

二十一世纪英语学习丛书

English Reading Step By Step

渐进式英语 阅读

主 编 张 健

A photograph of the main entrance gate of Tsinghua University, featuring a large archway and classical columns. The gate is flanked by tall, dark evergreen trees. The sky is clear and blue.

中国人事出版社

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渐进式英语 阅读

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总 序

当今世界是一个充满竞争的世界，这种竞争实质上是综合国力的竞争，因而对科技、人才提出了很高的要求，21世纪对人才规格的要求则更高。在新的世纪，各国将面临国际人才竞争、科学技术发展、全球经济开放、知识经济崛起、多元文化汇合、经济体制转变等六大挑战。为了迎接这种挑战，近年来西方各国纷纷加大教学内容改革，有些发展中国家采取双语教学，并把英语作为教学语言，有的已开始用英语上专业课。为了更好地适应教育要面向世界、面向现代化和面向未来这一时代的要求，我国适时地把英语列为基础教育阶段和高等教育阶段的一门基础学科和必修课程。

21世纪是一个全球化、电脑化、数字化的时代，学术领域的国际化是一种趋势，自由地交流思想、观点和知识可促进世界的学术进步，增进各国的了解。据专家估算：以英语为母语的人数约为3.5亿，而不以英语为母语的讲英语者则达7—7.5亿。英语不论是作为母语、第二语言或外语，还是商业用语、科技用语，已应用于世界上每个国家，成为一种有效的交际语言。如果一个国家不面向世界，它就会落后；如果一个人想在科学领域有所建树、有所创造，却不懂英语，就会感到举步维艰、寸步难行。

对众多学英语的人来说，词汇、写作、阅读、语法等无疑都是难以逾越的关隘。为了帮助他们在以上几个方面较快地取得突破，我们特组织北大、清华、人大、北外、北医等高等院校从事一线英语教学的部分中青年教师，经多次论证，精心策划，在参阅大量文献的基础上，认真编写了“新世纪英语学习丛书”。该丛书具有内容丰富、针对性强、深入浅出、便于记忆的特点，主

要面向于具有一定英语基础的大中专学生或社会自学青年，可满足三个层次的需要：第一是大学四、六级和职称英语考试的需要；第二是研究生入学考试的需要；第三是 TOEFL 考试的需要。

该丛书既可作为大学英语辅导教材，也可当作英语自学教材。

“新世纪英语学习丛书”包括以下两套书、五个分册：

一、《通向 10000 单词之路》

《通向 10000 单词之路——词根词缀记忆法》

《通向 10000 单词之路——同义词近义词记忆法》

二、《渐进式英语》

《渐进式英语写作》

《渐进式英语阅读》

《渐进式英语语法》

由于编者水平有限，虽经反复修改、审校，本书可能仍有不妥之处，恳请读者提出宝贵意见，以便在适当时候予以修订。

丛书编委会

序

阅读是学习英语的一个主要目的,因为阅读是获取信息的最重要、最便捷的手段。在竞争激烈的今天,谁先掌握了信息,谁无疑就处于非常有利的地位。因而,阅读能力的培养在大学英语教学中占有重要的地位。反映到各种英语考试中,阅读能力的测试牢牢地占据着最突出的位置,所占的分值占有绝对优势。不论是四、六级考试,各种职称考试,外语水平考试,抑或研究生入学考试,阅读所占分值都在 40—60%。可以说,该部分的得分直接决定着整个考试的总成绩。

虽然阅读理解题只是试题中的一个单项,但测试的却是综合运用语言知识和技能来获取信息的能力。因为阅读活动本身就是语言知识、语言技能和智力的综合运用过程。词汇和语法是阅读的基础,但仅此尚难以进行有效的阅读,读者还需具有根据上下文确定熟词的准确词义的能力,猜测生词词义的能力,正确理解段与段、句与句之间的内在逻辑关系的能力,辨认主题句以获取主题思想的能力等等。读者只有通过系统有效的学习、积累和锻炼,才能分辨文章论述的主次、概述与细节、事实与评论、演绎与归纳,进而领悟文章的言外之意和作者的观点倾向,这样才能达到阅读的目的,在考试中取得良好的成绩。

