revolution, the American author **Washington Irving**^① used a Dutch **St. Nicholas**^② to contrast the **patriotic**^③, hardworking Dutch-Americans with the **soft-living**^④ British. The St. Nicholas described in Irving's **Knickerbocker**^⑤ History was not the traditional serious holy saint who protected travelers and rewarded good children. Instead he was very much like the Dutch **immigrants**^⑥—a happy, fat little man, but riding through the air in a **sleigh**^⑦ pulled by **reindeer**^⑧. And this description of a smiling, jolly, **mischievous**^⑨ little man became the model for what is today's most famous St. Nicholas story.

There is one famous poem about St. Nicholas written by Dr. Clement Clark Moore to his children. He read it to them on December 22nd, 1822. One of his visitors that night liked the poem so much that he copied it down and had the poem published at

为了支持美国革命,美国作家华盛顿·欧文使用了荷兰的圣·尼古拉来将爱国而又自强不息的美籍荷兰人与娇气的英国人作了对比。欧文的《荷兰移民后裔的历史》一书中所描述的圣·尼古拉不是传统上严肃的保护旅行者,奖励好孩子的圣徒。相反,他非常像荷兰移民——一个快乐而又胖乎乎的小个子驾着驯鹿拉的雪橇驶过天空。对这个面带微笑、快乐而又淘气的小个子的描述后来成了现在最著名的圣·尼古拉故事中圣诞老人的样子。

有一首关于圣·尼古拉的很著名的诗是由克莱门特·克拉克·摩尔博士写给他的孩子们的。他把诗在1822年12月22日那一日读给他的孩子们。那天晚上的一位来访者非常喜欢这首诗,他抄录下来,并在第二年,即1823年圣诞节期间

① **Washington Irving** 华盛顿·欧文(1783~1859,美国散文家,小说家及历史学家)

② **St. Nicholas** 圣·尼古拉(即圣诞老人)

③ **patriotic** [ˌpætri'ɒtɪk] a. 爱国的.

④ **soft-living** [sɒft'lɪvɪŋ] a. 娇气的;不能吃苦的

⑤ **Knickerbocker** ['nɪkəbəkə] n. 荷兰移民后裔

⑥ **immigrant** ['ɪmɪgrənt] n. 移民

⑦ **sleigh** [sleɪ] n. 雪橇

⑧ **reindeer** ['reɪn'diə] n. 驯鹿

⑨ **mischievous** ['mɪstʃɪvəs] a. 淘气的

Christmastime the next year, 1823, in a small newspaper. Soon the poem was being printed all over America at Christmas. Dr. Moore called his poem "A Visit from St. Nicholas", but it soon became known by its first line, "'T' was the night before Christmas." The St. Nicholas described in the poem was Washington Irving's same tiny, jolly, mischievous, chubby little man riding across the sky in his gift-filled sleigh pulled by eight equally tiny, little reindeer.

在一家小报上发表出来。很快这首诗就在圣诞节时在全美国印刷出来。摩尔博士给他的诗起名“圣·尼古拉来访”，但很快这首诗就以其第一行“那是圣诞前夜”而闻名遐迩。这首诗里描述的圣·尼古拉与华盛顿·欧文描述的一样，是一个身材矮小、快乐、淘气而又胖乎乎的小个子，驾着他那装满礼物的、由八个身材同样矮小的驯鹿拉着的雪橇驶过天空。

真题词汇

known [nəʊn] *a.* (know 的过去分词) 已知的; 大家知道的

【真题例句】 They thought of translators as having read a work and then somehow evolving that work from themselves, from their own might, from the *known* possibilities of their own languages. 他们认为翻译家是一群读过原著, 并且通过他们自身的一己之力及对语言的理解能力来演绎原著的人。

description [dɪs'krɪpʃən] *n.* 描述, 描写

【真题例句】 The idea of a bull is therefore great, and it has frequently a place in sublime *descriptions*, and elevating comparisons 因此公牛是雄壮的, 并且它常常被认为是令人敬畏的, 以及在对比时, 也会被提升到较重要的地位。

Passage 2

Not for Criticism, but for Applause

不是为了批评， 而是为了掌声

It never occurred to Richard Wagner that he and his doing were not of the most intense and fascinating interest to anyone with whom he came into contact. He had theories of almost any subject under the sun, including **vegetarianism**^①, the drama, politics, and music; and in support of these theories he wrote pamphlets, letters, books... thousands upon thousands of words, hundreds upon hundreds of pages. He not only wrote these things, and published them—usually **at somebody else's expense**^②—but he would sit and read them aloud, for hours, to his friends and family.

