

Accelerated Learning 丛书

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# 通向英语

# 8000 词

# 2

主编 王炳炎

编者 周 红 陈德金



西安交通大学出版社

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# 通向英语

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藏书章

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## 内容提要

《通向英语 8000 词》是为已经掌握大学英语 1~6 级词汇并力图把词汇量扩大到 8000 词的读者而编写的系列读物。全套书共分 3 册:第 1 册为一般性故事;第 2 册为社科类文章;第 3 册为科普类文章。所选文章均为原文,文字拳颖流畅、题材广泛且趣味性强。每册共分 20 单元、由课文、注解、推荐词汇、阅读练习和词汇练习 5 部分组成。每册还有推荐词汇表和练习参考答案 2 个附录。推荐词汇是根据 8000 词汇表、排除 1~6 级词汇后精选出来的,同时又是词汇练习编写的依据。推荐词汇及词汇练习中的派生词对所要掌握的词汇达到较高的覆盖率。本书注释详尽,练习充足、具有较高的针对性和实用性。

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# 前 言

《通向英语 8 000 词》是为已经掌握大学英语 1~6 级词汇并力图把词汇扩大到 8 000 词的读者编写的系列读物。本套书共分 3 册:第 1 册收集一般性故事;第 2 册是社科类文章;第 3 册则是科普类文章。第 1 册略比其它两册容易一些,读者可以根据自己的情况从任何一册入手,再向其它方向发展。

每册共有 20 单元,其结构为:课文、注释、推荐词汇、阅读练习和词汇练习 5 个部分组成。每篇课文长度约 1 500 字,长短略有不同;注释 20~30 个;推荐词汇和表达方式 20~30 个;阅读理解练习 5 个;词汇练习中给出派生词、同义词或反义词的练习 5 个;词汇填空选择题 10 个;词汇解释选择题 10 个。书后附有推荐词汇总表和练习的参考答案。

课文思想性强,文字新颖流畅。选择推荐词汇和表达方式的原则是:根据 8 000 词频率词表,排除大学英语 1~6 级规定要学的约 5 300 个词汇后,剩余部分则为推荐词汇的主要组成部分,再补充少量短语。词汇练习是根据推荐词汇编写的。

本书的特点是针对性强。所推荐的词汇是根据日本梶木隆一的 8 000 词频率词表和大学英语 1~6 级词汇表,并参考《英语专业 4 级词汇表》、《英华大辞典》和杨福全主编的《大学英语 6 级考试词汇手册》而精心筛选出来的。推荐的词汇表明,具有大学英语 6 级水平的读者力图扩充词汇至 8 000 词,必须分别从纵向和横向发展,一方面要补充出现频率较高的普通词汇,同时又要向纵深推进。每课推荐的词汇和表达方式 20~30 个,加上派生词、同义词、反义词练习中约 900 字,因而对所要掌握的词汇已经达到较高的覆盖率。

本书具有较高的实用性。推荐的词汇(课文中已用黑体字标出)是要求掌握的,练习是紧紧围绕这些词汇编写的。通过练习,本书可以帮助读者有针对性地达到这个目的。少量考察理解状况

的练习是为了帮助读者对课文有一个正确理解，熟悉语言环境，便于掌握词汇。练习中的填空式选择题要求读者选择一个可以直接填入题干的词汇或表达方式，使上下文通顺。解释性选择题中有一个选项，只是对句中相关部分进行解释，并不要求替换。题后的数码为课文中的段落号，读者可以参考原文上下文的意思答题。

全书由解放军外国语学院王炳炎教授主编。第1册由张淑静和刘孜群编写；第2册由王炳炎、周红和陈德金编写；第3册由马继红、张莹、赵蔚彬和王炳炎编写。王炳炎负责全书定稿。书中肯定会有不当之处，望读者批评指正。

