

CET-6 大学英语六级考试

读故事 记单词

Reading Stories,
Reciting Vocabulary for CET-6



考天下名师团 编

格林 主编



中国石化出版社

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邮编: 100011 电话: (010)84271850

读者服务部电话: (010)84289974

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前 言

词汇是语言学习的基石。从传统上来讲,学生记单词的方法不仅单调乏味,而且效率极低,很多单词背的时候费了九牛二虎之力,用的时候还是一头雾水。有鉴于此,我们想给大家一种新的学习词汇的方法——用一些风趣幽默的小故事把一些看似毫无关系的词串连起来。先提供一个故事,然后再提供一个词汇表,这样不仅简单方便,而且妙趣横生。

从理论上讲,背故事比背单词容易,因为故事中有一定的发展线索,联想会更加丰富。这正是我们编写本书的理论基础。在编写这些小故事的过程中,我们发现原本枯燥的单词也可以变得活泼可爱,原本沉闷的学习也可以变得生动有趣。这使我们想起了哥伦布那个征服世人的故事:把鸡蛋敲破了就能立在桌子上。原来世界上没有攻不破的难关,关键是我们能否找到攻关的钥匙。读故事记单词正是为大家准备的一把攻克词汇难关的钥匙。

有人说过: If you love him, make him study English, for it's interesting; if you hate him, make him study English, for it's boring. 英语到底是 interesting 还是 boring, 这本身就是个见仁见智的问题, 我们希望读故事记单词这种形式能够帮助你找到学习英语的乐趣, 增加征服英语的信心, 提高掌握英语的效率。

编 者

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第
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Passage 1

The Ant and the Grasshopper

蚂蚁和蚱蜢

One cold, frosty day in the middle of winter a colony of ants was busy drying out some grains of corn which had grown damp during the wet autumn weather. A grasshopper, half dead with cold and hunger, came up to one of the ants.

"Please give me a grain or two from your store of corn to save my life," he said faintly.

"We worked day and night to get the corn in. Why should I give it to you?" asked the ant crossly. "What on earth were you doing all last summer when you should have been gathering your food?"

"Oh I didn't have time for things like that," said the grasshopper, "I was far too busy singing to carry corn about."

The ant laughed unkindly. "In that case you sing all winter as far as I am concerned," he said. And without another word he returned to his work.

Plan ahead. You can't rely on other people to look after you.

点滴思考

1. When were the ants busy drying out the corn?
2. What do you learn from the story?

真题词汇

concern¹⁸ [kən'sɜ:n] *n.* 公司, 企业; 所关切的事, 关心; *vt.* 使关心, 使担心, 挂念; 关系到, 关于; 影响, 涉及

【报刊例句】There is concern over the widening gap between the sciences and the humanities at tertiary-level educational institutes. 译文: 高等教育机构中理科与人文学科差距日益扩大, 引起了人们的关注。[注]: sciences 此处应为“理科”, 而不是“科学”。译文中加了原文没有的“人们的”一词, 是为了通顺, 也是为了更准确地表达原意。(New Scientist • 新科学家)

严冬里的一天, 一群蚂蚁正在把一些在秋天受潮的谷子晒干。一只又冷又饿、快死的蚱蜢爬到一只蚂蚁面前。

“请把你们的粮食给我一点儿救救我。”他有气无力地说。

“我们整日整夜地忙碌才储备了这些谷子。我为什么要把它给你?” 蚂蚁生气地问, “整个夏天你该储备食物的时候, 你在做什么?”

“噢, 我没有时间去做那样的事,” 蚱蜢说, “我忙着唱歌, 没有时间运粮食。”

蚂蚁不友善地大笑起来, “那么在整个冬天, 你就继续唱歌吧,” 他说道。然后他什么也没说又开始他的工作了。

事先做好准备, 你不能依靠别人来照顾你。

① 18 次是指该单词从 2000 年到目前为止在历年真题中出现的次数。

Passage 2

The Wolf, the Fox, and the Ape

狼·狐狸·猿

A wolf accused a fox of theft, but the latter entirely denied the charge. An ape undertook to judge the matter between them. When each had fully stated his case, the ape pronounced this sentence; "I do not think you, wolf, ever lost what you claimed; and I do believe you, fox, to have stolen what you so stoutly denied."

