

◆ ENGLISH READING ◆

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英文阅读

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颜元叔 编著

大突破

东方出版中心

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ENGLISH 大突破

序

这本书我陆陆续续编注了三年之久,如今终于可以印行问世,真可说三年有成。一笑。拖了那么久,是其他的事情忙,这本书只是忙着的事情之一;另一方面,搜集选文,也的确费时费事。这些选文可以显示,这本书的材料有些来自名著,摘录它们的精华不是易事。另外的材料则来自一些实用性与时代性的作品。要从日常阅读中,随遇随选,随选随摘。选辑的时间越长,选文的适应性应该越高。我选辑的原则是:这书的内容不能局限于一两个层面,比如文学或小品,而必须涵盖多方面,诸如文化人物、动物植物、人体健康、生态环保、科学技术、时事新闻、英语教育、交通社交等都应该包括在内。这些区域是现代人生活的区域。教英文必须直接教授这些区域的英文,才能让学的人学到真正实用的英文。因为,每个区域既然内容不同,它的英文词汇与表达方式也就不同;不直接学习这些词汇与表达方式,就无法读这些区域中的英文文章,无法用英文读说或书写这些区域的课题。多年来,我提倡英语教学生活化,其主旨与原因就在此。

这本书的程度介乎高中与大学之间。十多年来高考英语的阅读与词汇证明,学生如果要妥善准备应试,仅靠高中英语课本,程度还差一截;所以,他们要读许多的课外读物,来弥补这段差距。这本文选可以说是有系统而且完整地弥补了这个差距。

高考英语阅读的内容,这十几年来也有改变,不再拘泥于文学小品之类,而常常选考一些实用性与现代性的文章。此外,我以教托福阅读多年的经验,发现托福的阅读内容,动物植物、科学技术等的文章居多,其他方面如英语教学、时事新闻等也不



少。所以,在内容方面,这本精选可以说是完全涵盖了高考与托福全盘可能的范围。

为了考试读书,是个普遍的事实,只要读书得法,不仅可以考试成功,而且也真正可以提高自己的能力。(考试的目的是为了测验真能力的吗?)我敢说,只要你好好地读这本书,凭借精确的翻译,阅读测验的模拟考试,从头到尾仔细地研读,你的英文程度一定会大有精进。不仅为了应试,就是一般社会人士只为英文而读英文,应该都有实际获益。

颜元叔
谨识于台大





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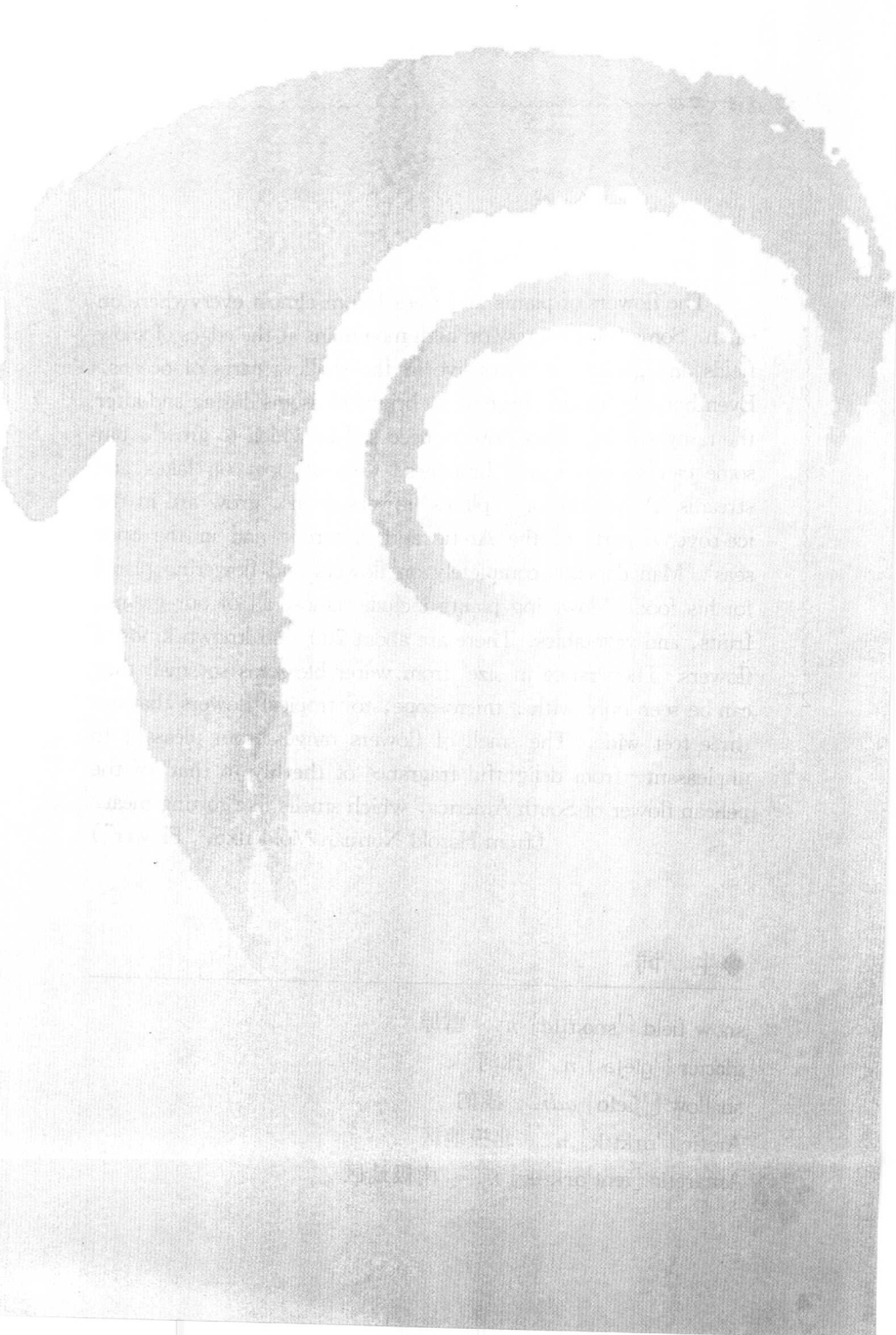
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1

