

美文夜读120篇

賞析与学习结合・于轻松中掌握词汇语法

语言与文学结合·于悦读中领略双语魅力

经典与时代结合·于方寸中纵览全球热点

中国铁道出版社 CHINA RAILWAY PUBLISHING HOUSE

大学英语四级 第 文夜读120篇

主 编,宋平明 副主编: 陈天然

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

大学英语四级美文夜读 120篇:纯正美音版/宋平明 主编.一北京:中国铁道出版社,2014.8

ISBN 978-7-113-18451-3

I.①大··· Ⅱ.①宋··· Ⅲ.①大学英语水平考试一阅读教学—自学参考资料 Ⅳ.①H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2014)第 084758 号

书 名:大学英语四级美文夜读 120 篇(纯正美音版)

作 者:宋平明 主编

责任编辑: 张艳霞 电话:010-51873005 投稿信箱: zyxbooks@126. com

编辑助理:孙晓明 封面设计:王 岩 责任校对:龚长江 责任印制:赵星辰

出版发行:中国铁道出版社(100054,北京市西城区右安门西街8号)

如 址: http://www. tdpress. com

印 刷:北京市新魏印刷厂

版 次:2014年8月第1版 2014年8月第1次印刷

开 本:880 mm×1 230 mm 1/32 印张:11.75 字数:288 千

书 号·ISBN 978-7-113-18451-3

定 价:35.00元(含盘)

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凡购买铁道版图书,如有印制质量问题,请与本社读者服务部联系调换。

作为一名在新东方讲授近十年的英语老师,我能够深刻感受到同学 们在英语学习过程中的困惑和难处,也能够切实把握住同学们学习英语 的节奏和规律,所以我希望通过自己对英语学习特点的理解以及学习规 律的掌握,为同学们提供力所能及的、切实有效的以及简单易学的英语 学习方法和教材。

前几年,我出版过一套大学英语四、六级美文阅读系列的图书,这 些图书深受同学们喜爱,一再加印,供不应求;但是几年过去了,有些 文章过于陈旧,出版时因为水平有限时间紧张也有些错误,所以这次重 新遴选更为时尚和经典的美文编写成书,希望能够给同学们的英语学习 提供更大的帮助。

本套书是作者在深刻领悟四级考试规律、综合英语综合水平提升技 巧以及总结长期一线教学实践经验而倾心编著的。我们精选了与大学英 语四级考试难度相似以及长度相似的各类文章,配上精美译文,标注常 考词汇以及常考词组,精准分析长难句,供大家学习、模仿以及写作时 参考使用。总的来说本套书有如下特点和功用:

经典选文与时尚选文结合,扩展知识面

本套书既选编了流传已久的经典美文,也选入了与时代脉搏紧密相连的时尚美文,让同学们阅读时既可以感悟经典也可以与时俱进,从而能够紧跟时代步伐,掌握英语精华。

素质提升与应试教育结合, 注重实用性

同学们可以通过阅读和学习本套书而使阅读、翻译、语法甚至写作 方面得到全面的提高,既能应付各类考试,亦能提高综合素质,成为时 代完美弄潮儿。

常考词汇与语法分析结合, 提升阅读力

选文结合大学英语四级常考词汇,让同学们能够全面掌握考试词 汇,同时配备长难句的精准名师讲解,全面提升英语基词汇基础和长难 句分析能力。

美音朗读与精选美文结合, 强化听和说

很多同学苦于英文听说能力的难以提高,基于此本书聘请美籍外教针对书中遴选的美文进行对应朗读,便于同学们在读之余强化听写和朗读的能力。本书所提供的纯正美音朗读均提供 MP3 音频,同学们可以实现随时随地随身学英语的梦想。

我希望这套书能够为大家的英语学习提供切实的帮助,同学们能够 在阅读之后提升英文水平、感受英文魅力。希望大家能喜欢这套书!

宋平明

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Part One 成长教育

Unit 1

Foreword

习惯是一种最不被人重视的存在,然而习惯却会把你引向成功或者失 败。良好的习惯能使平庸者成为人才,不好的习惯却只能埋没人才。

Excellence Is Not An Act, But A Habit

Our character, basically, is a composite of our habits. "Sow a thought, reap an action; sow an action, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny," the maxim goes.

