

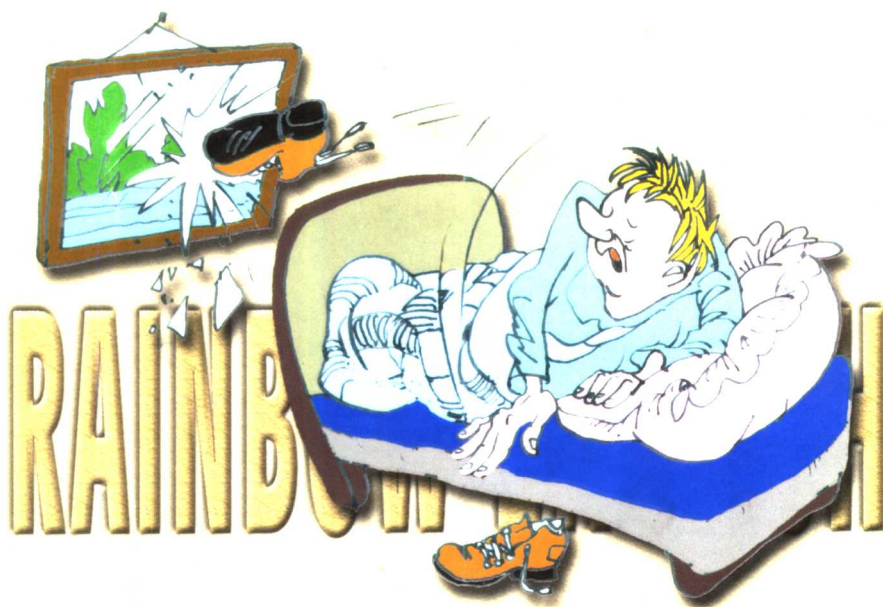


彩虹趣味英语阅读系列丛书

Rainbow Fascinating Reading

第二册

范红 主编



天津大学出版社

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彩 虹

趣味英语阅读

系列丛书

第二册

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编者的话

目前，市面上的英文阅读书籍大都面向各种考试，其选材标准与练习设计方式都同考试题型接近，与模拟阅读试题集大同小异。这类阅读图书在帮助学生熟悉阅读考题类型、提高学生阅读能力以及增进语法知识、扩大词汇量等方面的确作用不小。但许多学生反映读该类图书时提不起兴趣，常感到枯燥无味。如果不是为了应付某种考试，通常他们不会主动购书阅读。

本套丛书的编者大都是清华大学外语系长期从事阅读教学的教师。我们认为提高学生的学习积极性、激发他们的学习热情的主要途径是提高学生的学习兴趣。就阅读而言，所选文章是否引发学生的兴趣、所设计的练习是否寓学于乐、是否能够真正提高学生使用语言进行交际的能力，则是成功编写阅读图书的关键。本着以上原则，我们编写出《彩虹趣味英语阅读系列丛书》，意在提高学生的阅读兴趣，使他们感到由阅读英文文章来学习英语是件有趣的事情。

本套趣味阅读丛书取名为“彩虹”（RAINBOW）有两个含义：（一）彩虹是大自然中的一道绚丽的风景，她寓意着美好的希望，在此，我们衷心希望本套丛书能够带给读者一些值得流连忘返的东西；（二）彩虹是多彩的，她由赤、橙、黄、绿、青、蓝、紫七种颜色构成，而本套丛书共有7册，我们选用彩虹的斑斓色彩来标明各册封面的主色调，体现7册书的连贯性与统一性，以及全套书由浅到深、循序渐进的编写思想。我们也希望读者读此套丛书的感觉犹如看见



彩虹，百看不厌，百读不倦。

本套丛书的第一册适合初中水平的学习者使用，第二、第三册适合高中水平的学习者使用，第四册至第七册适合大学一至四级水平的学习者使用。在编写过程中，我们参阅了初中、高中及大学各阶段的教学大纲，尝试着将这三个阶段的阅读训练既有所区别，又有所衔接地对待，让各册书适合各阶段学生心理、年龄等特点。我们在选材及练习设计方面尤下工夫。练习设计以语言技能的相互转换为指导思想，突出了趣味性与实用性，弥补了传统的知识型练习设计方式的不足。每课练习中的口语或写作技能练习紧扣课文内容，为学习者创造了练习交际能力的机会，使他们能够快速学以致用，这可以说是本套丛书的独到之处。

