

E n g l i s h

主编 陈文珊

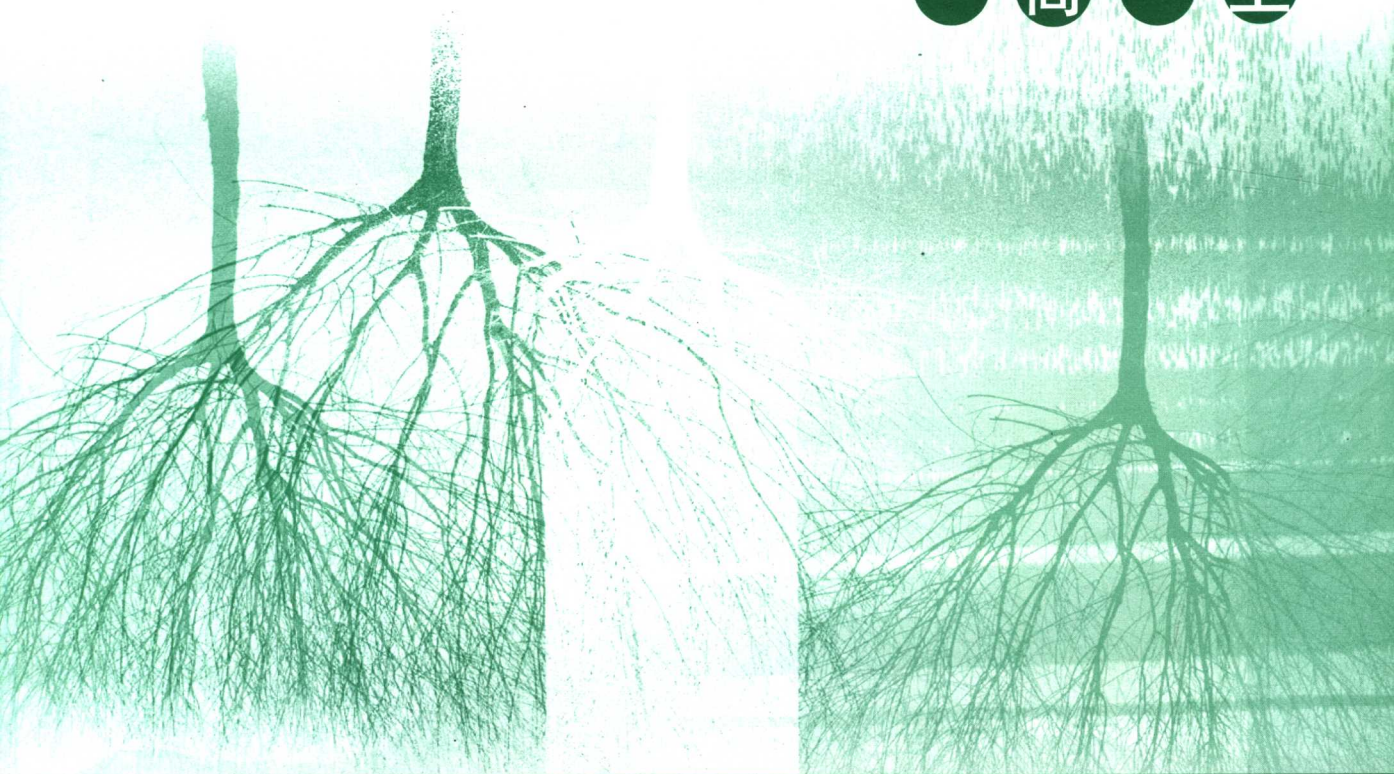
Fast Reading

for S1A

高中英语

快速阅读

● 高一上



华东师范大学出版社

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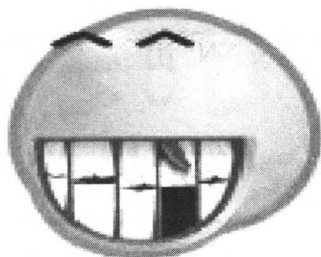
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Funny Language Jokes

When I lived in Spain, some Spanish friends of mine decided to visit England by car. Before they left, they asked me for advice about how to find accommodation. I suggested that they should stay at “bed and breakfast” houses, because this kind of accommodation gives a foreign visitor a good chance to speak English with the family. My friends listened to my advice, but they came back with some funny stories.

“We didn’t stay at bed and breakfast houses,” they said, “because we found that most families were away on holiday.”

I thought this was strange. Finally I understood what had happened. My friends spoke little English, and they thought “VACANCIES” meant “holidays”, because the Spanish word for “holidays” is “vacaciones”. So they did not go to house where the sign outside said “VACANCIES”, which in English means there are free rooms. Then my friends went to house where the sign said “NO VACANCIES”, because they thought this meant the people who owned the house were not away on holiday. But they found that these houses were all full. As a result, they stayed at hotels!

We laughed about this and about mistakes my friends made in reading other signs. In Spanish, the word “DIVERSION” means fun. In English, it means that workmen are repairing the road, and that you must take a different road. When my friends saw the word “DIVERSION” on a road sign, they thought they were going to have fun. Instead, the road ended in a large hole.

