

**An American Quilt:
Readings in American
Language And Culture**

高中英语 拓展阅读

——课标话题解读

Kyle Tong (美) 王德美 编著



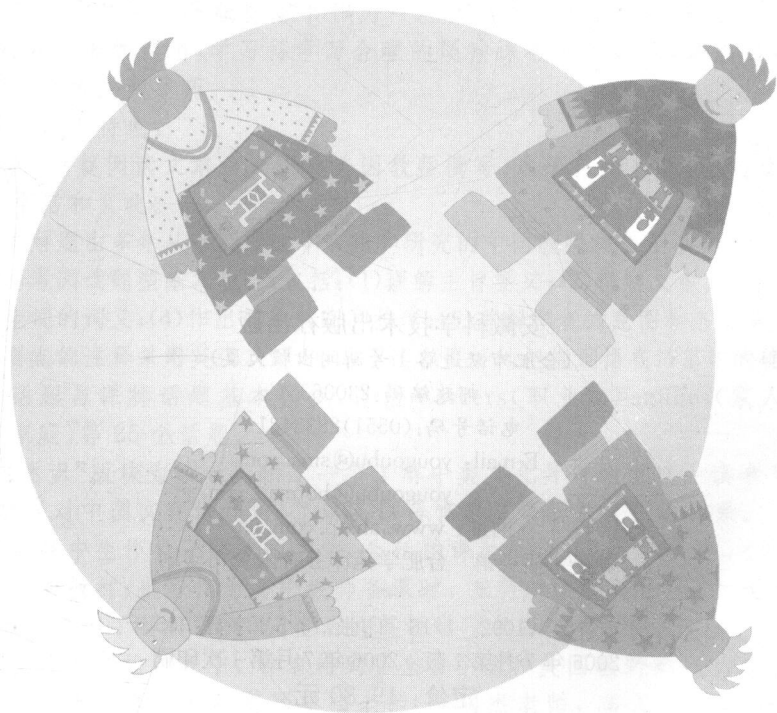
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编者的话

《英语课程标准》中明确指出：“高中英语课程应强调在进一步发展学生综合语言运用能力的基础上，特别注重提高学生用英语进行思维和表达的能力；形成跨文化交际的意识和基本的跨文化交际能力；进一步拓宽国际视野，增强爱国主义精神和民族使命感，形成健全的情感、态度、价值观，为未来发展和终身学习奠定良好的基础。”

本书的编写以《英语课程标准》中所给的话题项目表为基础，结合课标中对高中生文化学习目标的要求，如了解英语国家人们与中国人生活方式的异同，了解英语国家人们在行为举止和待人接物方面与中国人的异同等，选择能反映英语国家最突出文化特色的话题项目，帮助学生和从事英语教学的老师，通过中外文化对比，加深对中国文化的理解，了解英语语言与英语国家文化的关系，发现隐含在语言中的对他国文化的态度，了解主要英语国家重要（历史）文化现象的渊源，初步了解英语国家文化在日常生活和人们价值观中的体现。

语言学习不仅仅是学习语言，更重要的是学习一种能力，包括独立学习、处理信息、加工信息能力。本书力求在满足学生每天大量阅读丰富而地道的语言材料需要的同时，通过使用语言，帮助学生掌握一定的阅读技巧，形成良好的阅读习惯，达到提高阅读效率和语言学习的综合能力的目的。在积累和丰富语言经验的同时，拓宽对英语国家文化的了解面。中学教师既能把本书作为一种英语国家文化背景知识的备课参考资料，又能通过对本书的使用，学习科学而合理的阅读课教学的路子，掌握指导学生进行有效阅读的各种方法和技巧。

本书具有以下特色：

- 书中的 50 篇阅读文章由资深的美国教师撰写、选编。语言地道，行文优美，反映真实的美国生活和文化。

- 阅读理解题由多年从事英语教学实践和研究的中国教师和美国教师共同设计。题型设计类型和高考阅读题型基本吻合，包括：(1)理解主旨要义；(2)理解文中具体信息；(3)根据上下文推断生词的词义；(4)作出简单判断和推理；(5)理解作者的意图和态度等。