各册书侧重点有所不同，但编写体例统一规范，每个单元均由词汇与表达法、课文、练习、中文译文、练习参考答案等部分构成，不仅适合教师课堂使用，也适合学生课外自学使用。

全套丛书的编写得到了天津大学出版社刘铁同志的大力支持。刘铁同志为此套丛书曾多次到清华大学，就此套丛书的构思与体例与我们进行沟通，花了不少时间与精力。天津大学出版社的领导对本套丛书的出版也给予了大力支持。编辑过程中，刘铁等同志也曾多次来清华大学与编者商谈，并提出了许多非常宝贵的意见，从而提高了全书的质量。我们在此向他们深致谢忱，并热切期望得到本书读者的批评指正。

编者

2000. 12. 30

于清华园



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Unit 1

When Were You Born?

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. It is (often) said that...
据说…… | 4. come true (希望,理想等)实现 |
| 2. to be supposed to... 应该…… | 5. dreams come true 梦想成真 |
| 3. command 指挥 | 6. astrologer 占星术家 |

Text

It is often said that differences between people can be caused by the different times when the people were born. For example, people who were born between March 21 and April 20 are supposed to be active, daring and strong. They like power and enjoy adventures. They think quickly and have strong wills.

On the other hand, those who were born between April 21 and May 20 are supposed to learn more slowly, but they remember what they learn. They love children, and they usually have many friends.

People born between May 21 and June 21 are bright and interesting. They like to talk, and they enjoy wearing fine clothes. Those born between June 22 and July 22, on the other hand, think deeply. They would rather hide their feelings than express them.

People who were born between July 23 and August 22 are generally proud. They are interested in many subjects, and it is interesting to hear them talk. Those born between August 23 and September 22 are said to



be calm and thoughtful. They like to read and often become successful scientists.

Those who were born between September 23 and October 22 seldom become excited. They love beauty and have a great desire to learn. And those born between October 23 and November 21 are often admired because they learn quickly and can express their ideas easily.

It is said that people born between November 22 and December 21 enjoy meeting strangers and they are able to command those around them, while people born between December 22 and January 19 have strong feelings, which they are quick to express.

People who were born between January 20 and February 18 are dreamers and they have the power to make their dreams come true. And those born between February 19 and March 20 are successful with money, but they are also peaceful and kind.

These are some of the beliefs of astrologers, who think human differences are caused by the positions of the sun, moon and stars.

Exercises

I. Complete the following chart with the information in the text.

Times	Character
	proud
August 23 - September 22	
	successful with money
May 21 - June 21	

II. Write complete sentences with the information from the following chart.

Example; Those who were born between March 21 and April 20 are



strong.

January 20 - February 18	dreamers
June 22 - July 22	think deeply
December 22 - January 19	have strong feelings
October 23 - November 21	be often admired

III. When were you born? What does the text say about you? Is that true? Why?

Translation

你何时出生?

人们常说,人与人之间的差异可能是因为人们出生的时间不同引起的。譬如说,3月21日和4月20日之间出生的人应该活泼机敏、勇敢大胆、身强体壮。他们喜欢权力,乐于冒险,思维敏捷,并且意志坚强。

而另一方面,出生于4月21日至5月20之间的人学东西应该较慢,但记得较牢。他们喜欢孩子,通常会有很多朋友。

在5月21日和6月21日这段时间内出生的人聪明有趣。他们喜欢高谈阔论,爱穿漂亮的衣服。然而生于6月22日至7月22日之间的人却思想深沉,他们宁愿把感情埋在心里,而不是表露出来。

7月23日和8月22日之间出生的人一般来说充满自豪感。他们兴趣广泛,听他们讲话饶有兴趣。出生在8月23日和9月22日之间的人据说是沉着冷静,足智多谋。他们喜欢读书,常常成为颇有建树的科学家。

在9月23日和10月22日之间出生的人很少会激动不已。他们有爱美之心,求知欲很强。生于10月23日和11月21日之间的人常常为人羡慕,因为他们学东西快,而且善于表达自己的思想。

据说出生在11月22日和12月21日这段期间的人喜欢跟陌生人打交道,他们对周围的人有号召力。而在12月22日和1月19日之间



出生的人感情强烈,心直口快。

1月20日至2月18日期间出生的人富于梦想,并且有使梦想成真的能力。而在2月19日和3月20日之间出生的人理财有方,但他们性格平和,心地善良。

这些是占星学家的一部分信念。他们认为人们的差异是由太阳、月亮和星辰的位置引起的。

Key to Exercises

I.

