

Graded English Reading

英语阶梯阅读

第三级

(C)

(高中二、三年级适用)

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拍电影

瑞士鲁滨逊

音乐

福尔摩斯的归宿

海边漫步

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上海译文出版社

英语阶梯阅读

第三级

(C)

魏孟勋 选编

高中二年级至高中三年级适用

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上海译文出版社出版发行

上海延安中路 55 弄 14 号

全国新华书店经销

上海长鹰印刷厂印刷

开本 787×1092 1/32 印张 5.75 字数 121,000

1988 年 10 月第 1 版 1988 年 10 月第 1 次印刷

印数: 00,001—20,000 册

ISBN7-5327-0449-1/H·134

定价: 1.65 元

编写说明

这套《英语阶梯阅读》是供中学生泛读用的，分三个等级，循序渐进。编写的出发点有二：一是激发学生的阅读兴趣，不论选材内容、注释方法和练习题编配，都首先考虑提高学生的兴趣，使他们在精读校内的课本之外，愿意逐步扩大阅读量，在日益增加的泛读中提高英语水平；二是希望中学生的阅读习惯有所改变，阅读技能有所提高，使他们除了已学到的精读方法之外，再能养成良好的泛读习惯，获得有效的泛读技能，从而提高阅读速度，提高直接阅读理解的能力，增强语感，扩大信息量。

具体的编写原则如下：

一、选材：从英美较新的原版书刊中，选择适合我国中学生心理发展水平、兴趣和求知欲的材料。故事类和百科知识类约各占半数。内容要求既不是中学生已熟知的比较陈旧的材料，又不是他们完全生疏的比较冷僻的东西。每篇长度掌握在100—600个单词之间。程度略低于同级课本，生词量基本控制在每篇总词汇量的1—1.5%左右。语法难度不超过同级教材。

二、注释：对已学过的相应教材中未出现过的生词，而又属阅读材料中的关键词作了注释。注释中，最低一级（初中二年级下学期至初中三年级）的释义用中文，其余各级都

用浅易的英文和中文双解，以逐步培养学生以英文思考的能力。同时，为了培养学生的阅读习惯和能力，对专有名词（人名、地名等）和某些不影响上下文理解的生词，一般不注或少注。所有注释都不搞语法分析。

三、练习题：练习题的编配对指导学生阅读具有直接的作用。为评分的客观和方便，本书练习题型为选择题（Multiple-choice exercise），着重测试理解程度。主要检查三个方面的内容：1. 文章的主题；2. 基本内容；3. 根据上下文判断生词、词组或句子的意义。

四、测定手段：为了提高中学生的阅读速度，我们在每篇读物后提供了一个测定读速（Reading speed）的公式，以便学生自己计算、记录每分钟阅读了多少个单词。同时，为了避免单纯追求速度，我们又在练习题之后提供一个公式，让学生将每分钟的读速数乘以练习得分的百分数，得出每分钟阅读的有效字数（Reading efficiency），这样的测定手段，将有助于学生了解自己的阅读水平和随时调整读速。

参加这套读物设计、研究和选编工作的，有上海市不同类型院校的一些教师，包括周令仪、陈锡麟、魏孟勋、何林松等同志。其中，上海师范大学教育科研所张伟俊同志，特别从外语教学理论的角度，对以上工作提供了宝贵的意见。由于我们还在探索过程中，选材来源等方面也有客观上的局限性，我们的愿望与成果之间尚有相当距离，谨请读者和同行帮助指正，以不断完善。

使用须知

一、这套《英语阶梯阅读》分三级。第一级供初二下、初三学生使用；第二级供初三下、高一学生使用；第三级供高二、三年级学生使用。

二、翻开每篇读物，先快速浏览一下书页上首的标题、引导题 (Find Out) 和插图。这样可以对本篇的内容有一个最初的印象。

三、接着就可以着手阅读正文，这时要看一下钟表，记下阅读开始的时间，然后集中精力进入阅读过程。在阅读进行中，最好不要停顿和复读，要一气从头看到底。注释可以在做完练习后，再次复读时，再去参看。阅读时，要控制自己不要动嘴巴读出声来，不要用手指点着词句阅读，也不要去心译，更不要去作语法分析，逐渐养成良好的泛读习惯和技能。

四、读完之后，再看一下钟表，得出一共用了多少分钟时间填入下面的公式进行计算，例如：

$$\frac{210 \text{ words}}{3 \text{ minutes}} = 70 \text{ wpm (words per minute)}$$

即阅读速度为每分钟70个单词。

五、练习是五道选择题，每一道为20分。做完练习后，可以同书后的答案 (Key to the Exercises) 核对，给自己打

上理解得分 (Comprehension score)。满分为 100 分，得 80 即可。得分低于 80，可考虑放慢读速，得满分者则应加快读速。

六、将你的阅读速度乘以理解得分(以百分数表示)，即 $\text{speed} \times \text{score}$ ，就可以得出阅读有效字数 (Reading efficiency)。例如：你的阅读速度为 70 wpm，做 5 道题对了 4 道，得分 80，把 $70 \times 80\%$ ，得 56，即你每分钟阅读有效字数为 56 个。如果你把自己从第一篇到最后一篇读物的阅读速度、理解得分和阅读有效字数都记下来，或画成曲线，就可以看到自己在阅读上的变化和进展情况。

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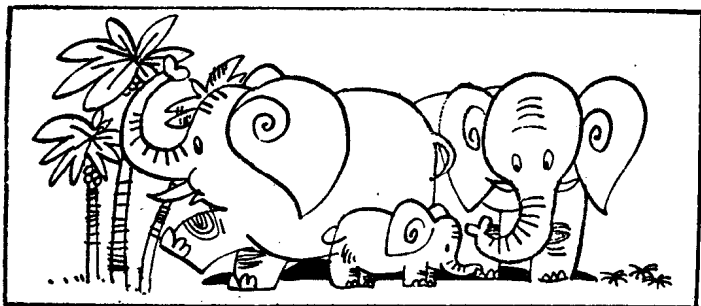
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1. Elephants

Find Out —

How did the idiom 'white elephant' come into use?