- 语言要点的注释采用英汉双解，有助于读者更好地把握词语在语篇中的确切意义。

- 文化话题与课标话题基本同步，包括 Careers（职业）、Families（家人）、Around the House（家庭）等 25 个话题。

- “文化意识”版块为读者提供了一个了解中美文化异同的窗口。读者可通过中外文化对比，加深对中国文化的理解，了解英语语言与英语国家文化的关系。

本书可供高中生作为了解美国文化、生活的课外阅读读本；可供中、小学教师作为语言能力培训的教材；也可作为高中教师备课时，难得的了解美国文化、生活的参考资料；还可作为有兴趣了解美国文化、生活的英语学习者的读本。

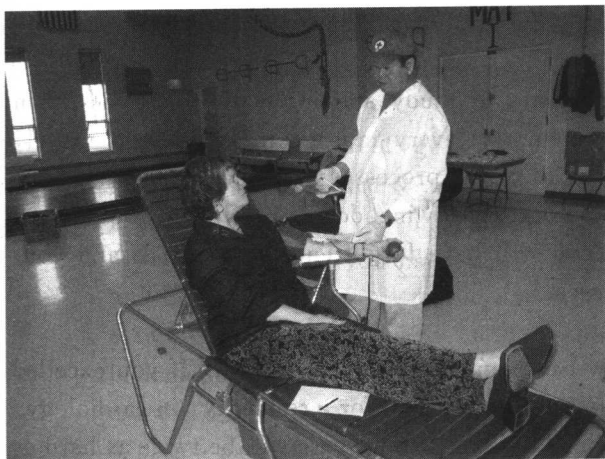
在创作编写本书的过程中，作者得到了来自中国和美国教师的大力支持。借此机会特别感谢合肥市教育局教研室邢凌初老师、陈明杰老师，美国哥伦布学校 Rebecca Haninger、Cary Paynter、Emily Rials 和 Deborah Tong 等老师为本书所提供的素材和宝贵建议。

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Chapter 1

Careers

职业

Part A

Becoming a Doctor

I went to the **college counselor's office**¹ and waited in the hallway outside her door. Ms. Burroughs **emerged**² several minutes later and welcomed me into her office. After a few pleasantries she began to ask me about my college plans. As an **icebreaker**³ she asked, "What field do you plan to enter after you complete your education?"

"Well," I replied, "I think that I would like to be a **cardiac**⁴ surgeon."

"Really?" Ms. Burroughs seemed taken aback by my declaration of this very specific career path. "Do you know the process that one must take in order to become a surgeon?"

I responded smartly, "I have the general idea."

"Well, sit back, relax, and let me tell you how one becomes a heart surgeon."

She had a smile that told me I was in for an eye-opening story.

"First of all, you have done well in school. You will need to continue to **excel**⁵ until you graduate from high school. You need to take the most difficult courses possible and work on developing study skills that will help you in the years to come."

"Then there are the college entrance tests: the SAT's and AP's and ACT's. You need to prepare and do well on them. All of this is necessary to help you to be admitted to a top university that will best serve you in your preparation for medical school."

I began to sink down a little in my chair.

"Then once you get in and start to attend the top university, you will immediately need to take a course of study that will make you a competitive **applicant**⁶ for medical school. Organic Chemistry, Physics, Biochemistry, **Anatomy**⁷, Comparative Biology will be just a few of the courses that you will take. In addition, they will want you to take History, English, and Foreign Language courses so that you look well-rounded."

"By the way, in the summer it is expected that you will intern in a hospital or science lab, or take extra courses just for fun. It will also be a good time to study and prepare for the MCAT's, the medical school **standardized test**⁸."

I slipped down a little further.

"**Assuming**⁹ you excel in all of these areas, you will be a competitive candidate for a top

medical school. After you apply, if you make the first cut, they will interview you and hopefully you will be accepted."

"Then you will **undergo**¹⁰ four **grueling**¹¹ years of study starting with the basics then becoming more and more specific. You will memorize every muscle, nerve, blood vessel, bone, and organ. You will be required to know all of the processes of human function. In the last two years you will begin actual clinical **work**, following doctors on their rounds and learning from their wisdom and experience. You will have forgotten what sleep is and your best friends will be your pen and reading glasses."

I now felt like I was physically shrinking.

"If you succeed in this step, you will now have a medical degree—an MD. If you excelled and were a top student in medical school, you might be selected for a **residency**¹² in cardiology. This would prepare you to be a cardiac surgeon. These next four years will be twice as hard as 'medical school'. You won't sleep and your **shifts**¹³ in a hospital as a resident, where you are assisting full practicing surgeons, will be up to 36 hours at a time. You will forget what the sun looks like but you will be learning to be a competent and qualified cardiac surgeon. At the end of four years you may be able to practice on your own."