The dishonest, even if they act honestly, get no credit.

狼控告狐狸犯偷窃罪,但狐狸矢口否认。猿负责审理他们的案件。双方充分陈述理由后,猿宣判道:“狼啊,我认为你并没有丢失报失的东西;狐狸啊,我确信你偷了矢口否认偷过的东西。”

不老实的人,即使做了老实事,也得不到信任。

点滴思考

1. What did a wolf accuse a fox?
2. Who was the judge?
3. How did the ape judge the matter?
4. What can we see from this fable?

真题词汇

claim¹⁷ [kleim] *n./vt.* 声称,主张,认为,断言,要求承认,宣称,值得;认领;(根据权利)要求,索取,索赔(a document or statement requesting a payment be made)

【同义】allege, affirm, assert, boast (同根词)disclaim *v.* 放弃,拒绝了(词根)claim(喊)

【难句】I think she hurt my feelings deliberately rather than by accident as she claimed. 我认为她是故意伤害我的感情,而不是像她所说的无意地伤害。

【报刊例句】A professor of medical statistics and epidemiology claims that only two major causes of death are increasing rapidly worldwide—HIV and tobacco. 译文:一位医学统计学兼流行病学教授声称,在世界范围内只有两种致死原因在迅速增长,那就是艾滋病毒和烟草。

[注]:medical statistics,医学统计学;epidemiology,流行病学。

(The Washington Post • 华盛顿邮报)

accused¹¹ [ə'kjuzd] *n.* 被告

dishonest¹⁰ [dis'ɒnist] *adj.* (人或其行为)不诚实的,不老实的,不正直的

stately¹⁰ ['steitli:] *adj.* 庄严的;高贵的;雄伟的;富丽堂皇的

honewort¹⁰ ['ɒnistli:] *n.* 北柴胡

between¹⁰ [bi'twi:n] *prep.* (表示位置)在……之间;在……之中;(表示时间)在……与……的一段时间内;在……的间隔中;(表示数目)介乎……之间;(表示距离)在……到……的一段距离内,来往于……与……之间;(表示范围)在……之间,为……所分享;(表示等级)介乎于……之间

Passage 3

To Sell a Horse

卖骏马

A man wanted to sell a very fine horse. He stood in the market with his horse for three mornings but no one noticed that his horse was an exceptionally good one. He went to see Bo Le, who was well-known for his ability to judge horses.

"Sir, I have a very fine horse for sale," he said, "but I stood in the market with my horse for three mornings and no one even spoke to me. Could you kindly go and look at my horse, walk all round it and throw a backward glance at it when you leave?"

So Bo Le went to look at the horse, walked all round it and threw a backward glance at it when he left. The next morning the price of the horse increased by tenfold.

有一个人想卖骏马。他牵马在集市上等了三天,没有人认出这马是世间良马。

他去拜访伯乐:"我有一匹骏马要卖,但我在集市上牵马等了三天也无人问津。你能否去围着我的马转一圈并走时再回头看一下。"

于是伯乐围着马走了一圈,并回头看了一下离开了。第二天马价上涨了十倍。

点滴思考

1. A man stood in the market to sell his horse for three mornings.
2. Many people noticed his horse and wanted to buy it.
3. With the help of Bo Le, the price of the man's horse increased by tenfold.

真题词汇

ability¹⁷ [ə'bilɪti] *n.* 能力, 才干

【同义】capacity, resources, skill, capability

【派生】inability *n.* 无能, 无力; viability *n.* 生存能力, 可行性; variability *n.* 可变性

excitation¹¹ ['eksai'teɪʃən] *n.* 惹起, 激发; 激动; 兴奋; (由刺激引起的器官、组织等的) 应激反应; (电) 励磁; 集电 (对电子管或半导体控制电极加载信号电压); (物) (原子获得高能量的) 激发 (过程)

mortadella¹⁰ ['mɔ:tə'delə] *n.* (生熏) 摩泰台拉香肠 (用牛肉、猪肉、猪油加大蒜和胡椒调味作馅)

Passage 4

The Farmer and His Sons

农夫和他的儿子们

An old farmer called his sons to his bedside to read them his will.

