

英语

晨读系列

MORNING 轻松30分

(初级、中级本)

王京 陈艳 萧辉 朱泽生



●软件王子 ●午夜荡秋千

●好莱坞的三大谎言
●危险的舞会

西安交通大学出版社

H319.4

11240

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内容简介

本书是“英语晨读系列”丛书第一册,精选了各类文章 67 篇。

本书体裁多样、题材广泛,旨在帮助广大英语爱好者,通过 30 分钟轻松愉快的晨读,改进语音、语调,强化英语学习效果。同时,在朗读的过程中扩大词汇量,提高阅读能力,拓展知识面。书中所选文章既有紧跟时代步伐的最新时事文萃,也有脍炙人口的经典名篇,还有感人至深的小故事、令人捧腹的小幽默,以及文字优美的小散文。通过学习本书,读者可在听、说、读、写诸方面均有收益。本书还配制了磁带,由英美教师朗读,有助于读者欣赏和模仿。

本书适用于高等院校一、二年级学生和有一定基础的广大初级、中级英语爱好者使用。

(陕)新登字 007 号

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王京 陈艳 萧辉 朱泽生

责任编辑 孔翔兰 陈 丽

组稿编辑 陈 丽 林 全

*

西安交通大学出版社出版发行

(西安市咸宁西路 28 号 邮政编码:710049 电话:(029)3268316)

西安向阳印刷厂印装

各地新华书店经销

*

开本:850×1168 1/32 印张:9.75 字数:243 千字

1998 年 2 月第 1 版 1998 年 10 月第 3 次印刷

印数:20 001~35 000

ISBN 7-5605-0984-3 /H·134 定价:10.00 元

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编者的话

经过一段时间的充分酝酿和准备,我们的“英语晨读系列丛书”终于和大家见面了。这套丛书共有《轻松 30 分》、《超越 30 分》、《激情 30 分》和《流畅 30 分》四本。第一本浅显易懂,读起来轻松活泼,叫做《轻松 30 分》,适合于大学一、二年级的学生阅读。第二本较第一本无论是在词汇量和语言的难易度上都有一定的提高,读者需努力才能上一个台阶,因此,叫做《超越 30 分》,适合于大学二、三年级的学生阅读。读者在读完了第一、第二本后,词汇量已经扩大了许多,也积累了一定的语感,这时读者已经可以充满激情地朗读了,第三本我们称做《激情 30 分》。到第四本,读者已在英语学习上取得了长足的进步,其英语的听、说、读、写能力接近流畅自如的程度,所以第四本叫做《流畅 30 分》。在清晨 30 分钟里,您可晓畅自如地穿行在英语世界的广阔天地中,采撷芬芳,咀嚼英华,分享知识带给我们的快慰。

我们摒弃英语学习中的枯燥单调,寓教于乐,寓庄于谐,让同学们在轻松愉悦的语言氛围中耳濡目染,循序渐进,逐步提高,超越自我,达到潇洒自如、激情流畅的理想境界,以适应当今世界日益发展的社会、经济、科技和文化的迫切需要。

本丛书构思巧妙,设计新颖,选材广泛,语言地道,融知识性、趣味性于一炉,让你一见钟情,爱不释手。

那么,我们这套丛书有什么特色呢?

首先,在构思上我们设定了“导言”、“生词”、“正文”和“注解”

四个部分。“导言”画龙点睛，提纲挈领，就像一根无形的细线牵动着你的心弦，使你欲罢不能，一睹为快，一读难忘。“正文”精挑细选、择优拔萃，涵盖当今社会的上上下下、方方面面，恐龙、电脑、科幻、体育、罪案、政坛……无不囊括在内，让你足不出户，尽享其中。“生词”和“注解”相辅相成，互为比照，为你理解原文提供了可靠有力的保证。

其次，本丛书在选材方面难度过渡的合理性、节奏性和科学性，使四本书之间既相对独立，又互为关联，尽量避免大起大落、难易失衡的现象，不会让同学们有莫名其妙、如坠云雾的错位感。

其三，本丛书图文并茂，时代感强，使你有一种“会当凌绝顶，一览众山小”的投入感，我们相信你将会从中呼吸到课本之外的一丝清新、纯情和浪漫，增加一份学习英语的自信和勇气。

其四，本丛书除编印精美的文字材料外，还有相互配套的同步录音磁带。为此，我们专门聘请外籍专家朗读配音。

由于水平有限，其中肯定有不少难尽人意之处，因此我们恳请大家不吝赐教，以便我们再版时作进一步修订，使其更加完美，走进更多读者的心田。

编 者

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1. Collect Call from Las Vegas

