# 英语分类阅读

# 三级100篇

(附答案与原文译文)

◆ 主编 许明武

分类阅读

分类突破

阅读高分

一手在握

华中理工大学出版社

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### 英语分类阅读 三级 100 篇

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# 内容提要

本书从大学英语阅读的要求出发,精心选择了100篇文章并附有练习题,目的是在提高读者阅读能力的同时,提高其应试能力。每篇文章都附有汉语翻译以便自学者查阅。

本书适用于大学英语三级考试者,也可供 一般英语爱好者学习使用。 在听、说、读、写、译五种语言技能中,怎样强调阅读的重要性都不为过,因为获取信息的主要手段是阅读。阅读水平的高低直接影响到获取信息的速度。无论在哪一种考试中,阅读部分的分值一直是最大的。随着英语学习的进一步广泛化,三级考试将会越来越受到重视。不论参加什么样的考试,牢固的基础才是根本。多读多练是牢固的基础的保证。编写这本分类阅读书的目的就在于提高英语阅读水平及应试能力。

和四、六级考试一样,三级阅读所涉及的文章体裁广泛。具备背景知识对理解文章至关重要。本书力图从世界知识和语言知识两方面为读者打开一扇窗户。读者在欣赏语言的同时,不知不觉中用世界知识武装了自己的头脑。这对以后理解同类体裁的文章大有裨益。鉴于此,本书收录了100篇文章,按内容分为动物世界等14个话题。文章长短、难度适中。为了尽快提高应试能力,每篇文章后附有精心设计的阅读题。最后附有所有文章的汉语翻译,以便自学者查阅。

参加本书翻译工作的还有:郝凌云、腾杉、李健、戴洪雷。

由于水平有限,书中不妥之处在所难免。恳请同行和读者批评指正。

编 者 1999年12月

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第









篇章阅读

・分类阅读・分类突破・阅读高分・一手在掘

# 一、动物世界

本章包括对鲸鱼、动物牙齿、蚂蚁、绵羊、猫、蛇、布谷鸟、昆虫、鱼、狗、鸭子、蝙蝠、青蛙、大象、棕熊、河马等动物的描述。读者在做题的过程中不知不觉地了解到了许多关于动物的知识,这为以后的阅读打下了基础。

#### Passage 1

Whales are interesting animals. They are big sea animals that look like fish. They have bodies that are made for swimming. Whales have a lot of body fat that helps them keep warm. It also makes their bodies smooth.

These animals move well through the water. But they are not fish. A fish's tail grows up and down. A whale's tail grows from side to side. Whales don't lay eggs like fish. A baby whale grows inside the mother's body before it is born. Baby whales also have hair and drink milk from their mother.

A fish takes in air with water. A whale must take in air alone. It does this through a hole. This opening is in the top of its head. So it must put the top of its head out of the water from time to time. Even so, many whales can stay under water for a long, long time.

Most whales are very big animals. One kind called the blue whale is the biggest animal that has ever lived. Blue whales may grow up to 100 feet long. Some kinds of whales are much smaller. These grow only 10 to 15 feet long.

Whales can't see or smell very well. But hearing and feeling lets them know what is going on around them. Some whales can make sounds. These sounds hit against things under the water. Then the whale hears the sounds coming back at it. This is how it sees things. It knows where and how far away these things are.

| 1. Whales are not fish, because                        | •                        |  |  |  |
|--|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| A. they are much larger than fish                      |                          |  |  |  |
| B. they have a lot of body fat                         |                          |  |  |  |
| C. a baby whale grows inside the mother's body         |                          |  |  |  |
| D. they can't see or smell well                        |                          |  |  |  |
| 2. "Whales have bodies that are                        | made for swimming" means |  |  |  |
| ·  |                          |  |  |  |
| A. Their bodies are fit to swim                        |                          |  |  |  |
| B. People make their bodies suitable for swimming      |                          |  |  |  |
| C. God made their bodies suitable for swimming         |                          |  |  |  |
| D. They like swimming because of their shape           |                          |  |  |  |
| 3. Hearing and feeling lets whales l                   |                          |  |  |  |
| A. what happens  | B. what is continuing    |  |  |  |
| C. what takes place                                    | D. A and C               |  |  |  |
| 4. How do whales see things?                           |                          |  |  |  |
| A. They hear the echo of the sound.                    |                          |  |  |  |
| B. They receive the reflection of the sound.           |                          |  |  |  |
| C. They hear the sound wave produced by other animals. |                          |  |  |  |
| D. They hear the sound coming from the water.          |                          |  |  |  |
| 5. They passage is mainly written about                |                          |  |  |  |
|  | <del></del>              |  |  |  |

- A. the difference between whales and fish
- B. the general introduction of whales
- C. the introduction of different kinds of whales
- D. fish and whales

Teeth have been a part of animals almost from the beginning of animal life. The first animals to have teeth were fish. These sea creatures lived millions of years ago. They had many finely pointed teeth for grabbing food from the water. They were distant cousins of today's sharks.

