



中学英语星级题库丛书

主编 刘 弢 吕春昕

提高篇

高中英语 星级阅读

★ 大容量题库 目标明确

★ 全译文释注 读懂读透

★ 分级别练习 循序渐进



reading

READING READING READING READING READING



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· 提高篇 ·

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内 容 提 要

本书采用难度分级的形式,将所选篇目编为3章。所选材料70%来源于各地高考,30%来源于原版材料,兼顾了阅读材料的原汁原味和试题设计的权威性。编者不仅对文中所有疑难单词和词组详加注释,而且提供了准确、流畅的译文,是广大高中生和英语爱好者提高阅读能力、加强完形填空训练的首选读物。

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前 言

从目前高考英语来看,阅读理解和完形填空是其中分值比重最大的两项,每套试卷通常有4到5篇文章,题型也从过去单一的选择題转向多种题型并存。这些无疑为高中英语的教学指明了方向。

然而,英语教学中却存着一种割裂的情况:一方面是对课文的学习过精,另一方面是对课外阅读的要求过粗。每一篇课文教师都要反复讲、仔细讲,甚至要求学生背诵,而课外阅读的很多文章学生却读得囫圇吞枣,甚至根本没有看明白,就急急忙忙去做题,这样看上去似乎有了阅读量,实际上读的效果却很一般。为了让学生完全读懂这些文章,提供详尽的注释和完整的译文无疑是最好的方法。因此,我们查阅了大量资料,不仅对文中的所有疑难单词和词组详加注释,而且在仔细揣摩文章意思的情况下,尽力提供最为准确、流畅的译文,力求使学生读一篇就彻底消化一篇,以真正达到提高英语水平的目的。

从总体上看,本书材料70%选自于各地历届高考题,30%来源于原版材料,这样就兼顾了阅读材料的原汁原味和试题设计的权威性。

在编写上,我们采用了难度分阶的形式,将所有文章由浅



入深编为三章,学生只需循序渐进,高考时自可得心应手。

正文后注释的单词在正文中统一为黑斜;少数词为不要掌握用法的,直接在正文中以白斜注出。正文中加线、练习中问到的问题,练习部分统一为黑斜。

本书译文由刘弢提供,错谬之处在所难免,敬请广大读者不吝赐教。

编 者

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第一章 难度等级★

Reading Exercise 1

A

What is eBay? The simple answer is that it is a global trading platform where nearly anyone can trade practically anything. People can sell and buy all kinds of products and goods, including cars, movies and DVDs, sporting goods, travel tickets, musical instruments, clothes and shoes—the list goes on and on.

The idea came from Peter Omidyar, who was born in Paris and moved to Washington when he was still a child. At high school, he became very interested in computer programming and after graduating from Tuft University in 1988, he worked for the next few years as a computer engineer. In his free time he started eBay as a kind of hobby, at first offering the service free *by word of mouth*. By 1996 there was so much traffic on the website that he had to *upgrade* and he began charging a fee to members. Joined by a friend, Peter Skill, and in 1998 by his capable CEO, Meg Whitman, he has never looked back. Even in the great . com crashes of the late 1990s, eBay has gone from strength to strength. It is now one of the ten most visited online shopping websites on the Internet.

eBay sells connections, not goods, putting buyer and seller into contact with each other. All you have to do is take an e-photo, write a description, fill out a sales form and you are in business: the world is your market place. Of course for each item sold eBay gets a percentage and that is a great deal of money. Every day there are more than sixteen million items



listed on eBay and eighty percent of the items are sold.

1. We learn from the text that eBay provides people with _____.
A. a way of buying and selling goods
B. a website for them to upgrade
C. a place to exhibit their own photos
D. a chance to buy things at low prices
2. Why did Peter create eBay after graduating from university?
A. For fun.
B. To make money.
C. For gathering the engineers.
D. To fulfill a task of his company.
3. From “*he has never looked back*” in Paragraph 2 we learn that Peter _____.
A. did not feel lonely
B. was always hopeful
C. did not think about the past
D. became more and more successful
4. How does eBay make money from its website?
A. By bringing sellers together. B. By charging for each sale.
C. By listing items online. D. By making e-photos.



