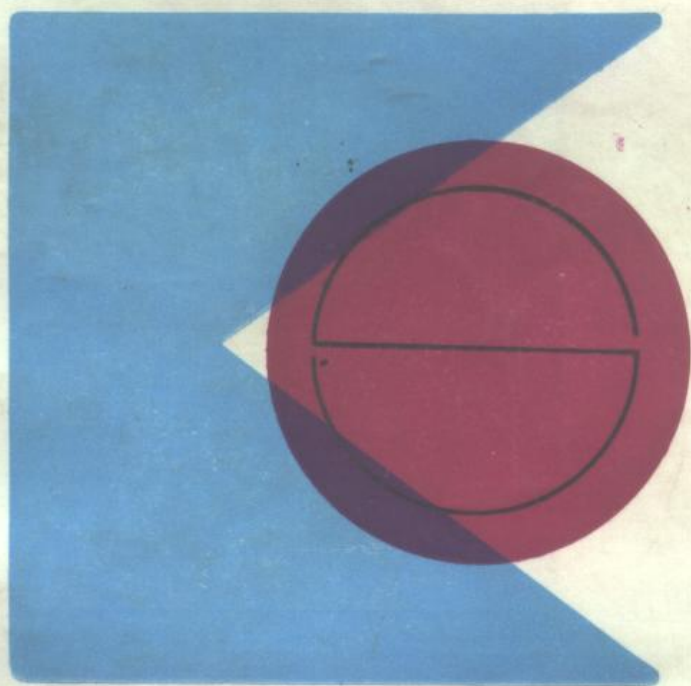


下册

实用英语快速阅读

王健 刘凤兰编

Practical Faster Reading



机械工业出版社

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-Q48/12

内 容 简 介

本书从国外书刊摘选出有关妇女解放运动、美国的高等教育、美国的通讯、美国的运输、国际食品、四季、动植物的分布、计算机在人们生活中的作用、变化中的世界经济以及能量与发展中的非石油输出国组织等方面的 22 篇短文。知识面较宽，文字流畅、易懂。为了复习巩固上册词汇，使阅读技能和速度在反复实践中提高，本书选材的难易程度、体裁与上册相仿，所编练习的难度比上册略有增加。为了便于读者自学，每篇后加有简要的注释；书后附有练习答案。

本书适合我国具有中等英语水平的成年人，大专院校的学生、研究生，以及电大、夜大学生和科技人员等自学或教学使用。

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下册

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责任编辑：蔡 琳 封面设计：郭景云

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机械工业出版社出版（北京阜成门外百万庄南里一号）

（北京市书刊出版业营业许可证出字第 117 号）

中国铁道出版社印刷厂印刷

新华书店北京发行所发行·新华书店经售
*

开本 787×1092 1/32 · 印张 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ · 字数 124 千字

1987 年 9 月北京第一版·1988 年 12 月北京第二次印刷

印数 28,001—32,600 · 定价：2.70 元
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ISBN 7—111—01233—X/H·29

前 言

本书是《实用英语快速阅读》一书的下册。为了复习巩固上册词汇,使阅读技能和速度在反复实践中提高,本书选材的难易程度、体裁与上册相仿。书内文章均选自外文书刊,题材广泛,文字流畅,具有较强的知识性和趣味性。

针对我国具有大专文化程度的成年人学习英语、训练快速阅读的常见问题,特配有三项练习:一、阅读理解(Reading Comprehension);二、词汇(Vocabulary);三、综合填空(Cloze Test)。为了便于读者自学,每篇文章后加有简要的英文和汉语注释;书后附有练习答案。