来自赌城的电话

赌城拉斯维加斯——一个充满诱惑的地方。多少人去那里寻找发财的捷径,又有多少人梦断他乡。



New Words and Expressions:

1. collect [kə'lekt] a. (电话、电报等)受话人(或收报人)付费的
2. seep [si:p] v. 渗入
3. incredulously [in'kredjʊləsli] ad. 不相信地;怀疑地
4. anniversary [ˌæni'vɜ:səri] n. 周年纪念;周年纪念日
5. insurance [in'fʊərəns] n. 保险;保险契约;保险业
6. to be entitled to 给……的权利

There comes a time in every man's life when, if he is in Las Vegas alone, he has to call his wife — collect. The moment came earlier for me than I expected, and the call went something like this.

“Hello, dear,” I said. “I’m calling from Las Vegas.”

“I know where you’re calling from,” she said, the bitterness seeping through the receiver. “What did you do last night?”

“I had a date with a show girl¹,” I told her.

“Don’t lie to me. You were gambling.”

“Just a little. Nothing much.”

“How much did you lose?”

“I love you,” I told her.

“I said how much did you lose?”

“I didn’t call to talk about that. I called to talk about the children.”

“What about the children?” she wanted to know.

“Why do they have to go to college when they grow up? Lots of children don’t go to college and turn out to be wonderful parents.”

“You didn’t lose their college money?” she screamed.

“Only their junior and senior years.”

“What else did you lose?”

"Where are you standing now?"

"In our bedroom," she replied.

"Please don't say 'our' bedroom any more."

"You didn't lose the house?" she asked incredulously.

"Just parts of it. I kept title to² the basement and the garage."

I could hear sobbing on the other end of the line.

"Now, wait a minute, dear. You said the house was too big for us anyway and you would prefer something smaller. Think of it as a lucky break³. Dear, are you there?"

"Yes, I'm here."

"Do me a favor. You know that gold necklace with the pearls I bought you for our anniversary?"

"You lost that?"

"Of course not. Do you think I would do something that low?"

"Well, what about the necklace?"

"I want you to go out and lose it somewhere so we can collect the insurance on it. We'll get a much better price than if we try to sell it."

"I could kill you," she said.

"Don't. It would be a mistake."

"You mean you lost your life insurance, too?"

"They told me a man who plays the way I do will live forever⁴."

"Well, at least you didn't lose my fur coat."

I didn't say anything.

"You did lose my fur coat?"

"Who wears a fur coat in Washington?" I replied.

"When are you coming home?"

"That's what I called about. There's a Greyhound bus leaving

for Washington at three this afternoon, and if you send me the money I left you for food I'll be on it."

"And what are we going to eat until you get here?"

"Call up the Department of Agriculture. According to the law we're entitled to participate in their surplus food program."

Notes:

1. show girl: 夜总会中的歌女或舞女
2. kept title to: 对……拥有所有权
3. a lucky break: 好运气, 好机会
4. They told me a man who plays the way I do will live forever. 这句话实际上等于承认输掉了人寿保险。

2. The Royal Romance Riddle

浪漫的谜语



美丽的公主甘愿抛弃一切财富,只为得到幸福的生活。
小小的谜语使有情人终成眷属。

New Words and Expressions:

1. exclaim [ik'skleim] v. 呼喊,惊叫,大声地说
2. intelligent [in'telidʒənt] a. 聪明的,理智的
3. stump [stʌmp] v. 难住,不能回答

Once upon a time, there was a small kingdom named Bergonia. The king and queen had a daughter, Princess Wilma. Six months after Wilma's 21st birthday, her parents talked with her about a knotty problem.

"You will soon be 22, Wilma," said the queen. "You should be married already. That is the custom for princess in Bergonia. I got married when I was 21, and your grandmother..."

"I know, mother, I know," said Wilma. "I don't want to go against the grain¹, but I can't get married. I haven't met the right man yet."

"You haven't?" exclaimed the king. "There must be someone in our neck of the woods². What about those three fine young princes you've been dating? They would all like to marry you. Choose one of them, put down roots³ and live happily ever after."

"Those guys?" exclaimed Wilma. "I know I've dated them a few times, but I really think I'm barking up the wrong tree⁴."

"Whatever do you mean?" asked the queen. "Oh, they're all such woodenheads," said Wilma. "All they can talk about is fast cars and movies. I want to marry someone with some brains."

"Whatever for?" asked the queen. "I didn't, and look — I've been