

英语时文阅读与
练习

康伟华 沈月山 编

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编者的话

本书共收集了十二篇文章，全部选自美国报刊和杂志。阅读本书可帮助社会上的英语自学者、中学生、大学英语专业低年级学生及其它专业的学生提高阅读英文报刊、杂志文章的能力。

本书的文章编排循序渐进，语言浅显易懂，习惯语化，富于美国英语特色。所选题材及内容新颖活泼，形式多样，主要反映了美国的风土人情，便于读者了解美国英语的某些特点，掌握美国社会的一些背景知识。这对学习英语是会有所裨益的。

为了使读者充分理解并掌握原文，每篇文章都配有详细的注释和练习题，书后并附有练习题答案。由于编者经验有限，书中难免存在错误和不妥之处，敬请广大读者予以指正。

一九八三年十月

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1. A Disappearing Kind of Work

New York is one of the last large cities to have some of its policemen on horseback¹. The New York police² have 170 horses, which use more than 8,000 horse-shoes a year. Keeping these shoes in good repair³ is the job of six blacksmiths.⁴ There are only about thirty-five blacksmiths in the whole United States. ³⁵

A blacksmith has to be able to shape a shoe from a plain piece of metal and then fit it to each horse⁵. A blacksmith must work very hard, since he is bent over while fitting the shoe⁶ and must hold the weight of the horse's leg at the same time.

Every police horse in New York gets new shoes every month. The cost of shoeing a horse^{7, 8} is between twenty dollars and thirty-five dollars, and it takes a skilled blacksmith two to three hours to do the job.

Clearly, a blacksmith must have great strength. But even more important, he must be able to deal with horses. For before the blacksmith can begin his work, he has to get the horse to lift its leg⁹.

注释:

1. on horseback 骑马。
2. police 警察。

英语中有不少集合名词，它们以单数名词出现，但是表示复数，谓动词应用复数形式。类似例子还有：people, cattle, crowd, audience, fish, sheep 等。

3. Keeping these shoes in good repair... 使这些马蹄保持良好状态……。

此句中动名词词组作主语。in good repair 意思为维修良好。

4. blacksmith 铁匠。

smith 锻工，用以构成复合名词，意思为……的制作者，如：a goldsmith 金匠，a tunesmith 作曲者，a silversmith 银匠。

5. fit it to each horse 给每匹马钉掌。

to fit...to...，在本文中的意思是对……提供……，给……安装……的意思。另外，该短语还有不少其它意思，如：

- a. (使)符合，(使)适合

fit one's deeds to one's words 言行一致。

- b. 使(服装等)合身

fit the dress to the figure 量体裁衣。

- c. 使适应

fit one's thinking to the new conditions 使自己的思想适应新的情况。

- d. 使合格，使胜任

fit oneself to a new task 使自己能担当新任务。

6. ...while fitting the shoe... 在钉马掌时。

这是分词短语，省略了主语和部分谓语。英语句子中，主、从句中主语相同时，从句中常省略主语和部分谓语，又如：

While speaking, he made lots of gestures.

讲话时他手势很多。

He shed tears when reading the story.

看这篇故事时，他流了眼泪。

7. the cost of shoeing a horse 上马掌费用。

cost 是成本，费用的意思，又如：

cost of living 生活费；

cost of building 建筑费；

cost of repairing 修理费。

8. to shoe a horse 给马上掌。

英语中词性转化很灵活。此处 shoe 是名词转化成动词。又如：

to people the new lands 向新开发地区移民；

to man a ship 给一艘船配备船员；

to ship the goods 海运货物；

to train it (口语) 坐火车去；

We'll train it all the way. 我们整个路程都要坐火车。

9. to get the horse to lift its leg 使马抬起脚来。

get 后面接复合宾语，表示“使得；把……弄得；使被弄得”等意思。本句中get的宾语后面接动词不定式。此外，宾语后面还可以接形容词或分词形式的形容词，

如：

Get everything ready! 把一切都准备好！

get one's leg broken 腿断了。

get things moving 使事情开始进行。

get one's bicycle repaired 把自行车送去修理(或自己把自行车修好)。

注：get somebody to do something 和 have somebody do something 一样都是让某人或使某人干某事。而 get some-

thing done 和 have something done 则有所不同。get something done 意为让别人干或者自己干,视上下文而定,而have something done则肯定是别人干。

练 习 题

A. 判别下列句子的意思是否与本文相符,并把不符的加以改正:

1. There are 170 blacksmiths in the country.
2. Police horses get new shoes every month.
3. It takes two to three hours to get a horse to lift its leg.
4. There are many cities that have policemen on horseback.
5. A blacksmith bends over while he does his job.
6. Policemen change the horses' shoes every month.
7. Each horse gets its own special shoes.
8. A blacksmith must be able to deal with policemen.