本书在编写过程中得到来我院任教的英语语言文学博士、美国阿巴拉契大学教授 Hubertien H. Williams 的指导及审阅。

参加本书练习部分编写的还有金启军同志。由于水平有限,时间仓促,所编材料难免有疏漏和错误之处,欢迎广大读者批评指正。

编 者

1987 年 2 月于东北工学院

Contents

目 录

前言	3
Passage 1. Women in Sports	1
妇女参加体育活动	
Passage 2. Women's Liberation	7
妇女的解放运动	
Passage 3. How Computers are Changing Our World	15
计算机在怎样改变人们的生活	
Passage 4. Higher Education in the United States	23
美国高等教育	
Passage 5. Open Education	31
开放式教育	
Passage 6. Historical Time and Stages of life	39
历史时代和生命的各阶段	
Passage 7. Foods International	47
国际食品	
Passage 8. Transportation in the United States	55
美国运输	
Passage 9. Collectomania	62
收集的癖好	
Passage 10. Newspapers as News Sources	71
消息的来源 —— 报纸	
Passage 11. Communications in the United States	79
美国通讯	
Passage 12. What Scientists Really Know About Sleep	87
科学家们对睡眠的实际研究	

Passage 13. The Scope of Geology.....	94
地质学范畴	
Passage 14. In All Seasons(1).....	100
四季(1)	
Passage 15. In All Seasons(2).....	108
四季(2)	
Passage 16. Water Highways.....	117
水路	
Passage 17. Plant and Animal Distribution.....	125
动植物的分布	
Passage 18. Work, Labor, and Play.....	133
工作、劳动和娱乐	
Passage 19. The Changing World Economy.....	140
变化中的世界经济	
Passage 20. Energy and Non-OPEC Developing Countries(1).....	148
能量与非石油输出国组织中的发展中国家(1)	
Passage 21. Energy and Non-OPEC Developing Countries(2).....	157
能量与非石油输出国组织中的发展中国家(2)	
Passage 22. The Number One Problem.....	164
首要问题	
Key to Exercises.....	171
练习答案	

Women in Sports

Women in the United States and in many other countries participate in a growing number of sports and games. This has not always been the case, however. In fact, women have not been as active in sports as men. Only in recent years have women begun to catch up to men in this area. Until the twentieth century, women did not often participate in sports.

Part of the explanation for this is that women simply did not have time. Many women cooked, cleaned, and took care of children. They were so busy that they did not have time for sports. A second reason, especially in the late nineteenth century, is that the woman's image at that time was depicted as one of frailty and delicacy. During the Victorian era, people thought that it was unladylike for a woman to be involved in any sports activity.

All that has changed. Today women are no longer considered too delicate to participate in sporting events, nor do people consider it unladylike for a woman to compete in sports. In fact, women who excel in sports activities today are highly regarded, and some of them have achieved celebrity status and national recognition in the news media. Consequently, women of all ages and backgrounds now take part in a wide variety of sports and games and enjoy doing so.

Two changes in the sports world have made a large contribution to this changed image of today's woman. In the early twentieth century, women began to compete regularly in the Olympics⁵. Since then, the number of events for women in the Olympics has been growing steadily. The fact that women can compete in the Olympics encourages many to become active in the various Olympic competitive events, such as swimming, gymnastics⁶, and skiing. In more recent years, television has had a noticeable effect not only on Olympic competition designed for amateur athletes, but also on the growing popularity of and participation in women's professional sports. Many women's competitions have been televised, especially in the United States. Women's tennis matches and golf⁷ matches are regularly featured on TV along with other competitive sports such as gymnastics, track and field⁸, and swimming. Seeing women competing in amateur and professional sports on TV has made sports much more popular among women of all ages.

Consequently, American women are more active in sports now than ever before. This is the result of developments in the sports world and in modern society and is also partly due to the Women's Liberation Movement in the United States.

Three groups of sports women may be identified. Some women are sports professionals, women who participate in sports to earn money. Some women compete in tennis matches or golf matches and if they win, they usually win a substantial amount of money — and they receive a great deal of publicity as well. College women comprise a second group who are active in

sports. Almost all of these women must take a sport as part of their regular academic program. Tennis, golf, swimming, and field sports — to name just a few of the available choices — are offered in colleges across the nation. College women may become members of the varsity' gymnastics or track team. Some of these women compete against one another in intramural¹⁰ meets or in intercollegiate¹¹ meets at the district as well as at the national and sometimes international level. If these collegiate women are exceptionally good, they may try out for the Olympic team and compete in the Olympics. However, relatively few collegiate athletes join the professional ranks. Nevertheless, the number of serious collegiate and professional sports women is increasing steadily.

