

读时尚美文

学当代英语

七彩生活

毛荣贵 张韧弦 编著

Learn English
Through Reading

吉林大学出版社

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图书在版编目(CIP)数据

读时尚美文 学当代英语/毛荣贵主编.——长春:吉林大学出版社,2001.9

ISBN 7-5601-2572-7

I. 读.... II. 毛.... III. 英语—对照读物—汉、英
IV. H319.4

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字(2001)第 059667 号

读时尚美文 学当代英语 七彩生活

毛荣贵 张韧弦 编著

责任编辑:杨 枫

封面设计:石 枫

吉林大学出版社出版
(长春市解放大路 125 号)

吉林大学出版社发行
梨树县书海福利印刷厂印刷

开本:850×1168 毫米
印张:5.625
字数:140 千字

1/32

2001 年 10 月第 1 版
2001 年 10 月第 1 次印刷
印数:1—5 000

ISBN 7-5601-2572-7/H·285

定价:9.80 元

前 言

学习英语有捷径否?学生常常如此问我。

有!我如此作答,一点也不犹豫。

余学习研究英语数十年,遍尝甘苦,柳暗花明。蓦然回首,但见绵延曲折的英语学习征程上闪出一条快速通道,上面写着两个大字:阅读!

阅读,是致用。

当你能够使用英语去探求新知,去拓展视野时,这不是在实践“学以致用”的伟大真理吗?

阅读,是享受。

当你一边汲取最新信息,一边品尝佳句美词时,这不是“把酒临风”,沉醉于“江山留胜迹,我辈复登临”的境界吗?

阅读,是启蒙。

当你穿梭于字里行间时,频繁感受内心的震撼、思路的豁然、心灵的共鸣时,这不是“润物细无声”般的知商和情商升格吗?

阅读,是佳境。

当你能够使用非母语“纵览云飞”,感受“一览众山小”时,这不是英语学习渐入佳境?这不是崭新人生渐入佳境吗?

本套丛书,就为你提供了致用、享受、启蒙和渐入佳境的“硬件”!

按文章内容,本套丛书共分为六册:

1/天有不测 2/人间万象 3/七彩生活 4/健康是金 5/人与自然 6/科技星光

每册三十篇左右短文,篇篇精彩,信息丰富!她们大部分来自因特网,有些是美国友人提供的,有些是《科技英语学习》的读者推

荐的(注:本套丛书的主编之一系《科技英语学习》〈月刊〉主编)。

她们如同一扇扇窗口,透现一道道西方世界迷人的人文风景。她们如同一个个挚友,指点江山、吐露心迹、纵论横述、传播信息。

每册三十篇左右短文,篇篇精当,可品可咀!她们简洁、明朗、地道、高效,折射了现代英语的发展趋势并洋溢着时代气息。

每篇短文前配有中文导读,寥寥数语,或发人深省,或博你一笑,或提纲挈领,或指点迷津。我们称之为warming-up reading。

为了训练和检测读者的阅读情况,每篇文章后配有“名题精编”栏目。编写时既考虑到与标准化英语考试题型接轨,又有针对文章有关语言点训练应试者词汇和语法技能的题目,共分词项选择(区别同义词、学习新词)、搭配连线(考察词汇搭配能力)和辨别改错(主要训练语法)三大类。同时打破按内容先后设题的传统做法,而是从易到难编排,文后不仅附有答案,还有答题思路点拨,使读者知其然并知其所以然。

本套丛书的编写原则是:以英语阅读为出发点和根本点,培养读者的英语综合运用能力。因此,每篇文章后另设三个新意拂面的专栏。它们是:

词汇撷萃:针对文章出现的若干重要词汇进行梳理归纳,甄别比较,除了可以初步学到英语词汇学的基础知识之外,还可以学到一些记忆词汇的方法;

写作揽胜:萃选文章中的佳句,紧扣文章对其在遣词造句、篇章布局上的独到之处详细加分析,结合学生英语写作的弱点及难点,纵横论述;

