

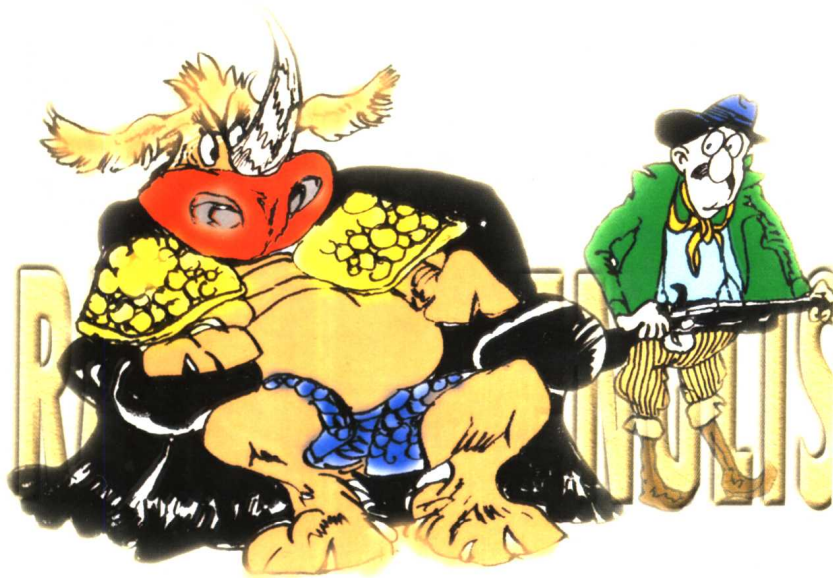


彩虹趣味英语阅读系列丛书

Rainbow Fascinating Reading

第三册

范红 主编



主编：范 红

彩 虹

趣味英语阅读

系列丛书

第三册

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*Rainbow
Fascinating
Reading*

天津大学出版社

图书在版编目(CIP)数据

彩虹趣味英语阅读系列. 第3册/范红主编. —天津:
天津大学出版社, 2001.5
ISBN 7-5618-1313-9

I. 彩… II. 范… III. 英语课—高中—课外读物
IV. G634.413

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2001)第 18737 号

| | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 出版发行 | 天津大学出版社 |
| 出 版 人 | 杨风和 |
| 地 址 | 天津市卫津路 92 号天津大学内(邮编:300072) |
| 电 话 | 发行部:022-27403647 邮购部:022-27402742 |
| 印 刷 | 天津大学印刷厂 |
| 经 销 | 全国各地新华书店 |
| 开 本 | 880mm×1230mm 1/32 |
| 印 张 | 6 |
| 字 数 | 179 千 |
| 版 次 | 2001 年 5 月第 1 版 |
| 印 次 | 2001 年 5 月第 1 次 |
| 印 数 | 1—5 000 |
| 定 价 | 9.00 元 |

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，又有所銜接地对待，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

English Language



Words and Expressions

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. pajamas (宽大的)睡衣裤 | 11. subway 地铁 |
| 2. popcorn 爆玉米(花) | 12. underground 地铁 |
| 3. make up 组成 | 13. flyover 过街天桥 |
| 4. cut off 删除 | 14. overpass 过街天桥 |
| 5. name after 以某人名字命名 | 15. hood (发动机)罩 |
| 6. announcer 播音员 | 16. bonnet (发动机)罩 |
| 7. telly 电视 | 17. boot (汽车的)行李箱 |
| 8. flick 电影 | 18. horn 汽笛 |
| 9. freight 货物 | 19. hooter 汽笛 |
| 10. wagon 货车 | |

Text A

A Changing Language

The English language is different from any other language. Yet English words do not stay the same. Our language is always changing. We need new words for new inventions and new ideas. Different words come into use, or older words are used in a new way.

English can change by borrowing words from other languages. Tomato was borrowed from Mexico and pajamas from India. The word coffee came from Turkey, and tea came from China. Now new space and science words are being borrowed from other countries, too.





New words are also made by adding two words together. Strawberry, popcorn, and grandfather are words made up of two parts.

Sometimes new words are shorter forms of older words. The word photo was made from photograph by cutting off the end of the longer word. Plane was made by cutting off the front part of airplane. Smog was made by using only the first two and last two letters from the word smoke and fog.

The names of people and products can become new words. Our sandwich was named after a man named Sandwich. Scotch Tape, Band-Aid, and Jello were names made up by the companies that first made the products.

Text B

English Can Be Strange

Have you ever heard someone speak in a language that you couldn't understand? Perhaps it was French. But it could have been English!

