赵增虎 张小雨 主编

煤炭高等院校英语统编教材・大学本科

# CURRENT ENGLISH READING COURSE



Art is a boon "A human beings as tures. Through a artistic for tion and i universe the next cally be traditio classifi usually c realm withi drawing, paintlu and so on. But a tion evolves, hu tion and aesthet

diversifying. Ou

# CURRENT ENGLISH READING COURSE

当代英语阅读教程

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主 编 赵增虎 张小雨

煤炭工业出版社 ·北京·

#### 内 容 提 要

本书为《CURRENT ENGLISH READING COURSE》第 4 册,共 10 单元。每单元围绕某一话题精选 4 篇精读和 4 篇快速阅读文章,并辅以阅读技巧点拨、双语注解和习题操练。题型涉及阅读理解、英汉翻译、词汇选择、简短回答、判断正误、选择填空等,所涵盖的知识点和能力测试与大学英语四、六级考试改革的方向一致,可帮助学生熟悉新题型、提高应试能力;所选文章内容丰富,体裁多样,融知识性和趣味性于一体,可拓宽知识面、提高学习能力、培养学习兴趣,为运用英语打基础。

本套教材适合非英语专业本科一、二年级和英语专业低年级学生使用,建议与精读教材同步使用,也可作为广大英语爱好者提高英语水平的自学教材。

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# 前言

阅读是掌握语言知识、打好语言基础、获取信息的重要渠道。对于外语学习者来说,阅读不仅是目标语语言输入的主要来源,也是听、说、写、译等其他语言技能发展的基础和源头。没有足够的语言输入,其他技能的发展与提高是有限的。《CURRENT ENGLISH READING COURSE》系列教材旨在帮助学习者扩大英语词汇量,提高新词新语、常用词汇和语法现象的识读速度,进而增强英语语感,开阔语言文化视野,转变语言思维方式,增强跨文化意识和交际能力,掌握英语阅读策略和阅读技能,最终促进其英语语言综合能力的全面提高。

本套教材选用的语料均为时文,大都选自国内外近期出版的期刊、报纸、书籍、杂志及国内外主流网站。内容既有科普、人文社科文章,也有独特人物、异域风情篇章;既有心理学、政治、经济、历史、地理、文学艺术等主体话题,也有人们喜闻乐道的校园生活、安全、网络、婚姻、家庭、情感、诚信、战争与和平、人际交往等热门话题。

本套教材的主要特点有:

- (1) 构思新颖;
- (2) 内容时尚且不乏经典, 语言鲜活;
- (3) 主题明确、新潮,话题热点;
- (4) 理论指导,有读有练,效果易见;
- (5)循序渐进,分级编写,由浅入深,适用面广。

本套教材适合非英语专业本科一、二年级和英语专业低年级学生使用,建议与精读教材同步使用。同时,可以作为广大英语爱好者提高英语阅读能力的自学教材。

本套教材总主编为河南理工大学赵增虎。本册主编为赵增虎和张小雨,副 主编为朱宝锋、冉玉体和李明心。

本教材所采用的阅读材料均注明了出处,在此谨向其作者表示衷心的感谢! 由于编者能力有限,本书在编写中难免会出现不足,甚至是错误之处,恳请读者批评指正。

编者



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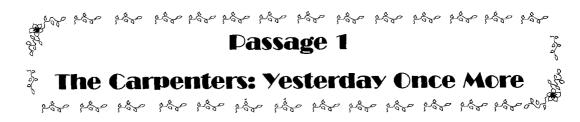
# Unit 1 Literature and Art

## Background

Literature and art affects and attracts the individual and the society alike. This implies that the present literature and art has problems concerning the three popular views about its function: education in entertainment, emotion, and linguistic abuse. Its function should cover the following three points: it is a means of control over the world by mankind; it gathers all fragments of his life; it is the cohesion of the writers experience of life, which is characterized by poetic emotion, deep comprehension and individual experience. Education of literature and art is an action of experiencing, with the body and mind, and is a spiritual activity of inquiry of value. The education reveals its own beauty only when students face the value world of it and experience its poetic sensation, thus upgrading their value of life and feeling the freedom of the spirit.