English people have problems too when they learn foreign languages. Once in Paris, when someone offered me some more coffee, I said “Thank you” in French. I meant that I would like some more. However, to my surprise the coffee pot was taken away! Later I found out that “Thank you” in French means “No, thank you.”

Choose the best answers:

1. My Spanish friends wanted advice about _____.
 - A. learning English
 - B. finding places to stay in England
 - C. driving their car on English roads
 - D. going to England by car
2. I suggested that they stay at "bed and breakfast" houses because _____.
 - A. they would be able to practice their English
 - B. it would be much cheaper than staying in hotels
 - C. it would be convenient for them to have dinner
 - D. there would be no problem about finding accommodation there
3. "NO VACANCIES" in English means _____.
 - A. no free rooms
 - B. free rooms
 - C. not away on holiday
 - D. holidays
4. If you see a road sign that says "Diversion", you will _____.
 - A. fall into a hole
 - B. have a lot of fun and enjoy yourself
 - C. find that the road is blocked by crowds of people
 - D. have to take a different road
5. When someone offered me more coffee and I said "Thank you" in French, I _____.
 - A. didn't really want any more coffee
 - B. wanted them to take the coffee pot away
 - C. really wanted some more coffee
 - D. wanted to express my politeness

Score: _____

Name: _____ No. _____

Answer: _____



A Flight Ticket Manual

If your reservations are booked far enough ahead of time, the airline may offer to mail your tickets to you. However, if you don't receive the tickets and the airline's records show that they mailed them, you may have to go through some lost-ticket procedures. It is safer to check the telephone directory for a conveniently located travel agency or airline ticket office and buy your tickets there.

As soon as you receive your ticket, make sure all the information on it is correct, especially the airports (if any of the cities has more than one) and the flight dates. Have any necessary corrections made immediately.

It's a good idea to reconfirm your reservations before you start your trip. Flight schedules sometimes change. On international trips, most airlines require that you reconfirm your onward or return reservations at least 72 hours before each flight. If you don't, your reservations may be canceled.

Check your tickets as you board each flight to ensure that only the correct coupon has been removed by the airline agent.

Words: 200

Suggested reading time: 2.5 min.

Choose the best answers:

- Numbering the paragraphs 1 through 4 as they now appear, choose the option that places them in chronological order.
 - 2, 3, 4, 1
 - 3, 1, 2, 4
 - 3, 2, 1, 4

- D. 1, 2, 3, 4
2. Notice that this manual is written in the second person, employing the “you” pronoun. Considering the purpose of the manual, is this the best choice and why?
- A. Yes, because it avoids the necessity to choose between male and female pronouns.
 - B. Yes, because the people who will be doing the traveling are addressed directly.
 - C. No, because not all people travel by plane.
 - D. No, because it makes readers unnecessarily uncomfortable to be addressed directly.
3. Why is it suggested that you buy your tickets from a “conveniently located” agency or office?
- A. Because you can stop on your way to the airport to pick up your tickets.
 - B. Because you can pick your tickets up rather than relying on the mail.
 - C. Because the airlines themselves often make mistakes in issuing tickets.
 - D. Because it is good to support local businesses.
4. Which is a possible result of not following the advice offered in the first sentence of paragraph 2?
- A. You might fly into the right city, but the wrong airport.
 - B. You might miss your flight, because the date was improperly recorded.
 - C. You might not be allowed to board your flight because the name on the ticket doesn't match that on your ID.
 - D. Any of the above could happen as a result of not following the advice.
5. Whom is this manual probably written for?
- A. Salesman.
 - B. Airline company.
 - C. Traveler.
 - D. Travel agency.

Score: _____

Name: _____ No. _____

Answer: _____



Babies' Behavior

For some time past it has been widely accepted that babies — and other creatures — learn to do things because certain acts lead to “rewards”; and there is no reason to doubt that this is true. But it used also to be widely believed that effective rewards, at least in the early stages, had to be directly related to such basic physiological “drives” as thirst or hunger. In other words, a baby would learn if he got food or drink or some sort of physical comfort, not otherwise.

It is now clear that this is not so. Babies will learn to behave in the world with no reward except the successful outcome.

Papousek began his studies by using milk in the normal way to “reward” the babies and so teach them to carry out some simple movements, such as turning the head to one side or the other. Then he noticed that a baby who had had enough to drink would refuse the milk but would still go on making the learned response with clear signs of pleasure. So he began to study the children's responses in situations where no milk was provided. He quickly found that children as young as four months would learn to turn their heads to right or left if the movement “switched on” a display of lights — and indeed that they were capable of learning quite complex turns to bring about this result, for instance, two left or two right, or even to make as many as three turns to one side.

Papousek's light display was placed directly in front of the babies and he made the interesting observation that sometimes they would not turn back to watch the lights closely although they would “smile and bubble” when the display came on. Papousek concluded that it was not primarily the sight of the lights which pleased them, it was the success they were achieving in solving the problem, in mastering the skill, and that there exists a fundamental human urge to make sense of the world and bring it under intentional control.

