

香港英讯教育机构协助

# THE ENGLISH 3000 READER FOR HIGH SCHOOL

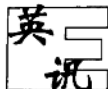
英文阅读系列丛书

## 高中生英文阅读



篇

肖 鹏 编著  
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## Preface

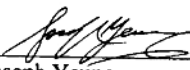


We are greatly honoured to have been able to contribute to the preparation of this book .

As an organization with a mission of continuously raising the English standard of students, we are always on the look out for opportunities to help us achieve our goal. The chance to work with *Sichuan Dictionaries Publishing House* is another step in that direction.

Reading comprehension is an integral part and an important part of learning a language. A book helping students in this area would definitely facilitate their work both at school and at home while they are doing their self studies. Students can assess their ability while they are doing the graded exercises in the book. More importantly, they will learn new words and phrases in the process of doing comprehension exercises, thereby enriching their knowledge of English.

We are confident that this book will be a good companion for English - learning students, and so will others in this series.

  
Joseph Yeung  
Director  
English Medium Hong Kong

## 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。尽管每个人学习英语的方法不同,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语,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

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### 作者简介

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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。



The **koala** (考拉) is Australia's second most famous animal. This gentle, slow-moving animal has lived in the forests of Australia for over half a million years. In the first quarter of this century, early settlers shot about ten million koalas for their fur. Today, the koala is strictly protected. Gum leaves are the koala's only food, and instead of a tail the animal has a **pad** (垫) which enables it to sit comfortably for hours in the fork of a gum tree. The **Aborigines** (土著人) named this animal "koala" meaning "I don't drink". The gum leaves supply all the **moisture** (水分) it requires.

### Choice

1. The koala \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. is the second famous animal in the world
  - B. is more famous than any other Australian animal
  - C. has lived in Australia for 5 000 000 years
  - D. is less famous than Kangaroo
2. Early settlers shot about ten million koalas \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. before 1925
  - B. in the 1920's
  - C. in the first century
  - D. in the early 19th century
3. The koala can sit comfortably for hours because it has \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. a strong tail
  - B. a tail and a pad
  - C. a tail with a pad
  - D. a pad but no tail
4. The word "koala" \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. comes from British English

- B. comes from the native language of the Alorigines
  - C. means "I don't think"
  - D. has no meaning
5. Which of the following is not right?
- A. The koala gets water from the gum leaves.
  - B. The koala doesn't need any water at all.
  - C. The gum leaves supply the moisture to the koala.
  - D. The koala needs some water.

Choice



Franklin did not *patent* (取得……专利权) the invention. He was too busy with his discoveries to make more money. Although he was a rich man by the time he was forty-two. Money by itself did not interest him. He valued it because it enabled him to retire from business. Then he had time to spend on other things that seemed more worthwhile. What he really cared for most of all was science.

Franklin was always trying to answer the question. What makes things act the way they do? At that time learned men were puzzled about electricity.

They wondered whether it was in some way like the lightning in a thunder-storm. It might be, but how could you prove it? You know how Ben Franklin proved it—by *coaxing* (哄) some electricity down his kite string. That made him famous in America and Europe. But of course Franklin did not stop there. He found a way to make the knowledge useful: he invented the lightning rod.



### *Choice*

1. According to the second sentence, Franklin \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. was eager to make money  
B. had no interest in making money  
C. was so attentive to his discoveries that he had no time to make money  
D. didn't know how to make money
2. Franklin valued money because \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. it could make him live a comfortable life after he retired from work  
B. it enabled him to get rid of much business  
C. it was the thing he cared for most  
D. it enabled him to buy a lot of thing
3. Franklin's experiment with the kite \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. was not successful      B. didn't work  
C. puzzled many learned men at the time  
D. proved that lightning was electricity
4. After the experiment, Franklin \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. stopped there and enjoyed his happy life  
B. didn't stop there and gave lectures to others  
C. didn't stop there and invented the lightning rod  
D. stopped there and found a way to make money
5. According to the passage, which of the following is not mentioned ?  
A. Franklin was a well-known man.  
B. Franklin was a kind-hearted man.  
C. Franklin was a practical man.  
D. Franklin was a man full of knowledge.

*Choice*



People may think the Taklimakan Desert is an area with no bird in the sky and no beast on the land, no water to be found and of course no fish.

