



COWIN

英语百科阅读

Cowin英语教育丛书编写组 编写
北京出版社

噪音污染





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学习外语要掌握听说读写四项技能,听和读是接受性技能,说和写是产出性技能。从交际教学法来说,学外语就是为了交际,通过掌握实际应用的能力,能说会写。要做到这一点,便要多听多读,因此听说读写是互补的,缺一不可的。其次,当代语言教学理论的实践,强调学习与习得兼顾。前者在宏观上通过老师在教室内进行,配有固定的教材;在微观上指导老师改进课堂教学方法,以学生为中心,多让学生参与,可取得更好的教学效果。惟独在习得方面,尽管在理论上谁都明白让学生在自然真实条件下,无意识地、轻轻松松地接触英语,但很少有人为学生创造习得的环境和物质条件,形成自流。

从目前国内的出版市场上看,所提供的一些听力和阅读材料,多半是供成人用的,或是直接从国外引进的教材,不能引起国内广大青少年的兴趣,不能满足他们的要求。其次,某些编书者把听和读分开,听力教材和阅读教材分流,这不利于接受性技能的综合培养。现北京出版社出版了《蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库》将听和读两者通盘考虑,可谓英明之举。如文库的一个品种《美国之音特别节目听读》以听为主,同时提供文字材料,而另一品种《Ladybird 英语听读》以读为主,同时配有磁带。

《蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库》的第二个优点是,这些课外学习材料针对性明确,面向中学生的需要。它非常注意趣味性和可读性。如《中学英语轻松阅读》有学生们

所喜欢的寓言、诗歌、故事、幻想、传说等内容,也把学生引入蜘蛛、黑猩猩、狮子、小狗、小猫等动物世界。

《文库》注意将英语学习和文化知识的传授结合起来,使学生在学习英语过程中同时增长文化知识,或者在接受文化知识的不知不觉过程中习得了英语。如《美国之音特别节目听读》介绍了西方国家的“愚人节”、“劳动节”等文化习俗,以及美国拳王阿里在体育运动上的成就和政治上的正义感等。《Ladybird 英语听读》让学生接触到英美国家的优秀儿童文学,如《格列佛游记》、《金银岛》、《艾丽丝漫游奇境》等名著。《Cowin 英语百科阅读》的内容有对英语学习的指导、英国的衰落、英国剑桥和牛津两所名大学的掌故、美国的穷富差距、体育音乐等。《中学英语轻松阅读》和《Cowin 英语百科阅读》还收入计算机千年虫、克隆技术、航天、健康长寿等现代科技知识。

由于中学生涵盖从初一到高三的不同年龄段,《文库》的优势是提供难易度不同的品种,供读者酌情选用。有的是初中生的理想材料,如《美国之音特别节目听读》;有的适合高中生,如《Cowin 英语百科阅读》;而《中学英语轻松阅读》共6册,分别与初中和高中相对应。

教育部英语课程标准研制组起草的《国家英语课程标准(义务教育阶段)》的讨论稿曾规定,在阅读方面除正规教材外,应引导学生进行课外阅读,如英语标准第3级应达到10万字的阅读量。《蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库》将与广大中学生读者携手,共同向这个目标迈进。

胡壮麟

2000年7月13日于

北京大学畅春园

蓝鸚鵡中學 英語聽讀文庫

《Ladybird 英語聽讀》是從世界著名的企鵝出版集團下屬的 Ladybird 圖書有限公司引進的。該叢書為世界古典文學名著簡寫本系列，首批精選的 10 本包括《霧都孤兒》、《海蒂》、《金銀島》、《艾麗絲漫遊奇境》、《格列佛游記》、《鐵道少年》、《三劍客》、《黑駿馬》、《秘密花園》和《小飛俠》。這批文學名著簡寫本通俗易懂，文字優美流暢，插圖精美生動，適合作為我國中學生的英語課外閱讀讀物。一批有多年豐富教學經驗的中學英語高級教師根據我國中學生的英語學習情況，對該套叢書中的生詞難句作了注釋，並在每一本書的每一章後設計了一些閱讀練習題。這些練習題數量適中，針對性強，適合一般中學生的英語水平。解答這些練習題，讀者可以有效地提高對作品的理解和閱讀能力，同時也會增強讀者的閱讀興趣。為了使讀者能夠更好地理解原文，滿足不同英語程度的讀者需求，我們在每一本書都附上了參考譯文和參考答案。

