



初中生 英美时文 阅读精选

DU JINGXUAN

八年级 上册

主编◎方 晨



南京大学出版社



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Section 1 Messages

Part 1 Food Label Tricks

Why is it important to read food labels before using them?

Labels tell us information on how to use the product correctly and safely. Will food labels certainly tell you what is contained in a product? Don't be fooled by your eyes.

Figure out these tricks:

Low Carbohydrate (sugar things)

"Low" means "no", that is really not the case. Don't just look at the amazing front, check the introductions on the back or side of a product.

100% Natural

Background pictures with a farm or some flowers don't tell you much about "natural". You are eating the food inside. If you're looking for meat from happier animals, get an "organic" label. This means "healthy" actually.

Gluten-free

Gluten-free foods can have a lot of sugar or very little fiber. They won't necessarily help you stay healthy, though there's "gluten" in the label.

Made with whole grains

Great! But just how many? Yes, "whole grains" makes you healthy. "100% whole wheat" is actually what you're looking for.

Contains real fruit

If you're looking at labels, flip to the ingredients. If you see ingredients like sugar listed above fruit, the sugar content is coming from the added sugar rather than the fruit.

Mini-dictionary

1. product: something that is made and sold by factories
2. contain: make something be a part of the whole
3. fool: play a trick on someone



4. figure out: make sure you know and understand it
5. organic: things made from natural animals and plants
6. gluten: something found in cereal grains such as wheat
7. flip: turn over to the right place
8. ingredient: an introduction of what is used in a product

Task for understanding

Use the words above to fill in the blanks.

1. All _____ from this factory are carefully examined to ensure the safety.
2. I recalled every _____ of the party and found my lost necklace finally.
3. Don't be _____ by his lovely appearance. He is in fact very selfish.
4. We must buy _____ fruit and vegetables. They're good for health.
5. He _____ the pages of the diary and began reading the last page.
6. Firefighters are trying to _____ how the fire started.
7. Milk, oil fish and egg all _____ vitamine D.
8. It's made from natural _____, but eating too much is not so good.

Task for improving

Read the following passage and fill in the blanks.

Food labels can be funny. They cannot always tell you the truth. There are many (1) t _____ on them. We may be (2) f _____ by those words on them, such as 100% natural, gluten-free, made with whole grains, or it (3) c _____ real fruit. We should not only read these then buy them at (4) o _____, but read the ingredient panel as well. Only the ingredient panel will tell you what the (5) p _____ really contains. If you are on (6) d _____, don't be attracted by "low carbodrate" things. There is still much sugar in it, which won't help you lose weight. Read the ingredient panel (7) c _____ to see how many calories there are in the certain product. If you want to find healthy food for a child, don't believe the words "contains real fruit". You have to (8) c _____ the ingredient panel to see whether there is sugar rather than fruit. In a word, (9) l _____ are just some attractive words. They are not always what you see in the ingredient panel. (10) F _____ them out carefully when you go shopping.

Part 2 Amusing Signs and Notices Found in Toilets

1. To The Idiot Who Stole the Toilet paper From Here!

IF YOU DON'T REPLACE THE TOILET PAPER ROLLS, THE TERRORISTS WIN!


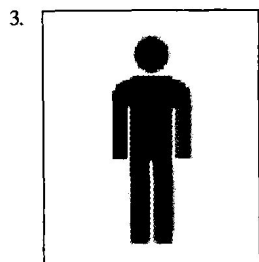
DO YOU HATE AMERICA?

2. Please don't surf in the toilets.

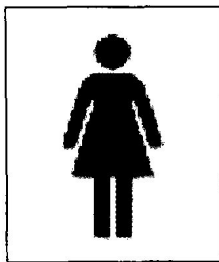
Thanks!
Y! News

Please do not stand on the toilet seats,
Thank you.