However, 24 rivers actually feed into the desert area and there is underground water. On the outer reaches of the Taklimakan, water can be found just 3 to 5 metres under the sands. The *moisture* (水分) not only supports more than 80 kinds of plant life, but also different kinds of fish on the edges of the desert.

The large-head is one of them. When spring floods come to the desert, most fish go with the *current* (水流), but the female large-head swims upstream followed by males of her kind. When she finds a place with plants, she stays and lays eggs. Only the male immediately behind her is allowed in, but as soon as he enters, the female leaves. The father is left alone to raise the family. Later the father will lead the new-born downstream. This rare Xinjiang fish is just one of 38 kinds of fish in the Taklimakan Desert. Hard to believe but true!

### Choice

1. The Taklimakan Desert is \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. a very dry place with no water
- B. a place where you can see water everywhere
- C. a place with 24 rivers
- D. a place where you can find plant and fish

2. Which is right according to the passage?

- A. The large-head is very popular in China.  
B. Different kinds of fish can be found in the Taklimakan Desert.  
C. Only the large-head lives in the Taklimakan Desert.  
D. A desert is a place full of fish.
- 3. When spring floods come to the desert \_\_\_\_\_.**  
A. the male large-head is followed by the female large-head  
B. the male large-head swims upstream following the female large-head  
C. the female large-head follows the male large-head  
D. the female large-head follows most of the fish
- 4. After the female large-head lays the eggs \_\_\_\_\_.**  
A. the female stays to look after the young  
B. all the male large-head enter to raise the family  
C. the female leaves the eggs alone to look after themselves  
D. the female leaves the eggs with the nearest male to raise the family
- 5. Which is the best title?**  
A. The Desert Has Fish.  
B. Different Kinds of Fish in Xinjiang.  
C. Mother Fish Doesn't Like the Young.  
D. Rivers in the Desert.

*Choice*



Throughout history man has had to accept the fact that all living things must die. Now people live longer than they used to. But all

living things still show the effect of **aging**(老化).

Aging is not a disease, but as a person passes **maturity**(壮年), the **cells**(细胞) of the body and the organs they form do not work as well as they did when young. The body provides less protection against disease.

A number of causes may add to aging. Some cells of the body have a fairly long life, but they are not replaced when they die. As a person ages, the number of brain cells and muscle cells **decreases**(减少). Other body cells die and are replaced by new cells. In an aging person, the new cells may not be able to grow as well as those of a young person.

Another factor in aging may be changed with the cells themselves. Some of the **protein**(蛋白质) chemicals in cells are known to change with age and become less **elastic**(有弹性的). This is why the skin of old people wrinkles and hangs loose. This is also the reason why old people **shrink**(萎缩) in height.

### Choice

1. According to the passage, which of the following is not true ?

- A. Now people are still aging.
- B. All living things will die.
- C. Now people live as long as those in the past.
- D. Now people live longer than those in the past.

2. Which of the following is not true?

- A. Aging is a disease.
- B. Aging happens to everyone.
- C. When people grow old their organs do not work as well as they did.
- D. Old people have less protection against disease.

**3. Why old people shrink in height ?**

- A. Because their skin wrinkles.
- B. Because their skin hangs loose.
- C. Because some of the protein chemicals in cells become less elastic.
- D. Because the cells are not elastic.

**4. Which of the following may not add to aging ?**

- A. When some of the body cells die, they are not replaced.
- B. The number of brain cells decreases.
- C. The number of muscle cells decreases.
- D. Old people shrink in height.

**5. What is mainly discussed in this passage ?**

- A. The effect of aging.
- B. The causes of aging.
- C. The result of aging.
- D. All of the above.

Choice



On the night of February 9, 1986, astronomers from 51 countries looked through their telescopes. They were watching for an old visitor from very far away. And sure enough, there it was, right on time! A bright light moved across the blackness. It was *Haley's comet* (哈雷彗星).

Haley's comet is named for the English astronomer, Edmond Haley, who saw it in 1682. Haley knew that people had seen bright lights in the sky in 1531 and again in 1607. He did a little mathematics and said the visitor would come back again in 1758. He was right. Haley said that in the future, men would travel to the comet and

ride it around space!

As the comet came near the earth in 1986, the European Space Agency fired a rocket called Grotto. Grotto came within 605 kilometres (376 miles) of the atmosphere of the comet. It is about 15 kilometres long and 8 kilometres wide( 9.3 miles by 5 miles). Its atmosphere contains the element **nitrogen**( 氮气 ), but no air. The centre of the comet is made of dust and solid water. It's a very cold, lonely place. Would you like to ride the comet, or do you prefer riding the earth?

