

英语阅读技巧与训练

第一、二册

中山大学出版社

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ENGLISH READING SKILLS AND TRAINING

中山大学外语系大学英语教研室编

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编 者 的 话

高等院校非英语专业的学生必须进行大量的和题材广泛的阅读训练，一改过去“一本精读课本读到底”的学习方法，才能做到有效地扩大英语词汇量，熟习惯用法，提高理解力，加快阅读速度，从而全面提高英语阅读水平。同时也只有通过有目的有步骤的训练，才能使他们掌握较为科学的阅读方法，使阅读做到事半功倍。为此，我们从国外各类书刊中精选出各种文章选段，编成《英语阅读技巧与训练》一书，供高等院校非英语专业第一至第六级作课堂快速阅读训练使用，也可供业余或成人教育单位或自学者作英语基础课辅助读物或教材。

全书各篇选文均选自国外出版的语言教科书，题材有寓言、传说、科普知识、科学史话、历史人物、风土人情和名人轶事等，内容具有一定的知识性和趣味性。

本书共分四册，每册既互相衔接，又因侧重点不同而各有其特点。第一册分为两部分：第一部分着重于提高学生掌握文章事实和理解意念的能力，供第一级学生使用；第二部分在继续训练理解意念的基础上增加了词汇练习，以帮助学生扩大词汇量，该部分用于第二级。第二册对最常见的几种阅读技巧作简单介绍，然后针对每一种技巧反复进行多次训练。该册供第三、四级使用。第三、四册为后续高级阅读材料，致力于进一步巩固和熟习阅读技巧，提高阅读速度，以阅读速度结合理解准确度检查阅读成效。这两册供第五、六级使用。

为利于测定阅读速度，第一、三、四册的每篇选文都标明了字数。第二册的每一篇都标有阅读时限，以供使用者参考。练习的参考答案附在每册的最后。

本书主要由徐级明、林烈城、夏纪梅、吴潜龙、许剑雄等教师编写，由高铭元教授审校。限于水平和经验，欢迎使用者批评指正。

编 者

一九八四年十一月

第一册使用说明

《英语阅读技巧与训练》第一册共编有选文四十篇，分为两部分，供高等院校非英语专业基础阶段的第一级和第二级作课堂快速阅读训练用。

第一部分旨在加强对学生基础阶段的阅读训练，通过增加阅读量帮助学生增强语感、巩固所学的和掌握英语的阅读技能。这部分的练习侧重于检查学生掌握文章事实和理解意念的能力。第一种练习是“回顾事实”(Recalling the Facts)，检查学生是否掌握所读材料的主要事实；第二种属于“理解意念”(Understanding the Ideas)，检查学生是否领会作者要传达给读者的主要思想；第三种是辨别所陈述事实的真伪(True or False)，让学生进一步加深对“事实”的理解。

第二部分旨在帮助学生扩大知识面，提高阅读速度，增加词汇量。这部分的练习保留了阅读理解选择题，增加了词汇练习。选择题以抓意念为主；词汇练习围绕选文中的重点单词或短语以不同的形式出现。

本册每篇选文之后标有该文字数，以便教师按照教学要求和学生的实际水平定出阅读速度的评分标准，然后加上理解题的分数作为学生的总得分。第二部分的词汇练习可按实际需要安排在课内或课外完成。

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PART ONE

1. All Kinds of Manners

All over the world mothers and fathers teach their children manners. Other children may have manners that are not like yours. There are all kinds of manners.

Many years ago, children who had good manners were seen and not heard. They kept quiet if grownups were talking. Today, well-mannered children have more freedom.

Sometimes good manners in one place are bad manners in other places.

Suppose you are a visitor in the land of Mongolia. Some friends ask you to eat with them. What kind of manners do they want you to have? They want you to give a loud "burp" after you finish eating. Burping would show that you liked your food.

In Some countries, if you give a loud burp, you are told to say "Excuse me, please".

In many places people like to eat together. But in some parts of Polynesia it is bad manners to be seen eating at all. People show their good manners by turning their backs on others while they eat.

What are manners like in an East African town? The people try not to see you. They are being polite. You may see a friend. He may not see you at all. If you're polite, you will sit down beside him. You will wait until he finishes what he is doing. Then he will talk to you.

Suppose you visit a friend in Arabia. You should walk behind the other tents until you come to his tent. If you pass in front of the other tents, you will be asked into each one. The people will ask you to eat with them. And it is bad manners if you say no.

Manners are different all over the world. But it is good to know that all manners begin in the same way. People needed ways to show that they wanted to be friends.

Number of Words: 411 ÷ Reading Time in Minutes... = Rate.....