The flowers of plants and trees bloom almost everywhere on earth. Some flowers grow on high mountains at the edges of snow fields and glaciers. Others live in the shallow parts of oceans. Even hot, dry deserts have many bright blossoms during and after the rainy season. Most flowers need soil in which to grow¹, but some can grow on tree branches. Others² float on lakes and streams. About the only places flowers do not grow are in the ice-covered parts of the Arctic and Antarctic and in the open seas³. Man depends completely on flowers and flowering plants for his food. Flowering plants include almost all of our grains, fruits, and vegetables. There are about 200,000 known kinds of flowers. They range in size⁴ from water blossoms so small they can be seen only with a microscope, to⁵ tropical flowers that are three feet wide. The smell of flowers ranges from pleasant to unpleasant—from delightful fragrance of the lily to that⁶ of the pelican flower of South America, which smells like rotting meat.

(from Harold Norman Moldenke, "Flower")

◆生词

snow field ['sno:fi:ld] *n.* 雪原

glacier ['gleɪʃə] *n.* 冰河

shallow ['ʃælo] *adj.* 浅的

Arctic ['ɑ:ktɪk] *n.* 北极地区

Antarctic [ænt'ɑ:ktɪk] *n.* 南极地区





译 文

花草与树木的花在地球上各处都能开放。有些花朵会在雪原与冰河边缘的山上生长,有些生存在海洋的浅处。甚至炎热干燥的沙漠也有许多鲜艳花朵在雨季中和雨季后开放。大多数花朵需要泥土才能生长,但有些可以在树枝上生长。其他的花朵能漂浮在湖面上。大约花朵不能生长的惟一地方就是在南、北极冰雪覆盖的地方及大洋之中。人类完全依赖花朵,以开花植物为食。开花植物几乎可包括我们所有的壳类、水果、蔬菜。已知的花共有大约 20 万种。它们的尺寸从小到只能用显微镜才能看见的水生花朵,到宽达三尺的热带花朵不等。花的气味也有宜人与不宜人的差别——从百合的可爱芳香到南美洲塘鹅花如腐肉般的臭味。

(花)

3

-
- range [rendʒ] *v.* 在……范围之内
 microscope ['maɪkrəskop] *n.* 显微镜
 tropical ['trɒpɪkl] *adj.* 热带的
 pelican flower ['pelɪkən-] *n.* 塘鹅花





◆注 释

1. need soil in which to grow, 语中的 which 是指 soil, 可以简略写成 need soil to grow in。原来的句法结构是: need soil in which they (the flowers) are to grow。
2. 此种以代词 others 为句首的用法必须配合前句以 some 或 many 或 most 为主语的句型, 如本文第二、三句以及本句与前一句。
3. open sea 指没有陆地或峡地环抱的空阔大海, 亦可指非属任何国家领域的公海区。
4. in size: 在体积上; 在尺寸上。
5. to 是与动词 range 连用的介词, range 指遍及某种范围之内, 所以应该用 from 和 to 表明所括及的范围为何。本句所叙的是尺寸范围, 下句仍用 range from...to...叙述气味差距之大。
6. that 是指 the smell。





◆ 阅读测验

1. Flowers bloom almost everywhere except _____
 - a. in deserts.
 - b. on mountains at the edges of glaciers.
 - c. in the ice-covered Arctic and Antarctic.
 - d. on South American islands.

2. Most flowers grow _____
 - a. in shallow soil.
 - b. in soil.
 - c. on tree branches.
 - d. near rivers or lakes.

3. Desert flowers bloom _____
 - a. during rainy seasons.
 - b. after dry seasons.
 - c. before rainy seasons.
 - d. on trees.





2

Tigers are the largest and most powerful members of the cat family. In fact, there are tigers in Siberia, in northern Asia, that reach 4 meters in length¹ and a weight² of 290kg—the biggest of all “big cats”. But most tigers are about the same size as³ lions—about 2.8 m from the nose to the tip of the tail and weighing 190kg.

Lions and tigers are very similar internally, but their external appearance differs greatly. Tigers do not have the thick mane of the male lion. They have smooth, glossy fur, thicker than a lion's body hair. Tigers are light brown with many irregular dark stripes.

Unlike lions, tigers live alone. They generally sleep during the heat of the day⁴ and hunt when it is cooler, or at night. They attack and eat almost any but the biggest animals, and their main food supply is antelope and wild cattle. They rarely attack man unless⁵ frightened or very hungry. The female tiger gives birth to⁶ two to six cubs. They begin to hunt at 7 months, but do not reach maturity until they are three years old.

(from “Tigers,” *The New Junior World Encyclopedia*)

◆ 生 词

mane [men] *n.* 鬃

glossy ['glɒsi] *adj.* 有光泽的

antelope ['æntlɒp] *n.* 羚羊(复数可加可不加 s)