本书第一部分,从英语阅读基础方法和步骤着手,以讲座的形式由浅入深,娓娓道来,结合范文,理论联系实际,逐步培养读者的阅读能力。第二部分,精心选编了 80 篇各种体裁、篇幅、难度的文章,这些文章涉及内容广泛,配有精心设计的难度适中的练习题供读者自测。翻译是近年来出现的新题型,并越来越受到重视,因而在第三、四部分分别安排了英译汉讲座和汉译英讲座,旨在提高读者的应用能力和应试水平。最后,我们还提供了所有练习题的参考答案,以备读者自检。

本书对有一定英语基础的大学生和有志深造的社会青年具有很强的针对性和指导性，对参加四、六级考试，各种英语水平考试，研究生考试和职称考试都大有裨益。

由于时间和水平所限，不当之处在所难免，欢迎广大读者不吝赐教。

编者

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第一部分 阅读理解讲座

第一单元 阅读理解方法与答题步骤

英语试题中的阅读理解文章一般都比较短小精悍，其题材包括人物传记、社会文化、日常生活及科普知识等。文体多为记叙文、说明文和议论文。短文的语言文字难度适中，一般不超过教学大纲规定的词汇和习语量。文章中出现的超出大纲范围的词汇，如无法猜测其义而影响理解，则用汉语注明词义。阅读理解题，主要是测试应考者的下述能力：

1. 掌握所读材料的主题与中心思想。

2. 了解文章的事实与细节。

3. 既理解文章字面的意思，又能根据所读材料进行一定的判断与推理。

4. 既理解个别句子的意思，也理解上下文的逻辑关系。

阅读理解的目的是检测应考者通过阅读获取信息的能力，既要求准确，又要求有一定的速度。

一、阅读方法

根据解题需要，应考者可采用不同的阅读方法，常用的阅读方法有快读、细读与查读。快读是用较快的速度去了解文章的大意与中心思想，快读时应注意抓住关键词句，略过一些无关紧要的细节描述，把握文章主要情节。细读是为了领会文章的细节。细读不等于慢读，不是一个字一个字地读，应按意群一组一组地

读，这样既可准确地理解文章，又有一定的速度。查读是迅速地查找需要了解的信息，如查找事实细节、时间、数字和人物。阅读的方法不同，速度也不同，可根据实际情况综合地加以运用。

二、答题步骤

第一步 快读短文，迅速了解文章内容及主旨大意，把握文章基调。

第二步 参看考题，阅读每个问题的题干，明确考题要求。

第三步 根据提问对短文进行查读或细读，抓住相关信息，边读边做题。一般来说，考题的先后顺序与短文叙述的情节先后是一致的，答题时应按考题的顺序各个击破。遇到难题，最后对付。

第四步 解答难题。在大多数的考试中，考生都应遵照“先易后难，先简后繁”的原则，做英语阅读理解试题也不例外。在阅读理解中，考生所遇到的难题往往是一些推理判断题，问题所及不是某个词语、句子或段落，而是直接或间接的语言文字线索，考生需通过推理归纳方可做出正确选择。

例一：

One day Mark Twain met a friend at the races in England. His friend came up to him and said, "I have no money left. I wish you would buy me a ticket back to London."

"Well," Mark Twain said, "I only have enough money for myself, but I will tell you what you will do. You can hide under my seat in the train and I will hide you with my legs." The friend agreed.

Mark Twain, however, went to the ticket-office and bought two tickets. When the train pulled out, his friend was safely under the seat. The inspector came around for the tickets. When Mark Twain gave the inspector two tickets, he asked, "Where is the other one?"

Looking at the inspector the humorist said in a loud voice, "That is my friend's ticket. You see, he is a little strange and likes to ride un-

der the seat.”