Please DO NOT Fish in the Toilets
-Y! Sports

Gentlemen



Ladies



Disabled

Mini-dictionary

1. idiot: someone who always does stupid things or thinks in a silly way
2. steal: take something away without returning it (steal, stole, stolen)
3. replace: put sth. back to the place where it was before
4. (toilet paper) roll: a long piece of toilet paper wrapped around itself or a tube
5. terrorist: a person who is harmful and does something against his own country or others'
6. disabled: someone who has an illness and can't move around easily
7. surf: spend time finding and looking at things on the internet
8. Y!: the short form of Yahoo, a famous website

Task for understanding

Use the words above to fill in the blanks.

1. Only an _____ would stand still when there's an earthquake.

2. Why not set “_____” as your homepage? You can find much information.
3. The thief tried to _____ Tracy’s purse, but she noticed and caught him.
4. It is sad to hear that the _____ have destroyed the tall building.
5. She spent a lot of time _____ on the internet. She’s got poor eyesight.
6. Shanghai Expo was very popular with all the _____. It provided a lot of special washing rooms for them.
7. Did you take away my new cartoon book? Please _____ it there now!
8. All newspapers are lying there in a _____. It must be very heavy.

Task for improving

Read the pictures above and choose the best answer.

Picture 1:

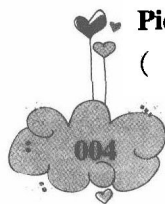
- () 1. The writer must be _____ because he/she can’t find any toilet paper.
A. worried B. angry C. excited D. a terrorist
- () 2. “The terrorists” win means that _____.
A. terrorists will help the waiter to get some toilet paper
B. if people can’t find toilet paper, they will do something wrong angrily
C. someone will steal the toilet paper again
D. real terrorists in America will do harm to people
- () 3. “Do you hate America?”, “you” refers to _____.

Picture 2:

- () 4. What can we do in that toilet?
A. Find “Real Estate and Workplace” office.
B. Play a game called “Go fishing”.
C. Surf the Internet.
D. Read books and listen to music.

Picture 3:

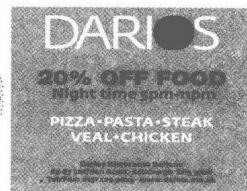
- () 5. We can see these s _____ like picture 3 in/around any toilet.



Part 3 Dario's Dial-a-Pizza-Takeaway Pizza

Review 1 ★★★★★

I used to eat at Dario's all the time. Overall, the quality of their pizza is great. I tried a few other foods from their menu and I was disappointed with the quality. They fresh bake all their own bread, which is really good, and their service was always great.



Review 2 ★★☆☆☆

Oh Darios... what has happened in the past year? You disappoint.

On that special evening, I ordered Dario's, cracked open a bottle of wine and celebrated CA. Unfortunately, it was a fail. We called in our pizza order which the darling little phone girl managed to delete. Called back 45 minutes later, pizza was sitting cold and she offered a \$ 5 discount on pizza. Really?! We spent a ridiculous amount of money on your pizza. After 15 minutes of discussion, she agreed a free pizza. Pizza arrived 10 minutes later, cold. We paid the delivery charge (apparently, free pizza did not include delivery) plus tip (hey, it's not THAT guy's fault) and had some cold pizza before we headed out to a concert.

Review 3 ★★☆☆☆

I continue to order from Darios. Here's something happening to my last order.

The delivery person came to the door. I gave him enough money so that I would get five dollars back. Of which I was planning on tipping him 3 dollars. Which, I think, is a fair delivery tip (10%). He asked if I would be needing my change, pushing for a bigger tip!

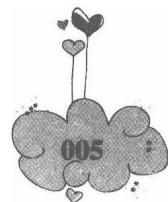
And, the pizza was rather undercooked. I reheated it the next day and it was actually better after some crisping up. 32 dollars for a large pizza is pretty expensive.

Review 4 ★☆☆☆☆

Feb 2011 we ordered our pizza for delivery. I read that there were new owners and decided to try it. THE PIZZA WAS AWFUL. Didn't the previous owners tell them how to make pizza? Don't go here.