At times, English can sound as different as another language. It is spoken by one out of ten people in the world. Yet there are many differences between the "Queen's English" and American English.



In England, the Queen's English is the way radio and TV announcers say words. It is thought to be the most correct way to pronounce words. When the doctor asks you to say "ah," you are using the sound that the English use in the words bath and dance.

Words can have different meanings, too. English children go to a "sweets shop." American children would visit a candy store. They watch the "telly." Americans watch TV. The English go to "flicks," while we go to movies.

Railroad tracks are "metals." A freight car is a "goods wagon." They call the subway the "underground." A "flyover" is our overpass. They call an automobile hood a "bonnet." Our car trunk is a "boot" to them, and our horn is a "hooter."

If you went to England, could you understand the language?

Exercises

I. Complete the following chart by using the information in the text.

English can change by borrowing words from other languages. Here are some examples:

| Word | Country |
|--------|---------|
| tomato | |
| | India |
| coffee | |
| | China |

II. Sometimes new words are shorter forms of older words. Shorten the following words.

photograph airplane smoke and fog



III. There are some differences in pronunciation and spelling between American English and Queen's English. Sometimes, different words are used for the same thing. Write down the right words in the chart below.

| American English | Queen's English | Chinese |
|------------------|-----------------|---------|
| | | 地铁 |
| | | 电视 |
| | | 电影 |
| | | 过街天桥 |
| | | 发动机罩 |

Translation

短文一

一种变化中的语言

英语有别于其他任何一种语言,然而英语的词汇并非一成不变。我们的语言始终在变化。我们需要新词汇来表达新发明和新思想,于是,不同的词应运而生,或者旧词有了新的用法。

英语通过借用其他语言的词汇而变化。“马铃薯”一词源于墨西哥,“睡衣”一词源于印度,“咖啡”一词来自土耳其,而“茶”一词则来自中国。如今,新的太空和科技词汇也正从其他国家源源不断地借入。

新词也可以通过合成两个词而产生。“草莓”(strawberry)、“爆米花”(popcorn)及“祖父”(grandfather)就是由两部分组成的词。

有时新词是旧词的简写形式。“照片”(photo)一词就是删掉 photograph 这个较长词的后部分而成,“飞机”(plane)一词删掉了 airplane 的前部分,“烟雾”(smog)一词只取了“烟”(smoke)的前两个字母和“雾”(fog)的后两个字母。

人名和产品名称可以成为新词。“三明治”一词是以一个叫 Sand-



wich 的人命名的。Scotch Tape、Band-Aid 及 Jello 是根据最先制造这些产品的公司的名字而取名的。

短文二

英语能令人迷惑不解

你是否听人说过一种你不能懂的语言？也许是法语，但它却正是英语！

有时，英语听起来像另一种语言。世界上有十分之一的人说英语，然而“标准英语”(Queen's English)和“美语”(American English)有许多不同之处。

在英国，“标准英语”即是广播和电视播音员说话的腔调。人们认为那是最正确的发音方法。当医生让你说“啊”(ah)时，你所发的音正是英国人发“洗澡”(bath)和“跳舞”(dance)中的音。

单词也可有不同的含义。英国孩子去“糖果店”(sweets shop)，而美国孩子去 candy store；英国人看“电视”(telly)，而美国人看 TV；英国人去看“电影”(flicks)，而美国人则去看 movies。

美语称“铁轨”为 railroad tracks，而英语为 metals；美语称“货车”为 freight car，而英语为 goods wagon；美国称“地铁”为 subway，而英语为 underground；美语称“过街天桥”为 overpass，而英语为 flyover；美语“汽车发动机罩”为 automobile hood，而英语是 bonnet；美语“汽车行李箱”为 car trunk，而英语为 boot；美语“汽笛”为 horn，而英语是 hooter。

如果你到英国去，你能听懂这样的语言吗？

Key to Exercises

I.

| Word | Country |
|---------|---------|
| tomato | Mexico |
| pajamas | India |
| coffee | Turkey |
| tea | China |



II.

photo

plane

smog

III.

| American English | Queen's English | Chinese |
|------------------|--------------------|---------|
| <i>subway</i> | <i>underground</i> | 地铁 |
| TV | <i>telly</i> | 电视 |
| <i>movies</i> | <i>film</i> | 电影 |
| <i>overpass</i> | <i>flyover</i> | 过街天桥 |
| <i>hood</i> | <i>bonnet</i> | 发动机罩 |

Unit 2

Plants

Words and Expressions

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. date palm 枣椰树; date 枣椰子 | 4. fertilizer 肥料 |
| 2. water hyacinth 凤眼蓝 | 5. feed 喂(动物)饲料 |
| 3. disease 病害 | 6. section 瓣 |
| | 7. raise 种植 |

Text A

The Date Palm

The date palm is a wonderful tree. People eat dates. They feed them to their animals. They use the leaves and wood to build houses. They use the wood to build the boats. They make baskets from the leaves. They burn the other parts of the tree so they can cook food.


