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# 中学英语

# 阅读训练与测试

(初二)

张建伟 主编



安徽科学技术出版社

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# 前言

中学英语教学的一个主要目的是培养学生的阅读能力。阅读能力不仅是学生在校期间,而且是他们走上社会后应用最广泛的一种技能。阅读是吸收书面语的手段,它有利于扩大词汇量,丰富语言知识,开阔视野,培养语感,了解外国文化背景等。

阅读能力的培养单靠教科书是远远不够的,还需要有一定量的课外阅读材料。只有通过广泛、大量和快速的阅读,才能获得较高的阅读能力。教育部最新颁布的中学英语课程标准明确规定:初中毕业生除教材外,课外阅读量应累计达到15万词以上;普通高中毕业生除教材外,课外阅读量应累计达到36万词以上。为满足中学生的课外阅读需求,我们组织了一批有多年教学经验、全面熟悉教材、深刻了解学生学习状况、通晓各级各类考试水平和要求的中学知名教师,精心编写了这套《中学英语阅读训练与测试》。它具有以下特点:

## 一、选材精细

1. 题材广泛,体裁多样。题材内容涉及政治、经济、文化、艺术、科学技术、历史、教育、名人传记、环境保护等各个方面;体裁既有记叙文又有说明文,既有议论文又有应用文,其中应用文包括信函、通知、便条和图表说明等。

2. 知识性强,趣味性更强。充分考虑不同年龄段学生的兴趣、爱好、愿望等学习需求和心理需求选择不同的阅读材料,以激发学生的学习兴趣。

3. 语言真实、地道、具有时代气息。

4. 重要语言现象再现率较高。

## 二、编排精心

1. 由易到难,循序渐进。本套书共6本,分别供初一至高三学生使用,因此选材上严格按中学生各年级的实际水平把握难易梯度。每册书内容也从简单到复杂逐步过渡。

2. 生词双解,难点注释。每篇阅读材料的生词除第一册外均给出双解,难点则配有注释与讲解,并给出例句,从而便于学生整体理解、快速阅读。

3. 巧设练习,自测自评。每篇阅读材料后精心编写了有关词汇的练习以供学生落实对词汇的理解和掌握。为了检测学生对阅读材料的理解程度,又编写了一定数量的判断正误题和单项选择题。

只要循序渐进地坚持阅读,阅读能力定会大大提高。

编者

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# Unit One

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## Passage 1

In 1933 an unknown American called Clarence Nash went to see the film-maker Walt Disney. He had an unusual voice and he wanted to work in Disney's cartoon films for children. When Walt Disney heard Nash's voice, he said, "Stop! That's our duck!"

The duck was the new famous Donald Duck who first appeared in the film *The Wise Little Hen*. Donald lived in an old houseboat and wore his sailor jacket and hat. Later that year he became a star after an eight-minute Mickey Mouse film. The cinema audience liked him because he was lazy and greedy, and because he lost his temper very quickly. And they love his voice, when he became angry with Mickey's eight nephews. Soon Donald was more popular than Mickey Mouse himself, probably because he wasn't a goody-goody like Mickey.

In the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s Donald and his friends Mickey, Goody and Pluto made hundreds of Disney cartoons. He also made educational films about the place of the USA in the world, and safety in the home. Then in 1966 Donald Duck and his voice disappeared, and there were no more new cartoons.

Clarence Nash died in February 1985. But today's children can still see the old cartoons on television and hear that famous voice.

### Notes

- 1. cartoon film** a motion picture film made by photographing a set of drawings 动画片, 卡通片
- 2. appear** become able to be seen, come into sight 出现  
*e. g.* A car suddenly appeared out of the fog. 一辆汽车突然从雾中出现。
- 3. sailor** a person with a job on a ship, esp. one who is not a ship's officer 海员, 水手
- 4. temper** a particular state or condition of the mind 脾气, 心情  
*e. g.* My father lost his temper this morning. 我父亲今天早晨发火了。
- 5. probably** that has a good chance of being true, likely 很可能

## Exercises

### 1. Spelling.

- 1) Donald Duck is a c \_\_\_\_\_ character.
- 2) Edison is still f \_\_\_\_\_ for his inventions nowadays.
- 3) It's time for the meeting. Has Tom a \_\_\_\_\_ yet?
- 4) This TV play has a lot of a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Losing one's t \_\_\_\_\_ means angry.
- 6) My sister's son is my n \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7) This e \_\_\_\_\_ book will help you a lot.
- 8) Where's Dick? He has d \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9) He wants to be a s \_\_\_\_\_ when he grows up.
- 10) He wants money every time. He's g \_\_\_\_\_.