# Part I Intensive Reading

Directions: There are four passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished sentences. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter.



With their light, airy melodies and meticulously crafted, clean arrangements, the Carpenters stood in direct contrast with the excessive, gaudy pop/rock of the 1970s; yet they became one of the most popular artists of the decade, scoring 12 Top Ten hits, including three number one singles. Meanwhile, the Carpenters were much more than creators of beautifully produced and

hugely successful hit records. Within the space of just a few years their unique and inimitable sound had brought a new dimension to the world of popular music.

Karen Carpenter's calm, pretty voice was the most distinctive element of their music, settling in perfectly amidst the precise, lush arrangements provided by her brother Richard. The duo's sound drew more from pre-rock pop than rock roll, but that didn't prevent the Carpenters from appealing to a variety of audiences. While their popularity declined during the later half of the 1970s, they remained one of the most distinctive and recognizable acts of the decade.

The Carpenters formed in the late of 1960s in Downey, CA, after their family moved from their native New Haven, CT. Once the family moved to California, he began to study piano while supporting Karen in a **trio** that featured Wes Jacobs. With Jacobs and Richard forming her backup band, Karen was signed to the local Californian record label Magic Lamp, who released two unsuccessful singles by the singer. The trio won a Battle of the Bands contest at the Hollywood Bow in 1966, which led to a record contract with RCA. Signing under the name the Richard Carpenter Trio, the group cut four songs that were never released. Jacobs left the band at the beginning of 1968.

Following Jacobs' departure, the **siblings** formed Spectrum with Richard's college friend John Bettis. Spectrum fell apart by the end of the year, but the Carpenters continued performing as a duo. The pair recorded some demonstration at the house of Los Angeles musician Joe Osborn; the tape was directed toward Herb Alpert, the head of A& M Records, who signed the duo to his record label in early 1969.

Offering, the Carpenters' first album, was released in November 1969. The album features some of the smooth soon-to-be famous Carpenter pop sound, but is marred by some questionable song selections, and a somewhat peculiar cover. The album's single, "Ticket to Ride," didn't do on the charts, and neither did the album. However, the Carpenters' fortunes changed with their second single "Close to you". Taken from the album Close to you, the single became the group's first number one, spending four weeks on the top of the U.S. charts. Close to you became an international hit, beginning a five-year period where the duo was one of the most popular recording acts in the world. During that period the Carpenters won two Grammy Awards, including Best New Artist of 1970, and had an impressive string of Top Ten hits, including Rainy Days and Mondays, Superstar, Hurting Each Other, Goodbye to love, Yesterday Once More, and Top of the World.

After 1975's number-four hit *Only Yesterday*, the group's popularity began to decline. For the latter half of the 70s, the duos were **plagued** by personal problems. Richard had become addicted to prescription **drugs**; in 1978, he entered a recovery clinic, kicking his habit. Karen, meanwhile, became afflicted with **anorexia nervosa**, a disease she suffered from for the rest of her life. On top of their health problems, the group's singles had stopped reaching the Top Ten and by 1978, they weren't even reaching the Top 40. Consequently, Karen decided to pursue a solo career, recording a solo album in 1979; the record was never completed and she returned to the Carpenters later that year.

The reunited duo released their last album of new material, *Made in America*, in 1981, the album marked a commercial comeback, as *Touch me When We're Dancing* made it to number 16 on the charts. However, Karen's health continued to decline, forcing the duo out of the spotlight. On February 4, 1983, Karen was found unconscious at her parents' home in Downey; she died in

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the hospital that morning from a cardiac arrest, which was caused by her anorexia.

After Karen's death, Richard Carpenter concentrated on production work and assembled various compilations of the Carpenters' recorded work. In 1987, he released a **solo** album called *Time*.