She finally stopped taking.

"So you want to be a cardiac surgeon?"

I stopped **slouching**¹⁴ and sat up straight in my seat. "I do, Ms. Burroughs. I think I really do."

Language Focus 语言要点

1. college counselor's office—office where high school students meet with a school professional to discuss their college plans and options (中学内的高考咨询办公室)
2. emerge—to come out (出现, 显现)
3. icebreaker—a short conversation to make people more comfortable with each other (打破沉闷气氛的简短谈话)
4. cardiac—of or relating to the heart (心脏的)
5. excel—to do very well (优胜)
6. applicant—a person who applies for admission (to a college) (申请人)
7. anatomy—the study of human (and animal) organs, tissues, and their function (解剖学)
8. standardized test—a test that is administered throughout the country and is a measure used in admission decisions (标准化考试)
9. assuming—taking as a fact (假设, 设定为)
10. undergo—to do (经历, 经受)
11. grueling—very hard (艰难的, 累垮人的)
12. residency—a period of medical training in which a young doctor is working under an experienced physician (新医生的实习期)
13. shift—a work period (generally 8~10 hours in the US) (轮班)
14. slouching—sitting low in a chair with a curved back (没精打采的姿态)

Reading Comprehension 阅读理解

A Guess the meanings of the underlined parts from the context.

1. After a few pleasantries she began to ask me about my college plans.

- a. small crackers to eat
 - b. conversation meant to make people feel comfortable
 - c. a sunny day
 - d. a town that has a college
2. Ms. Burroughs seemed taken aback by my declaration of this very specific career path.
- a. turned her back
 - b. angry
 - c. surprised
 - d. pleased
3. After you apply, if you make the first cut, they will interview you and hopefully you will be accepted.
- a. injure with scissors
 - b. demonstrate surgical skill
 - c. are selected to be considered for possible admission
 - d. pass a part of the road that goes through the hills
4. I now felt like I was physically shrinking.
- a. becoming smaller
 - b. taking a run
 - c. seeing a psychiatrist
 - d. taking a test to prove my health

B Find out the facts.

5. The student was meeting the college counselor to ____.
- a. discuss his class schedule
 - b. be disciplined for poor behavior
 - c. talk about a classmate who was having difficulty
 - d. discuss college plans
6. To have the best chance to become a doctor, the student must try to ____.
- a. be admitted to a top university
 - b. go to community college
 - c. go directly from high school to medical school
 - d. get mediocre grades in his coursework

C Know the ideas.

7. Before going to medical school students must first ____.
- a. graduate from high school
 - b. graduate from university
 - c. graduate from community college
 - d. do not need a diploma
8. Schooling to become a doctor is ____.
- a. a short process
 - b. one that is done by most people
 - c. limited to men
 - d. a long and grueling process

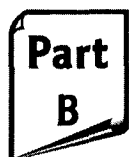
D Use your inferring competence.

9. Being a doctor in America is considered to be a/an ____ job.
- a. menial
 - b. low-paying
 - c. prestigious
 - d. easy
10. Successful applicants to medical school take courses concentrated on ____.
- a. the sciences
 - b. math
 - c. foreign languages
 - d. the humanities
11. Most doctors ____.
- a. get only an MD
 - b. tend to specialize in a particular aspect of medicine
 - c. are in general practice
 - d. do not practice medicine