The teeth of animals help them do certain jobs or eat certain kinds of foods. Elephants have two large teeth, called tusks, which they use for digging up plants or for fighting. Lions and tigers have long, sharp teeth for tearing apart other animals. Those of horses and cows are short and flat. They are used for grinding plants.

People have three main kinds of teeth. They have teeth that cut, teeth that tear, and teeth that grind. When biting into a piece of fruit, people use their cutting teeth. When pulling a piece of meat from a bone, they use their tearing teeth. When nibbling on a fresh carrot, they use their grinding teeth.

Every person grows two sets of teeth. The first set often begins to appear when a baby is about six months old. It lasts until the child is about six years old. Then the baby teeth fall out and the second teeth come in. This second set must last for the rest of a person's life.

It is important for people to take care of their teeth. They must eat the right foods. They should brush their teeth

| properly. Teeth should be check                             | sed twice a year by a dentist.   |  |  |  |
|---|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| 1. Fish have manyteeth                                      | forfood.                         |  |  |  |
| A. noticeable, catching                                     | B. visible, grasping             |  |  |  |
| C. sharp, snatching   | D. fine, catching                |  |  |  |
| 2. Which of the following staten                            | nents about teeth is true?       |  |  |  |
| A. Elephants have three large tusks.                        |                                  |  |  |  |
| B. Teeth of horses and cows are short and sharp.            |                                  |  |  |  |
| C. The first set of teeth of a person often begins to appea |                                  |  |  |  |
| when he is about six months old.                            |                                  |  |  |  |
| D. Sea creatures were the first                             | st animals having teeth.         |  |  |  |
| 3. The word "nibble" in the thir                            | d paragraph bears the meaning of |  |  |  |
| ·   |                                  |  |  |  |
| A. eating with small repeated                               | l bits                           |  |  |  |
| B. showing slight interest in something                     |                                  |  |  |  |
| C. taking hold of with a sudd                               | len rough movement               |  |  |  |
| D. crushing into small pieces or into powder                |                                  |  |  |  |
| 4. From this passage we can draw a conclusion that          |                                  |  |  |  |
| A. all the teeth have the sam                               | e function                       |  |  |  |
| B. animals don't try to prote                               | ct their teeth                   |  |  |  |
| C. teeth are important both                                 | or human and animals             |  |  |  |
| D. we should care our teeth                                 | and often have them checked      |  |  |  |
| 5. It is a piece of writing about                           | •                                |  |  |  |
| A. botany   | B. animals                       |  |  |  |
| C. popular science  | D. dentistry                     |  |  |  |
| _   | _                                |  |  |  |

Sometimes when you walk outside, you see a little hole with sand around it. Guess what! You have found a city under the

ground. Ants live in this city. There, many ants live together with their queen. The queen is the biggest ant of all. Most of the time, there is only one queen in an ant city.

When a queen starts her own city, she digs a hole. She takes bits of sand to the top. Then she piles up the sand. It makes a little hill. She is making a good place for her eggs. It is a nest.

When baby ants come out of the eggs, they are called grubs. They look like worms. The queen feeds them food and water. But when a grub is a week or two old, it stops eating. It no longer needs food. It makes a bag around itself and goes to sleep. Then it grows into a big ant.

Most grubs turn into worker ants. Workers take over running the nest. They dig more holes. This makes the nest bigger. They also keep it clean. They get food and water. Workers bring food to other ants that are too busy to go out. Some also fight off ants from other cities.

Ants are fun to watch. You can dig up an ant hill and put it in a bowl. It should be made of glass. That way, you can see through it. Then you can watch the ants at work.

| ı. "C | uess what" may mean              |                      |   |
|-------|----------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| A.    | can you guess what it is         |                      |   |
| В.    | please guess what happens        |                      |   |
| C.    | could you think for a while ar   | nd find the answer   |   |
| D.    | can you guess what's up with     | the hole             |   |
| 2. T  | ne writer uses "a city under the | ground" referring to | • |
| Α     | . queen's city                   | B. ants' hole        |   |
| C.    | ants' hill                       | D. baby ants' nest   |   |
|       |                                  |                      |   |

| 3. All | of them are the "citizens" of   | an a | ints' city except      |
|--------|---------------------------------|------|------------------------|
| A.     | a queen                         | B.   | baby ants              |
| C.     | worker ants                     | D.   | ants from other cities |
| 4. "W  | orkers take over running the    | nest | "implies that          |
| A.     | at first the queen runs the ne  | st   |                        |
| В.     | worker ants take the job after  | the  | ey grow up             |
| C.     | the queen is not the ruler the  | n    |                        |
| D.     | A and B                         |      |                        |
| 5. "A  | nts are fun to watch", becaus   | e _  |                        |
| A.     | they are little lives           |      |                        |
| B.     | they live under the ground      |      |                        |
| C.     | they live in a different way th | at v | we may ignore          |
| D.     | none of the above               |      |                        |

Some of us count sheep to help get to sleep at night. There are millions of them in the world to count. In fact, there are about a thousand million! For about every five people in the world there is at least one sheep.