1. Mark Twain' s friend came up to him because _____ .

A . He wanted to borrow some money from Mark Twain

B . He wanted Mark Twain to buy a ticket for him

C . He was poor

D . He want to buy a ticket for Mark Twain

2. The friend agreed _____ .

A. to hide Mark Twain with his legs

B. to hide under Mark Twain' s seat

C. to buy two tickets

D. to lend money to Mark Twain

3. How many tickets did Mark Twain buy ?

A. one B. two C. three D. four

4. The inspector came around _____ .

A. to get tickets

B. to check the tickets

C. to collect the tickets

D. to look for Mark Twain' s friend

5. Which of the following sentence is true?

A. The friend is a strange person.

B. The friend likes to hide under the seat.

C. Mark Twain didn' t buy a ticket for his friend.

D. Mark Twain bought a ticket for his friend but played a joke on him.

首先，我们通过快速阅读此文，迅速了解其基调及主旨大意：这是一则风趣幽默的故事，主要讲述生性幽默的马克·吐温为向其求助的一位朋友买了张车票，但同时与他开了一个玩笑；其次，我们看一下几个问题的题干，明确试题要求：1，马克·吐温的朋友来找他的目的；2，朋友答应了什么？3，马克·吐温买

了几张票？4，检票员来做什么？至于第五个问题，是涉及全文的正误判断题，若不对整篇文章有一个详细的了解，我们是没有十分把握的，所以根据前面所述的“先易后难，先简后繁”的原则，我们把其视为稍难之题而最后解决；接下来，我们就可以根据问题边阅读边做题了。短文中第一段马克·吐温的朋友所言：“I wish you would buy me a ticket back to London”，从这句话中我们即可确定第一题的正确答案应为 B：他想让马克·吐温为其买张票。第二段讲马克·吐温建议朋友在列车上藏在其座位下边，朋友同意了，所以我们当然要选 B 作为第二题的正确答案。第三段开始句中“bought two tickets”明确告诉我们第三题的答案应为 B。当我们带着“检票员来做什么？”这个问题看到第三段中的“The inspector came around for tickets”这句话时，就会毫不犹豫地选出第四题的答案 B。这几个相对容易的试题做完之后，我们就可集中精力做第五题了。通过做前几个题时对文章的阅读，我们已经了解到马克·吐温已买了两张票，一张就是为他朋友买的，而他朋友是应马克·吐温的要求才藏在座位下面，并非自己怪异，乐意这么做，我们通过这样的推理判断不难选出第五题的正确答案 D。

例二：

A man went to an insurance office to have his life insured. The manager of the office asked him how old his parents were when they died. “Mother had a bad heart and died at the age of 30. Father died of TB when he was 35.”

“I’m sorry,” said the manager, “We can not insure your life as your parents were not healthy.”

As the man was leaving the office, depressed, he met a clerk who had overheard their conversation. “You must not be so frank and tell the truth,” said the clerk, “no office will insure you if you speak like that. Use your imagination a little.”

The men went to another office and was shown into the manager's room. "Well, young man, How old were your parents when they died?" "Mother was 93 and she died from a fall off the bike. Father was 98 and he died while he was playing football."

The manager immediately agreed to insure the man's life.

1. What did the man want to do?

A. He wanted to work in an insurance office.

B. He wanted to live a better life.

C. He wanted to make a friend with the manager of the insurance office.

D. He wanted to have a life insurance.

2. The man's mother probably died _____.

A. of heart attack

B. of TB

C. from a fall off her bike

D. while playing football

3. The man's father died _____.

A. while playing football.

B. at the age of 98

C. when he was 93

D. in his mid - thirties

4. "Use your imagination a little" is equal in meaning to _____.