The vast number of women who are active in sports in the United States are strictly amateurs. Women in this third group are those who participate in a game or sport because they like it. They may not even be especially good at the sport, but they have fun playing it. Many of these women may have learned the sport in high school or in college. As busy adults, they nevertheless make time in their full schedules for participation in a wide variety of active sports.

(Approximately 700 words)

Exercises

—、Comprehension: Mark the following statements true (T) or false (F) according to the reading passage.

1. Women in the United States and in many other countries

have always been as active in sports as men.

2. Women preferred cooking, cleaning, and taking care of children to participating in sports.
3. Women in the Victorian era were too frail and delicate to be involved in any sports activity.
4. Today many women participate in sports.
5. The whole society respects women who win in sports activities.
6. Women started to compete in the Olympics at the beginning of this century.
7. Television has greatly influenced the development of women's professional sports.
8. Many American women are more active in professional sports than in amateur sports.
9. Most women who participate in sports do so for money.
10. It's very hard for women to become professionals in the sporting world.

二、Vocabulary: Choose one of the words or phrases given below which would best keep the meaning of the original sentence if it were substituted for the underlined word or phrase.

1. Although she was told about the meeting, she refused to take part in the discussion.
2. Tom was away from school for a month so now he has to work hard to overtake the rest of the class.
3. Women who win in sports activities are highly regarded.
4. Few collegiate women athletes join the professional ranks.

5. College women comprise a second group who are active in sports.
6. Many women's tennis and golf matches are shown on TV.
7. We strolled around not going anywhere especially.
8. The image of the Victorian woman was depicted as delicate and frail.
9. By contrast, today the ideal woman in the United States is robust and energetic.
10. Professional sports women today may earn a substantial income.

a. form	b. level
c. games	d. respected
e. in particular	f. participate
g. catch up with (to)	h. vigorous
i. large	j. portrayed

三、Cloze Test: Select the best word to fill in each blank. Sometimes there may be more than one possible equally correct answer.

In many countries (1) the world, women are entering the work force in great numbers (2) the first time. It is true that more women are currently employed (3) ever before. However, the goals of equal opportunity of employment (4) women have not been fully realized. For a variety of reasons, women usually hold low-ranking positions. The last to be hired, they are usually the (5) to be laid off when employment drops off. They receive (6) pay

even when they are doing the same work. Certainly great strides have been made (7) equal opportunity (8) recent years, the obstacles (9) reaching this goal are becoming evident all the time. Although women have come a long way, they still have a long way to go in their struggle (10) equal opportunity.

Notes

1. catch up to (with) 赶上
2. frailty *n.* 意志薄弱, 脆弱, 虚弱
3. delicacy *n.* 娇气
4. Victorian era 维多利亚女王时代(1837—1901)
5. Olympics 奥林匹克运动会
6. gymnastics *n.* 体育, 体操
7. golf *n.* (a game in which a small ball is hit successively into each of 9 or 18 holes arranged in a large open piece of land)
高尔夫球
8. track and field 田径赛
9. varsity *n.* (the principal team representing a college in sports or other competitions) 大学代表队, 大学运动代表队
10. intramural *a.* (within a single college or university) (国家、学校、团体等)自己范围内的, 内部的
11. intercollegiate *a.* (between two or more colleges or universities) 学院(或大学)间的, 学院(或大学)间进行的

Women's Liberation

Have you heard of the new American women's liberation movement which began in the 1960s? It was started by women who were concerned about their identity, their role in society¹, and their work, and about the view of women that many people held. Now many American women are deeply concerned about these things. These women would like better and more interesting lives for all women everywhere.

There are many aspects of the women's liberation movement. Some women agree with all of the goals of women's liberation. They want full equality with men in every aspect of life. In marriage, they want husbands and wives to share all of the work and responsibilities of a home and family. In work, they want women and men to have the same jobs and the same chance to succeed. They want women to be paid just as much as men are for the same work. Other women agree with some of the ideas of women's liberation. They want the same pay if they hold the same job as a man. At home, however, they do not expect their husbands to share in the cleaning, cooking, and other household jobs.