Mini-dictionary

1. review: a report in public to tell one's opinion of a book, a film or food
2. used to: did something very often in the past
3. menu: a list of the food and drinks that are available to choose



4. disappointed: feeling sad because something is not as good as you hoped
5. offer: give something to sb. ask whether they like it or not
6. ridiculous: very foolish, silly or stupid
7. delivery: bring something for someone from one place to another
8. tip: give people like a waiter some money to thank them for their services
9. previous: happening before the one that you are talking about now

Task for understanding

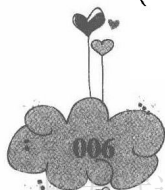
Use the words above to fill in the blanks.

1. Betty is very tall and slim. She _____ exercise a lot when she was fat.
2. Everyone thought it a _____ story, but the boy made it true by hard-working.
3. There are many _____ companies like "Yuan Tong". They help us send goods anywhere.
4. Don't forget to give the waiter some _____. It's common here.
5. I'll feel _____ if you don't go fishing with me.
6. After I sat down, a waiter gave me the _____ immediately.
7. S. H. E. always gets a good _____. Many people like this music group.
8. He refused many job _____ because he wanted a better one.

Task for improving

Read the article above and make the best choices.

- () 1. Which review shows the least interest in Dario's?
A. Review 1. B. Review 2. C. Review 3. D. Review 4.
- () 2. The first reviewer _____.
A. likes all the food in Dario's
B. doesn't like the quality of the food
C. likes pizzas in Dario's and dislikes the others
D. thinks the service and the food are both good
- () 3. The second reviewer _____.
A. had the meal at Dario's
B. ordered the pizza online
C. ordered the pizza on the phone
D. didn't have any pizza in the end
- () 4. The price of the pizza that the third reviewer ordered was _____ dollars.
A. 32 B. 27 C. 30 D. 29
- () 5. Dario's used to be _____ when the old owners were still there according to the fourth reviewer.
A. worse B. the same C. better D. bad



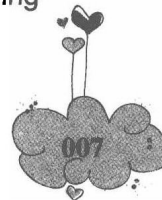
Part 4 Sports Results

Wednesday, Mar 30, 2011	1	2	3	4	Total	
Houston	33	22	27	15	97	Final
Philadelphia	31	21	32	24	108	
HOU: <u>K. Lowry</u> 19 Pts, 3 Reb, 3 Ast PHI: <u>J. Holiday</u> 24 Pts, 2 Reb, 12 Ast						
Thursday, Mar 31, 2011	1	2	3	4	Total	
Boston	31	18	28	30	1	Final
San Antonio	33	16	21	27	97	
BOS: <u>R. Rondo</u> 22 Pts, 5 Reb, 14 Ast SA: <u>T. Parker</u> 23 Pts, 4 Reb, 8 Ast						
Friday, Apr 1, 2011	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
San Antonio	27	29	29	23	6	114
Houston	31	33	23	21	11	119 OT
SA: <u>T. Parker</u> 31 Pts, 3 Reb, 6 Ast HOU: <u>L. Scola</u> 21 Pts, 14 Reb, 6 Ast						

The NBA started on August 3, 1946 when two basketball leagues combined together. The two basketball leagues were previously called the Basketball Association of America (BAA) and National Basketball League (NBL) respectively.

Since its formation, the National Basketball Association (NBA) has grown from a small league to a global organization making basketball the fastest growing sport all over the world.

There are many captivating stories in the history of the NBA. The league started with eight teams and now has 30 teams taking part in the league. Center George Mikan was the Superstar for the Minneapolis Lakers. Today, Yao Ming from China of the Houston Rockets is its current star.



Mini-dictionary

1. total: a number that you get when you add some numbers together
2. league: a group of people, clubs, or countries that have joined together because they share a same interest
3. combine: join together to make the single thing
4. previously: at some time before the period that you are talking about
5. since: from some time in the past to the present
6. global: happening in all parts of a world
7. captivating: interesting, exciting, attractive
8. current: happening now

Task for understanding

Use the words above to fill in the blanks.