He wrote **operas**^③, and no sooner did he have the **synopsis**^④ of a story, than he would invite—or rather **summon**^⑤—a crowd of his friends to his house and read it aloud to them. Not for criticism, but for applause. When the complete poem was written, the friends had to come again, and hear that read aloud. Then he would publish the poem, sometimes years before the music that went with it was written. He played the piano like a composer, in the

理查德·瓦格纳压根儿就没有想过，与他有过交往的人，并不感到他这个人和他所做的事最富有情趣、为之倾倒。他几乎对世间的一切问题都有自己的见解，包括素食主义、戏剧、政治以及音乐。为了证实自己的观点，他写了小册子、信、书……连篇累牍，好几百页。他不仅写这些东西，还拿去出版——所需费用往往是别人支付——而且常常一连好几个小时坐着读给他的朋友和家人听。

他写歌剧，常常是刚有一个故事梗概就邀请——或者更确切地说召集——一群朋友到他家来，把故事梗概读给他们听。不是为了批评，而是为了掌声。整出戏的歌词写完后，朋友们得再来听他朗诵。然后他就送去发表。有时歌词发表好几年，配词的乐曲才创作出来。他弹钢琴只是像个作曲家弹得那样（从这句话所能隐含的最糟糕的意义上讲），弹得糟透了，然而，他却常常坐在钢琴旁，面对包括他那个时代最杰出的钢琴家在内的一群

① **vegetarianism** [ˌvedʒɪ'teəriənɪzəm] *n.* 素食主义

② **at sb.'s expense** 归某人付费(或负担)

③ **opera** [ˈɒpərə] *n.* 歌剧，戏剧

④ **synopsis** [sɪ'nɒpsɪs] *n.* 大纲；提要；梗概

⑤ **summon** ['sʌmən] *v.* 召集；召唤

worst sense of what that implies, and he would sit down at the piano before parties that included some of the finest pianists of his time, and play for them, **by the hour**^①, his own music, **needless to say**^②. He had a composer's voice. And he would invite outstanding **vocalists**^③ to his house, and sing them his operas, taking all the parts.

人,一小时接一小时地为他们弹奏个不停。不用说,弹的都是他自己创作的音乐作品。他有一副作曲家的歌喉。他常常把著名的声乐家请到家里,亲自为他们演唱他的歌剧,并且包揽所有角色。

真题词汇

occur [ə'kɜː] *vi.* 发生;出现;存在;使想起;被想到(to)

【真题例句】In fact, we have now identified where in the brain such cross wiring might *occur*. 事实上,现在我们已经确定了这种错接在大脑内可能发生区域和位置。

theory ['θiəri] *n.* 理论,原理;学说;意见,看法

【真题例句】That no one *theory* of the universe can deservedly gain permanent predominance does not mean that all theories are equally valid. 没有任何一个关于宇宙的理论可以理所当然地处于永久的支配地位,然而,这并不意味着所有理论同样正确。

subject ['sʌbdʒɪkt] *n.* 臣民;属民;庶民;主题;题目;学科;科目;(指人或动物)研究对象,实验对象

【真题例句】The definition of “the sublime” has been the *subject* of much discussion and debate. 这种“令人敬畏的”情感曾经是很多讨论与辩论的主题。

outstanding [aʊt'stændɪŋ] *a.* 杰出的,突出的,未付的

【真题例句】One *outstandingly* devious group of deep-sea predatory fish, *Malacosteus*, has developed a system of red searchlights that are probably invisible to everybody except themselves. 柔骨鱼属于在深海中是一群极其阴险的捕食者,它们进化出了一种除了这种鱼外其他鱼类不可见的红色“探照灯”。