翻译指津:以文章中的难句为范例,提供译文,并演绎形形色色的翻译技巧,或亮出译者间的商榷和讨论,或简述翻译的理论,帮助学子在比较中作出鉴别、在品味中体验技巧。

本书不仅是上海、湖北、湖南、江苏、浙江、吉林等地一群学者通过email精诚合作的成功作品,而且其中也渗入了美国教授的

心血。费城的 Dorine Huston 教授，西雅图的 Rosemary Adang 和 Bill Hofmann 教授也在大洋彼岸伸出了援助之手，他们跨越虚拟空间，不仅提供了许多精彩短文，而且为我们扫除了许多俚语、社会背景或文化背景等方面的“拦路虎”。

最后，本丛书的两位主要编者想借一点篇幅对他们的师友、家人和同事表示诚挚的感谢。如果没有他们的支持、协助、鼓励、安慰、耐心和分担寂寞，两百篇未经加工的原文可能至今仍静躺在硬盘的某一角落。

协助本书编写工作的有：姚蔷珍、毛竹晨、陈衡、郝萌、郭海涛、赵亮、刘亚丽、陈志云、陈志宏、潘君默、白松、何巍、骆晓荣、朱江、黄峻峰、张一宁、谭清香、任丽华等同志，在此向他们表示最衷心的感谢！

当然，对本套丛书最有权威的评判者不是编者，也不是出版者，而是使用此书的广大读者。我们真诚地期待着读者的批评和指教，以期把我们今后的工作做得更出色。

毛荣贵 张韧弦

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1

Study Finds 'Green' Product Labeling Misleading

By Jason Hopps

现代人的环保意识越来越强，商家也在这方面动足了脑筋。君不见超市里琳琅满目的“绿色食品”、“健康食品”堆积如山，有些包装上的说明更是看得人心惊肉跳，原来自己大半辈子下来吃的都是些“污染”过的东西。老外也遇到了“green labeling”满天飞的局面。国内似乎还未出现“环保型”手纸，看来“接轨”尚在进行之中。

hodge-podge

Consumers are being confused and misled by the *hodge-podge* of environmental claims made by household products, according to a “green labeling” study published by Consumers International Friday.

Among the report's more outrageous findings — a German compost described itself as “earthworm friendly,” a brand of flour said it was “non-polluting,” and a British toilet paper claimed to be “environmentally friendlier.”

The study was written and researched by Britain's National Consumer Council (NCC) for lobby group Consumers In-

ternational. It was funded by the German and Dutch governments and the European Commission.

“While many good and useful claims are being made, it is clear there is a long way to go in ensuring shoppers are adequately informed about the environmental impact of the products they buy,” said Consumers International director Anna Fielder.

The 10-country study surveyed product packaging in Britain, Western Europe, Scandinavia and the United States. It found that products sold in Germany and the United Kingdom made the most environmental claims on average.

The report focused on claims made by specific products, such as *detergents*, *aerosol sprays* and by some garden products. It did not test the claims, but compared them to labeling guidelines set by the International Standards Organization (ISO) in September, 1999.

Researchers documented claims of environmental friendliness made by about 2,000 products and found many too vague or too misleading to meet ISO standards.

“Many products had specially-designed *logos* to make them seem environmentally friendly, but in fact many of these symbols mean nothing,” said report researcher Philip Page.

“Laundry detergents made the most number of claims with 158. Household cleaners were second with 145 separate claims, while paints were third on our list with 73. The high numbers show how very confusing it must be for consumers to sort the true from the misleading,” he said.

The ISO labeling standards ban vague or misleading claims on product packaging.

Terms such as “environmentally friendly” and “non-polluting” are banned by the ISO because they make no *verifiable* claims.

“What we are now pushing for is to have multinational corporations conform to the standards set by the ISO,” said

词汇荟萃



注意一词多义现象:

green product 虽然汉译为“绿色产品”,实意为“环保型产品” **green** 在英语中是一个多义词,可构成许多含义不同的短语和词组,如: **a green Christmas** 绿色的圣诞节(指天气温暖,没有下雪的圣诞节), **green belt** 都市四周的绿化带, **green house** 温室, **be green and in one's salad age** 少不更事, **live to a green old age** 老当益壮, **green-eyed** 嫉妒的, **green back** 美钞(背面印成绿色), **green grocer** 果菜商, **green horn** 无经验易受骗的人, **green room** / 演员休息室, **greenwood** 林地(尤指夏季时) / 绿林(引申为昔日抗王法者落草之地), **green fingers** 园艺才能