【生词】

by word of mouth 口头地: Most old legends were handed down from generation to generation by word of mouth. 大多数古老的传说都是一代一代口口相传下来的。

upgrade *v.* 提升, 升级: upgrade the status of teachers 提高教师的地位



【参考译文】

什么是易贝? 答案很简单, 它是一个全球性的贸易平台, 几乎所有人、所有东西都可以在上面交易。人们可以出售并购买各种产品和商品, 包括汽车、电影和



DVD、运动品、旅行车票、乐器、衣服和鞋子——清单可以一直列下去。

这个想法来自彼得·奥米迪亚。他生于巴黎，小时候搬到了华盛顿。上高中时，他迷上了电脑编程，1988 年从塔夫特大学毕业后，他做过几年电脑工程师。业余时间，他开办了易贝网作为业余爱好，一开始，网站是通过口口相传的方式为大家提供免费服务。到了 1996 年，网站的流量太大了，他不得不进行升级，并开始向会员收取费用。后来，他的朋友彼得·斯基尔加入进来；1998 年，精明强干的梅格·惠特曼任首席执行官，从此，他再也没有回头。即使在 20 世纪 90 年代末出现网络大崩溃的时候，易贝依然不断发展壮大。现在，它是互联网上 10 个访问量最大的在线购物网站之一。

易贝出售连接，而非商品，它把买家和卖家联系在一起。你要做的只是拍张电子照片，写份说明，填好销售表格，这样就可以做生意了：世界是你的市场。当然，每售出一件商品，易贝都要得到一定比例的抽成，这是一大笔钱。易贝上每天列出的商品有 1 600 万件，其中 80% 都被售出。

B

Like all other mothers who have small children, I, too, have to steal time—from my own children at home and from the children who know me as their teacher—just to put a few words down on paper. Many times I've wanted to write for myself, for other women, for my parents, for my husband, and especially for my children. I would have liked to leave a **legacy** of words explaining what it has meant to have twins. One reason that there is not a great deal written about being a mother of a new baby is that there is seldom a moment to think of anything else but the baby's needs.

With twins, I did not have a spare hand to write with.

Before my twins were born, my days were long and I had nothing to write about. After the twins' birth I did have something to write about, but I found myself facing not a pen and paper but milk bottles.

Some nights, friends would visit. They would leave at 11 p. m. ,



heading for bed, and for us the night was only just beginning. With twins, there is really no night. Each feeding lasts a long time. At 1:00 a. m. , each of them would begin crying from hunger. At 4:00 a. m. , when I finally put them down, I head for the kitchen and light a cigarette. I haven't smoked in almost a year, and I feel I've never needed it any more. But I'm so sleepy and so tired that I don't care.

Two years have passed since then and we've managed to live through it all. My days are still very full and even now there isn't one evening when I put the twins down for the night that I don't breathe a *sigh of relief*. At last a little time for myself.

1. What does the writer mainly write about?
 - A. Her role as a wife.
 - B. Her work as a writer.
 - C. Her role as a teacher.
 - D. Her experience as a mother.
2. When did she have time but nothing to write about?
 - A. Before the birth of her twins.
 - B. When she faced bottles of milk.
 - C. After her friends' visit to her home.
 - D. When she had to think about the babies' needs.
3. When the writer says "*I don't care*", she means that she doesn't care about _____.
 - A. her babies any more
 - B. the time to go to bed
 - C. the writing of her book
 - D. the possible effects of smoking
4. Even when the twins were two years old, the only time the writer could find for herself was _____.
 - A. when her babies were asleep
 - B. when the feeding was over
 - C. when her friends left
 - D. when evening began





legacy *n.* 遗产: The man's legacy to the museum was his entire art collection. 此人遗赠给博物馆的是他收藏的全部艺术品。

sigh *n.* 叹气, 叹息: With a sigh, he rose and walked slowly away. 他叹了口气, 慢慢地走了。

relief *n.* 轻松感, 宽慰感: It's such a relief to hear you laughing again. 再次听到你的笑声令人大感宽慰。



【参考译文】

和所有有孩子的母亲一样, 我也得挤时间——在家里从自己的孩子身上挤, 在学校从自己的学生身上挤——只是为了在纸上多写几个字。许多次, 我想为自己、为其他女性、为父母、为丈夫, 特别是为我的孩子写点东西。我本希望留下一些文字来说明有一对双胞胎意味着什么。没有写下很多东西的一个原因是, 作为新生儿的母亲, 我几乎没有时间思考别的东西, 除了孩子的需要。

有了双胞胎, 我根本腾不出手来写东西。

在这对双胞胎出生前, 我的时间很充分, 却没有什么东西可写。孩子出生后, 我确实有东西可写了, 却发现自己面对的不是纸笔, 而是奶瓶。

有时候, 朋友会在晚上造访。他们 11 点离开后就可以回去睡觉了, 但对我们来说, 夜晚才刚刚开始。有了双胞胎, 我们就没有了真正的夜晚。每次喂奶都要持续很长时间。到了凌晨 1 点, 他们又开始因饥饿而哭闹。凌晨 4 点, 当我终于安顿好他们后, 我去厨房点一支烟。我已经将近一年没有吸烟了, 我以为自己再也不需要它了呢。可现在又困又累, 已经顾不了许多。