① **by the hour** 按钟点

② **needless to say** 不必说

③ **vocalist** ['vɒkəlɪst] *n.* 声乐家;歌手

/// Passage 3

One of the Greatest American Athlete

美国最伟大的运动员

The railroad station was **jammed**^①. Students from Lafayette College were crowding onto the train platform eagerly awaiting the arrival of the Carlisle Indian School's **track and field squad**^②. No one would have believed it a few months earlier. A school that nobody had heard of was suddenly beating big, famous colleges in **track meets**^③. Surely these Carlisle athletes would come **charging off**^④ the train, one after another, like a **Marine battalion**^⑤.

The train finally arrived and two young men—one big and broad, the other small and slight—stepped onto the platform.

“Where is the track team?” A Lafayette student asked.

“This is the team.” replied the big fellow.

“Just the two of you?”

“**Nope**^⑥, just me,” said the big fellow, “This little guy is the manager.”

The Lafayette students shook their

火车站挤得水泄不通。拉斐德学院的学生们一齐拥上站台，热切地等待着卡莱尔印第安人学校田径队的到来。倘若在几个月前，准没有人相信，一个谁也没听说过的学校，会在田径场上突然大败许多有名的大学。不用说，这些卡莱尔的运动员抵达后，准会像一营海军陆战队队员那样，一个接一个冲下火车。

火车终于到站了，两个年轻人——一位，个儿高，体态魁梧；另一位，个儿矮，长相瘦弱——踏上了站台。

“田径队在哪儿？”一位拉斐德的学生问道。

“就在这儿。”大个子回答道。

“就你们两个？”

“不，就我一个，”大个子说，“这位小兄弟是领队。”

拉斐德的学生们诧异地摇摇头。一

① **jam** [dʒæm] *v.* 拥挤

② **track and field squad** 田径队

③ **track meets** 田径比赛

④ **charge off** 冲出

⑤ **Marine battalion** 海军陆战队营

⑥ **nope** [nəʊp] [口]不

heads in wonder. Somebody must be playing a joke on them. If this big fellow was the whole Carlisle track team, he would be competing against an entire Lafayette squad.

He did. He ran **sprints**^①, he ran **hurdles**^②, he ran distant races. He high-jumped, he broad-jumped. He threw the **javelin**^③ and the **shot**^④. **Finishing first**^⑤ in eight **events**^⑥, the big fellow beat the whole Lafayette team.

The big fellow was **Jim Thorpe**^⑦, the greatest American athlete of modern times.

定有人在和他们开玩笑。如果卡莱尔田径队就只有大个子一人,那他就得和整个拉斐德田径队比试高低了。

确实如此。他短跑、跨栏、长跑、跳高、跳远。他又投标枪又掷铅球。大个子赢得八项第一,一个人击败了整个拉斐德田径队。

这位大个子就是美国现代最伟大的运动员吉姆·索普。

真题词汇

crowd [kraud] *n.* 人群,群众;一群,一批 *vi.* 聚集,群集

【真题例句】A fool takes in all the lumber of every sort that he comes across, so that the knowledge which might be useful to him gets *crowded* out, or at best is jumbled up with a lot of other things, so that he has a difficulty in laying his hands upon it. 傻瓜才会把他遇到的所有杂物都放进去,这样一来,那些对他有用的知识会被挤出去,或者至多这些知识和很多其他的东西混在一起,以至于当他需要使用某些知识的时候会完全无从下手。

charge [tʃɑ:dʒ] *n.* 价钱,费用;管理,照管,掌管;控告,指控,指责;罪名;电荷,充电,负荷 *vt.* 索(价),要……支付;控告,指控,指责;使充电,使充满;委以责任;攻击;改变 *vi.* 收费,要价;冲锋,向前冲

【真题例句】However, it cannot be denied that it was Smith who introduced such a target for later novelists and that when she did, her action was considered so audacious that it laid her open to the *charge* of being a “menace.” 然而,我们不能否认

