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大学英语阅读 理解与欣赏

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COLLEGE ENGLISH
READING COMPREHENSION
AND APPRECIATION

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内 容 提 要

本书分上下两册,共有 87 个单元。每个单元有一篇阅读理解文章,一篇完型填空。文章均选自近 20 年来英美原版书刊,内容丰富,题材广泛。文中难点均已用英汉两种文字加以注释,便于自学。文后有若干练习题,书后附有答案,可供读者自我测试。

大学英语阅读理解与欣赏

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前 言

英语阅读理解能力是大学生学习英语必须具备的基本功之一,这不仅是通过四、六级统考的需要,而且也是毕业后从事科技工作必备的条件之一。

完型填空可测试学生的综合运用语言的能力;阅读理解的能力,驾驭语法结构的能力,运用词汇的能力,以及根据上下文分析判断、逻辑推理的能力。大量地练习完型填空这一项,对于提高综合运用语言的能力,提高阅读理解能力是十分重要的。

基于上述原因,本书设计了两项内容——阅读理解与完型填空(这两项内容在四级统考中占总分数 50%)以帮助学生顺利通过大学英语四级考试。

本书的编写,旨在使学生通过大量的阅读,培养阅读兴趣,扩大词汇量,提高阅读理解能力。本书是为各类高校学生提高阅读理解能力准备参加英语四级统考和有志于报考硕士研究生的学生编写的,也适合于广大具有中级以上英语水平的科技人员和英语自学者。

本书分上、下两册,上册有 43 个单元,下册有 44 个单元。每个单元有一篇阅读理解文章,一篇完型填空。对文章中某些影响读者理解的词汇或句子,用双语(英、汉)加以注释,便于自学。每篇文章后附了若干个理解题,书后附有练习参考答案,可供读者自我测试。

本书特点是:

(一)文章水平为 1—4 级,按照循序渐进的原则编排,文章由短到长,由易到难,逐渐从一级到四级,便于阅读。

(二)内容健康,语言规范。全部文章选自近二十年来英美的原版书刊,个别文章略加删改。

(三)所选文章内容十分丰富,题材广泛,体裁多样,有引人入胜

的故事,有美丽动人的传说,有脍炙人口的人物传记,也有知识性和科学性很强的史地知识,还有文字流畅的科技新作。这些文章构思奇妙,立意新颖,读起来上口,节奏感强,易于形成语感,令人读后爱不释手,很有欣赏价值。

本书的所有编写人员的名次均按姓氏笔划顺序排列。

由于编者水平有限,错误和疏漏在所难免,欢迎广大读者不吝指正。

编者

1991年7月

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Unit 1

I Dreams—What Do They Mean?

Dreams have always held a universal fascination. Some primitive societies believe that the soul leaves the body and visits the scene of the dream. Generally, however, dreams are accepted to be illusions, having much in common with day-dreams—the fantasies of our waking life. When dreaming, however, one tends to believe fully in the reality of the dream world, however inconsistent, illogical and odd it may be.

Although most dreams apparently happen spontaneously, dream activity may be provoked by external influences. 'Suffocation' dreams are connected with the breathing difficulties of a heavy cold, for instance. Internal disorders such as indigestion can cause vivid dreams, and dreams of racing fire-engines may be caused by the ringing of an alarm bell.

Experiments have been carried out to investigate the connection between deliberately inflicted pain and dreaming. For example, a sleeper pricked with a pin perhaps dreams of fighting a battle and receiving a severe sword wound. Although the dream is stimulated by the physical discomfort, the actual events of the dream depend on the associations of the discomfort in the mind of the sleeper.

A dreamer's eyes often move rapidly from side to side. Since people born blind do not dream visually and do not manifest this eye activity, it is thought that the dreamer may be scanning the scene depicted in his dream.

A certain amount of dreaming seems to be a human requirement—if a sleeper is roused every time his eyes begin to move fast, effectively depriving him of his dreams, he will make more eye movements the following night.

People differ greatly in their claims to dreaming. Some say they dream every night, others only very occasionally. Individual differences probably exist, but some people immediately forget dreams and others have good recall.

Superstition and magical practices thrive on the supposed power of dreams to foretell the future. Instances of dreams which have later turned out to be prophetic have often been recorded, some by men of the highest intellectual integrity. Although it is better to keep an open mind on the subject, it is true that the alleged power of dreams to predict future events still remains unproved.

