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1000 篇



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序 言

(译文)

十分荣幸能为本书提供帮助。

作为一个旨在不断提高学生英文水平的教育机构，我们总是不遗余力地去实现我们既定的目标。与四川辞书出版社合作，乃我们目标实现的又一成功举措。

阅读理解是语言学习中一个不可缺少的十分重要的环节。这方面的读物既有助于在校学生功课的提高，也有助于在家自学时难题的解决。学生在进行等级阅读时可对自己的能力进行评估。更重要的是，他们在做阅读理解练习的过程中，既学到了新词和短语，同时又丰富了英文知识。

我们相信，本书和本系列丛书的其他读物将是英文学习者的好帮手。

杨炜聪

(香港英讯教育机构总裁)

前 言

学英文的人都知道,学好一门语言,首先应掌握听、说、读、写四项技巧。其中听与读是接受性技巧,说和写是表达性技巧。尽管每个人学习英文的方法不同,但各自选择的途径却是大同小异,殊途同归。有的人是通过先听后说的方式来学习英文,但多数人是通过大量的阅读来掌握听、说、写的技巧。所以说,若要做到流利自如地用英文来表达自己的思想,除了要打好听的基础外,更重要的是要打好读的基础。

作为学生,尤其是中国学生,平时所接触的英文读物,可谓少之又少。如何提高英文水平,是每个学生深感头疼的一件事。通过大量的阅读,尤其是对原文的阅读,可增强自身的英文语感,提高英文水平。阅读材料中有书面用语,也有大量的口语,而且其用语一般都比较规范,使用的语言和修辞手法也多种多样,这样便能使读者置身于真实的、丰富多彩的语言环境中,从而增加语感,在潜移默化中自然而然地提高英文水平。通过阅读,你不仅能够学到地道的英语,同时还可以了解到许多新知识,尤其是英美等西方国家的文化、历史、社会、政治、经济和科技等方面的知识,这些知识可进一步提高读者对英语语言的了解,因为语言本身就是一国文化的体现。通过阅读,你还可以学习和掌握大量在英语口语中不常使用的词汇,尤其是在高中、大学阅读材料中出现的专业词汇。词汇量的扩大不仅使你能够读得更多更快,而且还可以提高你的表达能力,这种表达能力包括说和写的能力。所以说,读是说和写的重要基础。

正是由于阅读具有如此的重要性,因此,把阅读作为学习英

文的主要手段的确不失为明智之举。各种级别的英语考试都强调语言综合能力的运用,在各类英语考试中,阅读理解通常占了试题总量的 35% ~ 60%。鉴此,四川辞书出版社推出英文阅读系列丛书,旨在使学生扩大英文阅读面,开阔视野,增强英文阅读理解能力,打好坚实的英文基础。

本系列丛书包括《初中生英文阅读 200 篇》、《高中生英文阅读 300 篇》和《大学生英文阅读 100 篇》三册。所选文章题材多样,内容丰富,语言地道,难易适度。对文中的生词,有些作了汉语注解,有些则需要学生通过上下文猜测其含义。

Reading is to the mind while exercise is to the body, and practice in reading, reading in practice.

最后,十分感谢香港英讯教育机构总裁杨炜聪先生的鼎力相助。

编 者

1999 年 9 月



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主编出版《最新英语模拟考试题精选》、《高中英语听力指导与操练》等丛书。并参与多部英语工具书的编纂。

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Life

David Spohn

Life is like a winding path surrounded by flowers, butterflies, and delicious fruit, but many of us spend much time looking for happiness around the next corner. We do not bend to enjoy the happiness which is ours for the taking just at our feet.

In our desire to reach the “pot of gold”, complete and lasting happiness we all want to fill our lives, we ignore anything which doesn’t seem worthy of such a large ambition, or which can’t give us the whole thing all at once.

Happiness is all around us, but it often comes in small grains. When we gather it grain by grain, we soon have a basketful.

What small pieces of happiness surround me right now?



GOLDEN FRUIT

A. A. Milne

Of the fruits of the year I give my vote to the orange. In the first place it is a perennial — if not in actual fact, at least in the green-grocer’s shop. On the days when dessert is a name given to a handful of chocolates and a little preserved ginger, when macedoine de fruits *is* the title *bestowed* ¹ on two prunes and a piece of rhubarb, then the orange, however sour, comes nobly to the rescue; and on

those other days of plenty when cherries and strawberries and raspberries and gooseberries *riot* ² together upon the table, the orange, sweeter than ever, is still there to hold its own. Bread and butter, beef and mutton, eggs and bacon, are not more necessary to *an ordered existence* ³ than the orange.

It is well that the commonest fruit should be also the best. Of the virtues of the orange I have not room *fully to speak* ⁴. It has properties of health giving, as it cures influenza and establishes the complexion. It is clean, for whoever handles it on its way to your table *but* ⁵ handles its outer covering, its top coat, which is left in the hall. It is round, and forms *an excellent substitute* with the young *for* ⁶ a cricket ball. The pips can be flicked at your enemies, and quite a small piece of peel makes a slide for an old gentleman.

