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全国公共英语等级考试系列用书

(PETS)

新思路
单项技能教材：阅读

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李又文 编

第二级

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《新思路单项技能教材》简介

New Idea Textbooks for PETS

《新思路单项技能教材》是由PETS研究小组成员针对“全国公共英语等级考试(PETS)”专门编写的。全套书共20分册(每分册约20万字),结合PETS一、二、三、四、五级考生的听、说、读、写等四项技能分别进行单项训练和辅导。本套教材有下面四个特点:

新颖

全套教材贯穿以考生/学生为中心的教学思想,结合PETS考试的语言交际原则,通过训练提高考生的语言交际技能。本套教材一改重视语言结构的传统模式,特别注重语言交际的实用性。其新颖性体现在语言交际功能和考生的语言交际需求的统一,即:口语交际功能符合考生的口头交际需求,写作技巧符合考生的书面表达需求,阅读和听力理解方法满足考生的信息获取需求。



权威

PETS研究小组成员对PETS考试大纲、命题以及成绩评判等各个环节颇为熟悉,并作了专门研究,因此全套教材紧扣PETS各级考试大纲,切实把握大纲所规定的各级语言技能的考试原则和要求。主要编写人员均在国外研修过,对外语教学测试有较深的研究,他们负责各个级别各项语言技能的设计和编写工作,保证了教材的权威性。



适用

本套教材编写针对PETS考生群体的特殊需求,根据考生自学的特点,既讲授知识,又涵盖技能扩充训练、生词注释、练习及答案。除口语的读者定位是两人小组训练外,其它听、读、写的读者定位均为单一考生自学者,因此各分册涉及的讲解和练习内容都切实体现特定读者的需求。



有趣

本套教材尽可能采用英语原文幽默故事、卡通漫画、游戏和趣闻趣事作为素材,生动活泼、图文并茂、寓教于乐,能有力地激发读者的学习兴趣,提高学习效果。

前言

级别描述

根据考试大纲的描述, PETS第二级是五个级别中的中下级, “其标准相当于我国普通高中优秀毕业生的英语水平”。

“准备参加该级考试的考生, 一般在18岁以上(含18岁), 在普通初中3年的基础上又学习了3年的普通高中的英语课程。通过该级考试的考生, 其英语水平基本满足进入高等院校继续深造学习的要求, 同时也基本符合诸如宾馆前台服务员、一般银行职员、涉外企业一般员工, 以及同层次其他工作在对外交往中的基本需要”。

在阅读方面, PETS第二级要求考生能够读懂通知、简单介绍和广告、通俗易懂的英文书刊或报纸。考生应能: (1) 理解主旨要义; (2) 理解文中具体信息; (3) 根据上下文推测生词的词义; (4) 作出简单的判断和推理; (5) 理解文章的基本结构; (6) 理解作者的意图和态度。

教材内容

本教材根据 PETS 考试大纲的要求, 每单元分为两部分内容:

第一节: 轻松阅读。这一部分主要的目的是通过轻松阅读提高考生的综合阅读能力。所选的文章从长度和难度、题材和体裁到练习的形式都尽可能多样化, 目的是扩大考生的知识面, 帮助考生了解文化背景知识, 并增加词汇量。这些都是诸多英语素质的体现, 能直接影响考生的阅读理解能力。

第二节: 自测。这一部分主要选取与考试题目长短和难度相近的短文, 进行多项选择题练习, 帮助考生熟悉考试形式。

教材特点

1. 目的性强

本教材的目的是为了帮助考生熟悉PETS阅读第二级的考试内容和形式,

从文章的取材到练习的设计都充分体现这一方针。全书参照考试大纲要求的交际话题编排,每单元有四篇文章,其中两篇的练习与考试题型相同。

2. 全面提高考生的英语阅读能力

因为考试只是手段,而考生的最终目的还是要提高阅读水平,以适应实际应用英语的需要。阅读能力包括多方面能力,如词汇量、语法知识、阅读技巧、阅读速度、文化背景知识和思维推理能力等。本教材有针对性地设计了有关练习,帮助考生在这些方面有所进步。

3. 趣味性较强

本教材在题材、体裁和练习的设计方面,注意到多样性和趣味性,寓教于乐,尽力减少语言学习过程中的枯燥感。

4. 语言环境真实

本教材所选材料均摘自英语国家的书刊杂志或教材,语言地道真实,涉及面广,为考生提供了广泛的语言素材。



如何使用教材

一. 自学者使用

第一节

考生自学使用时可采取以下三个步骤:

1. 阅读文章,并做练习。注意:不要查词典,不要看注释。
2. 对照答案检查错误。
3. 阅读技巧提示和注释。

第二节

1. 在20分钟内阅读完该部分的所有短文并做完练习。注意:不要查词典,也不要看生词表。
2. 对照答案检查练习的正确率,并记在书上。
3. 参照生词表和注释,以了解错误的原因。

二. 课堂使用

教师应注意讲解语言和文化背景知识,补充考生在自学中容易忽略的问题。同时尽量多组织学生讨论,交流经验。课上讲解阅读技巧,组织快速阅读,也是提高阅读速度的好方法。

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第

1

单元

人物

第一卷 人物

第二卷 目录



轻松阅读

Text A



Charlie didn't notice the sun setting behind the telephone lines. The alley was already dark with the shadows of evening ¹. Charlie sat near some trash cans. He raised a steel pipe above his head.