Everyone knows that a sleeping dog often behaves as though he were dreaming, but it is impossible to tell what his whines and twitches really mean. By analogy with human experience, however, it is reasonable to suppose that at least the higher animals are capable of dreaming.

Of the many theories of dreams, Freud's is probably the best known. According to Freud, we revert in our dreams to the modes of thought characteristic of childhood. Our thinking becomes concrete, pictorial and non-logical, and expresses ideas and wishes we are no longer conscious of. Dreams are absurd and unaccountable because our conscious mind, not willing to acknowledge our subconscious ideas, disguises them. Some of Freud's interpretations are extremely fanciful, but there is almost certainly some truth in his view that dreams express the subconscious mind.

Notes

1. inconsistent; (the seeing of) sth. that does not really exist 错觉

2. spontaneously ; done , happening , from natural impulse , not caused
by sth. or sb. outside 自发地
3. suffocation ; difficult breathing 呼吸困难
4. superstition ; (idea , practice , etc. founded on) unreasoning belief in
magic , witchcraft , etc. 迷信 (的观念)
5. subconscious ; of one' s mental activities of which one is not aware
潜意识的

Comprehension Exercise

1. Dreams while we are asleep are _____.
 A. quite different from day-dreams
 B. much the same as day-dreams
 C. exactly like day-dreams
 D. not different from day-dreams at all
2. Which of the following choices a) , b) , c) or d) most adequately
 sums up the ideas of the second paragraph?
 A. The effects of dreams
 B. The vividness of dreams
 C. Probable causes of dreams
 D. The influences on dreams
3. The actual events of the dream are the result of _____.
 A. the mental discomfort of the sleeper
 B. the bodily discomfort of the sleeper
 C. the discomfort of the sleeper both physically and mentally
 D. the mind conditions
4. Which do you think tells the general idea of para. 6 , a) , b) , c) or
 d) ?
 A. Beliefs about dreaming
 B. Are dreams prophetic?

- C. Dreams foretell the future
D. Unproved power of dreams
5. Dreams are not easy to interpret because the original thoughts and ideas are _____.
- A. disguised
B. concrete
C. pictorial
D. non-logical
6. "Unaccountable" here means _____.
- A. unregistered
B. unpaid for
C. not reasonable
D. not possible to record
7. Which is false according to the passage?
- A. Dreams may be caused by an upset stomach.
B. If you prick someone with a pin, he may dream he has been stabbed.
C. Dreaming is probably unnecessary.
D. There are many theories of dreams.

II Cloze

A unique laboratory at the University of Chicago is busy only at night. It is a dream laboratory 1 researchers are at work 2 dreamers. Their findings have revealed that everyone dreams 3 three to seven times a night, although in ordinary life a person may 4 none or only one of his dreams.

5 the subjects—usually students—sleep, special machines record their brain waves and eye movements 6 the body movements that signal the end

of a dream. Surprisingly, all subjects sleep soundly.

Observes report 7 a person usually fidgets before a dream. 8 the dream 9 started, his body relaxes and his eyes 10 more active, as if the curtain had gone up 11 a show. As 12 as the machine indicates that the dream is over, a buzzer wakens the sleeper. He sits up, records his dreams, and goes 13 to sleep—perhaps to dream some more.

Researchers have found 11 the dreamer is wakened immediately 15 his dream, he can usually recall the entire dream. If he 16 to sleep even five more minutes, his memory of the dream will have faded.

- | | | |
|-----|---|--|
| 1. | A. that | B. where |
| | C. which | D. the place |
| 2. | A. ☒ studying | B. study |
| | C. studied - | D. to study |
| 3. | A. of | B. like |
| | C. out | D. from |
| 4. | A. recall | B. know |
| | C. ☒ remember | D. learn by heart |
| 5. | A. While | B. When |
| | C. As | D. Since |
| 6. | A. as well | B. as well as |
| | C. well as | D. and |
| 7. | A. what | B. which |
| | C. why | D. that |
| 8. | A. ☒ Once | B. If |
| | C. When | D. As long as |
| 9. | A. was | B. ☒ has |
| | C. is | D. be |
| 10. | A. are | B. begin |
| | C. become | D. start |

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 11. A. on | B. to |
| C. of | D. for |
| 12. A. well | B. soon |
| C. quick | D. far |
| 13. A. out | B. away |
| C. off | D. back |
| 14. A. that if | B. if that |
| C. if | D. that |
| 15. A. after | B. before |
| C. in | D. during |
| 16. A. will allow | B. will be allowed |
| C. is allowed | D. has been allowed |