

英语泛读

(供高中教师用)

YINGYU FANDU

上海教育出版社

中学教师《专业合格证书》英语教材

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主编 姚若光

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说 明

《中共中央关于教育体制改革的决定》提出：“要争取在五年或者更长一点的时间内使绝大多数教师能够胜任教学工作。在此之后，只有具备合格学历或有考核合格证书的，才能担任教师。”为了贯彻落实这一要求，国家教育委员会决定建立中小学教师考核合格证书制度，并于1986年9月颁发了《中小学教师考核合格证书试行办法》。根据该《试行办法》的规定，我们已经组织编写出版了中小学教师《专业合格证书》文化专业知识考试各科教学大纲。现在，我们又按照教学大纲的基本要求，组织编写出版这套教材，供中小学教师参加《专业合格证书》文化专业知识考试用。这套教材包括：中等师范11门课程、高等师范专科14个专业的48门课程、高等师范本科12个专业的40门课程，以及公共教育学、心理学课程用书。

这套教材的编写力求具有科学性、系统性和思想性，并努力体现以下原则和要求：要有鲜明的师范性，紧密联系中小学教学的实际；要符合成人在职进修的特点，便于教师自学、自检。要使大多数教师经过努力可能达到规定的要求。

考核合格证书制度刚刚试行，尚缺少经验，加之这套教材出版时间仓促，难免存在一些问题。我们准备继续在实践中探索和研究，争取用几年的时间，建设一套适合我国中小学在职教师进修的教材，希望全国师范教育工作者，尤其是从事在职中小学教师培训工作的同志为此共同努力。

这套教材在编写、出版和发行工作中，得到了各省、自治区、直辖市教育行政部门，许多师范院校、教育学院、教师进修学校和师资培训中心，许多专家和教师，以及有关出版社和教材发行部门的大力支持和帮助，在此一并致谢。

国家教育委员会师范教育司

一九八七年六月一日

编者的话

这本《英语泛读教材》(供高中教师用)是根据中学教师《专业合格证书》文化专业考试《英语教学大纲》中“泛读教学大纲”的要求编写的。

全书共十六单元。

在选择阅读材料时,我们力求课文内容和题材多样化,同时还要求课文要具有可读性、实用性、趣味性。在内容选择上,我们注意选用那些与中学教学和现代生活密切相关的文章。在题材选择上,我们收入了文学、科普、文化背景、英语语言、英美历史、教育、人文等方面的文章,以期读者通过广泛阅读,提高阅读能力、丰富语汇、掌握更多与英语教学相关的知识。

考虑到在职教师教学任务重,自学时间少的特点,在体例安排上,我们力求方便读者,减少他们查阅工具书、参考书花去的时间和精力。

泛读课区别于精读课的一个重要方面是,在泛读课中语言是工具、手段,文章内容是目的。希望读者在阅读该书时,千万不要将其作为精读教材来研读。该书所提供的文章也仅是不同难度层次的范例,是泛读课教学大纲内容与题材范围的具体体现。希望读者在提高阅读理解上下功夫,切不可死记硬背课文。

本书由安徽教育学院外语系副主任姚若光任主编,参加

本书编写的有安徽教育学院外语系副主任冯德茂副教授、英语教研室室主任郭静贤副教授，并由安徽大学外语系杨巩祚教授审阅全书。

由于编者水平有限，加之时间紧迫，书中一定存在不少缺点错误，欢迎读者提出批评与建议，以便在再版时加以改正。

编 者

READINGS TO INCREASE COMPREHENSION

with Readings to Increase Speed
at the end of each unit

(Units I-X)

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Unit I

The story described in "Mackintosh" took place around 1910 on the island of Talua, one of the islands of the Samoan Group, which lies in the south of the Pacific Ocean. At that time the Samoan Group of Islands was part of the British Empire and was ruled by a British Governor who lived on the main island of Apia. Each of the islands was ruled by an administrator. Because of the great distances between the islands, the administrators could often rule just as they liked.

Somerset Maugham travelled all over the South Seas and many of his short stories happened in these islands, "Mackintosh" being one of them.