It is important to remember that the women's liberation movement is not concerned only with concrete issues. The movement is also concerned with attitudes and beliefs. One

example of this concern is the issue of a woman's identity. A woman's identity is what she thinks of herself as a person, who she thinks she is, and what she thinks she can do. Some women do not think they are capable of doing anything important. The women's liberation movement would like to help these women improve their view of themselves. Many women who are concerned with women's liberation have taken jobs, have helped others, have raised healthy children, and have done many other things to contribute to their communities. They have shown that they are capable of being good leaders and of doing many important things.

A second issue of the women's liberation movement is the question of women's roles. Should a woman work outside the home? Should she work if she is married and has children? Or should she stay home to take care of her husband and children? What will the rest of society think of her if she enters a profession or has a career? What will other people think if she wants to stay home and raise a family? These questions do not have just one correct answer. Every woman must decide her own role. The women's liberation movement is trying to make it possible for a woman to decide what she wants to do. The movement also wants to make it possible for her to do the best and the most she possibly can.

If a woman decides to take a job outside the home, there are many important questions which are raised. Can she get any job she is capable of and qualified for? Or are some jobs closed to her because she is a woman? If she gets a job and some of her

fellow workers are men doing the same work, will she be paid as much as they are? This issue is considered important in the United States. The government has passed some laws to try to help women get any job for which they are qualified, and to help them get the same pay as a man for doing the same work. The government has also passed a law to encourage businesses that get money from the government to be fair to women and minority groups'. This is called the Affirmative Action Law'. It says that if a company is not fair to women and other minority groups, the government will not do business with that company'.

This encourages businesses to provide equal opportunity for women.

Many people agree with the ideas and goals of women's liberation. They feel that women ought to be considered equal to men in every way. They feel that a woman should be able to decide to stay home and raise a family, or to stay home and not raise a family, or to go out and work, or to have a job outside the home and a family as well. They feel a woman should be able to do anything that she wants to do and can do. Other people are opposed to women's liberation. They do not think that women should have the same jobs and the same pay as men. They believe that men should do all of the important work. They feel that women belong at home taking care of men and children. Many husbands do not want their wives to work outside the home. Some women agree with these men. People who believe in women's liberation do not feel that it is bad for a woman to remain at home if she wants to. They believe that work in the

home is important and should be respected. But they want to make sure that a woman works at home because she wants to and not because she can't get a job outside the home or because she does not believe that she can do anything useful in her community.

The women's liberation movement is trying to give women a chance to show what they can do. Perhaps a woman will find the cure for our most serious disease. Perhaps a woman will solve the energy crisis. Perhaps women and men, working together, will be able to accomplish important things better and sooner than men would if men were working alone. If the women's liberation movement is successful, we will have a chance to find out.

Each man and each woman must decide whether he or she agrees with the ideas of the women's liberation movement completely, partly, or not at all. Whether you agree or disagree with women's liberation, you know that it has begun to change our lives.

(Approximately 1000 words)

Exercises

—、Comprehension: Mark the following statements true (T) or false (F) according to the reading passage.

1. Many women think that men should be responsible for household jobs and women should go out to take the place of their husbands in the work force.
2. Women going out to work in large numbers have raised many new issues still to be resolved.

3. The American government has never passed any laws to encourage businesses that get money from the government to be fair to women.
4. Most people feel that women should be treated as men in some ways but not in every way.
5. Many people think a woman should be encouraged to do anything that she wants to do and can do in terms of a career.
6. Some women feel that women are different from men, so they should stay home and look after their husbands and children.
7. The Affirmative Action Law is a law that is unfair to American men.
8. Women are trying to show that they are capable of many things.
9. We have found out that women and men, working together, are able to complete important things better and sooner.
10. No matter what you think of the Women's liberation movement, it will change our society greatly.

二、Vocabulary: There are four words or phrases beneath each sentence. Choose the one word or phrase which would best keep the meaning of the original sentence if it were substituted for the underlined word or phrase.

1. In marriage, husbands and wives must share all of the work and responsibilities of a home and family.
 - a. complete
 - b. both participate in