从那时起, 两年过去了, 我们已经完全度过了难关。我的时间依然排得满满的, 即使到了现在, 也没有一个晚上不是安顿他们睡觉后, 才能松口气。最后才是属于自己的一点时间。



Growing up in Philadelphia, Lieberman started cooking with his stay-at-home dad when he was seven. His food-loving family had two kitchens, and he quickly learned what was the best way to bake his cakes. Lieberman improved his kitchen skills greatly during a year abroad before college,



learning from a cook in Italy and studying local *specialties* in Germany, Spain and France. At Yale, he was known for *throwing* dinner *parties*, *single-handedly* frying and baking while mixing drinks for dozens of friends. Just for fun, he and some friends decided to *tape* a show named *Campus Cuisine* about his cooking. Lieberman was a real college student showing his classmates how to do things like making drinks out of dining-hall fruit. That helped the show become very popular among the students. They would stop Lieberman after classes to ask for his advice on cooking. Tapes of the show were passed around, with which his name went beyond the school and finally to the Food Network.

Food Network producer Flay hopes the young cook will find a place on the network television. He says Lieberman's charisma is key. "Food TV isn't about food anymore," says Flay. "It's about your personality and finding a way to keep people's eyeballs on your show."

But Lieberman isn't putting all his eggs in one basket. After taping the first season of the new show, Lieberman was back in his own small kitchen preparing sandwiches. An airline company was looking for someone to come up with a tasteful, inexpensive and easy-to-make menu to serve on its flights. Lieberman got the job.

1. We can learn from the text that Lieberman's family _____.
A. have relatives in Europe B. love cooking at home
C. often hold parties D. own a restaurant
2. The Food Network got to know Lieberman _____.
A. at one of his parties B. from his teachers
C. through his taped show D. on a television program
3. What does the underlined word "*charisma*" in the text refer to?
A. A natural ability to attract others.
B. A way to show one's achievement.
C. Lieberman's after-class interest.
D. Lieberman's fine cooking skill.



4. Why did the airline company give Lieberman the job?
- A. He could prepare meals in a small kitchen.
 B. He was famous for his shows on Food TV.
 C. He was good at using eggs to make sandwiches.
 D. He could cook cheap, delicious and simple meals.
5. What can we learn about Lieberman from the text?
- A. He is clever but lonely. B. He is friendly and active.
 C. He enjoys traveling around. D. He often changes his menus.



【生词】

specialty *n.* 特色菜: Their specialty is prime rib. 这家饭馆的特色菜是上等肋排。

throw a party 举办一次聚会: The German club is throwing a party this Friday night. 这家德国俱乐部本周五晚上要举办一次聚会。

single-handedly *adv.* 单人地, 独自地: Nader almost single-handedly changed the public's opinion of the big car companies. 纳德几乎是独自一人改变了公众舆论对大型汽车公司的看法。

tape *v.* 录制: Do you mind if I tape this interview? 你介意我把这次采访录下来吗?

campus *n.* 校园: Work-study jobs are usually on campus, and the money earned pays for tuition. 勤工俭学的工作通常是在校园内, 所获得的报酬用于支付学费。

cuisine *n.* 菜肴, 饭菜: Enjoy the delicious cuisine created by our award-winning chef. 请享用我们的获奖厨师烹制的可口饭菜。

charisma *n.* 个人魅力; 超凡气质: Few Presidents have had the charisma of Kennedy. 没有几个总统拥有像肯尼迪那样超凡的个人魅力。



【参考译文】

利伯曼在费城长大, 7岁时他就开始和待在家里的父亲一起炒菜。这个酷爱美食的家庭有两间厨房, 他很快学会了用最好的方式烘制蛋糕。上大学前, 利伯曼在国外待了一年, 就是在这一年里, 他的厨艺突飞猛进, 他向意大利的一位厨师学习, 并钻研了德国、西班牙和法国的地方特色菜。在耶鲁, 他以举办晚宴而闻名, 他能独自一人为几十个朋友煎炒烹炸并准备饮料。纯粹出于好玩, 他和一些