对多义词的理解应在结合本文的基础上展开联想。

翻译指津



“While many good and useful claims are being made, it is clear there is a long way to go in ensuring shoppers are adequately informed about the environmental impact of the products they buy,” said Consumers International director Anna Fielder.(L13-17)

译文: 国际消费者协会理事长安娜·菲尔德说:“尽管他们正在作许多有益的和有用的环保许诺,但显然,要确保购物者充分了解自己所购产品对环境的影响还有许多工作要做。”

首先要分析引语所包含的逻辑关系,此处的while相当于though,表示转折关系。“ensuring ... they buy”整个做介词in的宾语,而这个形式上的宾语实为逻辑上的状语,表目的,然后将“there is a long way to go”具体表达为“还有许多工作要做”。可见,逻辑分析能理出原语隐含的各种关系,使译文更为简

切, 语义更为连贯。再看一例:

They call themselves combat heroes and they are afraid of fighting. 他们自称为战斗英雄, 但却害怕打仗。

写作揽胜

"What we are now pushing for is to have multinational corporations conform to the standards set by the ISO." said Page. (L43-45)

注意保持主谓人称和数的一致 "what we are now doing" 这种结构的短语在汉语中为“我们现在所做的一切”之意。初学写作者往往拘泥于表面现象, 以为“一切”包罗万象、为复数含义, 因而后面的谓语动词形式参照主语为复数而定。于是经常出现这样语法欠规范的表达: (1) What she will say don't matter; (2) What he put forward lack of proof. 殊不知, 这种结构虽含“一切”之意, 却实为单数形式。希望大家能从下面的实例中对主谓一致现象有更多的了解:

Ten thousand years is too long, seize the day, seize the hour. 一万年太久, 只争朝夕。

The president and general manager is in direct charge of this matter. 董事长兼总经理直接负责此事。

The Minister, as well as the trade unions, is responsible for the trouble. 部长、还有工会, 应对混乱局面负责。

Politics is war without bloodshed. 政治是不流血的战争。

Five pounds is quite enough. 五英镑就足够了。

名题精编

I. READING COMPREHENSION

Directions: There are four choices marked A), B), C) and D) in the following questions or unfinished statements. You should decide on the best choice based on the text.

1. According to the report, a brand of flour claimed to be _____.
 A) "earthworm friendly" B) "non-polluting"
 C) "environmentally friendly" D) "green"
2. What did researchers find out about the environmental claims made by some products?
 A) Germany- and UK-made products make the most claims on average.
 B) Packaging on detergents and aerosol sprays is more misleading than that on other products.
 C) Many of them are non-standard.
 D) All of the above
3. According to the article, which of the following labels will most probably meet the ISO standard?
 A) "This brand of detergent is non-polluting."
 B) "This type of gasoline is lead-free."
 C) "This brand of paint contains XX substance that can prevent irritant gases from spreading."
 D) "The new kind of compost contains no harmful substances."

II. VOCABULARY AND STRUCTURE

A. MULTIPLE CHOICE

Directions: Choose A), B), C) or D) from the following items so that the sentences are appropriate.

4. The _____ of modern science upon society as a whole is considerable.
 A) influent B) effect C) impact D) affection
5. After the traffic accident, the victim's family _____ a claim for damages.
 A) did B) made C) filed D) started
6. He entered the room without being noticed because everyone was _____ the lecturer.
 A) focused on B) focusing his mind on
 C) focused at D) focusing his mind at

B. MATCHING

Directions: Draw a line between an item in the left column and one in the right column so that the collocation is natural and acceptable.

7. make

A) guidelines

8. set

B) thesis

9.go

C) standard

10.meet

D) claims

11.document

E) a long way

C.ERROR CORRECTION

Directions: In either of the following sentences, there is one underlined part that is not appropriate. Please identify and correct it.

12. In most lyric poems, love is compared as rose, which is exemplified by "A Red

A

B C

D

Red Rose".

13. In ancient times, the climate once became so cold and harsh for dinosaurs

A

B

C

to survive.