A. "Think before you do"

B. "Don't be a fool"

C. "Create something valuable"

D. "Say something untrue"

5. The manager of another office immediately agreed to insure the man's life because _____.

A. the man was very clever

B. he thought the man might live a long life

C. the manager was very kind

D. the manager was foolish

第一步，快速略读全文，了解文章所讲的大致内容：一位想买人寿保险的男子因说出其父母年龄不大就去世的实情而被做保险的经理拒绝，后经人点拨，谎称其父母长寿才被同意入保险。第二步，阅读一下每个问题的题干，明确考题要求：1. 该人想做什么？2. 该人的母亲可能死因？3. 他的父亲死于？4. “稍动下心眼”意指？5. 为何另一个办公室的经理立即同意给他办人寿保险？第三步，针对问题，目的明确地边阅读边做题，不浪费考试的宝贵时间。短文的第一句话即可回答第一个问题。“have his life insured” means “have a life insurance”. 那么第一题的答案显然就是 D。第一段中的 “Mother had a bad heart” 已说明他的母亲心脏不好，那么她的可能死因就是 “heart attack” 了，所以第二题的答案毫无疑问是 A。第一段的最后一句 “Father died of TB when he was 35” 中的 35 也可说成是 “mid - thirties”. 当然第三题的答案也非 D 莫属了。第四题在原文中直接找不到答案，需要了解文章主旨，进行推理判断，因而应把其作为难题，最后对付。当我们了解到该人得到别人的提示，谎称其父母都是长寿之人时，再做第五题就得得心应手了。另一个经理肯定是认为该人也会像其父母那样长寿，给他做人寿保险不会赔的，所以第五题的答案自然而然地就是 B 了。第四步，我们回过头来解答稍难一点的第四题。既然提醒者称该人如果总是对办人寿保险的人坦言相告，就没有人会给他办保险，那么 “Use your imagination a little” 在此当然意指 “Say something untrue”，即答案 D。

三、解题方法

解题方法大致有对应法、排除法、推测法和归纳法四种。

1. 对应法是“对号入座”选择答案，即对考题的四个选项，能从短文中找到其中一项的相应情节或词语，来证明选择的正确。

2. 排除法是逐个排除不正确的选项，选择未排除项。

3. 推测法是利用语言信号、情节线索、词义联系、上下文关系等进行推测，获得正确答案。

4. 归纳法是利用诸多细节归纳段落中心思想，或综合各段落中心思想归纳短文主题或标题的方法。

解题时要根据文章的内容和考题的要求选用不同的解题方法。

例一：

The salt at the seaside was very cheap so a merchant bought a good supply and loaded it on his donkey's back. All went well until they came to a narrow rocky pass in the mountains with a deep stream flowing through it. The merchant was leading the donkey carefully along a slippery ledge when suddenly the donkey lost his footing and slipped heavily into the stream.

As the donkey struggled to swim against the current the water melted the salt he was carrying and washed it away, leaving only the empty bags fixed to the saddle. With no weight to pull him down the donkey easily reached the bank and continued cheerfully on his way.

Soon afterwards the merchant decided to buy another load of salt. Once more he took his donkey to the seaside, loaded him up and set off for the mountains. As soon as they came to the narrow rocky pass the donkey remembered how easily he had lost his heavy load and how pleasant it had been traveling without it. This time he slipped into the stream on purpose and stayed there struggling in the water until the salt had quite melted away.

The merchant was not at all pleased. He had lost two good loads of salt and he suspected that the donkey had played a trick on him. He thought of a way to play a trick on the donkey in return.

The next time he went to the seaside he bought a great load of

sponges. The donkey set off happily.

"These bags are light," he thought, "and by the time I got to the pass they will be lighter still."

Before long they came to the rocky ledge. Once more the donkey rolled himself into the water and lay struggling, waiting for the load to melt away, as he had done twice before.

Instead of melting away, however, the sponges quickly soaked up the water. This time, the load on his back doubled and the donkey felt very sad as he plodded along towards the village.

1. In the first paragraph, "bought a good supply" may mean

A. bought good salt

B. bought a lot

C. bought a great load of sponges

D. supplied salt for the buyer

2. Why could the donkey reach the bank easily?

A. Because there was no load on his back any longer.

B. Because the donkey was very strong

C. Because the merchant pulled him out

D. Because he struggled to swim against the current.

3. From the passage, we know that the donkey fell into the stream three times. Which time didn't the donkey fall into it on purpose?

A. the first time

B. the second time

C. the third time

D. the second and the third time

4. Why did the donkey feel sad at the end of the story?

A. Because he was beaten by the merchant.

B. Because he had nothing to eat.

C. Because the load on his back grew heavier.

D. Because the merchant suspected him.

5. The phrase "Before long" in the last but one paragraph means