《美國之音特別節目聽讀》是從“美國之音”的 Special English 中精選出來的，適合中學生閱讀的學習材料。它的特點是，英語原汁原味、語言活潑生動、內容涉獵很廣，包括國外的風俗習慣、文化傳統、節日假日、動物生態、名人趣事、環境保護、社會問題等。

叢書共分 10 冊，其中初中、高中各 5 冊，並附有練

习、译文和答案。练习与中考、高考的阅读题型相符。

本套书选材角度新颖,可读性极强,选出的文章让人感受到知识的强烈冲击,既能掌握最新的知识信息,又能体验到英语语言的魅力。

《Cowan 英语百科阅读》,顾名思义,这是一套将百科知识融入语言学习的英语阅读物。所编入的语篇均取材于原版的英语文章,以提高广大读者的英语阅读能力为第一目的,在潜移默化中,将丰富的文化、知识信息与地道的语言一起传输给读者,使读者在掌握一种语言技能的同时,提高自己的综合知识水平,达到知识与能力双获益的最终目的。本次共推出 10 本,每本编入既反映时代发展,又贴近时代气息的短文 20 余篇,由北京、上海的英语教学专家联手合作,专门为广大中学生和初级英语水平者编写。

《中学英语轻松阅读》包括《三条腿的鸡》、《神秘的小屋》、《巨龙传说》、《幸运的小灯塔》、《未来的城市》及《苹果中的星星》6 册,供初高中学生阅读。全套书依据新教材、新大纲,围绕中学生的兴趣爱好、认知发展因素及阅读理解要求达到的水平而选编,收入文学、动物世界、生活常识及自然现象等约 200 篇生动有趣的小故事,按由易到难、由浅入深的顺序编排。多数故事源自国际互联网及异国中小学生之笔。为便于阅读理解,每篇文章后设计了适应中高考命题的读前思考题、读后练习题、习惯用法、注释及答案。该丛书题材广泛、内容新颖,读后既可提高英语阅读理解能力、应试能力、又能增长知识、开阔眼界,是中学生理想的英语阅读物。

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The Date Father Didn't Keep 父亲失约

It happened in one of those picturesque Danish taverns that cater to tourists and where English is spoken. I was with my father on a business-and-pleasure trip¹.

He had visited Denmark when he was a young man. I asked him, "How long is it since you were here?"

"Oh, about 30 years. I remember being in this very inn², by the way." He looked around, remembering. "Those were gracious days." He stopped suddenly, and I saw that his face was pale. I followed his eyes and looked across the room to a woman who was setting a tray of drinks³ before some customers. "Do you know her?" I asked.

"I did once," he said.

"How she has changed!" muttered Father, mopping his face with a handkerchief. "I knew her before I ever met your mother," he went on. "I was a student, on a tour. She was a lovely young thing⁴, very graceful. I fell madly in love with her, and she with me⁵."

"Does Mother know about her?" I blurted out, resentfully.

"Oh, yes, I want to tell you. I don't want you wondering about this. Her father objected to our romance. I



1 was a foreigner. I had no prospects, and was dependent on my father. When I wrote Father that I wanted to get married he cut off my allowance. And I had to go home. But I met the girl once more, and told her I would return to America, borrow enough money to get married on, and come back for her in a few months."

"We knew," he continued, "that her father might intercept a letter, so we agreed that I would simply mail her a slip of paper with a date on it, the time she was to meet me at a certain place; then we'd get married. Well, I went home, got the loan and sent her the date. She received the note. She wrote me: 'I'll be there.' But she wasn't⁶. Then I found that she had been married about two weeks before to a local innkeeper. She hadn't waited."

Then my father said, "Thank God she didn't. I went home met your mother, and we've been completely happy. We often joke about that youthful love romance."

We drank our beer and left. Outside I said, "Father, just⁷ how did you write that date on which she was to meet you?"

He stopped, took out an envelope and wrote on it. "Like this," he said. "12/11/13, which was, of course, December 11, 1913."

"No!" I exclaimed. "It isn't in Denmark or any European country. Over here they write the day first, then the month. So that date wouldn't be December 11 but the 12th



of November!"

Father passed his hand over his face. "So she was there!" he exclaimed. "And it was because I didn't show up that she got married." He was silent a while. "Well," he said, "I hope she's happy. She seems to be."⁸

As we resumed walking I blurted out, "It's a lucky thing it happened that way. You wouldn't have met Mother."

He put his arm around my shoulders, looked at me with a heart-warming smile, and said, "I, was doubly lucky, young fellow, for otherwise I wouldn't have met you, either!"