Times	Character
<i>July 23 - August 22</i>	<i>proud</i>
<i>August 23 - September 22</i>	<i>calm</i>
<i>February 19 - March 20</i>	<i>successful with money</i>
<i>May 21 - June 21</i>	<i>bright and interesting</i>

II.

Those who were born between January 20 - February 18 are dreamers.

Those who were born between June 22 - July 22 think deeply.

Those who were born between December 22 - January 19 have strong feelings.

Those who were born between October 23 - November 21 are often admired.



Unit 2

Honesty

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. honesty 诚实 | 6. imagination 想像力 |
| 2. insure 给……保险 | 7. woodcutter 樵夫 |
| to have one's life insured 给……保人寿险 | 8. axe 斧子 |
| insurance office 保险公司 | 9. Hermes 赫耳墨斯, 希腊神话中为众人传信并掌管商业、道路等的神经 |
| 3. tuberculosis 肺结核 | 10. on purpose 故意地 |
| 4. depressed 沮丧的 | |
| 5. overhear 无意中听到 | |

Text A

Honesty

A man went to an insurance office to have his life insured. The manager of the office asked him how old his parents were when they died.

"Mother had a bad heart and died at the age of thirty. Father died of tuberculosis when he was thirty-five."

"I'm very sorry," said the manager. "We cannot insure you because your parents were not healthy."

As the man was leaving the office, depressed, he met a clerk who had overheard the conversation.

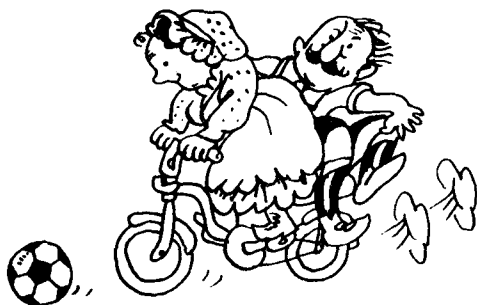
"You must not be so frank and tell the truth," said the clerk. "No office will insure you if you speak like that. Use your imagination a lit-



tle."

The man went to another office and was shown into the manager's room.

"Well, young man, how old were your parents when they died?"



"Mother was ninety-three, and she died from a fall off her bicycle. Father was ninety-eight and he died while he was playing football."

Text B

Honesty is Best

A poor man once lived in a village near a river. He was a woodcutter. He used to go to the forest to cut wood in order to sell it.

One day he went to the forest to cut wood as usual. After he had done some work, he sat on the bank of the river to rest. His axe fell into the water and it was the only one he had. He was not able to get it back from the river, so he began to cry.

The God Hermes appeared and asked him why he was crying. The woodcutter told him that his only axe had fallen into the river and that he was not able to get it back.

Hermes felt sorry for him, so he jumped into the water and brought up a gold axe. He said to the woodcutter: "Is this your axe?" The man answered: "No, it isn't." Hermes jumped again and came up with a silver axe and gave it to the woodcutter. But the honest woodcutter would not take it because it was not his. So the God Hermes went down into the water for the third time and brought up the man's own axe. The man was very happy. He thanked Hermes and took the axe. Hermes was so



pleased with the honesty of this poor man that he gave him both the gold and the silver axes as presents.

When the woodcutter joined his friends, he told them how Hermes had helped him to get his axe and how he had given him the other two axes. One of his friends thought that it would be a good idea to do the same, so he went to the river and dropped his axe into the water on purpose. Then he sat down and cried. Hermes appeared and asked him why he was crying. He answered that his axe had fallen into the river.