"Junk, dirty junk!" he said angrily. And he smashed the bottle lying on the pavement before him. The glass shattered into a hundred pieces ².

Charlie was so busy shouting that he didn't see the old man come around the corner. He was pushing a wheelbarrow full of empty bottles, rusted wire, and other things collected from the back alleys ³.

The old man put down the wheelbarrow and watched. Charlie looked up. He was surprised and a little frightened too. The old man was looking right at him.

"What do you want?" asked Charlie.

"Some bottles and wire," said the old man in a quiet voice. "But I see you've broken all the bottles. Did you see any wire in the trash cans?"

"Why do you want bottles and wire?" asked Charlie. "Do you get money for them?"

"No," answered the old man.

Then he bent over and looked at the broken pieces of glass at Charlie's feet.

"May I have some of these?" he asked.

"You want that junk?" asked Charlie in disbelief. "Sure, take it."

The old man picked out special pieces of glass. Then he took a brown bag from his pocket, unfolded it, and carefully placed the pieces of glass inside.

"Man 4, who ever heard of collecting broken glass," said Charlie.

"Some of these pieces are beautiful. You broke them into fine shapes."

"Beautiful!" exclaimed Charlie with a laugh. "You must be blind. That glass is junk. Ugly junk, like everything in this alley, and everything in your wheelbarrow."

The old man looked at his wheelbarrow, then he looked at Charlie.

"Maybe you are right," he said. He bent over the wheelbarrow and pushed it down the shadowy alley.

"The old man must be crazy," thought Charlie as he lay in bed that night.

"But tomorrow I'll follow him and see what he does with all that junk."



- 做阅读练习时经常会碰到生词。如果每个词都查字典，会影响阅读的速度和兴趣。所以应学会从词的前缀和后缀来判断词义。如上面这篇文章中出现的 disbelief 和 unfold 两个词，它们分别带有否定前缀 dis- 和 un-，故可判断出它们的意思与 belief 和 fold 相反。

Decide whether the following statements are true or false.

1. Charlie was happy before he met the old man.
2. Charlie saw the old man turning around the corner when he was shouting.
3. Charlie had broken all the bottles in the trash can before the old man came.
4. The old man sold the bottles and wire for money.
5. The old man thought that some broken glass was beautifully shaped.
6. Charlie would collect bottles and wire with the old man the next day.

Text B

Modern ideas are beginning to influence the Eskimos, but not enough to make much difference to their way of life. They still spend the winter in igloos, the round huts that are built of snow frozen hard. They still travel on

sleds that are pulled by dogs. The winter is too cold for hunting, so during that season they live on the stores of seal meat ⁶ that they have killed in the summer. But seal meat is not the only kind of food that they eat. In summer they hunt reindeer and bears. They also fish all the year round. The Eskimos who are hunters in summer are fishermen in winter. In winter they make holes in the ice and catch their fish through the holes that they have made.

Eskimos live in very difficult conditions. There is not enough wood to make furniture and there is no metal for tools. They use bones, therefore, for their fish hooks and for the tips of their arrows. Only adaptable workmen can live in these conditions. The Eskimos are adaptable. That is why they are able to live in the Arctic lands.

I. Group the following words according to the way the Eskimos use them.

reindeer

sleds

seal meat

bears

dogs

bones

igloos

fish hooks

arrows

fish

Food:

Tools and weapons:

Travel:

House:

II. Answer the following questions.

1. What are igloos built of?

2. What are the different activities the Eskimos do in summer and winter?

3. Why do the Eskimos use bones for their fish hooks?

4. Where do the Eskimos live?

三、

Text A

Most people have heard of Shakespeare⁶ and probably know something of the plays that he wrote. However, not everybody knows much about the life of this remarkable man, except perhaps that he was born in the market town of Stratford-upon-Avon and that he married a woman called Anne Hathaway. We know nothing of his school life. We do not know, for example, how long it lasted, but we presume that he attended the local grammar school⁷, where the principal subject taught was Latin.

Nothing certain is known of what he did between the time he left school and his departure for London ⁸. According to a local legend, he was beaten and even put in prison for stealing rabbits and deer from the estate of a neighbouring landowner, Sir Thomas Lucy. It is said that because of this he was forced to run away from his native place ⁹. A different legend says that he was apprenticed to a Stratford butcher, but did not like the life and for this reason decided to leave Stratford.

