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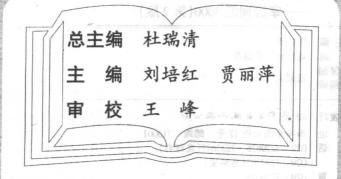
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定 价 14.00元 人类即将迈入 21 世纪, 新的时代对我们提出了更高的要求, 我们也面临着更多的机遇和挑战。只有及时抓住机遇, 主动迎接挑战, 才能适应不断发展变化的社会, 才能无愧于所处的时代。

21世纪是一个国际化、网络化的时代,知识的传播和信息的交流将会更加迅速。因此,作为这些活动的载体——语言,也就显得尤为重要,特别是英语的重要性不言而喻,全世界70%以上的出版物均使用英语。改革开放以来,"英语热"持续升温。不过要学好英语谈问客易!怎样学好英语,怎样能够在有限的时间里提高学习效率,广大英语工作者一直在探索行之有效的方积累、英语词汇历来是困扰广大学习者的一大难题,只有积累了一定数量的词汇,才能进行训练和提高听、说、读、写、译等基本技能。而词汇的积累主要依靠大量的阅读。由世界图书出版西安公司组织、全国四所高等院校权成专家联合编写的这套《英语阅读突破书系》在此方面作了有益的尝试。全书有以下几个突出特色:

选材得当,资料新颖。全书收集了英语国家出版的 最新阅读资料,内容涉及网络、经济、环境、科技、文化、 教育等诸多方面。阅读全书,不仅是在提高英语水平, 同时也是在最新知识的海洋里遨游。

循序渐进,突出词汇。此套丛书每册分级处理词 汇,前后照应,由简到繁,从易到难,按照最新大纲对词 汇的要求来编写。 练习多样,重在掌握。本书在每篇课文之后都安排 了形式不同的练习,并对课文进行翻译,提供参考答案, 以便更好地检查学习效果,巩固所学内容和词汇。

本书不仅可作为在校大学生英语学习的阅读辅助 教材,还可为自学考试学生以及广大英语爱好者提供切 实的帮助,在短期内收到事半功倍的效果。

2001年2月于西安外国语学院

# 前 言

《英语阅读突破书系》为循序渐进阅读丛书。编写丛书的目的在于通过丰富、广泛的文章阅读和词汇练习为学习英语的读者提供更好、更新、更科学的语言学习方法,使读者在兴趣盎然的阅读中学习、应用,最终掌握英语单词,扩大词汇量。

丛书共分六册,根据最新《大学英语教学大纲(修订本)》编写,各册词汇量严格按照大纲要求来做。

丛书具有以下特点:

- (1)每册內含 18 个单元,每一单元均有两篇阅读文章和一篇篇幅短小且生动有趣的幽默故事。练习设置以单词练习为主,兼顾构词法的学习和练习,练习并不拘泥于形式,各种不同类型相互穿插;力求在阅读实践当中完成词意理解、应用并最终达到掌握的目的。
- (2)通过阅读,每册所掌握的词汇数量和重点不同: 第一册可掌握词汇 2300,第二册可掌握词汇 3000,第三 册可掌握词汇 3500,第四册可掌握词汇 4200,第五册可 掌握词汇 5000,第六册可掌握词汇 5500。
- (3)考虑到基础阶段读者的词汇量不够丰富的特点,每篇阅读文章中出现的新词、生词均加有标注,协助读者完成连续的、不间断的思维过程,再加之文后的难句注解及背景知识能使读者实现真正意义上的有效阅读。
  - (4)丛书选材广泛,内容新颖,可扩大读者的语言接

触面;同时又图文并茂,既赏心又悦目。希望能通过一种别致、多变的途径使本书成为读者扩大词汇量、提高阅读能力、增见识、长知识的好帮手。

千里之行始于足下,坚实基础的奠定需要读者的用心和恒心,本书在给读者提供实践机会的同时,更期望通过本书的引导帮助读者培养阅读的兴趣,养成自觉良好的阅读习惯,从而登上更高的台阶。

限于水平及其他客观原因,本书难免有疏漏之处, 敬请各位读者不吝赐教,予以指正。

编 者 2001年2月

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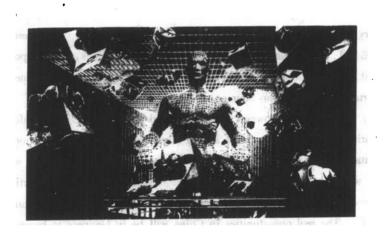