B. 根据下列句子或词组在本文中的意思,从四个选择中挑选一个意思最接近的定义:

1. Keep these shoes in good repair.
 - a. Keep these shoes in good condition.
 - b. These shoes are under repair.
 - c. Mend the worn out shoes.
 - d. These shoes are repaired.
2. to shape a shoe
 - a. to make a shoe
 - b. to give form to a shoe

- c. to fix a shoe
 - d. to remove a shoe
3. to be bent over
- a. to bow down
 - b. to show respect
 - c. to sit up
 - d. to lower the head only

C. 回答下列问题:

1. What kind of work does a blacksmith do?
2. How often does a police horse get new shoes?
3. How much does it cost to shoe a horse?
4. How long does it take to shoe a horse?
5. How many horses do the New York police have?
6. What does the blacksmith do with the horse's leg while he is fitting the shoe?
7. What must the blacksmith do before he can begin his work?
8. Why is a blacksmith's work hard?
9. From what are horse shoes shaped?
10. Why must a blacksmith be able to deal with horses?

D. 在下列括弧中选择正确的动词时态:

例句: The horse usually (lifts, is lifting) its leg.

The horse usually lifts its leg.

1. Blacksmiths always (work, are working) very hard.
2. Look, that horse (lifts, is lifting) its leg!
3. How fast can a blacksmith shoe a horse?

It (~~takes~~, is taking) two hours.

4. Each horse (~~uses~~, is using) forty-eight shoes a year.

5. The New York police (~~have~~, are having) about 170 horses.

6. What is that man doing?

He (counts, is counting) horseshoes.

E. 按照例句作句型练习:

1. 例句: He must get the horse to lift its leg.

He has to get the horse to lift its leg.

a. He must shape a shoe.

b. They must repair the shoes.

c. Every horse must get new shoes.

d. The shoes must fit.

e. The city must use horses.

f. A blacksmith must have great strength.

2. 例句: Blacksmiths repair horse-shoes.

A blacksmith's job is to repair horse-shoes.

a. Policemen keep order.

b. Blacksmiths make horse-shoes.

c. Special policemen ride horses.

d. Blacksmiths deal with horses.

e. Young policemen walk the streets.

2. Save the Library

One of New York's most beautiful and valuable buildings is in danger¹. The New York Public Library, in the heart of the city² at 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue, may have to close its doors.

The library is a very special place. Even though it is in the busiest part of the city, it has grass and trees around it, and benches for people to sit on. Even more unusual in crowded New York, its rooms are very large³. The roof of the Main Reading Room is fifty-one feet high. Here, a reader can sit and think and work in comfort⁴.

And what books there are to work with⁵! The library has over thirty million books and paintings. It owns one of the first copies of a Shakespeare play, a Bible printed by Gutenberg⁶ in the 15th century, and a letter written by Columbus⁷ in which he tells of⁸ finding the new world.

Every New Yorker⁹ can see and use the library's riches¹⁰— free¹¹.

But the cost of running the library has risen rapidly in recent years, and the library does not have enough money to continue its work. In the past, it was open every evening and also on Saturdays and Sundays. Now it is closed at those times, to save money¹².

The library is trying in every possible way¹³ to raise more money to meet its increasing costs¹⁴. Well-known New York writers and artists are trying to help. So are

the universities¹⁵, whose students use the library¹⁶, and the governments of New York City and New York State. But the problem remains serious.

Yet a way must be found to save the library because, as one writer said, "The Public Library is the most important building in New York City — it contains all our knowledge".

注释:

1. in danger 处于危险之中。

2. in the heart of the city 位于城市中心。

其另外一种说法是 at the center of the city.

3. Even more unusual in crowded New York, its rooms are very large. 在拥挤的纽约更不寻常的是, 图书馆里的房间都很大。

这是一个倒装句, 省略了谓语动词 is 和连接词 that, 完整句应该是, Even more unusual in crowded New York is that its rooms are very large. 正常句语序应该是, That its rooms are very large is even more unusual in crowded New York.