### 2. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1) Clarence Nash made Donald Duck films.
- 2) Donald Duck first appeared in the film *The Wise Little Hen*.
- 3) In the film, Donald Duck made friends with Mickey's eight nephews.
- 4) Clarence was hired by Walt Disney because of his voice.
- 5) Today, children can't see Donald because Clarence has been dead since 1985.

### 3. Choose the best answer.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ made Donald Duck film.  
A. Mickey Mouse      B. Clarence Nash      C. Walt Disney      D. Donald Duck
- 2) The Donald Duck film began in the year \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. 1933      B. 1934      C. 1966      D. 1985
- 3) Clarence was \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. a cartoonist in the USA      B. a famous duck in the world  
C. a person who produced films      D. the man who gave Donald Duck's voice
- 4) Walt Disney chose Clarence Nash because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he was famous      B. he was a film-maker  
C. he went to see Walt Disney      D. he had a strange voice
- 5) Where do today's children see Donald Duck?  
A. In new films.      B. At the cinema.      C. On television.      D. In the USA.

## Passage 2

There was once a teacher in a village. He was a man named Goldsmith. He was a kind-hearted man. He was always ready to help others. Mr Goldsmith gave

away so much to the poor that he was always poor himself.

He was sometimes called Doctor Goldsmith, for he had taught himself medicine.

One day a poor woman asked Mr Goldsmith to go and see her husband because he was very ill and could not get up.

Mr Goldsmith did so. He found that the family was in great need of help. The man had been out of work for a long time, but he was not ill. He was just hungry because there was no food in the house.

"Come to my room this evening," said Mr Goldsmith to the woman, "I'll give you some medicine for your husband."

In the evening the woman came. Mr Goldsmith gave her a little paper box. "Here is the medicine," he said. "Take it and it will do your husband a great deal of good. But don't open the box until you get home."

"What are the directions for taking it?" asked the woman.

"You will find them inside the box," he answered.

When the woman reached home, she sat down by her husband's side and they opened the box. To their surprise, it was full of money. And on the top were the directions: TO BE TAKEN WHEN NECESSARY.

### Notes

1. **directions** a set of instruction on what to do or how to get somewhere 指导,说明
2. **necessary** that must be had, needed 必需的,必要的  
e.g. Food is necessary for life. 食物是生命所必需的。

### Exercises

#### 1. Spelling.

- 1) A k \_\_\_\_\_ man will help you when you are in trouble.
- 2) "He is the teacher of himself" means "He t \_\_\_\_\_ himself".
- 3) Since it has not rained for a long time, we're in great n \_\_\_\_\_ of water.
- 4) He is out of w \_\_\_\_\_, so he's trying to find a new job.
- 5) I've done a lot of sports. I'm very h \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6) You can't look at the answers u \_\_\_\_\_ you finish all the exercises.
- 7) A d \_\_\_\_\_ can tell you how to take the medicine.
- 8) To my s \_\_\_\_\_, he drinks eight glasses of water at one time.
- 9) Stop the tap, the glass is f \_\_\_\_\_ of water.
- 10) It's n \_\_\_\_\_ to learn more knowledge when we are young.



**2. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).**

- 1) Doctor Goldsmith worked in a big hospital.
- 2) Mr Goldsmith was rich and selfish.
- 3) One day, a woman asked Mr Goldsmith to go and see her husband because she thought her husband was too ill to get up.
- 4) Mr Goldsmith gave medicines at once.
- 5) Mr Goldsmith asked the woman to open the box at her home because he really wanted the woman to accept the money.

**3. Choose the best answer.**

- 1) People called the kind man Doctor Goldsmith because he \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. was a doctor in a hospital  
B. knew something about medicine and he was kind to the people  
C. always gave away his money to others  
D. worked in a chemist's shop
- 2) One day the woman asked Mr Goldsmith to go and see her husband because she thought her husband \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. was too ill to get up  
B. was too tired to get up  
C. had lost his job  
D. had no food to eat
- 3) Mr Goldsmith found out that the man had \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. been ill for some time  
B. worked too hard.  
C. not eaten anything for some time  
D. something wrong with his leg.
- 4) Mr Goldsmith gave the poor family a little box of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. food  
B. medicine  
C. money  
D. papers
- 5) Mr Goldsmith asked the woman to open the box at her home because he \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. wanted to make the husband happy  
B. told her the box was full of money  
C. was afraid that the woman would lose the money on her way home  
D. really wanted the woman to take the money

**Passage 3**

Dick was an English painter. He painted beautiful pictures.  
Once the king of England asked him to paint some pictures on the walls of the palaces.