(723 words, 选自《大学英语》2007年第3期,北京航空航天大学出版社)

#### **Notes**

anorexia nervosa n. a psychological illness, esp. in young women, characterized by an obsess desire to lose weight by refusing to eat 神经性厌食症

cardiac adj. of or relating to the heart 心脏的

drug n. a medicinal substance 药物

duo n. a pair of actors, singers, etc. 二人组合

gaudy adj. tastelessly or extravagantly bright or showy 俗气的,华而不实的

inimitable adj. impossible to imitate 无与伦比的

lush adj. (of color, sound) rich, attractive 悦耳的,吸引人的

 $mar \ \nu$ . spoil, disfigure, impair the perfection of 破坏,损坏

melody n. a tune 旋律, 曲调

meticulously adj. very careful and precise 严谨的,一丝不苟的

plague v. afflict, torment 折磨, 使苦恼

pre-rock pop n. a style of pop music prevailed before rock and roll 人声流行乐

sibling n. each of two or more children having one or both parents in common 兄弟姐妹之一 solo n. a vocal or a dance performed by one person with or without accompaniment 独舞,独唱

trio n. (mus.) a composition for three performers 三重奏,三重唱

### Questions 1 to 5 are based on Passage 1

- 1. According to the second paragraph, the author's main idea is that \_\_\_\_\_\_
  - A. the pre-rock pop is inferior to the Rock and Roll
  - B. the Carpenters can't appear to the public in the latter half of the 1970s
  - C. the success of the perfect duo derives from the match of the sibling
  - D. the Carpenters is one of the distinctive popular duoes
- 2. What are the distinctive elements of the Carpenters' music?
  - A. The excessive and splendid tune.
  - B. The flat and calm rhythm.
  - C. Calm voice with exact music arrangement.
  - D. Melancholy and sad melody.
- 3. As to the development of the Carpenter, which one is True?
  - A. The Carpenters formed in the beginning of the 1970s.
  - B. The battle of the band motivated the Carpenters' trio.
  - C. The trio released four songs.
  - D. The siblings signed the A&M Records in 1970.
- 4. Which album brought them an international fame?
  - A. Yesterday Once More.

- B. Rainy Days and Mondays.
- C. Hurting Each Other.
- D. Close to You.
- 5. The statement which is **Not** mentioned in the passage is that \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. the duo was afflicted with disease in the later half of the 1970s
  - B. the Carpenters ended in failure in the decade of last century
  - C. they made a comeback by the album Made in America
  - D. the duo was the forerunner of pop music in the 1970s



A **bewildered chorus** of "Who?" arose from the watering holes of publishing folk as the winner of the Nobel Prize for literature was named as Elfriede Jelinek, a reclusive Austrian feminist who had written what *The New Yorker* called "the strangest sex scene in the history of the movies".

Some cited the **perversity** of the Swedish judges in choosing another **obscure** author, "I thought it would go to an Albanian this year, so I am only slightly wrong," on prominent British publisher commented. "But I bet it'll be an Indian next year."

Perhaps, others ventured, the Swedes had identified with an Austrian woman who declared, like **Greta Garbo**, that she wanted to be alone. Indeed, the most **intriguing** reaction to the news by the 58-year-old author was that she had a "social **phobia**" that prevented her receiving the award in **Stockholm**.

"It doesn't suit me as a person to be put on public display," she said, "I feel threatened by it. I'm not in a mental shape to withstand such ceremonies."

This may seem surprising as *The Piano Teacher*, the shocking film adapted from her **eponymous** novel and starring Isabelle Huppert, won three top prizes at **Cannes** in 2001 and gave Jelinek a taste of international acclaim, though brief.

Her solitary lifestyle in the large house which she shares with her mother in Vienna may be connected to the emotions she arouses among her fellow countrymen. She has become a hate figure to Austria right, whom she **ferociously** provokes, and to the middle classes, whom she satirizes.

Carping at the selection of Jelinek, one of only 10 women to win the Nobel Prize is open to the charge of ferociously Anglo-centricity. Some supporters of Graham Greene have never forgiven the Nobel judges for denying the British novelist their reward, in the English-speaking world there is an assumption that any winner other than one of theirs is a strange choice. This outlook reflects the fact that only 2% books published in Britain are translations of foreign

writers, the lowest in the West.