Hermes dived and brought him a golden axe and asked him if it was his. The man took it and said: "Yes, it's mine." Hermes was angry with the man because he was lying, so he took away the golden axe and did not even bring him back his own axe.

Exercises

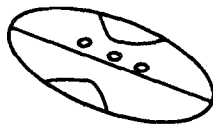
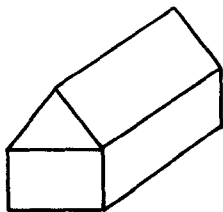
- I. Get together with a partner or a group of friends (altogether four) and act the story out based on Text A.
- II. Do you think the manager of the second insurance office will insure the man's life? Imagine that you were the manager, what would you say when you hear the man's reply?
- III. Imagine that you were the woodcutter in Text B and you were telling your friends about your experience with the God. Fill in the blanks.

Yesterday I _____ as usual. After I had done some work, I sat _____ to rest. Suddenly my axe _____ and it was _____ that I had. I wasn't able to _____, so I began to cry. A God appeared and asked me _____. I told him what had happened. Then he jumped _____ to get my axe. The first time he brought up _____. The second time he



_____ a silver one. I didn't take them because _____.
The God went down into the water _____ and brought up my
axe. I was very happy and thanked him. To my surprise, he gave
me _____ as presents. So now I have _____.

IV. Use your imagination a little and guess what the following pictures
are. You may also write down your description.



Translation

短文一

诚实

有一个人去保险公司为自己买人寿保险。公司经理问他,他父母
去世时多大年纪。

“母亲心脏不好, 30 岁就去世了。父亲 35 岁死于肺结核。”

经理说:“我很抱歉,我们不能为您保险,因为您的父母不健康。”

当这人很沮丧地离开这家公司时,碰到一个职员。这个职员无意
中听到了他们的谈话。

职员说:“你不应该这么坦率地说出真相。如果你那样说的话,没
有一个公司会为你保险。稍微发挥一下你的想像力。”

这人又来到另一家公司并被带到经理办公室。

“您好,年轻人,您父母去世时多大年纪?”

“母亲 93 岁,因从自行车上摔下来而死。父亲 98 岁,他在踢足球
时去世。”



短文二

诚实是最好的美德

从前有一个穷人住在河边的村庄里。他是个樵夫。他过去常常到森林去砍柴卖钱。

有一天,他像往常一样到森林里去砍柴。他砍了一会儿以后坐在河岸边休息。他的斧子掉到了河里,这是他拥有的惟一的一把斧子。他没法从河里取回斧子,所以就开始哭了起来。

神仙赫耳墨斯出现了,问他为什么哭。樵夫告诉神仙他惟一的一把斧子掉到了河里,他没法取回来。

赫耳墨斯为他感到难过,于是他跳到水里,拿上来一把金斧子。他问樵夫:“这是你的斧子吗?”樵夫回答:“不,不是。”赫耳墨斯又跳进水里,出来时拿着一把银斧子。他把它交给樵夫,但是诚实的樵夫不要,因为那不是他的。于是神仙赫耳墨斯第三次跳进水里,取回了樵夫的斧子。樵夫非常高兴,感谢了赫耳墨斯,留下了自己的斧子。赫耳墨斯对穷樵夫的诚实非常满意,因此他把金斧子和银斧子作为礼物送给了樵夫。

当樵夫与朋友们聚在一起时,他把赫耳墨斯如何帮他取回斧子并将另外两把斧子送给他的经过告诉了他们。他的一个朋友想,做同样的事是个好主意,于是他就来到河边,故意把斧子丢到河里。然后他坐下来开始哭。赫耳墨斯出现了,问他为什么哭。他回答说他的斧子掉到了河里。

赫耳墨斯跳进水里,带回一把金斧子,问这是不是他的。那人拿了金斧子说:“是,它是我的。”赫耳墨斯对他非常生气,因为他说谎。于是他拿走了那把金斧子,甚至连那人自己的斧子也不为他取回了。

Key to Exercises

I. II.

(omitted)

彩虹趣味英语阅读系列丛书



III.

went to the forest to cut wood on the bank of the river fall into the water the only one get it back why I was crying into the water a gold axe brought up(came up with) they were not mine for the third time both the gold and the silver axes the other two (three axes)

IV.

(omitted)