Cultural Awareness 文化意识

| In China | In America |
|---|--|
| <p>Health system in China before the 1980s:</p> <p>China's health care finance system consists of three formal systems.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Government Employee Health Insurance, for government workers at all political divisional levels. Health services are mainly provided by public hospitals, and the charge for the services is reimbursed by the Government Employee Health Insurance, which is based on the government fee schedule. 2) Labor Health Insurance, is a system under which employees in state and collective enterprises and their immediate family members are entitled to full or partial (for immediate family members) benefits. The payment is made mainly out of "welfare funds" of enterprises, a portion of which are designated for medical services. 3) The rural cooperative medical system (RCMS). This system is funded by yearly contributions paid by participants and subsidies from collective welfare funds. | <p>Health system in America:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Private Insurance—employees pay into an insurance plan and when the insurance companies will pay for some if not all of the medical expenses. 2) Medicare and Medicaid—government programs that pay for health care for the elderly (over 65 years of age) and the disabled. 3) Public Health Services are provided for those who have no insurance and cannot afford to pay for medical care. |
| <p>Problems of medical treatment in some rural areas in China:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Sharing a small part of the nation's medical resources (70 percent of the population, share just 20 percent of the nation's medical resources). 2) Suffering from a severe shortage of hospitals and medical practitioners (roughly 80 percent of hospitals and doctors are concentrated in cities). 3) Unaffordable for the high medical cost. | <p>Problems of medical treatment for some people in rural areas in America:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Access to hospitals. Many hospitals in rural areas have limited services in comparison to the cities. 2) Lack of specialists. Although there are many doctors that serve rural areas, there are not always specialists in all areas. Thus if patients have specific ailments, it requires them to travel to more urban health care facilities. |
| <p>Doctors whom the patients would choose to see in China:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Female patients prefer to choose female doctors and vice versa. 2) Patients prefer to choose experienced rather than younger doctors. 3) Patients prefer to choose the doctors recommended by relatives or friends. 4) Patients prefer to choose the doctors with kind appearances. | <p>Doctors whom the patients would choose to see in America:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Specialists in the areas of their particular medical needs. 2) Some women prefer to see female doctors and vice versa. 3) Patients many times prefer doctors with a good "bed-side manner". |
| <p>Main causes of lung cancer cases rise in China:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Smoking. 2) Pollution. 3) Bad diet. 4) Not enough exercise. 5) Genes. | <p>Main causes of lung cancer cases rise in America (note: lung cancer has decreased as the smoking population has decreased):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Smoking. 2) Pollution. 3) Second-hand smoke. |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>The health situation for people in China:</p> <p>1) Up to 75 percent of urban Chinese suffer from bad health, particularly among the skilled and educated.</p> <p>2) 75.31 percent of people in Beijing are in poor health.</p> <p>3) 73.49 percent in Shanghai are in poor health.</p> <p>4) 73.41 percent of Cantonese people are in poor health.</p> <p>5) Some of the managers, clerks and other white-collar workers with good educations are in poor health.</p> <p>Poor health was defined as a person being sick, with reduced energy and fitness, but not diagnosed with a specific disease.</p> | <p>The health situation for people in big cities of America:</p> <p>1) Stress is considered a major health concern.</p> <p>2) Lack of exercise.</p> <p>3) A diet lacking in healthy foods such as fruits and vegetables.</p> |
| <p>“Early death phenomenon” in China:</p> <p>Among the people of 25 to 59 years old, the death rate for females is as high as 10.4 percent, while for males it is as high as 16.5 percent.</p> <p>Reasons for early death in China:</p> <p>1) Bad working habits.</p> <p>2) Poor disease prevention.</p> <p>3) Inadequate governmental funding.</p> <p>4) Lack of health education.</p> <p>5) Increasing working pressure.</p> | <p>Health problems for middle-aged people in America:</p> <p>1) Heart disease.</p> <p>2) Cancer.</p> <p>3) Diseases related to obesity and being overweight.</p> |
| <p>Complaints about medical services in China:</p> <p>1) From a few higher earners: A lack of choice of medical services, bad quality of medical services.</p> <p>2) From some lower incomes: cannot afford medical services, are often scared away by high medical charges.</p> | <p>Complaints about medical services in America:</p> <p>1) The high cost of health care.</p> <p>2) The lack of personal attention from doctors.</p> |
| <p>Ownership of hospitals in China:</p> <p>In the current system, more than 96 percent of all hospitals above county level are state-owned. The hospital's assets are owned by state. Government funding is only 5 percent of a hospital's total fund.</p> | <p>Ownership of hospitals in America:</p> <p>Hospitals are either privately owned, publicly run by the local or state government, or run as a non-profit corporation by organizations such as churches or other charitable groups.</p> |



Job Description

Social Studies Teacher

Williamstown John Glenn High School

Williamstown, Ohio

The Position: Williamstown John Glenn High School is seeking **qualified applicants**¹ to fill the position of Social Studies teacher at the institution. The primary **responsibility**² of the successful applicant will be to teach five sections of World History to ninth graders at the

school. The course **curriculum**³ involves an introductory examination of the major world cultures and civilizations from **ancient**⁴ times to the present. The emphasis will be on both content knowledge and skills development. Skills to be focused upon will be the development of **critical reading**⁵ and writing, and **analysis**⁶ of readings, **artifacts**⁷, and documents for both content and context. Content will be beyond the traditional emphasis on “western civilization” and will focus also upon the cultures and traditions of non-western civilizations.