How Well Did You Read?

What did the writer say?

1. Many years ago well-mannered children were
 - A. seen and heard
 - B. seen and not heard

- C. not seen or heard
2. In Mongolia, burping is a way of showing that
- A. you enjoyed your meal
 - B. you are rude
 - C. your meal was not good
3. In Polynesia, to be polite while eating you should
- A. eat quickly
 - B. sit still
 - C. turn your back on others
4. In Arabia it would be bad manners
- A. to say no if you were asked to eat
 - B. to walk behind the tents
 - C. to visit a friend
- Did you see the point?
5. We have good manners to show that we
- A. are different from other people
 - B. don't want other people to bother us
 - C. want to be friends with other people
- Are the statements below true or false?
6. Mothers and fathers all over the world teach their children the same manners.
7. In some countries a loud burp implies bad manners.
8. People in an East African town are being polite by trying to talk to you.
9. Many years ago well-mannered children were quiet.

Score

Total Score

2. Modern Ways of Fighting

Some young soldiers who had recently joined the army were being trained in modern ways of fighting, and one of the things they were shown was how an unarmed man could trick an armed enemy and take his weapon away from him. First one of their two instructors took a knife away from the other, using only his bare hands; and then he took a rifle away from him in the same way.

After the lesson, and before they went on to train the young soldiers to do these things themselves, the two instructors asked them a number of questions to see how well they had understood what they had been shown. One of the question was this: "Well, you now know what an unarmed man can do against a man with a rifle. Now imagine that you are guarding a bridge at night, and you have a rifle. Suddenly you see an unarmed enemy soldier coming towards you. What will you do?"

The young soldier who had to answer this question thought carefully for a few seconds and then said, "Well, after what I have just seen, I think that the first thing I would do would be to get rid of my rifle as quickly as I could so that the unarmed enemy soldier couldn't take it from me and kill me with it!"

Number of Words: 225 ÷ Reading Time in Minutes ... = Rate

How Well Did You Read?

What did the writer say?

1. The instructor showed the young soldiers
 - A. how to use a rifle
 - B. How to fight
 - C. How to kill an armed enemy
2. In the army, the young soldiers were given lessons first, and then
 - A. they were tested
 - B. they were dismissed from the army
 - C. they were sent to the battle
3. The young soldiers were hoped to learn
 - A. what an unarmed man could do against a man with a rifle or a knife
 - B. what a soldier should do in a battle

C. how to become a real soldier

Are the statements below true or false?

4. It was a modern way of fighting that an armed man throws his weapon away to fight with his enemy.
5. The two instructors told the young soldiers that they should not take any weapon to fight their enemy.
6. All of the young soldiers understood what they should do.

Score

Total Score

3. A Famous Picnic

Some people said that Mr. Dodgson was a dull man. Alice Liddell did not think so.

Both Mr. Dodgson and Alice lived in Oxford, in England. Mr. Dodgson taught in one of the colleges in Oxford. But he liked to draw children. And he liked to tell stories to his young friends.

Alice and her sisters loved a good story. when they wished to hear one, they went to Mr. Dodgson.

It was one day in the summer of 1862. The day was fine and warm. Alice and her sisters were happy. Mr. Dodgson had asked them to spend a day on the river. They would take lunch with them. It would be fun to picnic on the bank of the river.

Soon they were in the boat. Alice said, "Please tell us a story, Mr. Dodgson."

Mr. Dodgson smiled. He liked to make up stories for children. He thought of his own brothers and sisters. As a child he had told them stories.

He thought for a while. Then he said, "The girl in this story will be—Alice."

The girls sat back, glad to listen. The boat moved on. The story of Alice in Wonderland was told for the first time.

The girls loved the story. They asked Mr. Dodgson to write it down. He did so.

Three years went by. Then one day the story came out as a book. Mr. Dodgson used the name "Lewis Carroll" on the book.

The book was a great success. Many children all over the world read it. Parents read it to young children who could not read.

Later, Mr. Dodgson wrote a second story for Alice. This one was called Through the Looking-Glass. It too was a great success.

"Lewis Carroll" also wrote poems for his young friends. His stories and poems are exciting, but his life was not. He worked very hard. He wrote textbooks for adults. In 1898 he died. He was sixty-six years of age.

Few people now read Mr. Dodgson's books for adults. But the "Alice" books are still famous. Films have been made of them.

It all began with a real Alice. One day she went for a picnic on the river...

Number of words: 358 ÷ Reading time in minutes... = Rate.....

How Well Did You Read?

What did the writer say?

