

浙江大学出版社

中级英语阅读训练

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前 言

目前我国在进行“中级英语”学习的人员无疑构成了英语学习者的主体部分，他们包括在校的高中学生、大学低年级学生、各类培训班的学员，以及相应水平的英语自学者等。这一大批中级英语学习者大多肩负繁重的学习或工作任务，同时又都面临着各种类型的测验或考试。据此，我们编写了这本既可用于平时阅读，又可用作提高应试能力这样多功能的《中级英语阅读训练》，旨在对广大的中级英语学习者有所帮助。另外，本书还可作为有关教师的课堂教学参考用书。

书中短文大多选自国外近年新版的英文书刊教材，内容包括幽默故事、名人轶事、科技小品、风情趣闻、史地常识等。集知识性、趣味性、实用性于一书是我们编选短文乃至全书的原则。我们相信，许多短文将会给读者留下长久的记忆，并对培养学习兴趣、提高英语实践能力有所裨益。

本书编写的练习注重提高读者的理解能力及技巧，力求最大限度地覆盖中级英语学习者应掌握的基本难点，不少练习已经有关学习者试做，取得了较理想的效果。本书的综合练习和标准化测试题供学习者自测英语水平或有关教师命题时参考。

本书经毛华奋副教授审校，浙江大学外语系英籍语言学家 Hilary Wilson 女士也审阅了部分书稿，在此谨致谢意。

编 者

1988年10月

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第一部分 完型填空类

1. 无提示填空(每格一词)

1

A young man once asked Albert Einstein (爱因斯坦) what the secret of success (1). The great scientist told him that the secret of success was hard (2). A few days later the young man asked him the (3) question again. Einstein was very annoyed (生气的). He did not (4) anything, but wrote a few (5) on a piece of paper and handed it (6) the young man. The young man looked (7) the piece of paper. On it was (8): $A = X + Y + Z$.

"What does this (9)?" asked the young man.

"A means (10)," explained the old scientist. "X stands for hard work. Y stands for good methods, and Z...Z means stop talking and get down to work."

2

Marco Polo (马可·波罗) was born in Venice (威尼斯) (1) the year of 1256. His father (2) a merchant (商人), (3) sailed to Egypt with salt, fish and iron and (4) back silk and gold.

Marco Polo set off (5) China from Venice with his

father and his uncle at the (6) of seventeen. They sailed from Venice to Palestine (巴勒斯坦) and (7) walked or rode on camels and donkeys most of the way, and it (8) them three years. At last they (9) the capital of China. The king of China was pleased to see (10). They stayed there for a long time and became very rich.

3

Dear Mrs Yang,

You see I didn't forget to write (1) you. We are having a splendid time in Vienna (维也纳). The weather seems to be kind to us.

We went to a fine concert (2) Monday. The hall was very full, but John managed to get (3). After the concert we went round to the back and asked to see an old (4) of mine. He was very glad to (5) us, and we all went and had supper together. He (6) to like playing in the orchestra (管弦乐队). They often play on the radio, so we can (7) them again in London.

Well, I must stop now. Please (8) to give our best (9) to Dr Yang.

(10) sincerely,
Helen Benedict

4

The earth moves (1) the sun, and the moon moves round the earth. When our part of the earth turns (2)

the sun, it is day. When our part of the earth turns(3) from the sun, it is night.

The sun is much bigger (4) the moon. But some= times the moon looks bigger than the sun, because it's much nearer (5) the earth.

The sun is very bright. It (6) a very strong light. The moon looks quite bright, too, but it doesn't give any light at all. It only reflects the (7) of the sun.

The moon looks much bigger and brighter than the stars. But actually the stars are a (8) bigger and bri= ghter than the moon. They look smaller than the moon (9) they're much farther away (10) us.

5

Have you (1) asked yourself why children go to school? You will probably say that they go to learn their native language and other languages, maths, geography, histo= ry, science and all the other (2). That's quite true, but (3) do they learn these things? And are these things all that they learn at school?

There is (4) in education than just learning facts. We go to school (5) all to learn how to learn, so that when we finish school, we can continue to learn. A man who really knows how to learn will always be success= ful, because whenever he has to do something new which he has never had to do (6), he will quickly teach him= self how to do it in the best (7). The uneducated person,

on the (8) hand, is (9) unable to do something new or does it badly. The purpose of schools, therefore, is not just to teach science and technology (技术), (10) to teach students the advanced and correct ways to learn.