The date palm came from the Middle East. Seven thousand (7 000) years ago, people in Egypt ate dates. They made pictures of date palms on their stone buildings. Today date palms grow in the Middle East, parts of Asia and Africa, southern Europe, and other warm parts of the world.

Text B

The Water Hyacinth

The water hyacinth grows in tropical countries. It has beautiful purple-blue flowers, but everybody hates it. Why?





Millions and millions of these plants grow in rivers and lakes. Sometimes the plants become so thick that people can walk on them. People cannot travel in boats on the water, and they cannot fish in it. The plants stop the water from moving. Then the water carries diseases. Farmers cannot use the water on their land.

Now scientists think that water hyacinths can be useful. The plants are really a free crop. No one has to take care of them. They just grow and grow and grow. What can farmers use them for?

Some fish like to eat them. Farmers can grow these fish in the lakes and rivers.

Workers can collect and cut the plants with machines. Then they can make fertilizer to make their crops grow better. They can also make feed for their farm animals.

Maybe in the future people will love the water hyacinth instead of hating it.

Text C

Oranges

Everybody loves oranges. They are sweet and juicy. They are in sections so it is easy to eat them. Some oranges do not have any seeds. Some have a thick skin and some have a thin skin.

The orange tree is beautiful. It has a lot of shiny green leaves. The small white flowers smell very sweet. An orange tree has flowers and fruit at the same time.

There were orange trees twenty million years ago. The oranges were very small, not like the ones today. The orange tree probably came from China. Many different kinds of wild oranges grow there today. Chinese started to raise orange trees around 2400 B. C. Chinese art has lovely old pictures of oranges and orange trees.

Farmers in other parts of Asia and the Middle East learned to raise



oranges from the Chinese. Then they taught Europeans.

“Orange” is both a fruit and a color. The color of oranges is so beautiful that in English we use the name of the fruit for the color.

Exercises

I. Where do these plants grow? Tick your answer. (The first one is done for you as an example.)

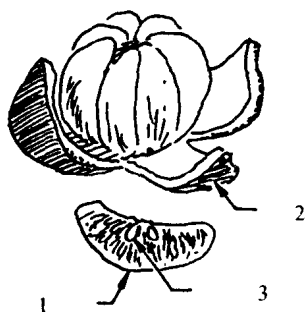
| areas | the date palm | the water hyacinth | orange |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------|
| tropical countries | | | |
| the Middle East | | | |
| Asia | | | |
| Africa | | | |
| Europe | | | |
| Antarctic | | | |

II. Match the details with the main ideas. Write the letter under the correct main ideas.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1. People hate water hyacinths. | a. Some fish like to eat them. |
| 2. Water hyacinths can be useful. | b. The plants stop the water from moving. |
| | c. People can not travel on the water. |
| | d. They have beautiful flowers. |
| | e. People can feed them to animals. |
| | f. People cannot fish because of hyacinths. |
| | g. The water carries diseases. |

III. Look at the picture of an orange, and tell what each part is called.





Translation

短文一

枣椰树

枣椰树是一种极好的树。人们吃枣椰果,拿枣椰果喂他们饲养的动物。他们用枣椰树叶和木材建房子,还用枣椰木造船,用枣椰树叶编篮子,燃烧枣椰树的其他部分用来烧饭。

枣椰树产于中东。7 000 年前埃及人就吃枣椰果了,他们在石头建筑上描画枣椰树。如今枣椰树生长在中东、亚洲和非洲部分地区、南欧以及世界上其他的温暖地区。

短文二

凤眼蓝

凤眼蓝生长在热带国家,它开紫蓝色的美丽花朵。可是人人都讨厌它,为什么呢?

河湖里生长着成千上万棵这种植物。有时候,这些植物生长茂密,人们可以在上面行走。人们无法乘船在这样的河面上航行,也不能在河里捕鱼。凤眼蓝使水停止流动,带上疾病,农民无法用河水浇地。

如今,科学家认为凤眼蓝可以利用。这种植物实际上是一种不用投资的庄稼。不用照看,它们一个劲地长啊长啊长啊。那么农民可以用它们做什么呢?