The £1 million prized money will come in useful, Jelinek admitted on Radio4's *Today* programme recently. Although her novels make the bestseller lists in Germany, each selling more than 10, 000 copies — compared with a few hundred copies a year in Britain — she has to subsist with the help of translator's fees.

Her self-impose ban seemed like a reattack to the Austrian authorities who, two years earlier, and outlawed her plays because of her criticisms of the Nazi era. Although many Austrians had welcomed the country's annexation by Nazi Germany, they later succeeded in portraying themselves as Hitler's first foreign victims. In recent years her plays have received an icy reception in Austria, with productions marred by booing, shouting and members of the audience waking out.

"When I write, I have always tried to be on the side of the weak," she said. "The side of the powerful is not literature's side."

"She is an author who **shatters** the convictions of her readers with anger and passion," said Per Wastberg, a spokesman for the Swedish Academy. Jelinek's latest play, *Bambiland*, written in 2003, is a **strident** attack on the war in Iraq.

Given her usual subject matter, the Nobel Prize will not be seen as a national triumph. Or, as Jelinek put it: "I do not consider the prize to be a flower in Austria's buttonhole."

(601 words, 选自《英语学习》2004 年第 12 期, 外语与教学研究出版社)

#### **Motes**

annexation n. the place of incorporating territory of another into one's own 吞并,合并 bewilder v. utterly perplex or confuse 使慌乱,使糊涂 booing n. an expression of disapproval or contempt made to a performance 嘘声 Cannes 戛纳 carp v. find fault, complain pettily 找茬,挑剔 chorus n. any simultaneous utterance by many person 异口同声,齐声 eponymous adj. the same name given 同名的,齐名的 ferociously adv. extremely, greatly 极度地 Greta Garbo 葛丽泰•嘉宝 (好莱坞女演员) intriguing v. fascinate, arouse the curiosity of 迷住,对……激起兴趣 obscure adj. undistinguished, hardly known 不知名的,名不见经传的 perversity n. abnormality 反常行为 phobia n. an abnormal or morbid fear 惧怕,憎恶 shatter v. break suddenly in pieces 粉碎,打碎 Stockholm 斯德哥尔摩 (瑞典首都,诺贝尔奖的颁奖地)

#### Questions 6 to 10 are based on Passage 2

strident adj. loud or harsh 尖声的,刺耳的

6. Jelinek didn't present herself at the Nobel Prize ceremony because

A. her works can't be accepted by the public

- B. it's too honorable for Jelinek to get the Nobel Prize
- C. she wasn't healthy on the very day
- D. she is in the habit of solitariness
- 7. The works that got the Nobel Prize is . .
  - A. The Piano Teacher
  - B. Bambiland
  - C. The New Yorker
  - D. not mentioned in the passage
- 8. According to Jelinek, what is the Anglo-Centricity?
  - A. England dominants the leading position in the western countries.
  - B. The Nobel Prize refuses the British Novelist.
  - C. Concerning literature, English is supreme in English-speaking world.
  - D. The foreign languages employed in the literature are excluded from the Nobel Prize.
- 9. Jelinek became a hate figure to Austria's authorities because
  - A. her solitary life makes her alienated from society
  - B. she sharply criticized the middle classes of Austria
  - C. she refused to present herself at the Nobel Prize ceremony
  - D. her books received an icy reception in Austria
- 10. Which of the following statement is **Not** true?
  - A. Jelinek got £1 million Prize money, and the book sold more than 100,000 copies.
  - B. She sharply attacked on the war in the Middle East in her play Bambiland.
  - C. She paid little attention to the Nobel Prize for the national triumph.
  - D. She will strive for exposing the dark side of society in her books.



On Tuesday August 11th, 1911, a young artist, Louis Beraud, arrived at the **Louvre** in Paris to complete a painting of the Salon Carre. This was the room where the world's most famous painting, the *Mona Lisa* by Leonardo da Vinci, was on display. To his surprise there was an empty space where the painting should have been. At 11 o'clock the museum authorities realized that the painting had been stolen. The next day headlines all over the world announced the **theft**.