Habits are powerful factors in our lives. Because they are consistent, often unconscious patterns, they constantly, daily, express our character and produce our effectiveness or ineffectiveness.

As Horace Mann, the great educator, once said, "Habits are like a cable. We weave a strand of it everyday and soon it cannot be broken. "I personally do not agree with the last part of his expression. I know habits can be learned and unlearned. But I also know it isn't a quick fix. It involves a process and a tremendous commitment.

1) Those of us who watched the lunar voyage of Apollo 11 were transfixed as we saw the first men walk on the moon and return to earth. But to get there, those astronauts literally had to break out of the tremendous gravity pull of the earth. More energy was spent in the first few minutes of lift off, in the first few miles of travel, than was used over the next several days to travel half a million miles.

Habits, too, have tremendous gravity pull more than most people realize or would admit. Breaking deeply imbedded habitual tendencies such as prograstination, impatience, criticalness, or selfishness that violate basic principles of human effectiveness involves more than a little willpower and a few minor changes in our lives. "Lift off" takes a tremendous effort, but once we break out of the gravity pull, our freedom takes on a whole new dimension.

Like any natural force, gravity pull can work with us or against us. The gravity pull of some of our habits may currently be keeping us from going where we want to go. But it is also gravity pull that keeps our world together, that keeps the planets in their orbits and our universe in order. It is a powerful force, and if we use it effectively, we can use the gravity pull of habit to create the cohesiveness and order necessary to establish effectiveness in our lives.

卓越仅仅是一个习惯

人的品德基本上是由习惯组成的。俗语说:思想决定行动,行动决定习 惯,习惯决定品德,品德决定命运。

习惯对我们的生活有绝大的影响,因为它是一贯的。在不知不觉中,经 年累月影响着我们的品德,暴露出我们的本性,左右着我们的成败。

美国著名教育家曼恩曾说:"习惯就仿佛是一条缆绳,我们每天为他缠上一股 新索,不用多久就会变得牢不可破。"这句话的后半段我不敢苟同,我相信习惯可 以养成,也可以打破,但绝不是一蹴而就,而是需要长期的努力和无比的毅力。

●宇航员搭乘阿波罗 11 号太空船, 首次登陆月球的刹那, 的确令我们所 有人叹为观止。但宇航员得先摆脱地球强大的引力,才能飞往月球。由此在 刚发射的几分钟,也就是整个任务一开始的几英里之内,是最艰难的时刻,所 耗的力量往往超越往后的几十万英里。

习惯也是一样,它具有极大的引力,只是许多人不加注意或不肯承认了。 ❷想要革除因循符目,缺乏耐心,吹毛求疵或自私自利等不良习性,若是缺乏 意志力,不能大刀阔斧的改革,便难以实现目标。"起飞"需要极大的努力, 然而一旦脱离重力的牵绊,我们便可享受前所未有的自由。

习惯的引力就如同自然界所有的力量一般,可以为我们所用,也可能危害我 们,关键看我们如何运用。不过,习惯或许一时有碍于达到目标,但也有积极的一 面。宇宙万物各循轨道运行,彼此保持一定的秩序,毕竟也都有赖于引力的作用。 所以只要我们善于运用习惯的庞大引力,就能使生活有重心,有秩序,有效率。

☞ 重难点词汇

composite ['kompəzit] adj. 合成的, 复合的 n. 合成物 sow [sau] vt. 播种, 散布, 使密布 vi. 播种 reap [ri:p] v. 收割、收获 maxim ['mæksim] n. 格言, 座右铭 consistent [kənˈsistənt] adj. 一致的 conscious [konfos] adj. 有意识的, 有知觉的 effective [i'fektiv] adj. 有效的 cable ['keibl] n. 电缆, 海底电报, 缆, 索 weave [wiiv] vt. 编织, 组合 strand [strænd] n. 绳、线之一股 vi. 搁浅 vt. 使陷于困境, 搓 tremendous [tri mendos] adj. 极大的, 巨大的 lunar ['lju:no] adj. 月的, 月亮的 transfix [træns fiks] vt. 刺穿, 使呆住 astronaut ['æstrənɔːt] n. 太空人, 宇航员 gravity ['græviti] n. 地心引力, 重力