1. I wrote to my old friend Lucy in 1996. _____ then, I haven't met her.
2. The _____ living area is quite different from that in 1990.
3. If you want to make bread, you need to _____ egg and flour together.
4. If you join our _____, you can take part in more basketball games.
5. The Dorio's was _____ owned by a better pizza man.
6. All boys like her _____ smile and good looks.
7. This big company has a _____ of five thousand workers.
8. The girl entered the most famous university because of her _____ view on China and America.

Task for improving

Read the article above and make the best choices.

- () 1. According to the table, _____ should be filled in blank 1.
A. 97 B. 108 C. 107 D. 114
- () 2. Who won the NBA game on Thursday, Mar 31, 2011?
A. Boston. B. Houston. C. Philadelphia. D. San Antonio.
- () 3. Which game had a longer time to play than the others?
A. Houston Vs Philadelphia. B. Boston Vs San Antonio.
C. San Antonio Vs Houston. D. I don't know.
- () 4. Who scored the most points among the three sports games?
A. K. Lowry. B. J. Holiday. C. R. Rondo. D. T. Parker.
- () 5. Who is the current NBA star according to the passage?
A. George Mikan. B. Yao Ming.
C. Kobe Bryant. D. LeBron James.

Part 5 Competitions

CALLING ALL COMPOSERS!

NEW MUSIC COMPETITION FOR 18-25 YEAR OLDS

PRIZE MONEY OF £ 500
WILL BE AWARDED TO
THE WINNING COMPOSER

Five finalists will have their pieces professionally recorded by the Solaris Quartet, and these recordings will become part of the *In Memoriam* exhibition

To mark the ninetieth anniversary of the end of the First World War, Imperial War Museum London is opening a new exhibition, *In Memoriam: Remembering the Great War*, and is giving students an exciting chance to become part of the Museum's Collections by writing a piece of music for string quartet on the theme of 'In Memoriam'

Special tours of *In Memoriam: Remembering the Great War*
7, 9, 17 October 2008

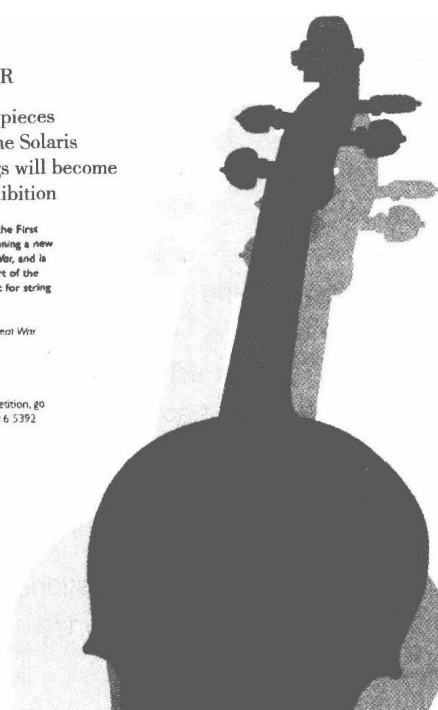
Deadline for entries: 17 December 2008

To book a place on a tour and to enter the competition, go to www.iwm.org.uk/90/musiccomp or call 020 7416 5392



A joint initiative with The Royal Philharmonic Society

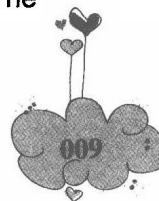
The Royal
Philharmonic
Society



A panel of distinguished judges will pick one overall winning piece and award a prize of £ 500 to the composer.

Pieces should be 8—12 minutes long. The deadline for submissions is December 17, 2008.

Admission to *In Memoriam: Remembering the Great War* is free. The exhibition is open daily from 10:00am—6:00pm.



Mini-dictionary

1. composer: a person who writes music, especially classical music
2. award: give someone a prize for doing something very well
3. panel: a small group of people to discuss and decide something together
4. distinguished: very excellent, famous or outstanding
5. deadline: a time or date, and before that time the work must be finished
6. submission: something that you send to someone for a score or a decision
7. admission: with it the organization will allow you to enter or join
8. exhibition: a special activity at a museum or an art room

Task for understanding

Use the words above to fill in the blanks.