Several workers came and made a big platform. Then Dick began to paint. He worked with a man who helped him.

At the end of the year the pictures were ready. They were beautiful. Dick

looked for a long time. How beautiful they were! He took one step back and looked again. Now the pictures were more beautiful. He took another step, then another, until he was at the very edge of the platform. But he didn't know it. He thought of only his pictures.

The worker who helped him saw everything. "What shall I do?" he thought. "Dick is at the very edge of the platform. If I cry out, he will take another step and will fall down to the stone floor. It will kill him." The worker quickly took a pot of paint, ran to a picture and threw the paint at the picture. "What are you doing?" cried the painter running back to his picture.

### Notes

1. **painter** a person who paints pictures; artist 绘画者, 画家
2. **palace** a large and splendid house, esp. where a king or queen officially lives 宫, 宫殿  
e.g. Have you ever been to Buckingham Palace? 你去过白金汉宫吗?
3. **platform** a raised floor of board 台架
4. **edge** the part along the outside of something 边, 棱

### Exercises

#### 1. Spelling.

- 1) He spent two hours in drawing pictures every day because he wanted to be a p \_\_\_\_\_ when he grew up.
- 2) In cartoon films, the kings always live in the p \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) I was quite tired after I mended s \_\_\_\_\_ desks.
- 4) He came along the streets with hurried s \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Bring the book at the e \_\_\_\_\_ of the desk to me.
- 6) Look! The children are t \_\_\_\_\_ a frisby to one another.
- 7) "Help!" a boy in the river c \_\_\_\_\_ out.
- 8) The ten-month baby walked so fast that he often f \_\_\_\_\_ down.
- 9) What color are you going to p \_\_\_\_\_ the bookshelf?
- 10) The bear is coming towards us. We're in d \_\_\_\_\_.

#### 2. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1) Dick worked with several other men for the king of France.
- 2) The painter didn't know he was at the edge of the platform because he was drawing the picture.
- 3) The worker found a clever way to save the painter.
- 4) The painter was angry with the worker when the worker threw the paint at the picture.
- 5) At last the worker would be fired because he made the picture useless.

3. Choose the best answer.

- 1) Dick worked \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. with another painter    B. with a worker    C. alone    D. with several men
- 2) The painter didn't know he was in danger because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he was looking at the picture    B. he was walking about  
C. he was painting the picture    D. he was talking to the worker
- 3) The worker \_\_\_\_\_ to save the painter.  
A. cried out    B. ran away  
C. threw the paint at the picture    D. asked others
- 4) The painter was very \_\_\_\_\_ when the worker threw the paint at the picture.  
A. happy    B. pleased    C. sad    D. angry
- 5) At last, the painter \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. fell down to the floor    B. took another step  
C. was saved    D. ran away quickly

Passage 4

A businessman had worked too much. He found that he could not sleep at night, but often fell asleep during the day. He became so worried that he went to see the doctor.

"Can you help me, doctor?" he asked worryingly. "I slept so well, but now I haven't had more than two hours at night."

The doctor looked over the businessman, gave him some tests, asked him to work less hard, and told him to take some kinds of medicine to help him. The doctor said he was sure that he was not seriously ill, and that he would soon be better.

But the businessman grew worse instead of better. He slept even less than before, and was still falling asleep in the office. He visited the doctor again and again, and it took the doctor a long time to find out the reason: the businessman's wife was giving him the sleeping medicines in the morning, and the ones to keep him awake at night!

Notes

1. **businessman** a person who works in business, esp. the owner of a business firm 生意人, 商人, 企业家
2. **seriously** not slightly 严重地

## Exercises

### 1. Spelling.

- 1) He went to Shanghai by plane, and he slept d \_\_\_\_\_ the flight.
- 2) "I haven't found my dog for hours," the rich woman said to the policeman w \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3) The doctor looked over the old man carefully by giving him many t \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) "Take the m \_\_\_\_\_ three times a day and you'll be OK in a few days," said the doctor.
- 5) The soldier was s \_\_\_\_\_ ill, so the doctor operated on him at once.
- 6) Since Peter is ill today, I'll take part in the 100-metre race i \_\_\_\_\_ of him.
- 7) Be quiet. The baby is a \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8) Millions of foreigners come to China to v \_\_\_\_\_ the Great Wall in Beijing.
- 9) You must tell him the r \_\_\_\_\_ why you won't come tomorrow.
- 10) The World Cup will start at 2:00 a.m., just five minutes later. Keep a \_\_\_\_\_.