1. Alice Liddell did not think that
 - A. Mr. Dodgson could draw children
 - B. Mr. Dodgson was a dull man
 - C. the story was a good one
2. Alice in Wonderland was first told
 - A. in 1862
 - B. in 1898
 - C. in a college in Oxford
3. The girls asked Mr. Dodgson
 - A. to tell the story again
 - B. to write another story
 - C. to write down the story

Did you note the details?
4. Through the Looking-Glass is the
 - A. first story written for Alice
 - B. second story for Alice
 - C. third story for Alice

Can you see why?
5. Alice in Wonderland has been filmed because
 - A. Mr. Dodgson wrote the book
 - B. it was first told in 1862
 - C. it is a good story

Are the statements below true or false?
6. Mr. Dodgson was a school teacher so he liked to make up stories for children.
7. Mr. Dodgson was a story teller among his brothers and sisters when he was a child.
8. The story of *Alice in Wonderland* was made up in the boat.
9. Mr. Dodgson wrote both stories for children and textbooks for adults.

Score.....

Total score.....

4. A List

Mrs Black was having a lot of trouble with her skin, so she went to her doctor about it. He could not find anything wrong with her, however, so he sent her to the local hospital for some tests. The hospital, of course, sent the results of the tests direct to Mrs Black's doctor, and the next morning he telephoned her to give her a list of the things that he thought she should not eat, as any of them might be the cause of her skin trouble.

Mrs Black carefully wrote all the things down on a piece of paper, which she then left beside the telephone while she went out to a ladies' meeting.

When she got back home two hours later, she found her husband waiting for her. He had a big basket full of packages beside him, and when he saw her he said, "Hullo, dear. I have done all your shopping for you."

"Done all my shopping?" she asked in surprise. "But how did you know what I wanted?"

"Well, when I got home, I found your shopping list beside the telephone," answered her husband, "so I went down to the shops and bought everything you had written down."

Of course, Mrs Black had to tell him that he had bought all the things the doctor did not allow her to eat!"

Number of words: 220 ÷ Reading time in minutes... = Rate.....

How Well Did You Read?

What did the writer say?

1. There was something wrong with
 - A. Mr. Black's skin
 - B. Mrs. Black's skin
 - C. the doctor's skin
2. The doctor telephoned Mrs. Black
 - A. to tell her the results of the tests
 - B. to ask her how she was feeling
 - C. to give her his advice about what she should not eat
3. Mr. Black took the list beside the telephone as
 - A. a shopping list
 - B. a piece of paper

C. a menu

Did you see the point?

4. Mr. Black helped his wife

A. by mistake

B. a lot

C. do some shopping

Are the statements below true or false?

5. The doctor advised Mrs. Black not to eat the things that might cause her skin trouble.

6. Mrs. Black got the results of the tests directly.

7. Mrs. Black would like to follow the doctor's advice.

8. When Mr. Black came back home, his wife was not in.

Score.....

Total Score.....

5. She Watched the Stars

"Maria", Mrs. Mitchell called to her daughter.

"Come down from the attic at once. A little girl shouldn't spend so much time looking at the stars"

So Maria came down. But she did not stay there long. She soon sneaked back up. She loved to look at the stars. And when the night was clear, she would climb up to the attic to do just that.

Maria's father did not agree with his wife about the stars. He did not think it was bad for his daughter to watch them so much. In fact, her interest pleased him. He even gave her a telescope so that she could see the stars better.

A few years passed. In that time Maria's interest in the stars grew. She watched them more and more. One night her father told her to start watching for a comet.

"A comet!" the girl said. "How wonderful!"

"Look sharp now," Maria's father warned. "Remember that a comet looks much like a star. But it moves through the sky. And it has a long tail.

"Man has not seen very many," he went on. "If you sight a new one, you could become famous."

So night after night Maria searched the skies. But it took a long while before she found what she was looking for.

People thought it was strange that a young lady like Maria spent so much time looking at the sky. They said that she should be out having fun at parties. But Maria did not care what people said. She liked to look at the sky. She wished to find a comet.

Then one night her wish came true. The date was October 1, 1847. The time was half past ten. Maria looked through her telescope. All at once she saw a flash of light. It looked much like a star. But it moved through space. And it had a long tail. At last she had found a new comet.

For her find, Maria was given a gold medal. She got a gift of money, too. The king of Denmark had offered these to the first person who found a new comet.

Soon the whole world had heard of Maria's find. She became quite well known. And she received many honours. She was asked to join scientific clubs. She was asked to write books about the stars. She was even asked to teach about them. In 1865 she became a teacher at Vassar College.

Her greatest honour, though, came in 1905. At that time Maria Mitchell's name was