D

1.B 2.C 提示: A、B 两项较容易导致误选。注意原文是 products sold in Germany and the United Kingdom, 而不是 made; 而 detergents 和 aerosol sprays 只是调查的侧重点, 它们所作的 claims 很多且不符合 ISO 标准 (C), 但 misleading 缺乏依据。3.C 提示: 原文的信息主要是 Terms such as "environmentally friendly" and "non-polluting" are banned by the ISO because they make no verifiable claims. 凭 verifiable 一词我们可初步判定声明必须具体, 这样才便于检验, B、C 项比较, C 更合适。4.C 5.B 6.B 7.D 8.A 9.E 10.C 11.B 12.B 13.C too

2

U.S. to Study Why Americans Eat the Way They Do

By Doug Palmer

美国人的“恐肥症”似乎愈演愈烈，甚至惊动了联邦政府来管这等“鸡毛蒜皮”的事。一个棘手的问题是：美国人为什么喜欢和自己的身体过不去，越吃越肥，越肥越吃？但笔者以为美国政府的当务之急还是得解决另一个更尖锐的问题：一方面有人为自己的身材发愁，另一方面却有人在挨饿。解决好这个问题远比越发无聊的减肥研究更有意义。

With more than half of all Americans now overweight, the Clinton administration said on Tuesday it would study the effects of popular weight-loss diets and probe why people eat what they do, even when they know it is bad for them.

At a conference billed as “The National Nutrition Summit,” U.S. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said the United States must also do more to fight hunger.

While many Americans have too much food in their stomachs, millions other still don't have enough to eat, he said.

In a videotaped speech that paid tribute to a landmark

1969 White House meeting on food, nutrition and health, President Clinton noted the contradictory problems of hunger and *obesity* facing the United States.

15 “While we’ve come a long way in promoting good nutrition and health, too many Americans still are *malnourished*, without food or living unhealthy lifestyles,” Clinton said. “Nearly fifty-five percent of our population is overweight or obese — including one-in-five children.”

20 Despite a wealth of information about the link between proper nutrition and good health, many Americans continue to make poor eating choices.

“We can’t seem to all convert all that nutritional knowledge into changed behavior,” Glickman said. “The fact is only 12 percent of the American people have a good diet.”

25 The large number of overweight Americans has created a huge market for weight loss plans, such as those that recommend diets high in *protein* or low in sugar.

Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala took aim at the “*fad* diets” in her remarks.

30 “Stop doing them. They won’t last. Instead, take the weight off slowly and steadily through a powerful combination of sensible eating and physical activity,” she said.

35 Last week, the administration issued new dietary guidelines that, for the first time, emphasize the importance of exercise to healthy living and recommend a diet high in whole-grain foods and fruits and vegetables.

One reason for the popularity of many weight-loss diets may be a “lack of reliable scientific research... to counter the claims made by their promoters,” Glickman said.

40 To shed some light on the issue, the Agriculture Department will begin a *coordinated* research program to examine the health and nutrition effects of various popular diets, he said.

The department will also launch a “behavioral nutrition *initiative*” to examine why people make the food and exercise

45 choices that they do.

“Why do we keep reaching for those extra large orders of French fries when we know too much fat is a slow form of poison?” Glickman said.

50 In a sign of the strong emotions food can arouse, Glickman narrowly escaped being hit in the face with an apple pie at the start of the conference. An animal rights activist threw the pie just as Glickman was beginning his speech.

Security guards quickly grabbed the woman, who was hauled away shouting: “Shame on you for promoting meat.” ■

词汇撷萃



... with more than half of all Americans now **overweight** ... (L1)

注意学习“over”做前缀时的各种含义。在上例中“over”为“超过”之意，**overweight** 也就译为“超重”。其它如 **overestimate** / 过高估计，**overbid** / 出价过高，**overdraft** / 透支，**overdress** / 打扮考究，**overflow** / 溢出，**overload** / 超载。其构词形式还可更为复杂，如 **overnight millionaire** / 暴发户，**over-the-ring shoot** / 扣篮。但有时“over”加在动词前，整个含义就会发生根本性变化，如：

I am not so foolish as to **overlook** such an important issue. 我还不至于蠢到忽略这么重要的问题。

句中的 **overlook** 为“忽略”之意，其名词有时可用 **oversight**。

翻译指津



At a conference **billed** as “The National Nutrition Summit”, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said the United States must also