In addition, the successful applicant will have the responsibility of leading a homeroom as well as other responsibilities deemed necessary and appropriate by the **principal**⁸.

The School: Williamstown John Glenn High School is a grade 9~12 high school of 1,600 students. The school is located in the suburbs 11 miles from Columbus, the capital city of the state. Williamstown is a town of 30,000 **residents**⁹, and is a fast-growing and **vibrant**¹⁰ community. The town has the advantage of being close to Columbus, which affords it easy **access to**¹¹ the many cultural, sporting, and **recreational activities**¹² available in the greater Columbus area. The school offers both a basic and **college preparatory**¹³ based curriculum with honors and 15 **Advanced Placement**¹⁴ (AP) courses offered. 65% of high school graduates go on to four-year colleges, with another 20% attending two-year **community colleges**¹⁵. The school also offers a full **array**¹⁶ of extracurricular activities such as theater, school newspaper, yearbook, and 26 **interscholastic sports**¹⁷ for boys and girls.

Requirements: The successful candidate must have a **bachelor's degree**¹⁸ in History or another appropriate social science, and **certification**¹⁹ in Secondary School Social Studies. A master's degree would be preferred and an emphasis in non-western course study is a must. The ability to coach an **athletic team**²⁰ or lead an extracurricular activity is a plus. 2~5 years teaching experience is preferred but not required. Salary is **commensurate**²¹ with qualifications and experience.

Send letter of interest, **resume**²², and three **letters of recommendation**²³ to:

Principal

Williamstown John Glenn High School

Williamstown, Ohio

Language Focus 语言要点

1. qualified applicant—people who are appropriate for the job (符合条件的申请人)
2. responsibility—focus of the job (职责)
3. curriculum—course of study (课程)
4. ancient—early history (古代的)
5. critical reading—ability to not only read literally (鉴赏性阅读)
6. analysis—to be able to interpret and make judgements (分析)
7. artifact—the object left from earlier civilization (史前古器物)
8. principal—head of school (校长)
9. resident—citizen; inhabitant (居民)
10. vibrant—active; many things occurring in the community (有生机活力的)
11. access to—easy to get to (易于进入, 开展)
12. recreational activity—the thing done during one's free time (课外活动)
13. college preparatory—focus on making students ready for university (升学预备)
14. Advanced Placement—National Subject Tests (一种美国国家级高中课程考试)

15. community college—junior college; two-year college (社区大学)
16. array—range of opportunities (一系列)
17. interscholastic sports—athletic competitions played between high schools (校际间的体育比赛)
18. bachelor's degree—university diploma (学士学位)
19. certification—a credential to teach in a particular subject area or grade level (证书, 证明)
20. athletic team—an organized high school sport team which competes with other schools (学校运动队)
21. commensurate—based upon; consistent with (相称的, 相一致的)
22. resume—a CV (curriculum vitae); a document describing one's qualifications (履历, 个人简历)
23. letters of recommendation—letters written on your behalf by your supervisors and fellow teachers (推荐信)

Reading Comprehension 阅读理解

A Guess the meanings of the underlined parts from the context.

1. Williamstown John Glenn High School is seeking qualified applicants to fill the position of Social Studies teacher at the institution.
 a. hire
 b. place in a certain manner
 c. add to
 d. complement existing teachers
2. In addition, the successful applicant will have the responsibility of leading a homeroom as well as other responsibilities deemed necessary and appropriate by the principal.
 (1) a. going to student's house
 b. cleaning the classroom
 c. in charge of a group of students
 d. being an administrator
 (2) a. given as a command
 b. perceived as the right thing
 c. randomly assigned
 d. allowed
3. The school offers both a basic and college preparatory based curriculum with honors and 15 Advanced Placement (AP) courses offered.
 a. courses that are accelerated
 b. given awards
 c. remedial classes
 d. a standard course of study

B Find out the facts.

4. The "successful applicant" will be teaching students in _____.
 a. elementary school b. junior high school c. middle school d. high school
5. The teacher is required to have _____.
 a. a bachelor's degree
 b. a master's degree
 c. teaching experience
 d. ability to coach an athletic team

C Know the ideas.