### 2. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1) Before the businessman went to the doctor, he was too tired to fall asleep.
- 2) The businessman used to sleep well.
- 3) The doctor was so bad that he couldn't help the businessman.
- 4) The businessman couldn't get better because he didn't do as the doctor told him.
- 5) It was the doctor who made a mistake.

### 3. Choose the best answer.

- 1) The businessman couldn't fall asleep at night because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he was seriously ill  
B. he often slept in the daytime  
C. he had worked too much, and was too tired to fall asleep  
D. he was worried about his business
- 2) The businessman \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. slept less than two hours at night      B. slept well at night  
C. slept more than two hours at night      D. worked at night and slept during the day
- 3) The businessman visited the doctor again and again because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he wanted some more medicine      B. he felt better and went to thank the doctor  
C. his wife asked him to do so      D. he still couldn't sleep at night
- 4) The doctor \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. told the man not to work at night and do some exercise in the morning  
B. told the man he wasn't seriously ill and would soon be better  
C. looked over the man carefully but didn't give him any medicine  
D. just gave the man some medicine but didn't give him any tests
- 5) The businessman grew worse because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he still worked too much      B. he didn't take any medicine at all  
C. the doctor gave him some wrong medicine      D. his wife gave him wrong medicine

# Unit Two

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## Passage 1

Something was wrong with Mr Hunt's eyes and his friends asked him to see the doctor in the capital. The train was late that day and when he arrived there, night fell. He felt hungry and bought some food outside the station. As it was raining hard, he couldn't walk to the nearest hotel. He was waiting for a taxi while eating the sandwich and chips. Half an hour later it was his turn and he got on a small taxi. The woman drove so fast that she couldn't stop at the crossing when the lights turned red. Luckily the policeman did not find it and she hurried off. She went on driving fast and all the cars and buses had to make way for her. But soon it hit a big tree by a narrow street and the driver was hurt. Mr Hunt got off and looked around. There weren't any persons or cars and nobody could help him. He had to take her to hospital by himself. He moved the woman away and was going to drive the taxi. At that moment he found something and asked, "Didn't you find the window was spattered with some mud, madam?"

"No, I didn't," said the driver. "I've left my glasses at home."

### Notes

**spatter** to cause (drops or liquid) to scatter on 洒, 溅

*e.g.* The car spattered mud on my clothes. 汽车溅了我一身泥。

### Exercises

#### 1. Spelling.

- 1) Beijing is the c \_\_\_\_\_ of China.
- 2) Go along the street, turn right at the second c \_\_\_\_\_, then you'll see the cinema.
- 3) L \_\_\_\_\_, Jack got on the last train and arrived at school on time.
- 4) Her legs were h \_\_\_\_\_ in the traffic accident.
- 5) Last night he fell down suddenly and was sent to h \_\_\_\_\_.



willing to come to the event from all over the world.

During the Christmas holiday in 1984, Michael Jackson and Lionel Richie were writing the words and music for the records. They often talked about the music far into the night; when they finished the music, they called it *We Are the World*. On the evening of January 28th, 1985, forty-five singers made a historical recording. At 10 o'clock, everyone sang part of the chorus and harmony. At 4 the next morning, they started recording the solo part of the song, they finally finished recording at 8.

On April 5, more than 8,000 radio stations all over the world played *We Are the World* at the same time.