But all this would count nothing had not the orange such delightful qualities of taste. I dare not let myself go upon this subject. I am a slave to its sweetness. I *grudge* ⁷ every marriage in that it means a fresh supply of orange blossom, the promise of so much golden fruit out short. However, the world must go on.

Yet with the orange we do live year in and year out. That speaks well for the orange. The fact is that there is an honesty about the orange which appeals to all of us. If it is going to be bad — for the best of us are bad sometimes — it begins to be bad from the outside, not from the inside. How many a pear which presents a blooming face to the world is rotten at the core. How many an innocent-looking apple, is *harbouring* ⁸ a worm *in the bud* ⁹. But the orange has no secret faults. Its outside is a mirror of its inside, and if you are quick you can tell the shopman so before he slips it into the bag.

Note

- | | |
|------------------|-----------|
| 1. 授予 ... 的称号 | 6. 某物的代用品 |
| 2. 争奇斗艳 | 7. 吝啬 |
| 3. 日常生活 | 8. 窝藏 |
| 4. of full speak | 9. 蓓蕾初放时 |
| 5. = only | |

Note



Japan War Apology Is Essential to the Future

S. P. Seth

In the lead-up to the 50th anniversary in August of Japan's surrender in the Second World War, the Japanese Government was wrestling for months to *cobble together*¹ some sort of an apology for Japan's wartime crimes.

This was considered necessary for two reasons. First, without it, Japan's Socialist Prime Minister, Mr Murayama was threatening to pull out of Japan's coalition Government with the majority (conservative) Liberal Democratic Party. This would have brought down the Government. Secondly, a *conciliatory*² and *remorseful*³ gesture of the sort would help Japan's Asian war victims *to come to terms*⁴ with anew Japan.

Japan's new phraseology of contrition seems to have served the first purpose of saving the coalition government on this issue. As for the second, it does not go far enough because Japan's play with words has avoided using the word "apology" *to atone for*⁵ its war crimes. Indeed, by recalling and drawing a parallel with similar crimes in

modern history, Tokyo seems to be saying that its record was no better or worse than any others.

To quote: "We look back at instances of colonial rule and acts of aggression in modern history and recognize both the fact that we carried out such acts and the suffering that we brought upon the citizens of other countries, particularly Asian nations, and express deep regret."

Not surprisingly, Japan's new "apology" has not found favour with its Asian victims such as China and South Korea.

Unlike Germany, which has on several occasions handsomely apologized for its Nazi past, Japan has a serious problem with making a full apology. There are a number of reasons for this.

First, there is a widespread belief in Japan that the war forced on it as a result of an American oil embargo and other sanctions. This is not quite true. Japan was already heading in that direction when it absorbed Manchuria in 1931 and started war against China in 1937, much before American *sanctions* ⁶. Tokyo's attack on Pearl Harbour on December 7, 1941, was a pre-emptive strike to disable American naval power, even as Japan launched its full-scale invasion of Asia on December 7 and 8, 1941.

Secondly, many Japanese believe that they entered into the Pacific War to liberate Asia from western colonialism. And to these people all the stories about war crimes are sheer *fabrication* ⁷. In May last year, for instance, Mr Shigeto Nagano, then the Justice Minister, dismissed the 1937 Nanking massacre (in which up to 300 000 Chinese civilians died in a Japanese military orgy) as a "fabrication."

He also maintained, in an interview with the Japanese Mainichi newspaper, that "It is wrong to say that the Pacific War was waged with the aim of aggression ... They the Japanese forces were serious about liberating the colonies ...". Because of the outcry from Japan's Asian

neighbours over his remarks, the minister was forced to resign. But he was not the first such minister, and will not be the last, to make these *preposterous*⁸ claims.

Unfortunately, such a view is shared, although not expressed so forthrightly, by many Japanese. There are indeed strong organized groups and lobbies and promoting a *benign*⁹ view of Japan's war role. These include, for instance, the Association of War-Bereaved Families, the Soldiers Pension federation and the Association of Shinto Shrines —the state religion until 1954.

These organizations have large memberships and followings with countrywide networks of branches. Shinto shrines are visited by powerful politicians *to pay homage to*¹⁰ Japan's wartime dead, including war criminals.

Thirdly, there is an almost universal belief in Japan that the United States, too, owes Japan an apology for dropping the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and on Nagasaki in 1945. Since Germany was *spared*¹¹ this calamity (although the British did fatten some of its industrial and population centres in a senseless act of *aerial destruction*¹² towards the end of the war) many Japanese regard the targeting of Japanese cities for atomic attack as an act of racist bigotry and cruelty against a non-white people.

The Japanese were outraged recently when President Clinton not only refused to apologize for the Americans' dropping of an atomic bomb on Japan, but also justified its use at the time. The standard America argument is that the atomic bomb saved lives of many Allied soldiers by bringing the war to an early end. Otherwise a full-scale invasion of Japan, it is argued, would not only have been very costly in human and other terms for the Allied forces but would probably have caused more destruction for Japan and its people than the carnage from