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imbed [im'bed] v. 埋藏,埋入
procrastination [prəuˌkræsti'neifən] n. 延迟,拖延
selfish ['selfif] adj. 自私的
violate ['vaiəleit] vt. 违犯,亵渎(圣物),干扰
willpower ['wilpavə(r)] n. 毅力,意志力
dimension [di'menfən] n. 尺寸,尺度,维(数)
orbit ['ɔːbit] n. 轨道
cohesive [kəu'hiːsiv] adj. 粘着的
establish [is'tæblif] vt. 建立,设立
```

☞ 重难点词组

break out 突发,爆发 lift off (火箭,导弹等)发射,(直升机等)起飞 keep from doing 阻止,隐瞒,抑制 in order 整齐,状况良好,适宜

☞ 长难句精析

1. Those of us who watched the lunar voyage of Apollo 11 were transfixed as we saw the first men walk on the moon and return to earth.

结构精析:本句是复合句。主句 Those of us... were transfixed...是个被动句, who watched the lunar voyage of Apollo 11 是个定语从句修饰 Those of us, as we saw...是个 as 引导的时间状语从句。

语法重点:定语从句, as 引导的时间状语从句。

 Breaking deeply imbedded habitual tendencies such as procrastination, impatience, criticalness, or selfishness that violate basic principles of human effectiveness involves more than a little willpower and a few minor changes in our lives.

结构精析:本句是复合句。主句是 Breaking deeply imbedded habitual tendencies... involves more than a little willpower and a few minor changes in our lives,主语是动名词短语,其中的 more than 表示"不仅仅"的意思,that violate basic principles...是个 that 引导的定语从句,修饰前面的 procrastination, impatience, criticalness, selfishness 这几个名词。

语法重点:动名词短语做主语,定语从句, more than 比较结构。

Misfortunes never come alone. 祸不单行。

Unit 2

Foreword

《富爸爸,穷爸爸》以简单的方法帮助家长给孩子灌输重视钱的价值 观念,以及更好地了解挣钱的办法。

Rich Dad, Poor Dad

Most parents would probably be extremely grateful to be shown an easy way to instill into their children an appreciation of the value of money and a better understanding of how to make it. According to some critics, they can find the answer by reading a new bestselling book by financial wizard Robert T. Kiyosaki.

Rich Dad, Poor Dad has the title of a novel rather than a how-to treatise, and indeed, much of the book is written in story form. Its central theme is summed up by the subtitle What the Rich Teach Their Kids about Money That the Poor and Middle Class Do Not? The author also strongly disparages the tendency of most people to work for money rather than "letting money work for them" .

Kiyosaki illustrates his point in the first part of the book by narrating a story based on his childhood experiences. The title refers to the author's own highly educated father, the "poor dad" who always had to work hard to meet the family's needs; and the "rich dad", a neighbor who had dropped out of high school but whose financial acumen turned him into a multimillionaire.

The book has generated its share of negative feedback. For one thing, some reviewers have lashed out against its anti education slant. (3) All agree, though, that Kiyosaki is sound on the need to shake off a fearful, conservative mindset in order to make it big financially.

富爸爸,穷爸爸

●如果有个简单的方法能帮助家长给孩子灌输重视钱的价值观念,以及 更好地了解挣钱的办法,相信多数家长都会十分感激的。根据评论家的观 点,父母可以在一本由财经奇才罗伯特·T·清崎所著的畅销书中找到答案。 《富爸爸,穷爸爸》有点像小说的书名,而不像是一部入门的专著。的

确,书的大部分内容以故事的形式写成。书的副标题——富人教给孩子有关 金钱的观念和穷人与中产阶级所教的相左,归纳了该书的主题。作者也强烈 蔑视大多数人为钱工作而不是"让钱为人工作"的倾向。

清崎在书的第一部分根据自己童年的经历讲述故事来阐述他的观点。 ②书名中的"穷签签"是指他受过高等教育的父亲, 他为了满足家庭的需求 而努力工作:"富爸爸"则是指一位高中就辍学的邻居,但其敏锐的理财眼光 却使他成为大富豪。

本书也得到一些负面的反馈。其中一些图书评论家抨击了该书的反教 育倾向。 ③不过,大家都认为清崎的主张是合理的,要赚大钱就必须先摆脱 恐惧、保守的心态。

☞ 重难点词汇