Actually the Leonardo had been gone for more than twenty-four hours before anyone noticed it was missing. The museum was always closed on Mondays for maintenance. Just before closing time on Sunday three men had entered the museum, where they had hidden themselves in a storeroom. The actual theft was quick and simple. Early the next morning Perrugia removed the painting from the wall while the others kept watch. Then they went out a back exit.

Nothing was seen or heard of the painting for two years when Perrugia tried to sell it to a dealer for half a million lira. Perrugia was arrested on December 13th. Perrugia claimed he had

stolen it as an act of **patriotism**, because, he said, the painting had been **looted** from the Italian nation by Napoleon. Perrugia was imprisoned for seven months. It seemed that the crime of the century had been solved.

But had it? Perrugia was keen to claim all responsibility for the theft, and it was twenty years before the whole story came out. In fact Perrugia had been working for two master criminals, Valfierno and Chaudron, who went unpunished for their crime. They would offer to steal a famous painting from a gallery for a **crooked** dealer or an **unscrupulous** private collector. They would then make a copy of the picture and, with the help of **bribed** gallery attendants, would then tape the copy to the back of the original painting. The dealer would then be taken to the gallery and would be invited to make a secret mark on the back of the painting. Of course the dealer would actually be marking the copy. Valfierno would later produce **forged** newspaper cuttings announcing the theft of the original, and then produce the copy, **exquisite** with secret marking. If the dealer were to see the painting still in the gallery, he would be persuaded that it was a copy, and that he possessed the **genuine** one.

Chaudron then painted not one, but six copies of the Mona Lisa, using 400-year-old wood panels from antique Italian furniture. The forgeries were carefully aged, so that the varnish was cracked and dirty. Valfierno commissioned Perrugia to steal the original, and told him to hide it until Valfierno contacted him. Perrugia waited in vain in a tiny room in Paris with the painting, but heard nothing from his partners in crime. They had gone to New York, where the six copies were already in store. They had sent them there before the original was stolen. At that time it was quite common for artists to copy old masters, which would be sold quite honestly as imitations, so there had been no problems with US Customs. Valfierno went on to sell all six copies for 300,000 each. Valfierno told the story to a journalist in 1914, on condition that it would not be published until his death.

Does the story end there? Collectors have claimed that Perrugia returned a copy. It is also possible that Leonardo may have painted several versions of the *Mona Lisa*, or they might be copies made by Leonardo's pupils. There has been a lot of controversy and argument about a 450-year-old painting, but after all, maybe that's what she's smiling about.

(706 words, from http://www.24en.com/funny)

#### **Motes**

**bribe** *n*. persuade a person to act illegally in one's favor by a gift of money, service 贿赂 **controversy** *n*. disagreement on a matter of opinion 争议

crooked adj. not straightforward; dishonest 不正直的,不忠实的

exquisite adj. extremely delicate or beautiful 非常精致的,精湛的

forged adj. write a document or signature in order to pass it off as written by another 伪造的

genuine adj. really coming from its stated, properly so called 真正的,非伪装的

imitation n. the act or an instance of imitating, counterfeit 仿造品

lire n. (lira pl.) the chief monetary unit of Italy 里拉

loot v. rob or steal (goods) left unprotected 抢劫,掳掠

Louvre 卢浮宫

panel n. a distinct, rectangular, section of a surface 板,嵌板

patriotism n. the spirit of a person that devoted to and ready to support his or her country 爱国主义

theft n. the action of stealing 偷窃行为

unscrupulous *adj*. having no scruples, unprincipled 肆无忌惮的,不分青红皂白的 varnish n. artificial or natural glossiness 光泽面,清漆