Sheep are among the most useful animals. They give people meat, wool, and leather. In some countries, people drink sheep's milk. Other people use the milk to make cheese.

There are many different kinds of sheep. A full-size sheep may weigh from 100 pounds to over 300 pounds. They grow from two to four feet. Their coats of wool may be white, gray, brown, or black. Some sheep have short, fine wool coats. Others have long, rough wool. Some have horns, but others have none.

Sheep live well together and follow one another in herds, or

flocks. Since these flocks usually stay together on their own, one person called a shepherd, with a sheep dog, can take care of many sheep at one time. The dog will turn wandering sheep back to the group. It will also fight attacks by other animals.

Sheep spend most of the day eating grass, leaves, and small plants. If a strange animal or person comes near the flock, the sheep will stop nibbling food and will put up their heads to watch. Then they will run toward each other until they form a tight group. Doing this makes them feel safe. Finally, an older sheep will lead the flock away to another part of the field.

1. If you want to fall asleep, according to the passage, you can

|   | •   | ,                   |  |  |  |
|---|---|---------------------|--|--|--|
| —<br>А  |   | B. memorize numbers |  |  |  |
| -   |   | D. all the above    |  |  |  |
| 2. V  | Which of the following statements is not true?  |                     |  |  |  |
| Α   | A. People can get meat and milk from sheep.     |                     |  |  |  |
| В   | B. A baby sheep may weigh less than 100 pounds. |                     |  |  |  |
| C   | C. Sheep may grow from two to five feet.        |                     |  |  |  |
| $\Gamma$  | . People can get very fine woo                  | from sheep.         |  |  |  |
| 3. S  | heep live in herds, so they                     | •                   |  |  |  |
| A   | . stay together in a flock                      |                     |  |  |  |
| Е   | s. stay in rows                                 |                     |  |  |  |
| C. have several leaders in one herd                             |   |                     |  |  |  |
| D. need a sheep dog to help them                                |   |                     |  |  |  |
| 4. The word "nibble" in this passage (the last paragraph) means |   |                     |  |  |  |
|   | •   |                     |  |  |  |
| Ī   | A. to eat                                       | B. to eat slowly    |  |  |  |
| (   | to eat gently                                   | D. B and C          |  |  |  |

- 5. Please choose a true statement according to the passage.
  - A. Sheep live in herds to keep safe.
  - B. Sheep spend little time in eating.
  - C. A shepherd and a sheep dog take care of sheep in turn.
  - D. People raise sheep because they are lovely.

A cat is easy to care for. You don't have to walk a cat the way you do a dog. And a cat does not have to be with people all the time. Sometimes it likes to be alone. Cats are fun to watch, too. They like to play. They make good pets.

Cats like to keep clean. They clean themselves many times each day. They do this by licking. They lick themselves when they get up each morning. They clean themselves after eating. Most cats lick themselves again at night. They do this before they go to sleep.

Cats can't see as well as people. Everything looks gray to them. But they can make things out better when there's not much light. They also smell things better than people can. They use their noses to find things that are far away. They can hear more sounds than people can, too.

People of all kinds have cats. Farmers like cats. Mice eat plants that farmers grow. Cats kill these animals. So farmers like to keep their cats outside. But not all cats have to stay outside. City people keep them in their homes. They make good house pets.

Cats can do many things. They go up trees, run fast, and jump high. When cats fall, most times they land on their feet. They are beautiful animals, too. People have always liked them.

# So cats show up in books, on TV shows, and in the morres.

- 1. Which of the following is NOT of the good points of cats described in the passage?
  - A. They needn't be cared for all the time.
  - B. They eat harmful animals.
  - C. They like to keep clean.
  - D. They can see things better than people.
- 2. The word "lick" probably means .......
  - A. use the claw to put something in order
  - B. move the tongue across something
  - C. use the mouth to make something clean
- D. move the baby against something to make it clean
- 3. In term of senses, which of the following does NOT belong to the abilities that show cats are superior to human being?
  - A. Cats can taste better than human.
  - B. Cats can hear better than human.
  - C. Cats can smell better than human.
  - D. Cats can see better than human in the darkness.
- 4. What's the reason why farmers keep their cats outside?
  - A. Because they like to play in the house.
  - B. Because they like to jump high inside house.
  - C. Because they kill some animals that do harm to crops.
  - D. Because they like to lick themselves.

### Passage 6

Are you afraid of shakes? If you are, you're not alone. Many people are afraid of these animals. But farmers like them. That's because they help farmers by eating animals that eat