6

One year Miss Wyatt decided to have a holiday in Italy. She did not speak much Italian, but wherever she went, she was fortunate (1) to find people who knew enough English to be able to understand (2) she wanted, until one day she decided to have lunch (3) a charming little restaurant in a village in the south of Italy.

She had seen some nice mushrooms (蘑菇) in the market of another village near there and thought they (4) taste very good, so when the waiter came to take her order (5) lunch, she inquired (6) she could have some mushrooms for her meal, but she had great difficulty (7) explaining to him, because she didn't know the Italian word (8) mushrooms.

At last she took (9) a pencil and drew a picture of a mushroom. The waiter's face brightened (现出喜色) (10) once, and he hastened out to the kitchen. A minute later he returned, carrying an umbrella.

7

Have you ever tried to guess the time? It is not always easy to do, though when the (1) is high in the sky you

know (2) must be near the middle of the day.

A long time ago people saw that the shadows of trees or tall stones or poles could be (3) to mark the exact position of the sun, and by making marks on the ground (4) the shadows fell they were (5) to divide the (6) up into equal hours.

The first sundials (日规) were as simple as that, but (7) were soon improved. The hours were carved (刻、划) on stone and a thin metal rod threw a sharp shadow.

But a sundial was of no use after dark, so (8) else had to be thought of (9) use at night-time. The ancient Egyptians used a large mug of water (10) a small hole in the bottom and little marks on the inside. As the water leaked away, so the water-level gradually dropped from mark to mark, and told them how time was passing.

8

Mrs Evans went (1) a large local cinema one summer afternoon. Half-way through the wonderful film (2) was the usual interval (幕间休息), (3) that people could buy sweets, chocolates and ice-creams.

Mrs Evans rarely bought anything in the cinema, but this time she was (4) hot, so she thought, "I'll have an ice-cream to cool me. I certainly need (5)." Quite a lot of the audience were waiting to buy ice-creams

from the girl who was selling them, so Mrs Evans waited (6) her turn.

There was a small boy in (7) of her. When it was his turn, he offered the girl ten pence (8) asked for an ice-cream, but it cost twenty pence, so the girl said, "I want another ten pence, please."

The small boy put the coin back (9) his pocket, put his hand in another pocket, took out another ten pence coin and offered that to the girl.

Mrs Evans was so amused (10) she paid the other ten pence for the boy.

9

A young mother believed that (1) was very wrong to waste any food when there were (2) many hungry people in the world. One evening, she was (3) her small daughter her tea before putting her to bed. First she gave her a slice (4) fresh brown bread and butter, but the child said that she did not want it like that. She asked (5) some jam on her bread as well.

Her mother looked (6) her for a few seconds and then said, "When I was a small girl (7) you, Lucy, I was always given either bread and butter, (8) bread and jam, but never bread with butter and jam."

Lucy looked at her mother for a few moments with pity (9) her eyes and then said to her kindly, "Aren't you pleased that you've come to live (10) us now?"

Now planes can (1) farther and faster than the fastest birds and (2) heavy weights through the air. Man can go faster than sound in the newest planes. We can see why distances between people are not as important now (3) they were. They can be bridged in (4) many ways.

What is a bridge? Here is a wide river with a bridge (5) it. The bridge is made of steel. It can carry very heavy weights. It is so strong that not only automobiles (汽车) but trains go (6) it. It is so high that great ship go (7) it.

Language is a bridge between minds, a bridge so strong that trains of thought can (8) across. Language can bridge distances. Language can bridge time as well as space. Ideas can go from mind (9) mind across the language bridge and they came from the past to the present. We can read (10) men before us wrote and keep their books for others to read in the future.

Books are the most important records we have of men's thoughts and feelings, their ideas and desires.

A tourist (旅游者) came out of the airport. There were a lot (1) taxis, but the tourist asked every taxi-driver his name. He took the third taxi. It cost \$5 (2)

the airport to the hotel. "How much does it cost (3) the whole day?" the tourist asked. "\$100," said the taxi-driver. This was very expensive, but the tourist accepted the price.

The taxi-driver took the tourist everywhere. He showed him all the monuments and the museums. (4) the evening they went back to the hotel. The tourist gave the taxi-driver \$100 and said: "What (5) tomorrow?" The driver looked (6) the tourist, "Tomorrow? It's another \$100 tomorrow." But the tourist said: "That's O.K. If that's the price, that's the price. See you tomorrow." The taxi-driver was very pleased.