编 者

1999年12月于洛阳

# 通向英语 8000 词

通向英语 8000 词②

Contents	目录
Unit One Adoption: For Love or Money?	<u>收养儿童:为了爱还是为了钱?</u> 1
Unit Two Debt Relief: A Creditable Solution?	<u>债务减免:可信的措施?</u> 13
Unit Three Drugs: Surveillance or Punishment?	<u>毒品:监督还是严惩?</u> 25
Unit Four Why Big Oil Is Getting a Lot Bigger	<u>石油公司何缘越来越大</u> 37
Unit Five The Hidden Side of the Clinton Economy	<u>克林顿经济的隐患</u> 49
Unit Six Impeachment Aftermath	<u>总统弹劾后遗症</u> 62
Unit Seven Giving Some of It Back	<u>还之于民</u> 74
Unit Eight The Big Stories TV News Is Missing — and Why	<u>电视新闻遗漏的报道</u> 88

Unit Nine		
Bound to Bicker	<u>势必吵架</u>	101
Unit Ten		
Why?	<u>校园枪杀——谁之错?</u>	114
Unit Eleven		
Follow the Money	<u>金钱流向何方</u>	127
Unit Twelve		
The Woman Who Could Beat Him	<u>美国妇女能当总统吗?</u>	138
Unit Thirteen		
Be Careful Out There	<u>出门当心</u>	151
Unit Fourteen		
AIDS in the Third World	<u>艾滋病在第三世界</u>	161
Unit Fifteen		
Just Walk on By: A Black Man Ponders His Power to Alter Public Space	<u>黑人在公共场所所能改变与他人的距离</u>	175
Unit Sixteen		
On Racist Speech	<u>论种族偏见的言论</u>	187
Unit Seventeen		
Could We Please Have Some Quiet, Please?	<u>还我们一片宁静</u>	200
Unit Eighteen		
Presidency of Reagan	<u>里根总统时期</u>	213
Unit Nineteen		
Caltech Comes Out on Top	<u>出类拔萃的加州技术学院</u>	225
Unit Twenty		
Is Copyright on the Wrong Track?	<u>版权保护进入歧途了吗?</u>	238
附录 I Recommended Words and Expressions		
推荐词汇表		251
附录 II Key to the Exercises		
练习答案		271

## Adoption : For Love or Money?

### 收养儿童:为了爱还是为了钱?

*Racketeers<sup>1</sup> are trying to make a profit out of couples in rich countries who want to adopt **orphan** children from the developing world. Twenty-five nations have now agreed to follow a code of conduct<sup>2</sup> governing international adoption.*

1 They're in love. They live comfortably somewhere in the "first world<sup>3</sup>". One day, they decide to have children. But the months and years go by without any "happy event". In the end, they go to a fertility expert<sup>4</sup>. But fertility treatment doesn't always work and eventually becomes very distressing for the couple, who feel wounded because they can't fulfil their reproductive instincts.

2 As they become more and more deeply involved in medical treatment, the idea of adopting a child **takes root**. Why not open their lives to an unloved baby or youngster who has been abandoned and dumped in an orphanage? After all, the couple has lots of love to give and the means to bring up a family.

3 Since contraception<sup>5</sup> became common and **abortion** tolerated in the world's rich countries, abandoned children, young or older, have become few and far between. At the same time, many more people, both couples and single persons, are seeking to adopt. As a result, adoption of children from poor countries by couples from the



North<sup>6</sup> has soared over the past 20 years.

### Long and tricky negotiations

4 With few exceptions, the process of adopting a foreign baby is a long and complex one, involving talks with social workers, doctors and psychiatrists. A lot of paperwork has to be done before consent is given. In most cases, the process is just as complicated in the child's country of origin, and the rules vary widely from country to country. "It's like an obstacle race," say parents who have been through it.

5 Yet scandals regularly **come to light**, mainly because dubious go-betweens<sup>7</sup> in some poor countries take advantage of the rising demand for adopted children to relieve wealthy couples, tired of waiting for offspring of their own, of huge sums, sometimes as much as \$ 60,000. Worst of all, these racketeers manage to trick needy mothers into parting with their biological children<sup>8</sup>.

6 The case of young Pablo in Guatemala<sup>9</sup> helped to raise international concern. He spent the first year of his life in an orphanage while his fate provoked a legal battle. His natural mother, 30-year-old Elvira Ramirez Cano, had given her written consent of his adoption by a Spanish couple. But she claimed she had signed some kind of document in a moment of distress even before the child was born, because her husband had left her when he found out she was pregnant.