朋友决定录制名为“校园美食”的节目,主角就是他本人。利伯曼是一名真正的在校大学生,他能够给同学们表演怎样用餐厅水果制作饮料之类的东西,这对该节目在学生中的流行起到了推波助澜的作用。学生们会在课余拦住利伯曼向他请教关于烹饪的问题。这个节目的录像带被传来传去,他的名字也随之走出校园并最终上了食品网。

食品网的制作人弗雷希望这位年轻的厨师能在网络电视上占一席之地。他说利伯曼的个人魅力是关键。“美食节目不能再单靠美食吸引观众了,”弗雷说,“主讲人的个性也很重要,而且要找到吸引观众眼球的方法。”

但利伯曼不会把所有的鸡蛋放在一个篮子里。在录制完一段时间的新节目后,利伯曼重新回到自己的小厨房琢磨三明治的做法。一家航空公司正在找人制作美味、价廉而又方便的航空食品。利伯曼得到了这份工作。

D

All her life, my mother wanted busy children. It was very important that her house should remain at all times clean and tidy.

You could turn your back for a moment in my mother's house, leave a half-written letter on the dining room table, a magazine open on the chair, and turn around to find that my mother had "put it back where it belonged", as she explained.

My wife, on one of her first visits to my mother's house, placed a packet of biscuits on an *end table* and went to the kitchen to fetch a drink. When she returned, she found the packet had been removed. Confused, she *set down* her drink and went back to the kitchen for more biscuits, only to return to find that her drink had disappeared. Up to then she had guessed that everyone in my family held onto their drinks, so as not to make water rings on the end tables. Now she knows better.

These disappearances had a confusing effect on our family. We were all *inclined* to forgetfulness, and it was common for one of us, upon returning from the bathroom, to find that every sign of his or her work *in*



progress had disappeared suddenly. “Do you remember what I was doing?” was a question frequently asked, but rarely answered.

Now my sister has developed a second-hand love of clean windows, and my brother does the cleaning in his house, perhaps to avoid having to be the one to lift his feet. I try not to think about it too much, but I have at this later time started to dust the furniture once a week.

We have all become busy persons.

1. Which of the following is true about my mother?
 - A. She enjoyed removing others' drinks.
 - B. She became more and more forgetful.
 - C. She preferred to do everything by herself.
 - D. She wanted to keep her house in good order.
2. My wife could not find her biscuits and drink in my mother's house because _____.
 - A. she had already finished them
 - B. my mother had taken them away
 - C. she forgot where she had left them
 - D. someone in my family was holding them
3. The underlined part in the fifth paragraph suggests that my sister _____.
 - A. is happy to clean windows
 - B. loves to clean used windows
 - C. is fond of clean used windows
 - D. likes clean windows as my mother did
4. This passage mainly tells us that _____.
 - A. my mother often made us confused
 - B. my family members had a poor memory
 - C. my mother helped us to form a good habit
 - D. my wife was surprised when she visited my mother



【生词】

end table *n.* [美](放在沙发等旁边的)茶几

set down 放下,搁下: The dinner guest set down his knife and fork with a look of complete satisfaction. 参加晚宴的客人以十分满意的神情放下刀叉。

inclined *adj.* 有……倾向的: I'm not inclined to give them any more money at all. 我根本不愿意再给他们钱。

in progress 在进行中,正在发生: The construction of that new state highway is now in progress. 那条新的州级高速公路现在正在建设中。



【参考译文】

终其一生,我的母亲都希望自己的孩子们变得勤快。对她来说,房子始终保持干净、整洁是很重要的事。

你可能离开母亲的房间一会儿,餐厅的桌上留着一封写到一半的信,椅子上放着一本打开的杂志,等你返回时,却发现这些东西不见了,按母亲的说法,她把它们“物归原处”了。

我的妻子第一次到我母亲家时,在茶几上放了一包饼干,然后去厨房拿饮料。等她回来后,却发现饼干被人拿走了。她满腹狐疑,再次去厨房拿饼干,回来后却发现饮料又不见了。那时她才猜到,我们家的每个人都把饮料拿在手里,只是为了不在茶几上留下水印。现在她更能理解这种做法了。

这些“失踪事件”对我们家产生了匪夷所思的效果。我们都有健忘的倾向,这样的场景很常见:一个人从洗手间出来,却找不到一点儿自己刚才干活的痕迹,它们都突然消失了。我们经常问“你记得我刚才在做什么吗?”可几乎没人回答得出。

现在,我姐姐也继承了这样的传统,变得爱擦玻璃了,而我哥哥也经常打扫房间,可能是不想成为别人扫地他抬脚的人。我也不愿多想,但后来也开始每周给家具抹一次灰。

我们都变成了勤快人。