Whatever caused him to leave the town of his birth, the world can be grateful that he did so ¹⁰. What is certain is that he set his foot on the road to fame when he arrived in London. It is said that at first he was without money or friends there, but then he earned a little by taking care of the horses of the gentlemen who attended the plays at the theatre. In time, as he became a familiar figure to the actors in the theatre, they stopped and spoke to him. They found his conversation so brilliant that finally he was invited to join their company.

I. Choose A, B, C or D to best answer the following questions.

1. What about Shakespeare's life is not known to people today?

- [A] His marriage.
- [B] His birthplace.
- [C] His education.
- [D] His plays.

2. It is said that Shakespeare left Stratford because he _____.

- [A] had a fight with Sir Thomas Lucy
- [B] was learning to be a landowner
- [C] stole rabbits from a butcher
- [D] was fed up with his life there

3. The actors in the theater were attracted to Shakespeare because _____.

- [A] they found his conversation very interesting
- [B] he took care of horses for a theatre lover
- [C] he was familiar with them
- [D] he had become famous upon arriving there

4. After reading the passage, what can we infer about Shakespeare?

- [A] He received a good education in a local school.
- [B] He was poor and without friends throughout his life.
- [C] He made a wise decision in leaving his hometown.
- [D] He was happily married to Anne Hathaway.

5. The word "legend" in the second paragraph probably means _____.

- [A] "story"
- [B] "man"
- [C] "newspaper"
- [D] "history"

A. What we know about Shakespeare:

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

1.	
2.	
3.	

• 7 •

invented the incandescent lamp, a lamp in which the light is caused by a heated wire called a filament. The wire is heated by an electric current. People could now use electricity to light up their homes. By the time Edison died in 1931 he had about a thousand inventions to his credit.

I. Choose A, B, C or D to best answer the following questions.

1. Which of the following words best describes Edison when he was a little boy?

- [A] Interesting.
- [B] Curious.
- [C] Inventor.
- [D] Operator.

2. Where did Edison work as a telephone operator?

- [A] Ohio.
- [B] New York.
- [C] Menlo Park.
- [D] His home.

3. Edison was the first person who _____.

- [A] built a laboratory at Menlo Park
- [B] invented telegraphy
- [C] worked as a telephone operator
- [D] made a gramophone that worked

4. Which of the following can record sound?

- [A] Filament.
- [B] Electric current.
- [C] Phonograph.
- [D] Telegraphy.

II. Find out in the passage the meaning of the following words.

1. Filament:

2. Incandescent lamp:

3. Phonograph:

Words & Expressions

alley *n.* 胡同, 小巷

trash *n.* 垃圾

junk *n.* 废旧杂物

smash *v.* 打碎, 粉碎

shatter *v.* 砸碎; 散落

wheelbarrow *n.* 独轮车

disbelief *n.* 不相信, 不信任

unfold *v.* 打开, 展开

influence *v.* 影响

Eskimo *n.* 爱斯基摩人

igloo *n.* 爱斯基摩人的圆顶茅屋
(又拼写为 iglu)

sled *n.* 雪橇

reindeer *n.* 驯鹿

adaptable *adj.* 适应能力强的

remarkable *adj.* 非凡的, 卓越的

presume *v.* 假定, 假设

departure *n.* 离开

legend *n.* 传说, 传奇

estate *n.* 房地产; 庄园

apprentice *v.* 做学徒

fame *n.* 名声; 名望

brilliant *adj.* 有才华的, 才华横溢的

inquisitive *adj.* 好奇的, 爱询问的

inventor *n.* 发明家, 发明者

laboratory *n.* 实验室

phonograph *n.* 留声机, 唱机

instrument *n.* 仪器, 器械

gramophone *n.* 留声机

incandescent lamp 白炽灯

filament *n.* 灯丝, 细丝

electric current 电流



Notes

¹ the shadows of evening: 夜晚的黑暗

² The glass shattered into a hundred pieces: 玻璃瓶被摔得粉碎。

³ back alleys: 后街, 指离开市中心的偏僻的街巷。

⁴ man: 在这里是语气词, 表示难以置信。

- 5 live on the stores of seal meat: 以他们储藏的海豹肉为食物。live on 意思为“以…为生”或“以…为主食”。
- 6 Shakespeare: 莎士比亚, 17 世纪英国著名剧作家。
- 7 grammar school: 英国 16 世纪以拉丁语等为主课的中等学校。
- 8 Nothing certain is known of what he did between the time he left school and his departure for London: 没有人确切地知道他在离开学校以后和去伦敦之前的这段时间内做了什么。
- 9 native place: 故乡, 故土
- 10 Whatever caused him to leave the town of his birth, the world can be grateful that he did so: 无论他是因为什么原因离开了他的家乡, 全世界都会为此而感谢他。
- 11 telephone operator: 电话接线员
- 12 Soon afterwards he invented the phonograph, the first form of the instrument that we now know as the gramophone or record player: 此后不久他发明了留声机, 也就是现在我们称之为留声机或唱机的雏形。

第 2 单元

家庭

第一节 轻松阅读

第二节 自测