1. I like watching different cars when there's a car _____.
2. She gave the little boy a bravery _____ because he put out the fire.
3. The Reading _____ disagreed with the decision on the winner of the reading competition.
4. Next week is the _____ for sending the teacher my report.
5. I was not able to meet the _____ because he got to school late. He wrote a great song for the young.
6. The _____ to that school cost me a lot of time and finally I made it. I became a student in that school!
7. This professor is so _____ that all students love him.
8. It's time for the _____. Please don't write any more.

Task for improving

Read the article above and answer questions.

1. Who can take part in the competition?

_____.

2. What is the competition for?

_____.

3. How much money can be awarded to the winning composer?

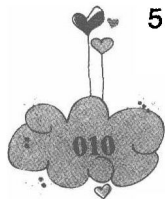
_____.

4. When is the last day to hand in a competitor's work?

_____.

5. How long should a composer's work last?

_____.



Part 6 Text Messages

With the development of text messaging, more and more people all around the world are using this service for communication. There are several advantages of this service which have led to its popularity. It is one of the cheapest and fastest ways to communicate with others.



Before, people usually used mobile phones to talk to each other. But nowadays, we see a lot of people using their mobile phones to send text messages. The generation of today's mobile phone users have become texters, which are used to describe people who use text messaging to communicate.

Text messaging has its many advantages over other means of communication technology. Text messaging allows mobile users to communicate privately without being heard by others. Sending text messages is also a lot faster than writing e-mails. It is also very convenient since you don't need a computer unlike OICQ and e-mailing. Text messaging also allows hearing impaired persons to communicate. Text messaging service is much cheaper than the cost of voice calls.

Another advantage of text messaging is that whenever a text message is sent to a mobile phone, the message is stored in the SMSC. This means that even if the mobile phone is off or is unavailable, the message will still be received soon as the mobile phone is turned on or has a signal. Text messages can also be saved in the SIM card as long as it is not deleted.

Yahoo and Google also use text messaging services to provide a way for users to get information which includes movie shows, business listings and driving directions.

One of the latest advantages in text messaging service is the introduction of the Multimedia Messaging Service or MMS which allows subscribers to send text messages with pictures or sounds. This service is available if you have MMS mobile phones.

Due to the many advantages of text messaging service, many people around the world are using this service to communicate with their loved ones even in faraway countries. Text messaging service is also being used by business owners to communicate with their employees and business associates.

Mini-dictionary

1. development: the growth of something, to make it better
2. communicate: to share and exchange information with someone
3. advantage: something you own that makes you better than others
4. private: having something that only belongs to oneself, not others
5. convenient: being easy or suitable for someone to carry along
6. since: because
7. hearing impaired persons: those who have hearing problems
8. due to: as a result of something, to explain reasons, because of

Task for understanding

Use the words above to fill in the blanks.

1. Kobe Bryant is a great _____ to the basketball team.
2. If you can't talk, we can _____ in body language.
3. All these modern buildings show the city's great _____.
4. This is a _____ garden. Don't walk in it unless you are asked to.
5. It's not so _____ for me to find a parking place at peak time.
6. We should help those hearing _____ persons when they're in need.
7. I'm forever on diet, _____ I put on weight easily.
8. _____ the large number of students in class, teachers can't take care of each one as carefully as they can.

Task for improving

Read the article above and make the best choices.

- () 1. What is the main idea of this article?
A. The development of text messages.
B. How to send text messages.
C. The advantages of text messages.
D. Many ways to send messages.
- () 2. How many advantages of text messages does it talk about?
A. 4. B. 5. C. 6. D. 7.
- () 3. What kind of messages can Yahoo and google send to us?
A. Text messages.
B. Text messages with pictures and sound.
C. Messages with information about many things.
D. All above.
- () 4. According to the article, text messages are _____ compared with voice calls.
A. cheaper B. more convenient
C. shorter D. more communicative
- () 5. _____ use text messaging service in the world.
A. Friends B. Families
C. Business owners D. All above