① **sprint** [sprɪnt] *n.* 短跑

② **hurdle** [ˈhɜ:dəl] *n.* 跨栏

③ **javelin** [ˈdʒævəlɪn] *n.* 标枪

④ **shot** [ʃɒt] *n.* 铅球

⑤ **finish first** 获得第一名

⑥ **event** [ɪˈvent] *n.* 比赛项目

⑦ **Jim Thorpe** [dʒɪm θɔ:p] 吉姆·索普(美国现代伟大运动员)

是史密斯为后世的小说家引出了这样一条路；此外，她曾多次受到恐吓，这足以证明她是多么的无畏。

compete [kəm'pi:t] *v.* 比赛, 对抗

【真题例句】 When an Asian beauty contestant *competed* for Miss World or Miss Universe, my father invariably turned to me and said, in all seriousness, “Helen, why don't you try for Miss World?” 当美丽的亚裔佳丽赢得“世界小姐”或“环球小姐”称号时,我爸爸总是转向我,然后严肃地对我说:“海伦,为什么你不去比赛试试呢?”

step [step] *n.* 步,脚步;步骤,措施;台阶,梯级 *vi.* 跨步,行走;踩,踏上(on)

【真题例句】 Whenever I *stepped* outside the restaurant it seemed I was entering a world unknown to my family: school, church, friends' houses, the town beyond Main Street. 无论何时,我走出餐馆就像是进入了一个对于我的家人来说一无所知的世界:学校、教堂、朋友家与主街以外的城镇。

Passage 4

Is He the Highest Type of Citizen?

他是公民的最高典范?

In 1912 the Olympic Games were held in **Stockholm**^①. Jim Thorpe was selected for the United States Olympic track team, and went to **Sweden**^②. On the ship, while the other athletes **limbered up**^③, Thorpe slept in his bunk. In Sweden, while other athletes trained, Thorpe relaxed in a hammock. He never strained when he didn't feel it necessary. But Thorpe, who never wanted to practice, but never lacked confidence in his ability, was the American hero of the Games.

The two competitions requiring perhaps the most **endurance**^④ and strength are the **pentathlon**^⑤, a series of five varied track events, and the **decathlon**^⑥, a series of ten track events, all **performed**^⑦ by one man. Never before in the history of the modern Olympics had one man competed in both pentathlon and decathlon at one meeting of the Olympic Games. Thorpe did this and won both of these difficult events. The King of Sweden,

1912年奥运会在斯德哥尔摩举行。吉姆·索普被选入美国奥林匹克田径代表团, 随队去瑞典参加奥运会。在船上, 别的运动员都在活动身体, 索普却在床上睡大觉。到了瑞典, 别的运动员在训练, 索普却躺在吊床上休息。不到必要的时候, 他从来不肯使劲。但从来不想练习却从未对自己的能力缺乏信心的索普, 成了奥运会上的美国英雄。

五项全能比赛, 即一系列的五种不同的田径项目; 十项全能比赛, 即一系列的十种不同的田径项目由一个人完成, 可能是最需要耐力和体力的两个比赛项目了。在现代奥运会历史上, 从来没有任何人在一届奥运会上既参加五项全能比赛又参加十项全能比赛的。索普这样做了, 而且他在这些艰难的项目中都取得了胜利。瑞典国王古斯塔夫五世赠给索普两枚金质奖章和其他价值五万美元的奖品。“先生,” 国王说, “你是全世界最伟大的运动

① **Stockholm** ['stɒkɦəʊm] (瑞典首都) 斯德哥尔摩

② **Sweden** ['swi:dn] *n.* 瑞典

③ **limber up** 活动身体

④ **endurance** [ɪn'dʒʊərəns] *n.* 耐力

⑤ **pentathlon** [pen'tæθlɒn] *n.* 五项全能比赛

⑥ **decathlon** [di'kæθlɒn] *n.* 十项全能比赛

⑦ **perform** [pə'fɔ:m] *vt.* 表演; 比赛