The next day the taxi-driver took the tourist everywhere again. They visited all the museums and all the monuments again. And (7) the second evening they went back to the hotel. The tourist gave the taxi-driver another \$100 and said: "I'm going home tomorrow." The taxi-driver was sorry. He liked the tourist and, (8) all, \$100 a day was good money. "So you are going home. Where do you come (9) ?" he asked.

"I come from New York."

"New York!" said the taxi-driver, "I have a sister in New York. Her name is Susannah. Do you know her?"

"Of course I know her. She gave me \$200 (10) you."

II. 根据提供的单词首字母填空。

1

If the earth is a ball, why don't we (1)f off? The (2)r is rather simple. It is (3)b of gravity (地球引力).

Gravity is a strange (4)f. When you slip (5)o something, you never go up into the (6)a, but instead, you always fall down to the (7)g.

(8)T fall to the earth because the earth pulls them to it. The attraction (引力) of the (9)e for all (10)b is called gravity.

2

When (1)w and (2)m other liquids are heated, they (3)b. That is, some of the (4)h liquid changes to a (5)v. In a container (容器) that is open to the air, a liquid cannot be heated hotter than its boiling (6)p. If you (7)i the heat under boiling water, the water boils (8)f. But the (9)t of the water stays the (10)s.

3

Almost everyone knows what the words Mr, Mrs, and Miss mean. Mr is used (1)b the name of men. Mrs is for (2)m women and Miss is for (3)s women. But what is Ms?

For some time, businessmen in the United States have used Ms before a woman's name when they do not know (4)w the woman is married (5)o not. Today,

(6)h , many women prefer Ms (7)t Mrs or Miss. The word Mr does not (8)t us whether a man is married or not. Many women think this is an advantage (优越性) for men. They want to be (9)e to men in this, too. These women feel that it is not (10)i for people to know whether they are married or not.

4

A woman was having trouble (1)w her heart, so she went to see a doctor. The doctor was a new comer, and did not (2)k her. When she sat down, he began to ask what was the (3)m with her. She said that there was something (4)w with her heart. (5)W the doctor asked how old she was, she answered, "Well, I don't remember, doctor. But I'll (6)t to think." The woman thought hard for (7)s time and then said, "Yes, I remember now, doctor. When I (8)g married, I was eighteen years old, my husband was thirty. I know my husband is sixty now and that is (9)t thirty. So I am (10)t eighteen and that is thirty-six, isn't it?"

5

In the United States, boys and girls (1)s school when they are five years old. In some states they must stay in school (2)u they are sixteen. Most students are seventeen or eighteen years old when they graduate from

secondary (中等的) school. (3)A name for secondary school is high school.

Most children go to public elementary (初级的) and secondary schools. The parents of public school pupils do not have to (4)p directly for their children's education because money from taxes supports the public schools. If a child attends a private school, his (5)p pay the school for the child's education.

Today about half of the high school students go on to colleges and universities. Some colleges and universities (6)r financial (财政的) support from the government in the form of taxes. A student at a state university does not have to pay very much (7)i his parents live in that state. Private colleges and universities are expensive, (8)h. Almost half of the college students in the United States work while they are (9)s. When a student's family is not rich, he has to (10)e money for part of his college expenses.

6

There was an old man (1)w name was Robot. He thought he was knowledgeable (有知识的) and spared (2)l time for study of new things. One day his grandson Foolie asked him, "Grandfather, this morning our teacher told us (3)s about the laser (激光), but I still don't know (4)w the laser is. Can you tell me something about it?"

"It's very (5)s, my dear," the man laughed, and said, "the laser means a person who is lazy. Now do you (6)u?"

Little Foolie seemed puzzled but he nodded and said, "Yes, grandfather, I... I know it now."

Some days (7)l, the grandson asked the old man another question. "Grandfather, this afternoon we had lessons about the robot (机器人). The teacher said a robot looked like a man; he could (8)s and even teach. Is it true?"

"My dear silly duck," said the man proudly. "I'm Robot. Robot is your grandfather. Of (9)c I can teach. You see, I'm a learned man."

"But our teacher said that the robot was not really a man. It's a (10)m."

"Nonsense, how can you say your grandfather is not a man?" roared the man.

7

There was once a miserly (小气的) rich man. One (1)m he ordered his servant to go and buy a bottle of wine for him without giving him any money. The servant asked, "Sir, (2)h can I buy wine without money?"

The (3)r man said (4)a, "Anyone can buy wine (5)w money. But a person who can buy wine without money is (6)r capable (能干的)." The servant had to go