### Notes

1. **starve** very hungry (非正式)非常饿  
e.g. Let's get something to eat, I'm starving. 我们弄点吃的吧,我快饿死了。
2. **Africa** one of the seven main large masses of land on the earth 非洲
3. **gather** come together 聚集,集合
4. **special** not ordinary or usual 特别的,特殊的
5. **record** a circular piece of plastic on which sound is stored 唱片
6. **willing** ready to do something 愿意的,心甘情愿的  
e.g. Are you willing to help? 你愿意帮忙吗?
7. **historical** connected with history 历史的
8. **chorus** a piece of music played or sung after each group of lines of a song 歌曲后面的合奏或合唱部分
9. **harmony** notes of music combined together in a pleasant sounding way 和声
10. **solo** alone, without a companion 独奏,独唱  
e.g. He often plays a flute solo at the concert. 他经常在音乐会上独奏长笛。

### Exercises

#### 1. Spelling.

- 1) His novel is f \_\_\_\_\_ in the world.
- 2) If the supply of food doesn't arrive in two days, most of the people will s \_\_\_\_\_ to death.
- 3) They're preparing to make a music r \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) On the Spring Festival all the family will g \_\_\_\_\_ at 12 to welcome the new year.
- 5) He wishes to be a s \_\_\_\_\_ when he grows up.
- 6) S \_\_\_\_\_ movies always make her cry.
- 7) "I got all these news over the r \_\_\_\_\_," Jack said.
- 8) He h \_\_\_\_\_ to finish the work before Saturday.

9) The teacher always said to us, "Don't t \_\_\_\_\_ in class."

10) A \_\_\_\_\_ is the fourth month of the year.

**2. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).**

- 1) *We Are the World* is the name of the singers.
- 2) The famous singers made the record to help poor people in Africa.
- 3) From the passage we can see that Harry was kind-hearted.
- 4) The singers made the record during Christmas Day.
- 5) The passage is mainly about a famous singer from America.

**3. Choose the best answer.**

- 1) This passage as a whole is about \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. a famous American singer                      B. the making of a special record  
C. the poor people in Africa                      D. a famous song
- 2) From the passage we can see that Harry Belafonte was a \_\_\_\_\_ man.  
A. rich    B. poor  
C. kind-hearted    D. interesting
- 3) The recording was made \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. about a month after the words and the music were finished  
B. soon after the words and the music were finished  
C. on April 5, 1985  
D. on the Christmas Day of 1984
- 4) *We Are the World* is the name of \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the famous singer                                  B. a country in Africa  
C. the special record                                  D. a song in the record
- 5) They made the record to help \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the people around the world                      B. the poor people all over the world  
C. the people in Africa                                  D. the hungry people in Africa

**Passage 3**

Which of your hands do you use most? Very few of us use both of our hands well. Most of us are right-handed. Only about five people out of a hundred are left-handed. New-born babies can take things either hand, but in about two years they like to use their right hands. Scientists don't know why this happens. They have studied it. They think our animal ancestors right-handed, but this may not be true. Monkeys are our closest relations in the animal world. Scientists have found that monkeys like to use one of their hands more than the other — but it can be either hand. There are so many right-handed ones. Next time you visit the zoo, watch the



monkeys carefully. You'll see that some of them will swing from their right hands and others will use their left hands. But most human beings use their right hands better and this makes life difficult for the left-handed ones. We live in a right-handed world.

### Notes

1. **ancestor** a person, esp. one living a long time ago, from whom another is descended 祖先, 祖宗
2. **relation** connection 关系  
e.g. I don't know the relation between wages and prices. 我不知道工资和物价之间的关系。
3. **swing** to cause to move backwards and forwards, or round and round, from a fixed point, move in a curve 来回摆动
4. **human being** a man, woman, or child not an animal 人, 人类

### Exercises

#### 1. Spelling.

- 1) We may put these trees on e \_\_\_\_\_ side of the street.
- 2) He knows of many people, but he has few c \_\_\_\_\_ friends.
- 3) He went to London last week to v \_\_\_\_\_ his grandpa.
- 4) The exam is e \_\_\_\_\_ to pass.
- 5) This poem is d \_\_\_\_\_ for a three-year-old boy to understand.
- 6) M \_\_\_\_\_ of the students can speak English very well.
- 7) He s \_\_\_\_\_ very hard and became the top student in his class.
- 8) The Smiths will have another b \_\_\_\_\_ in two weeks.
- 9) We live in a beautiful and peaceful w \_\_\_\_\_.
- 10) S \_\_\_\_\_ are the people who always discover new things and explain them to the public.

#### 2. Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- 1) There're much more right-handed monkeys than left-handed monkeys.
- 2) We live in a right-handed world.
- 3) Left-handed people are difficult in life because they can't use their right hands at all.
- 4) Half of the human beings are right-handed.
- 5) It's because of our ancestors that we are right-handed.

#### 3. Choose the best answer.

- 1) Very few of us can use both of our hands well. It means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. we can't use one as the other