6. Williamstown is _____.
 a. a large city
 b. a suburban community
 c. a farm town
 d. a community that is isolated
7. The World History course is based on a study of _____.
 a. American history
 b. western civilizations
 c. non-western cultures
 d. western and non-western traditions

D Use your inferring competence.

8. The school's emphasis is on _____.

- a. basic education
c. college placement
9. Who will ultimately hire the teacher?
a. The school board.
c. The principal.
10. The successful applicant will _____.
a. have very specific knowledge about one subject
b. have no experience
c. be able to do a wide range of activities at the school
d. be best teaching university students
- b. high school diploma
d. all of the above
- b. Teachers in the department.
d. The parents at the school.

Cultural Awareness 文化意识

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| Written material needed in applying for a position as a high school teacher in China: 1) College graduation diploma. 2) Certification of Chinese Mandarin. 3) Certification of a teacher's qualification. 4) Resume. | Written material needed in applying for a position as a high school teacher in America: 1) A letter of interest. 2) A resume. 3) Three letters of recommendation. 4) Bachelor's degree diploma. |
| Some extracurricular activities in high schools in China: 1) Playing sports. 2) Playing musical instruments. 3) Drawing. 4) Going to foreign language training schools or centers. | Some extracurricular activities in high schools in America: 1) Clubs. 2) Interscholastic athletics. 3) Drama (performing arts). 4) Music (voice and instrumental). |
| What a high school teacher does in China: 1) Generally, teach one scholastic subject in the curriculum. 2) Help the students get academically and psychologically well prepared for the college entrance exams. 3) Conduct moral and character education to the students. | What a high school teacher does in America: 1) Teach classes. 2) Lead a homeroom. 3) Help out with extracurricular activities. 4) Coach an athletic team. 5) Perform other responsibilities designated by the principal. |

参考答案

Part A 1.b 2.c 3.c 4.a 5.d 6.a 7.b 8.d 9.c 10.a 11.b
Part B 1.a 2.(1)c (2)b 3.a 4.d 5.a 6.b 7.d 8.d 9.c 10.c



Chapter 2

Families

家人

Part A

Growing Up

A baby holds a blanket she calls “blankie”. She screams when “blankie” must go into the washing machine. By the time she is not a baby anymore, her “blankie” is a **filthy**¹ rag full of holes.

Instead of “blankie”, she holds the handles of a shiny new bicycle. It is difficult to ride at first. She must practice with training wheels. When these are removed, the bicycle **wobbles**² and **swerves**³ and she screams, but her father is always at her side, ready to catch her if she falls. Very soon, she rides fast, without anyone holding on.

On her first day of kindergarten, she carries a book bag around her shoulders. Inside it are a pencil, a notebook, and a box of crayons. She also holds a lunch box, which her mother has filled with a sandwich, an apple, a juice-box, and her favorite—a **brownie**⁴ for dessert. She will leave kindergarten carrying knowledge: letters, colors, and numbers.

While she is still in elementary school, her parents give her an **allowance**⁵ of money, which she earns by doing all her **chores**⁶. She buys candy, clothes, necklaces, and other small things. She thinks she has too much homework.

Soon she is thirteen years old and in middle school. Her face is thick with powder and glitter. She carries her first love for a boy, whom she wants to ask to her first dance. She does something her friends think is too boyish; she plays video games.

High school finally arrives. She carries a cellular phone. She carries the long-awaited driver's license; she hopes to carry a key to her very own car. She and her friends carry too much stuff. Athletes carry **tennis racquets**⁷, football pads, and so on. Musicians carry instruments in black cases.

Now she is eighteen. She is one of the seniors, who are the oldest in high school. She is holding a **college application**⁸. She is writing more essays than she believes it is possible for one student to write. She is preparing for standardized tests, which will test her abilities in mathematics, reading, writing, and reasoning.

Soon she will carry her high school diploma. She will not see her classmates again until the class reunion five years from now. But she is ready to move on to college. After college, it

will be time to hold a job application, a wedding ring, a baby...but she is not thinking about these things yet.

Her **attic**⁹ is full. "Blankie" is partially eaten by moths. The shiny new bicycle is no longer shiny and new, but rusts in the corner. Inside the kindergarten bookbag, the pencil is **worn down**¹⁰ to an inch, the notebook is filled up, and the crayons have melted in the heat of the attic. Letters, colors, and numbers have turned into **literature**¹¹, **fine art**¹², and **calculus**¹³. The clothes bought with allowance money are too small, and the jewelry is broken. The little purse is full of empty **make-up containers**¹⁴. So much for all the love, worry, and **significance**¹⁶ we put into the little things we hold.