"The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" is part of the experiences of another author, Washington Irving, when he was in the Hudson River Valley. Irving, born in 1783, was the first author from the U. S. to win international fame. When Irving was a child, there were still reminders of Indian Life and Dutch colonization in his native city, New York. His first work, a humorous account of his native town, enabled him to visit Europe. There, under the guidance of such famous literary men as Sir Walter Scott and

W. M. Thackeray, Irving broadened his view of life. He became far more than just a recorder of his local life.

Part A

Mackintosh

W. S. Maugham

I. The Road

After breakfast Mackintosh walked across the dry grass to a large hut that was his office. Although it was still early in the morning, the heat was already making Mackintosh feel uncomfortable. He had been on the island of Talua¹ for two years and he was not happy.

Mackintosh did not like the heat. Also, he could not speak the language of the people of Talua and he was very lonely. Before breakfast Mackintosh had tried to go for a swim in the Pacific. But he had found the water warm and salty. Also, he could not go far out in the sea because of the dangerous sharks.²

Mackintosh went into the office. It was a large room with two desks in it. The large desk belonged to Walker, who was the administrator³. Mackintosh worked at the

other desk which was much smaller and placed against the wall on one side of the room.

There was a bench along the other side of the room. Some of the villagers were sitting on this bench. They were waiting for Walker who had not yet arrived. Mackintosh said good morning to the villagers and sat down at his small desk and began his work.

Mackintosh was a careful worker. Walker liked to talk a lot but he did not like writing reports. Walker left all the written work to Mackintosh.

When Walker came into the office, all the villagers stood up and tried to speak to him. The villagers wanted to finish their business in the office and return home. Walker shouted at them rudely and ordered them to sit down. He told them to be quiet or he would order the policeman to throw them all out of the office.

Mackintosh hated to sit in the same office as Walker. Mackintosh thought that Walker was rude to the people of the island. But, strangely, the people of Talua seemed to like Walker. Walker had been administrator for so many years that the people looked on him as a father who was often angry and rude. They were certainly afraid of Walker and they always did what he ordered them to do.

Walker started the business and discussed the problems and questions that the villagers had brought to him.

Mackintosh sat quietly and tried to get on with his writing. But Walker talked loudly and often shouted at the

villagers. It was so noisy that Mackintosh found it difficult to do any work at all.

It was nearly twelve o'clock before Walker came to the most important business of the morning. Walker had kept four villagers from the village of Matautu waiting until the end. Walker wanted these villagers to do some work for him. When all the other people had left, Walker called to the four villagers and they came and stood in front of his desk.

Three of the men stood a little behind the tallest man. This man's name was Tangatu and he was the chief of the village of Matautu. The other three were headmen⁴ in the village.

'Greetings⁵, Tangatu,' said Walker.

Tangatu and the three headmen replied to Walker's greetings but they did not seem very happy.

'I have called you to my office this morning,' Walker continued, 'to discuss a very important matter. You all know how important it is for the people of Talua to have good roads all over the island. The roads make life more comfortable for you. You can go quickly from one village to another, and you can take your crops more easily to the market.'

The men from Matautu stood and moved their heads to show that they agreed with Walker. But they did not speak. They were waiting for Walker to continue.

'I want you to make a road from your village of

Matautu,' said Walker. 'There is no road going from your village to the coast. This road would be very useful for you and I want you to make this road.'

Walker stood up and showed the villagers of Matautu a map of the island of Talua hung on the wall. Walker explained to them exactly where he wanted the road to go. The roads that the villagers made were not like modern roads. The villagers simply cut down any trees in the way. Then they moved all the large stones to the sides and the road was made. Walker told the villagers that it would be very easy to make the road from Matautu to the coast.

When Walker had finished, there was silence in the room. Tangatu and the three headmen stood in front of his desk and looked down at the floor.

'What's wrong with you?' asked Walker in a loud voice. 'Haven't you understood what I have told you?'

There was another silence that lasted for a few moments. Then Tangatu lifted up his head and looked at Walker. Tangatu was very afraid of Walker, but at last he spoke.

'How much will you pay us for making this road?' Tangatu asked quietly and fearfully.

Walker was surprised at Tangatu's question. And Mackintosh stopped writing altogether in order to listen to what was happening.

'I will pay you what I have always paid for making roads,' shouted Walker. 'I will pay you twenty pounds.'