*Choice*

**1. From the article we know that Haley's comet returns every \_\_\_\_ years?**

- A. 77      B. 76      C. 78      D. 1758

**2. We can infer that the comet will come back next in \_\_\_\_?**

- A. 2060      B. 2066      C. 2062      D. 2000

**3. The comet is made of \_\_\_\_.**

- A. dust and nitrogen      B. ice and dust  
C. water and ice      D. dust, ice and air

**4. From the article we know that the comet is \_\_\_\_.**

- A. a new comer      B. an old visitor  
C. a planet of the earth      D. a planet of the moon

*Choice*



Johnny Smith was a high school student. Johnny was a good mathematics student, a very good mathematics student. He loved his

computer. He worked with it every evening after school. But Johnny was not a very good English student, not good at all. He got an F in his English class. One night after school, Johnny connected his computer to the computer in his high school office. The school office computer had the grades of all the students: the math grades, the science grades, the grades in arts and music, and the grades in English. Johnny searched through the school files. He found his English grade. An F. Johnny changed his English grade from an F to an A. Johnny's parents looked at his report card. They were very happy.

"An A in English!" said Johnny's Dad. "You're a very smart boy, Johnny."

Johnny is a **hacker**(黑客). Hackers know how to take information from other computers and put new information in. Using a **modem**(调制解调器), they connect their computers to other computers secretly. School headmaster and teachers are worried about hackers. So are the police. In the movie War Games, a high school hacker entered the computer of the United States Military. He almost started World War III! This probably could not happen in real life, but hackers can commit crimes. These **criminals**(罪犯) are called crackers. They take money from bank computer accounts and put it into their personal accounts. And they never even have to leave home to do it!

*Choice*

1. From the passage, we know that Johnny is \_\_\_\_.

- A. a middle school student      B. a hacker
- C. good at maths and computer but poor in English
- D. All of the above

2. Which of the following is correct?

- A. All hackers commit crimes.  
B. Johnny is a very good English student.  
C. Johnny used his computer to change all his grades.  
D. All crackers commit crimes.

3. This passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. Johnny    B. hackers    C. computers    D. modem

Choice



A family living in an **apartment house**(公寓) in the suburbs of a large city had a cat to which they were very much attached(喜爱). One day the cat got sick and finally died. As there was no **rear yard**(后院) to their home in which to bury the cat, father was forced to wrap the cat up in a newspaper and take it with him, being carefully reminded by mother to **toss**(扔掉) the **bundle**(包裹) from the train window on his way to work.

Father placed his bundle upon the **baggage rack**(行李架) over his seat, but **struck up a conversation with**(开始和...攀谈)a fellow and forgot to toss the bundle out of the window. He took the package on to his office, thinking that he would **dispose of**(处理)it on his way home that evening. But again he got to talking to someone on the train, forgot about the cat, and still had the bundle under his arm when he arrived home. His wife scolded him about it and father promised to take care of the matter the next day. But once more his memory failed him. When for the third time he arrived home still carrying the bundle, poor mother became quite angry.



"You've got to dispose of that cat right now." said she. "Put it in the *furnace* (炉子)." but as he lifted the bundle from a table it fell open, and *lo and behold* (哎哟, 你瞧) there was a *boiled ham* (煮熟的火腿)!

*Choice*

1. Which of the following can be the best title for this passage?  
A. Absent-minded father.  
B. Father got a boiled ham.      C. The cat died.  
D. The cat and the ham.
2. From the passage we can *infer* (推断) that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. the boiled ham was probably bought by the father  
B. the dead cat had changed into a boiled ham  
C. the boiled ham was left by someone else who took the bundle by mistake  
D. the cat liked eating boiled ham
3. What kind of person would you say the father was?  
A. He was a *parsimony* (吝啬鬼).      B. He was unfriendly.  
C. He was an absent-minded man.      D. He was greedy.
4. The writer \_\_\_\_\_ from this story.  
A. only wanted to tell us a joke  
B. wanted to tell us not to left things on a train  
C. wanted to praise the father  
D. thought the father very silly
5. The phrase "his memory failed him" here means \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. he didn't pass the exam  
B. he can't remember anything  
C. he forgot about the cat for the third time  
D. he remembered that a boiled ham was in the bundle

*Choice*