#### Ouestions 11 to 15 are based on Passage 3

- 11. According to the passage, what time did the public notice the lost Mona Lisa?
  - A. On Tuesday August 11th, 1911.
  - B. On Wednesday August 11th, 1911.
  - C. Several days later.
  - D. Two years later.
- 12. In what way did the criminal deceive the gallery when they returned the painting?
  - A. They offered to steal a famous painting for business.
  - B. They bribed the gallery attendants to help them.
  - C. With the aid of the dealer, the criminals marked the original painting.
  - D. They sold the original painting to the dealer, and then returned the imitation to the gallery.
- 13. Concerning the *Mona Lisa*, the author implies that \_\_\_\_\_
  - A. the Mona Lisa is the famous painting by Italian artist Leonardo da Vinci
  - B. the Mona Lisa has last more than 400 years
  - C. the Mona Lisa on display in Louvre today is probably a forgery
  - D. the forgeries of Mona Lisa are difficult to recognize for the artistic skill
- 14. Which one is **True** about the lost *Mona Lisa*?
  - A. The thief made six copies of the *Mona Lisa*, using 500-year-old wood panels from antique Italian furniture.
  - B. The thief produced forged work exquisite with secret marking.
  - C. Now the six copies have been already in store in New York.
  - D. The truth was unveiled when the thief sold all six copies for 300,000 each.
- 15. What does Mona Lisa's smile in the last sentence mean?
  - A. Mona Lisa's smile is decided by Leonardo da Vinci's creativity.
  - B. Up to now, no one knows the code of the smile.
  - C. The mystery of her smile just like the identity of the painting has been controversy.
  - D. The author kept a suspending end.



Besides the more familiar Beijing Opera and Kunqu Opera, hundreds of regional operas, or

small operas, have been performed throughout China for centuries. Today fewer and fewer of them are seen, even in their hometowns. But it is hoped a series of folk operas being staged in Beijing, will ensure these historic stories do not vanish forever.

This is the "Mixed Opera" from Shanxi Province, where you can see an opera in its **infancy**. Without any musical accompaniment, the entire opera was sung by local farmers — some in their sixties and seventies.

And the Tiaoshen Opera from Guizhou Province perfectly represents one of the most important functions of this theatrical medium: worshipping Gods and ancestors.

Zhang Qingshan, deputy director of China Arts Study Institute, said, "Opera was the cultural underpinning for villagers when entertainment was **scant** in their daily life. It is an important vehicle, which can affect their emotions and sensations deep inside."

In the 1950s, close to four hundred different types of opera were performed in China. Now, only around 200 are in existence.

Small operas, only found in one province or region, are rapidly disappearing, as the original artists are aging, and dying, without passing on their rich knowledge.

Rooted in popular theatre, Kunqu influenced many other forms of Chinese opera. It is characterized by a dynamic structure, rhythmic patterns, typical melodies and complex **choreography** combining acrobatics and symbolic gestures. Kunqu is considered the oldest form of Chinese opera still performed.

Kunqu Opera developed under the Ming Dynasty (fourteenth to seventeenth centuries) in the city of Kunshan, situated in the region of Suzhou in southeast China. With its roots in popular theatre, the **repertory** of songs evolved into a major theatrical form.

It is characterized by its dynamic structure and melody (kunqiang) and classic pieces such as the *Peony Pavilion* and *the Hall of Longevity*. It combines song and recital as well as a complex system of choreographic techniques, acrobatics and symbolic gestures. The opera features a young male lead, a female lead, an old man and various comic roles, all dressed in traditional costumes. Kunqu songs are accompanied by a bamboo flute, a small drum, wooden clappers, gongs and cymbals, all used to punctuate actions and emotions on stage. Renowned for the virtuosity of its rhythmic patterns (changqiang), Kunqu Opera has had a considerable influence or more recent forms of Chinese opera, such as the Sichuan or Beijing Opera.

A Chinese opera **unfolds** upon a single stage in front of a live audience. Although special visual effects, such as backgrounds, **props** and lighting, can help to express the setting and mood of a scene, they fall short of creating a sense of reality. Rather than attempting to approximate reality, however, Chinese opera has evolved into a stylized, abstract art form, much like ballet or modern dance. A minimum of props and effects are used — instead, a large array of symbols is employed to enable the audience to clue in on the action. The most striking symbol is the face paint featured by Ching characters. The face of a Ching character will reveal his personality, typical behavior patterns, outstanding physical characteristics.

The opera has suffered a gradual decline since the eighteenth century because of the high-level technical knowledge. It also requires from its audience. Of the 400 arias regularly 40 sung in opera performances in the mid-twentieth century, only a few dozen continue to be performed. The Kunqu Opera survived through the efforts of dedicated connoisseurs and various supporters who seek to attract the interest of a new generation of performers.