7 The Spanish couple's lawyer paid her money. But Guatemalan law allows a mother to renege on such an agreement<sup>10</sup>, and with the backing of a **charitable** association, Caza Alianza<sup>11</sup>, Elvira managed to get baby Pablo back in August 1998, not long after his first birthday. This was the first time a Guatemalan court had ever returned a

child to its natural mother after a dubious adoption.

8 “The Pablo affair shows the kind of pressures and **manoeuvres** that are typical of lawyers and people paid to find babies for adoption. They always go for mothers who are poor and **illiterate**,” say officials of Caza Alianza, whose lawyers are handling the cases of 17 other such mothers. The association reckons that about 440 children have been fraudulently<sup>12</sup> adopted in Guatemala since 1996, a year which saw the end of a 36-year civil war in which more than 100,000 people died.

### **Guatemala, a crackdown on racketeers**

9 Not many countries have such simple adoption procedures as this poor Central American state. A notary<sup>13</sup> obtains the consent of one or other of the child’s biological parents, and then lawyers acting for the adoptive parents present this document and a social report to a juvenile<sup>14</sup> court judge who decides whether or not the adoption can go ahead. In the case of orphans and abandoned children, the judge has to certify first that their parents have vanished or are unknown. In each case, a lawyer is necessary.

10 So Guatemala has become a favourite **destination** of Western couples looking for a foreign child to adopt. The number of requests received rose from 900 in 1996 to 2,304 in 1997, most of them from Americans, French and Canadians. Offices in all three countries have stepped up the warnings about the risks of adopting Guatemalan children.

11 “Lawyers seem to be in **collusion with** doctors, nurses and social workers who pressure mothers to let go of their children. They are then placed with **foster mothers** known to the lawyers in ‘clandestine orphanages<sup>15</sup>’,” says the International Adoption Mission, France’s official body responsible for monitoring the arrival of

adopted children in France.

### Compulsory DNA tests<sup>16</sup>

12 The Canadian **consulate** in Guatemala City has uncovered another racket, even worse. Several mothers who gave adoption consent to a judge were found not to be “their” child’s natural mother after undergoing DNA tests. The babies had been taken from their real mothers at birth in the countryside by women who were paid to say it was they who had given birth to them.

13 Canada now requires DNA tests to be carried out by **accredited** doctors on the mothers of all adopted babies from Guatemala before the children are allowed into the country. The United States announced in October 1998 that it would do the same. The Guatemalan authorities have called on local judges to be more **vigilant** until stricter legislation is passed by parliament.

14 In Brazil, where rules for foreigners adopting children are very strict on paper, 94 women demonstrate regularly in the town of Jundiaí, near São Paulo<sup>17</sup>. Apart from the fact that they are all poor, they have all had their children taken away from them by a judge who sent them to a centre which **works hand in glove with** an Italian adoption organization. An enquiry is going on. In Viet Nam, taxi-drivers, hotel managers and travel agents openly offer, illegally and for money, “guidance” for Western parents seeking to adopt.

15 Scandals like these, and others that came to light in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia, helped to convince the international community of the need for a legal instrument to establish principles for intercountry adoption. The Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption<sup>18</sup> was signed in The Hague<sup>19</sup> in 1993 and came into effect two years later.

## Respect for the child's origins

16 The Convention bans any “improper financial or other gain” and “the abduction, the sale of, or traffic in children” and obliges each signatory state to establish maximum safeguards to prevent it. So far, 21 countries have **ratified** the Convention including Colombia, France and Australia in 1998, and four others have **acceded** to<sup>20</sup> it.

17 In practice, anyone wanting to adopt a child must make a formal application, either directly or through an NGO<sup>21</sup> of their choice, to the “central authority” of their own country, which will send the request to the central authority of the country in which the **applicants** wish to adopt a child. This measure has already reduced the number of clandestine adoptions between contracting countries. Before the request is sent to the foreign country, the adopting country is required to check whether the prospective parents are “eligible and suited to adopt” according to the laws and procedures of both countries involved.