Language Focus 语言要点

1. filthy—dirty (肮脏的)
2. wobble—to move in a shaky fashion, usually without pattern (摇晃, 颤动)
3. swerve—to move aside; to change direction (突然转向)
4. brownie—a sweet chocolate dessert; similar to a cookie (果仁巧克力饼干)
5. allowance—an amount of money given on a weekly or monthly basis, usually from parents to their children (家长给孩子的零花钱, 一般为一周或一个月一次)
6. chore—household work that is done by family members (家务活)
7. tennis racquet—an instrument necessary to play tennis (网球拍)
8. a college application—a form that needs to be completed when one applies to college (大学入学申请表)
9. attic—a room or space above the top floor of a house (阁楼)
10. wear down—to cease to be useful due to repeated use (磨损, 用坏, 用完)
11. literature—the written word, often in an artful form of expression (文学, 文学作品)
12. fine art—visual expressions of art, include drawing, painting, and photography (美术, 艺术作品)
13. calculus—mathematics describing non-linear expressions (高等数学中的微积分)
14. make-up container—a box or another holding device which contains make-up (化妆盒/包)
15. significance—importance (重要意义, 重要性)

Reading Comprehension 阅读理解

A Guess the meanings of the underlined parts from the context.

1. She must practice with training wheels.
a. a study method for school b. a driver education car
c. extra wheels to help a person learn to ride a bicycle
d. parts of a very large machine
2. "Blankie" is partially eaten by moths.
a. a monster that eats people b. a corrosive chemical
c. a very hungry person d. an insect that eats wool and other linens
3. The shiny new bicycle is no longer shiny and new, but rusts in the corner.
a. is not used and is slowly falling apart b. a name for the bike
c. the color of the bike
d. a device that helps the bike go faster

B Find out the facts.

4. Before kindergarten, the child learns how to _____.
a. do chores b. complete an application
c. play tennis d. ride a bike
5. When she is a senior, the student is _____ years of age.
a. 16 b. 18 c. 14 d. 20

● Know the ideas.

6. After high school, the girl intends to _____.
a. get married b. get a job c. go to college d. repeat her senior year
7. In America you receive a diploma after _____.
a. kindergarten b. elementary school c. middle school d. high school

Ⓓ Use your inferring competence.

8. As she gets older, life becomes more _____.
a. simple b. easy c. complicated d. hard
9. The "blankie" for the baby provides _____.
a. security b. warmth
c. cover d. a clean piece of clothing
10. Compared to high school, kindergarten is _____.
a. more serious b. time consuming c. fun d. stressful

Cultural Awareness 文化意识

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|---|--|
| <p>Some activities for kindergarten kids in China:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Games (jigsaw puzzle, hawk catches the chicks, building block, throwing and catching sand/rice bags). 2) Singing children's songs. 3) Counting the numbers and doing simple arithmetic; learning the strokes of Chinese characters. 4) Handcrafting (paper-folding, paper cutting). | <p>Some activities for kindergarten kids in America:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Games, puzzles, drawing with crayons. 2) Singing songs and reciting other poetry or rhymes. 3) Learning to count; learning to write all the letters in the alphabet. |
| <p>School subjects required for the elementary school students in China:</p> <p>Chinese, mathematics, nature and society, music, PE, drawing, foreign language, ideology and moral character, science, information technology.</p> | <p>School subjects required for the elementary school students in America:</p> <p>Reading and writing of English, mathematics, science, social studies, PE, music, computers, keyboarding, art.</p> |
| <p>School subjects required for the middle School students in China:</p> <p>Chinese, maths, foreign language, politics, history, geography, music, art, physics, chemistry, biology, PE, information technology.</p> | <p>School subjects required for the middle school students in America:</p> <p>Reading and writing of English, mathematics, science, social studies, PE, computers, music, keyboarding, art, foreign language.</p> |
| <p>School subjects required for the high school students in China:</p> <p>Chinese, mathematics, foreign language politics, history, geography, music, art, physics, chemistry, biology, PE, information technology.</p> | <p>School subjects required for the high school students in America:</p> <p>English, history/social studies, mathematics, science, foreign language, PE, music and art, computers.</p> |