9

Tian Qing, deputy director of **Intangible** Heritages Protection Center, said, "We don't have much time left if we want to turn the tide. All efforts would go in vain if the last artist dies."

As a main victim of China's cultural modernization, folk operas have been marginalized by encroaching Western operas and even mainstream indigenous ones. And the warning signs are being heard by those high up. Last year, 92 folk operas made the National Intangible Heritages list giving them a chance to survive the tides of change.

(704 words, from http://www.cctv.com/english 2007.6)

#### *Motes*

aria n. (mus.) a long accompanied song for solo voice in an opera, oratorio 咏叹调 choreography n. the design or arrangement of a ballet or other staged dance 舞步设计 clapper n. the tongue or striker of a bell 钟,锤 connoisseur n. an expert judge in manners of taste 鉴赏家,行家

**cymbal** n. a musical instrument consisting of a concave brass or bronze plate 钹

**drum** n. a percussion instrument or toy made of a hollow cylinder covered by one or both ends with stretched skin and sounded by striking 鼓

encroach v. intrude in rights or territory 侵占, 蚕食

gong n. a metal disc with a turned rim, giving a resonant note with struck 锣

indigenous adj. of native 本土的

infancy n. an early state in the development of an undertaking 初期

intangible adj. unable to be touched 不可触摸的,无形的

marginalize v. make or treat as insignificant 使处于次要地位的,忽视

**prop** n. background on the stage 背景,布景

punctuate v. interrupt at intervals 不时打断,指示

recital n. the act or instance of reciting or being recited 背诵,朗诵

repertory n. the theatrical performance of various plays for short periods by one company 保留 曲目

scant adj. barely sufficient, deficient 不足的, 缺乏的

the Hall of Longevity 长生殿

unfold v. open the fold, spread out 展现

virtuosity n. the special knowledge or taste for work of art 鉴赏能力

#### Questions 16 to 20 are based on Passage 4

- 16. The statement that shows the reality of Chinese Folk Operas is that
  - A. there is variety of Chinese Folk Operas being spread all over the world
  - B. Mixed Opera represents one of the most important functions of religion
  - C. small operas can be found in one province or region for the local protection
  - D. nearly 100 folk operas are listed in the National Intangible Heritages that prevent them from vanishing
- 17. What is the role of folk opera played in people's daily life?
  - A. To ensure a lot of historic stories existence.

B. To pass on rich knowledge. C. To exercise cultural influence as well as entertainment. D. To inherit the traditional cultural heritage. 18. As to Kunqu Opera, which one is Not mentioned in the passage? A. It is the oldest form of Chinese Opera. B. It is distinctive by dynamic structure, rhythmic patterns and typical melodies. C. Kungu Opera origins from popular theatre. D. A lot of abstract art forms and accompaniment are employed in Kunqu performance. 19. The main difference between Chinese opera and Kunqu is \_\_\_\_\_. A. choreographic techniques B. symbolic gestures C. costume and face painting D. modern visual effect 20. The theme of the passage is that \_\_\_\_\_. A. Chinese opera can influence the new generation and be developed by them B. the opera should be survived when it was invaded by the western operas C. Chinese operas that represent Chinese culture should be inherited and spread generations by generation D. Chinese opera lack popularity for its high-level skill and knowledge Part II Translation Directions: In this part, there are five sentences taken from the reading passages you have just read. Translate them into Chinese. You can refer back the passage to identify their meanings in the context. 21. Karen Carpenter's calm, pretty voice was the most distinctive element of their music, settling in perfectly amidst the precise, lush arrangements provided by her brother Richard. (Passage 1) 22. The album features some of the smooth soon-to-be famous Carpenter pop sound, but is marred by some questionable song selections, and a somewhat peculiar cover. (Passage 1) 23. In recent years her plays have received an icy reception in Austria, with productions marred

maybe that's what she's smiling about. (Passage 3)

by booing, shouting and members of the audience waking out. (Passage 2)

24. There has been a lot of controversy and argument about a 450-year-old painting, but after all,