18 The convention also forbids any “contact between the prospective adoptive parents and the child's parents” until all the requirements have been met. The authorities of the child's country of origin must ensure that the consent of the biological mother (and father if he is identified) has been “freely given” and has “not been induced by payment or **compensation** of any kind.”

19 The convention also **stipulates** — like the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>22</sup> — that foreigners can only adopt a child if foster parents have not been found in its own country and if it is “in the best interests of the child”, whose origins must be respected as far as possible.

20 In the same spirit, several countries require foreign prospective parents, or the social services of the adopting country, to make

regular reports on the child's progress to its country of origin. This "follow-up period"<sup>23</sup> is 10 years in the case of Sri Lanka, four for Peru, three for Paraguay and two for Romania.

21 The growth of intercountry adoption has often led to more child adoptions within the country of origin. In Peru, the authorities have **mounted** local media campaigns to ensure that abandoned children are "offered" for adoption to Peruvian couples as a first choice. "Many mothers come to us because they want to give up a child they can no longer afford to bring up," says a Peruvian adoption official who asked not to be named. "We do all we can to **dissuade** them and help them. But here, as everywhere else, the first thing to do is to **stem** the tide of poverty."



## Notes

1. racketeer 诈骗者
2. a code of conduct 行为规则
3. first world 第一世界(指经济发达的国家)
4. fertility expert 生育专家
5. contraception 避孕
6. the North 北方发达国家(指大部分位于北半球、工业技术和经济发达的国家)
7. dubious go-between 可疑的中间人
8. biological children 亲生子女
9. Guatemala 危地马拉(拉丁美洲国家)
10. renege on such an agreement 违背这样的协议
11. Caza Alianza 一慈善组织名称
12. fraudulently 欺骗地
13. notary 公证人
14. juvenile court 少年法庭

15. clandestine orphanage 地下孤儿院(指未经官方批准私人办的孤儿院)
16. DNA tests 脱氧核糖核酸检查 DNA = deoxyribonucleic acid
17. Jundiá, near São Paulo (巴西)圣保罗附近的容迪亚伊镇
18. The Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption 保护儿童和重视跨国扶养合作公约(目前已有 15 个儿童被扶养方国家和 10 个儿童扶养方国家加入此公约)
19. The Hague 海牙(荷兰中央政府所在地)
20. accede to 加入
21. NGO (= non-governmental organization) 非政府机构
22. the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989 年通过的联合国保护儿童权利公约
23. follow-up period 跟踪随访阶段



### Recommended Words and Expressions

*Give the Chinese equivalents to the following*

- |                       |                             |                     |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. adoption 领养        | 2. orphan 孤儿                | 3. take root        |
| 4. abortion 流产        | 5. negotiation 谈判           | 6. come to light    |
| 7. charitable         | 8. manoeuvre                | 9. illiterate 文盲    |
| 10. in collusion with | 11. foster mother 养母        | 12. destination 目的地 |
| 13. compulsory        | 14. consulate               | 15. accredit 认证     |
| 16. vigilant          | 17. work hand in glove with |                     |
| 18. dissuade          | 19. stem                    | 20. ratify          |
| 21. accede 赞同         | 22. applicant 申请人           | 23. compensation    |
| 24. stipulate         | 25. mount                   |                     |



## Comprehension Exercises

Choose the best answer

1. Adoption of children from poor countries has increased because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. contraception became common in rich countries
  - b. abortion is tolerated in rich countries
  - c. abandoned children have become few
  - d. all of the above
2. Which of the following statements is NOT true?
  - a. Pablo was born in Guatemala.
  - b. Pablo's father died after the baby was born.
  - c. Pablo lived in an orphanage in the first year of his life.
  - d. Pablo lived with a Spanish couple for a period of time.
3. Guatemala is a favourite destination of western couples looking for a foreign child to adopt because \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Guatemala has more abandoned children than other countries
  - b. lawyers in Guatemala are hard-working
  - c. the adoption procedures are simple in Guatemala
  - d. it's cheap to adopt children from Guatemala
4. Which country first requires DNA tests to be carried out?
  - a. The U.S.
  - b. Canada.
  - c. Brazil.
  - d. France.
5. The Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption came into effect in \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. 1995
  - b. 1993
  - c. 1980
  - d. 1970