(546 words)

New Words and Phrases:

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------|
| 1. date | [deɪt] | <i>n., v.</i> | 约会 |
| 2. picturesque | [ˌpɪktʃə'resk] | <i>adj.</i> | 似画的 |
| 3. Danish | [ˈdeɪnɪʃ] | <i>adj.</i> | 丹麦的 |
| 4. tavern | [ˈtævə(:)n] | <i>n.</i> | 酒店, 小旅馆 |
| 5. cater | [ˈkeɪtə] | <i>v.</i> | 供应伙食 |
| 6. gracious | [ˈɡreɪʃəs] | <i>adj.</i> | 愉快的 |
| 7. mutter | [ˈmʌtə] | <i>v.</i> | 轻声低语 |
| 8. mop | [mɒp] | <i>v.</i> | 抹 |
| 9. blurt | [blɜ:t] | <i>v.</i> | 脱口而出 |
| 10. resentful | [rɪˈzentfl] | <i>adj.</i> | 愤恨的, 不满的 |
| 11. allowance | [əˈlauəns] | <i>n.</i> | 津贴 |



12. intercept [ɪntə(:)'sept] v. 拦截

Notes:

1. business-and-pleasure trip business trip 表示出差，但是有时一带两便，趁出差之便游览一番，因此有 business-and-pleasure trip 这一词组。
2. this very inn 正是这家旅店 very 在这里用做形容词，在句中用来强调 inn (小酒店)，以加强语气，意思是“正是”(这个)。
3. setting a tray of drinks 摆放一盘饮料 饮料分带酒精和不带酒精两种，drink 是泛指饮料，为了区别起见不带酒精的饮料称作 soft drinks。带酒精的则用 liquor 一词 (多在美国)。
4. thing 这里可做“家伙 (指人)”解，带感情色彩。
5. she with me 她狂热地爱着我 这里 she 与 with 之间的 fell madly in love 被省略了，避免重复。
6. she wasn't 她不在 后面的 there 省略了。
7. just 用于祈使句中，表示“试(请)问”。
8. She seems to be. 她看来很快乐。

Exercises:

I. Which word can best replace the word underlined in each of the following sentences:

1. It happened in one of these picturesque taverns.
A. restaurants B. inns
C. hotels D. motels
2. His face suddenly turns pale.



A. white

B. red

C. bright

D. colorful

3. I blurted out, resentfully.

A. unhappily

B. suddenly

C. angrily

D. thoughtlessly

4. Her father objected to our romance.

A. love

B. marriage

C. engagement

D. love affair

5. My father muttered a few words, mopping his face with a handkerchief.

A. sweeping

B. cleaning

C. wiping

D. drying

II. Decide which of the following is the best choice:

1. Which of the following is true?

A. The author was on a business-pleasure trip.

B. The father of the author was on a business-pleasure trip.

C. Both the author and his father were on a business-and-pleasure trip.

D. Neither the author nor the father was on a business-and-pleasure trip.

2. The first time when the father met the girl, he was _____.

A. studying in Denmark

B. touring in Denmark

C. eating in one of the taverns in Denmark



- 1
- D. catering to tourists in Denmark
3. The girl finally married to a local innkeeper, because _____.
- A. she didn't love his father any more
 - B. her parents objected to their marriage
 - C. of a misunderstanding in the way of writing the date
 - D. his father didn't get the loan
4. The author is a (an) _____.
- A. Danish
 - B. European
 - C. foreigner
 - D. American
5. They headed for that particular tavern, because the father _____.
- A. wanted to see the girl again
 - B. was still in love with the girl
 - C. wanted to bring back his old memory
 - D. led the way subconsciously



Behind the Words

词背后的故事

The years was 1879; the country, Ireland.

It was a time¹ of great poverty and unrest. Crops had been bad for several years; the people² were hungry; indeed, many children were starving to death.

Britain ruled the land then, and London, the seat of government³, was a long way off. The lawmakers in Parliament⁴ heard rumors and complaints, but dismissed them impatiently. The Irish, they felt, were an unruly, troublesome, and complaining lot. So Parliament did little to help, and a great deal to make matters worse.⁵

For example, Parliament had passed the notorious Land Laws. These laws, made to protect the big land-owners, required that tenant farmers pay rents promptly or be thrown off the land.⁶

This was cruelly hard on the Irish farmers. Most of them rented land. They were too poor to buy their own.⁷ If the crops were bad, they faced starvation. Now, under the Land Laws, they couldn't even hope for a better crop next year, for they might have no land to cultivate.

Something had to be done. Under the leadership of Charles Stewart Parnell, they banded together to form the