"Children," he said, "the time has come for me to die. You will find all my treasure hidden in the vineyard."

As soon as the old man was dead, the sons took their spades, their hoes and every tool they could find and began to dig in the vineyard to look for the treasure. They turned the soil over and over, digging deep into the rich, dark earth and breaking up the heavy lumps—just as their father had intended.

You are much more likely to get rich from hard work than from a lucky win.

一个老农夫把他的儿子们叫到床前,向他们宣读自己的遗嘱。

"孩子们,"他说,"我快要死了。在葡萄园里你们会找到我藏的所有珠宝。"

老农夫一死,他的儿子们就拿着铁锹、锄头以及他们所能找到的一切工具到葡萄园里挖财宝。他们把土翻来翻去,使劲挖着又黑又肥沃的土地,捣碎了许多大土块——正像他们父亲所期望的一样。

努力工作要比依靠侥幸更容易致富。

点滴思考

1. The old farmer left his children a lot of treasure.
2. The brothers found nothing at all.
3. You are much more likely to get rich from hard work than from a lucky win.

真题词汇

vineyard¹⁷ ['vinjəd] *n.* 葡萄园

likely¹⁷ ['laikli] *adj.* 可能的,有希望的;适合的;*adv.* 可能

【用法】be likely to do / It is likely that 表示“很可能”。The train is likely to be late. 这趟火车很可能晚点。/ It is very likely that he will not consent. 很可能他不会同意。

【难句】Our knowledge of social systems, therefore, while it is in many ways extremely inaccurate, is not likely to be seriously overturned by new discoveries. 因此,尽管从许多方面而言,我们关于社会系统方面的知识非常不精确,但它也不可能被新发现完全取代。

【报刊例句】Anwar Ibrahim of Malaysia is his country's man of the moment—and most likely of the future. 译文:马来西亚的安瓦尔·易卜拉辛眼下是他祖国的新闻人物——将来十之八九也是如此。[注]:man of the moment 的翻译,参照 man of the year(本年度新闻人物)。

(The Observer • 观察家)

Passage 5

In the Opposite Direction

南辕北辙

The king of the state of Wei had the intention of attacking Handan. Ji Liang, a minister of the state of Wei, heard of this and terminated his journey to return to the state of Wei. He went to see the king before even stopping to smooth the creases of his clothes or flicking the dust off his head.

"Your Majesty," said Ji Liang, "on my way here I saw a man on a main road driving his carriage northwards."

He said to me, "I want to go to the state of Chu."

"If you want to go to the state of Chu, why are you going north?" I asked.

"I have good horses," he said.

"Even though you have good horses, this is not the road to the state of Chu," I pointed out. "I have plenty of money for my journey," he said.

"Even though you have a lot of money for your journey, this is not the road to the state of Chu," I said.

"I have an excellent driver for my carriage," he said.

The better resources he had, the farther he was going away from the state of Chu.

"Now Your Majesty seeks to rise above all the other kings and win the confidence and support of the common people everywhere. However, you plan to expand your territories and raise your prestige by attacking Handan, relying on the powerful strength of your state and the well-trained soldiers under your command. The more you move in this direction the

魏王欲攻打邯郸。魏国大臣季梁听说后中途返回,他衣冠不整、风尘仆仆地去见魏王。

季梁说:"在我回来的路上看见有人驾马车向北驶去。"

他告诉我说:"我要去楚国。"

我说:"你要到楚国,为什么向北走呢?"