extremely [iks'tri:mli] adv. 极端地、非常地 instill [in stil] vt. 慢慢地灌输 treatise ['trixtiz] n. 论文, 论述 disparage [dispærid3] vt. 蔑视, 贬损, 使失去信誉 illustrate ['iləstreit] vt. 举例说明, 图解, 加插图于, 阐明 vi. 举例 negative ['negativ] adj. 否定的,消极的,负的,阴性的 lash [læf] vt. 鞭打,摆动,扎捆,冲击,煽动 vi. 猛击,急速甩动 slant [slaint] v. (使)倾斜, 歪向 n. 倾斜 conservative [kən səːvətiv] adi, 保守的, 守旧的 n. 保守派

☞ 重难点词组

sum up 计算……的总数、概括、总结 refer to 查阅,提到,谈到,打听 meet one's need 满足某人的需要 drop out 不参与,离去,放弃 turn into 进入, (使)变成 lash out 猛击,急速甩动 shake off 抖落,摆脱

☞ 长难句精析

1. Most parents would probably be extremely grateful to be shown an easy way to instill into their children an appreciation of the value of money and a better understanding of how to make it.

结构精析:本句是一个简单句。主语是 Most parents,谓语结构是 would probably be extremely grateful to, to be shown...it 可以看做是不定式短语作宾

语, to instill...it 是不定式短语作后置定语修饰 way, how to...it 是带疑问词 的不定式短语作介词后的宾语。

语法重点:不定式短语做宾语,定语。

2. The title refers to the author's own highly educated father, the "poor dad" who always had to work hard to meet the family's needs; and the " rich dad", a neighbor who had dropped out of high school but whose financial acumen turned him into a multimillionaire.

结构精析:本句是一个并列复杂句。主句是 the title refers to..." poor dad" and the "rich dad"。两个 who 引导的定语从句分别修饰 poor dad 和 a neighbor, whose 引导定语从句修饰 a neighbor, 其中 but 是表示两个定语从句 中的轻微转折, to meet... needs 是不定式短语作目的状语。

语法重点 并列句,定语从句,不定式短语作状语。

3. All agree, though, that Kivosaki is sound on the need to shake off a fearful, conservative mindset in order to make it big financially.

结构精析:本句是个复合句。though 作为插入语,表示转折。主句是" All agree, ..., that..., that"引导宾语从句, to shake off... mindset 不定式短 语作后置定语修饰 need, in order to ... 是不定式短语作目的状语。

语法重点:不定式短语作定语,状语。

Good company on the road is the shortest cut. 行路有良伴就是捷径。

Unit 3

Foreword

学习成绩是否优异跟吃什么有关系吗?加拿大一项研究证实:饮食习惯好的孩子学习成绩也比较好。

Healthy Diet Means Better School Performance

Kids who eat better perform better in school, a new study of Nova Scotia fifthgraders confirms.

Students who are an adequate amount of fruit, vegetables, protein, fiber and other components of a healthy diet were significantly less likely to fail a literacy test, Dr. Paul J. Veugelers of the University of Alberta in Edmonton and colleagues found.

(1) While a healthy diet is generally assumed to be important for good school performance, there has actually been little research on this topic, Veugelers and his colleagues note. To investigate, they looked at 4 589 fifth-graders participating in the Children's Lifestyle and School-performance Study, 875 (19.1 percent) of whom had failed an elementary literacy assessment.

The better a student's eating habits bused on several measures of diet quality, including adequacy and variety, the less likely he or she was to have failed the test, the researchers found, even after they adjusted the data for the effects of parental income and education, school, and sex. Eating plenty of fruit and vegetables, and getting fewer calories from fat, was also associated with a lower risk of failing the test.

To date, Veugelers and his team say, most research on diet and school performance has <u>focused</u> on the importance of eating breakfast, as well as the ill effects of hunger and <u>mainutrition</u>.

"This study extends current knowledge in this area by demonstrating the independent importance of overall diet quality to academic performance," the researchers conclude.