The elephant is the only animal in the world with a trunk. It uses its trunk in many ways. It pulls leaves off trees with its trunk and then puts them into its mouth. It can even use its trunk to pull up trees when it wants to make a path through the forest. It also uses its trunk to get water. The trunk can hold a lot of water, as an elephant needs to drink more than three hundred pints¹ of water every day.

When an elephant is angry, its tusks can be very dangerous. The tusks of an elephant are really its front teeth. People pay a lot of money for the ivory² of an elephant's tusks. In Africa men have hunted elephants for their tusks. The ivory from the tusks is made into many beautiful things.

It has been easy for men to train elephants in Asia. They use elephants to carry heavy things for long distances.

Many people say that the kings of Siam used to give white elephants to people whom they did not like. These white elephants were sacred³ and they could not be made to work. They could not be killed or given away. A person who owned a white elephant had to pay a lot of money to keep it properly. After a certain time, he usually became very poor. Now people in England call a useless thing 'a white elephant'.

(239 words)

Notes:

1. pint [paint] — *n.* 品脱(容量名)
2. ivory ['aivəri] — *n.* 象牙

3. sacred ['seikrid] — *adj.* of God 神圣的

Reading speed: $\frac{239 \text{ words}}{\text{minutes}} =$ (wpm)

Multiple-choice exercise: (twenty marks each)

1. An elephant's tusks are made of
 - A. bone.
 - B. teeth.
 - C. ivory.
 - D. flesh.
2. An elephant
 - A. lives on leaves of trees.
 - B. gets food with its trunk.
 - C. eats with its front teeth.
 - D. uses its trunk to swim.
3. In Africa men hunted elephants because
 - A. they liked to collect their tusks.
 - B. their tusks were dangerous.
 - C. their tusks could be made into many beautiful things.
 - D. their tusks could be sold for a lot of money.
4. In Siam, white elephants
 - A. were given as a sign of friendship.
 - B. were treated with great respect.
 - C. were used for hunting.

- D. were often killed for meat.
5. In England, people don't like things called white elephants because
- A. they have no use.
 - B. they can't be used in many ways.
 - C. they are too expensive.
 - D. they are no longer being used now.

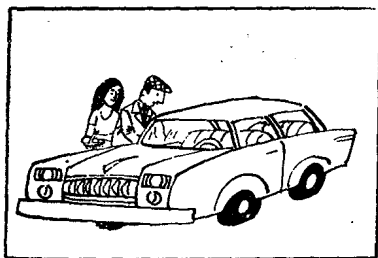
Comprehension score:

Reading efficiency (speed \times score):

2. Cars in the U.S.A.

Find Out —

What new idea do Americans have to make streets less crowded?



The United States is full of cars. There are still many families without cars, but some families have two or even more. However, cars are used for more than pleasure. They are a necessary part of life.

Cars are used for business. They are driven to offices and factories by workers who have no other way to get to their jobs. When businessmen are sent to different parts of the city, they have to drive in order to carry their things. Farmers have to drive into the city in order to get what they need.

Sometimes small children must be driven to school. In some cities school buses are used only

when children live more than a mile from the school. When the children are too young to walk that far, their mothers take turns driving them to school. One mother drives on Mondays, taking her own children and the neighbors' children as well. Another mother drives on Tuesdays, another on Wednesdays, and so on. This is called forming a car pool¹. Men also form car pools, with three or four men taking turns driving to the place where they all work.

More car pools should be formed in order to put fewer cars on the road and to use less oil. Parking² is a great problem, and so is the traffic³ in and around cities. Too many cars are being driven. Something will have to be done about the use of cars.

(243 words)

Notes:

1. pool [pu:l] — *n.* 公共的服务
2. park [pa:k] — *v.* leave or put one's car in a place
停车
3. traffic ['træfɪk] — *n.* 交通

Reading speed: $\frac{243 \text{ words}}{\text{minutes}} =$ (wpm)

Multiple-choice exercise: (twenty marks each)

1. What is the main idea of this passage?
 - A. The United States is full of cars.
 - B. Car pools are formed in the United States.
 - C. Something must be done about the use of cars.
 - D. Cars are a necessary part of American life.
2. In the United States
 - A. people have cars just for fun.
 - B. there are enough parking places for cars.
 - C. streets are crowded with cars.
 - D. traffic is not a great problem around cities.
3. Mothers, who form a car pool,
 - A. put their cars together.
 - B. share a car.
 - C. drive a car in turn.
 - D. take turns sending children to school.
4. Clearly, the writer
 - A. doesn't think the idea of car pool will work.
 - B. shows little interest in the idea of car pool.
 - C. finds it a good idea to form car pools.
 - D. wonders if car pools will settle the traffic problem.
5. Men *take turns* driving to the place where they all work.

“Take turns” means doing something _____.

- A. one after the other
- B. all the time
- C. together
- D. one another

Comprehension score:

Reading efficiency (speed \times score):