4. in comfort 舒服地。

5. What books there are to work with! 那里可以使用的书有多多呀!

此句系惊叹句, 表示数量之多。又如:

What she suffered in the old society!

她在旧社会受了多少苦呀!

What these ancient walls could tell us!

这些古老的城墙能告诉我们多少事呀!

6. Gutenberg 人名。

他是十五世纪德国印刷家，被认为是活字印刷的发明者。

7. Columbus 哥伦布。

他是发现美洲大陆的意大利航海家。

8. tell of 描述。

意思为 to give a discription, an account of.

9. New Yorker 纽约人。

英语中有些时候在地方名词后面加上后缀 er, 便成了该地方的人。如:

New Zealand 新西兰; New Zealander 新西兰人;

London 伦敦; Londoner 伦敦人、

此外er还可以附在名词、形容词、动词和动词词组的复合词后面构成名词，表示其它许多意思。如:

a. 表示……的人; ……者; ……派

foreigner 外国人; runner 跑步的人; double-dealer 两面派。

b. 表示研究……学问的人

astronomer 天文学家; geographer 地理学家。

c. 表示从事……职业的人

docker 码头工人; writer 作家; painter 画家。

d. 表示……物，用于……的机械（或武器、工具等）

three-decker 三层甲板船; boiler 锅炉;

fighter-bomber 战斗轰炸机。

总之，我们应该注意到，er是当代英语中很活跃的后缀，使用十分广泛。

10. riches 财富。

英语里有些形容词后面加上 *s* 便成了名词复数形式，这也是英语词性转化很活跃的一种表现。又如：
valuables 财宝、贵重物品；*relatives* 亲戚。

11. *free* 免费地。

此处 *free* 是副词，作状语用，也可以说 *free of charge*。

12. *to save money* 为了省钱。

这是动词不定式短语，表示目的，其意思为 *in order to save money*; *so as to save money*。

13. *in every possible way* 尽一切可能。

也可以说 *in every way possible*，另一种说法是 *by every possible means*。

14. *to meet its increasing costs* 应付不断增加的费用。

to meet... 应付、满足、符合的意思。后面常跟 *needs* 和 *costs* 等名词，如：

to meet the requirements of somebody 满足某人的要求

to meet the needs of the poor 满足穷人的需要

to meet the demands of the striking workers 满足罢工工人的要求

15. *So are the universities...* 大学也尽力给予帮助。

这里的 *so* 表示上文中的动词 *trying*，*so* 的这种用法在英语中很普遍，它用来代替上文中的形容词、名词或动词，表示情况相同的意思。这样使句子结构更紧凑，语言更简练，语气也比较强烈，如：

He is happy and so is everybody else in our factory.

他很幸福，工厂里的其他人也一样。

He works hard and so do you.

他工作很努力，你也一样。

My sister is a doctor and so am I.

我姐姐是医生，我也是。

16. whose students use the library 它们的学生使用图书馆。

所有格关系代词 **whose** 在英语中既可以用于人，也可以用于物；用于物时，等于 **of which**。本句也可以写成 **So are the universitie , the students of which use the library...**。

练 习 题

- A. 判别以下句子的意思是否与原文相符，并把不符的加以改正：

1. New Yorkers must pay to use the library.
2. It is impossible to grow grass and trees in the heart of New York.
3. The library needs more money.
4. The library's costs are going down.
5. A reader can work in comfort in the Main Reading Room.
6. Universities are giving money so that their students can use the library.

- B. 回答下列问题：

1. What part of New York City is the Public Library in?
2. What is unusual about it on the outside and on the inside?

3. How high is the roof in the Main Reading Room?
 4. When is the library open? When is it closed?
 5. What did Columbus write about in his letter?
 6. Does the library have only books?
 7. Why does the library close earlier now than it used to?
 8. How much does a New Yorker have to pay to use the library?
 9. Why is it important to save the library?
- C. 根据下列单词或词组在本文中的意思，从四个选择中挑选一个意思最接近的定义：

1. valuable

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| a. worth a lot of money | c. worthwhile |
| b. magic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> d. having great usefulness |

2. special

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| a. useful | c. interesting |
| b. precious | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> d. not usual |

3. to run a library

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| a. to move the library | c. to open the library |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. to control the library | d. to close the library down |

4. to raise money

- | |
|--|
| a. to lift the money high |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. to collect the money together |
| c. to keep the money |
| d. to make money |

D. 从本文中挑选一个词填空。