他说:"我有好马。"

"即使你有好马,这也不是通向楚国的路,"我说。

他回答说:"我带有足够的钱。""即使你有足够的盘缠,这也到不了楚国。"

他说:"我有技术优良的马车夫。"

"他的条件越好,他就越远离楚国。"

"现在陛下想成为天下的霸主,取信于天下。可是您想仗着国家大,有精兵良将,攻打邯郸,想扩展国土,树立尊严。大王这样的行动越多,离成为天下霸主就越远。这和往北走而想到楚国是一样的道理啊。"

farther away you are from your goal of ruling over all the states. This is as effective as going north while hoping to reach the state of Chu.”

点滴思考

1. What did the king of the state of Wei intend to do?
2. Who did Ji Liang, a minister of the state of Wei, see on his return to the state of Wei?
3. Why did the man go north instead of going south?
4. What can we learn from this?

真题词汇

resource¹⁶ ['ri:sɔ:s, ri'sɔ:s] *n.* 【常用复】资源, 资财, 财力; 储备力量; 机智

【同义】materials, abilities

【派生】resourcefulness *n.* 足智多谋

【难句】His argument does not suggest that mankind can afford to be wasteful in the utilization of these resources. 他的论点并不表明人类在利用这些资源上可以浪费。

【报刊例句】Unused reading materials and idle laboratory equipment are a serious drain on schools' financial resources. 译文: 阅读教材备而不用、实验室闲置是学校财力的严重浪费。

[注]: idle 一词很有用, 比如“闲置着的机器”可译为“idle machinery”; “闲散工人”可译为“idle workmen”; “drain”原意是“排水沟”, 引申为“浪费”或“流失”, 如“brain drain” (人才流失)。(Time · 时代周刊)

prestige⁴ [pre'sti:ʒ, pre'sti:dʒ] *n.* 威信, 威望, 声望, (由于成功、财富等而)显赫 (good reputation and high distinction earned through success)

【同义】honor, fame, reputation

【派生】prestigious *adj.* 有名望的, 有威信的 (同) honored, respected, reputed

【助记】pre(前面) + stige(拉近, 拉紧) → 把人拉到前面的力量 → 威望

stopping⁴ ['stɒpiŋ] 停止, 停下来

everywhere² ['evrihwɛə] *ad.* ①到处, 处处; 无论何处 His dog follows him everywhere he goes.

无论到哪里, 他那条狗总跟着他。I can't find my pen though I've looked everywhere. 我到处找那支钢笔, 可就是找不到。②完完全全, 彻头彻尾 His prose is everywhere a demonstration of brevity.

journey² ['dʒɜ:nɪ] *n.* [C] ①旅行 [(+ to)] Two days later, they resumed their journey. 两天以后, 他们继续旅行。②旅程, 行程 It is one day's journey to get to the seaside. 到海滨是一天。

northwards² ['nɔ:θwədz] *adv.* 向北

though² [ðəu] *conj.* 虽然, 尽管 *adv.* 然而, 可是, 不过

terminated² ['tə:mineit, 'tə:məneit] *v.* 结束, 终止, 满期, 达到终点

excellent² ['eksələnt] *adj.* 杰出的, 优秀的, 极好的

Passage 6

The Three Rogues

三个流氓

Once there was a Brahmin who bought a goat in another village. When he carried it home on his shoulder, he was seen by three rogues, who said to one another, "If by some contrivance that goat can be taken from him, it will be a great pleasure to us."

With this view they severally sat down on the road under three trees, at some distance from each other, by which the Brahmin was to pass. One of the scoundrels called out, as he was going by: "O Brah-min! Why do you carry that dog on your shoulder?"

"It is not a dog," answered the Brahmin, "it is a goat for a sacrifice."

Then at a certain distance away, the second knave put the same question to him; when the Brahmin heard this, he threw the goat down to the ground, and having looked at it again and again, placed it a second time on his shoulder, and walked on with his mind waving like a swing. When the Brahmin heard the same question from the third villain, was convinced that the goat was really a dog. So he took it from his back, threw it down, and having washed himself, returned to his home.

The three rogues took the goat to their own house, and feasted on it. Thence he who thinks a knave is as honest as himself, will be deceived by him, like this Brahmin who was cheated.

点滴思考

1. The three rogues wanted to take the goat from a Brahmin by some contrivance.
2. The three rogues sat down on the road under a tree together by which the Brahmin was to pass.