## Unit 1



# Slowly, The Net Begins to Widen 慢虽慢,网络仍是逐步拓展

电脑的普及使电子商务接踵而至,但因为种种障碍的制约,人们对电子商务在中国的发展持怀疑甚至是否定的态度,虽然慢,但并没有停,凡事总有开头的一难。











### **Pre-reading Questions**

- 1. What is e-commerce?
- 2. What is the current development of e-commerce in China?
- 3. What do people think about the future development of e-commerce in China?
- 4. How do the general public react toward e-commerce?

| ☆ | ☆ | ☆ | ☆ | ☆ | ☆ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   |   |   |   |   |

- (1) China would seem an improbable place for an explosion in e-commerce<sup>1</sup>. For starters, credit cards are few and far between, online payment systems are relatively undeveloped. Internet connections are usually at speeds too slow to download(下载)the content-rich applications(应用程序)that make online shopping possible.
- (2) It is claimed that a host of Chinese internet portals are queueing up to list on the stock market, but people doubt whether it is true<sup>2</sup>. The rapid growth of the internet in China in the past few months suggests that the market could yet surprise.
- very popular. They are beginning to display some of the "stickiness" (黏性). That means users stay online for longer periods. More important, Chinese suppliers are beginning to flock(成群进入) to business portals, such as Asian Sources, to widen their network of buyers.
- (4) There will, however, be lots of road blocks(路障) on the information highway for merchants selling direct to consumers. International Data Corporation forecasts that China's total e-commerce business will be worth about US \$ 4 billion in 2003. Australia, which has a fraction (一小部分) of China's population, will have reached US \$ 9 billion.
- (5) The real opportunities in China will be in business to business e-commerce. This is true elsewhere in the world where business to business trade is several times larger than the volume of consumer transac-





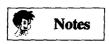


- (6) Craig Pepples, chief operating officer at Asian Sources, says, that a few years ago, his company was spending a lot of time explaining what the internet was in China. He feels acceptance of e-commerce will be almost as quick. "E-commerce is the next wave. The main hurdle (障碍) is conceptual and China has shown itself capable of leap-frogging in many areas of technology<sup>3</sup>," says Mr. Pepples.
- (7) The Net, he points out, can speed up the delivery of photos and designs, which is a boon (益处, 恩赐) for garment suppliers. Asian Sources' Web site has nearly 1000 suppliers with 18400 products from China.
- (8) One of them is Shenzhen Rex Power Industrial Development. In under a year it has seen sales increase by 10 per cent due to its listings on Asian Sources' portal. Marketing manager Lily Hu reports, however, that there are limits to cyberbusiness (阿上贸易) miracles. Customers still need to visit the factory and a deal can still take as long as six months from the first e-mail to the final shipment.
- (9) Technology will provide the answer to many of the problems that e-commerce faces in China today. Slow connections that hamper(妨碍)online shopping may become a thing of the past when third-generation mobile phones are introduced.
- (10) Is it possible that several millions of China's population will be able to get the high-speed Internet access that is a foundation for e-commerce? A Hong Kong company, Pacific Convergence Corp<sup>4</sup>, says it has the answer to high-speed internet access. By the end of this year, it plans to use satellites to provide internet access via TV sets.
- (11) Goldman Sachs says the TV may well become the Internet access device of choice in Asia. China, for example, has only 12m installed PCs but as many as 450m TV sets. Once they are hooked up(连接起来) to the Internet via satellites, Chinese consumers cannot be blamed









- 1.e-commerce: 即 electronic commerce 电子商务
- 2. a host of Chinese internet portals:很多中国因特网网络公司;host: great number of:很多;portals:本来有正门,入口之意,此处指新兴的各大网络公司
- 3. capable of leap-frogging in many areas of technology:能够在 许多技术领域方面有蛙跳式的发展,也就是说,有跳跃 式的飞速发展
- 4. Pacific Convergence Corp:太平洋联合公司
- 5. asking for the moon:要不可企及的东西,异想天开



#### **Exercises**

# I .Match the words in Column A with the words or phrases in Column B that are similar in meaning.

Column A

Column B

- 1. miracle
- a. person who buys and uses goods or services
- 2. volume
- b. having the ability to do
- 3. capable
- c. practical science
- 4. technology
- d. an advantage; a favour
- 5. sceptical
- e. wonder: marvel
- 6. boon
- f. an amount or quantity
- 7. block
- g. something that makes movement impossible
- 8. unreliable
- i. payment for one's work
- 9. consumer
- j. doubting; distrustful
- 10. income
- k. not dependable