从前,有个婆罗门人到另外一个村庄里买了一头山羊。他把山羊扛在肩上背回家去,路上被三个流氓看见了。这三个流氓议论说:“想个妙计把他的山羊骗过来,让咱弟兄高兴高兴。”

他们怀着这个目的,分别坐在这个婆罗门人必经的三棵大树下,彼此相隔若干距离。那个婆罗门人走过时,第一个恶棍喊道:“嗨,婆罗门,你把狗扛在肩上干嘛?”

“这不是狗,这是头祭祀用的山羊。”婆罗门人答道。

又走了一段路,第二个流氓向他问了同样的问题;婆罗门听了,便把山羊扔在地上看个仔细,才又背在肩上继续往前走,心里却像秋千一般摇摆不定。婆罗门人听到第三个流氓提出同样的问题时,就相信这山羊真是一条狗了。于是他一把将它从背上扔下来,自己还沐浴干净才回家。

三个流氓把山羊带回家里大吃了一顿。可见,谁认为流氓无赖像自己一样诚实,谁就会像这个受害的婆罗门人一样上当受骗。

3. The three rogues all thought the Brahmin carried a dog on his shoulder really.
4. The Brahmin believed the three rogues and threw the goat down from his shoulder.

真题词汇

view¹⁶ [vju:] *n.* 看法, 观点; 风景; 目光, 视野

【报刊例句】The U. S. applauded the extremists' stand on law and order, despite their knuckle-dragging views on women's rights. 译文: 美国为极端分子在法律和秩序方面采取的立场拍手叫好, 尽管他们关于妇女权利的观点愚蠢到了极点。[注]: knuckle-dragging 是美国俚语, 意思是“极端愚蠢、无知”。
(The Economist • 经济学家)

deceive⁴ [di'si:v] *v.* 欺骗, 诓骗, 蒙蔽, 行骗

【同义】fool, take in

【报刊例句】A few recent books have explored how easily we can be deceived or deceive ourselves with numbers. 最近的几本书探讨了我们是多么容易被数字欺骗或者用数字欺骗自己。
(NYTimes • 纽约时报)

feast³ [fi:st] *n. / v.* 筵席, 宴请, 使享受

【难句】All the guests were invited to attend the wedding feast and had a very good time. 所有的客人 都被邀请参加婚礼筵席, 他们都过得很愉快。[六级真题]

direction³ [di'rekəʃən] *n. / v.* ① 方向; 方位 [C][U] He drove in the direction of the farm. 他向该农场方向驶去。② 方面; 领域 [C] This town shows improvement in many directions. 该镇在许多方面都有改进。③ 指导; 指挥; 管理 [U] Our company is under good direction. 我们公司管理有方。④ 指示; 用法说明 [P][(+ for)] Follow the directions that your doctor gives you. 请遵医嘱。⑤ 趋势, 倾向 [(the) S]

second³ ['sekənd] *adj.* 第二的, 次等的, 再一个的 *adv.* 第二, 其次 *n.* 片刻, 秒 *vt.* 支持, 赞成, 附和

contrivance³ [kən'traivəns] *n.* 发明, 发明的才能, 想出的办法 Such a machine is beyond the contrivance of you. 这种机器你是发明不出来的。

shoulder³ ['ʃəuldə] *n.* 肩膀, 肩部 The bullet wounded his shoulder. 子弹打伤了他的肩膀。 *v.* 承担, 扛, 肩负, (用肩) 推

himself³ [him'self] *pron.* 他自己 His new house was built by himself, brick by brick. 他的新房子是他自己一块砖一块砖砌起来的。

another² [ə'nʌðə] *adj.* 另一的, 再一个的

distance² ['distəns] *n.* 距离, 路程, 远方 *vt.* 与 …… 保持距离, 把(对手)甩在后面 *adj.* 远程(教育)的

scoundrels² ['skaundrəl] *n.* 无赖 *adj.* 无赖的

question² ['kwestʃən] *n.* 问题, 疑问 *v.* 询问, 怀疑