Choose the best answers:

1. According to the author, babies learn to do things which _____.
 - A. are directly related to pleasure
 - B. will bring them a feeling of success
 - C. will meet their physical needs
 - D. will satisfy their curiosity
2. Papousek noticed in his studies that a baby _____.
 - A. would make learned responses when it saw the milk
 - B. would carry out learned movements when it had enough to drink
 - C. would continue the simple movements without being given milk
 - D. would turn its head to right or left when it had enough to drink
3. In Papousek's experiment babies make learned movements of the head in order to _____.
 - A. have the lights turned on
 - B. please their parents
 - C. be rewarded with milk
 - D. be praised
4. The babies would "smile and bubble" at the lights because _____.
 - A. the lights were directly related to some basic "drives"
 - B. the sight of the lights was interesting
 - C. they need not turn back to watch the lights
 - D. they succeeded in "switching on" the lights
5. According to Papousek, the pleasure babies get in achieving something is a reflection of _____.
 - A. a basic human desire to understand and control the world
 - B. the satisfaction of certain physiological needs
 - C. their strong desire to solve complex problems
 - D. a fundamental human urge to display their learned skills

Score: _____

Name: _____ No. _____

Answer: _____



The Winter Olympics Stamps

The Winter Olympics, which is also called the White Olympics, were first held as a separate competition in 1924 at Chamonix Mont Blanc, France. At this time, many colorful stamps had been published to mark the great games. The first stamp marking the opening of the White Olympics was issued on January 25, 1932 in the United States to celebrate the third White Olympics. From then on, issuing stamps during the White Olympics became a tradition.

To observe the fourth Winter Olympic Games, a group of stamps were published in Germany in November, 1935. The five rings of the Olympics were printed on the front of the sportswear. It was the first time that the symbol appeared on stamps of the Winter Olympics.

In the 1950s, the stamps of this kind became more colorful. When the Winter Olympics came, the host countries as well as the non-host countries published stamps to mark those games.

China also published four stamps in February, 1980, when the Chinese sportsmen began to march into the area of the White Olympics.

Japan is the only country in Asia that has ever held the White Olympics. Altogether 14,500 million stamps were sold to raise funds for this sports meet.

Different kinds of sports were printed on these small stamps. People can enjoy the beauty of the wonderful movements of some athletics.

Words: 224

Suggested reading time: 3 min.

Choose the best answers:

1. People have published stamps marking the Winter Olympics _____.
 - A. since the first White Olympics in 1932
 - B. when the first Olympics games started
 - C. since the third Winter Olympics in 1932
 - D. on the same day of the third Olympics
2. When was the first time that the symbol appeared on stamps of the Winter Olympics?
 - A. The First Winter Olympics.
 - B. The Second Winter Olympics.
 - C. The Third Winter Olympics.
 - D. The Fourth Winter Olympics.
3. From the passage we can see that _____.
 - A. the Chinese sportsmen began to take part in the Winter Olympics in 1980
 - B. it was in 1980 that the Chinese began to publish stamps
 - C. the Chinese began to take part in the Olympics games in the 1980s
 - D. China held the Winter Olympics in 1980
4. Which of the following statements is NOT true?
 - A. The third Winter Olympics opened on January 25, 1932.
 - B. Publishing stamps is a way of raising money for the sports meet.
 - C. In Asia only Japan held the Winter Olympics.
 - D. In the 1950s all the countries published stamps to mark the games.
5. When was the first stamp of the White Olympics' opening issued?
 - A. 1924.
 - B. 1932.
 - C. 1935.
 - D. 1950.

Score: _____

Name: _____ No. _____

Answer: _____



Smoking

Read the following passage and choose the most suitable heading from this list for each paragraph of the passage. Note that there is one extra heading.

- A. Smoking brings many psychological benefits.
- B. Tobacco is an important source of income to the government.
- C. Smoking is sure to cause diseases.
- D. It's a short-sighted policy to depend on tobacco for money.
- E. The advertisement for it is dishonest and harmful.
- F. The tobacco industry makes high quality advertisement for smoking.

1.

If you smoke and you still don't believe that there's a definite link between smoking and bronchial troubles, heart disease and lung cancer, then you are certainly deceiving yourself. Just have a look at those people in hospital with these diseases and count how many of them do not smoke, you may be surprised at the number. Even these few people might be passive smokers without realizing it.

2.

Tobacco is a wonderful commodity to tax. It's almost like a tax on our daily bread. In tax revenue alone, the government of Britain collects enough from smokers to pay for its entire educational facilities. So while the authorities point out ever so carefully that smoking may be harmful, it doesn't do to shout too loudly about it.

3.

The advertising of tobacco is one of the problems. We are never shown pictures of real smokers coughing up their lungs early in the morning. That would never do. The

advertisements always depict handsome, clean and shaven young men. They suggest it is manly to smoke, even positively healthy! Smoking is associated with the great open-air life, with beautiful girls, true love and togetherness. What utter nonsense!

4.

Of course tobacco can help government to raise money. However, while money is eagerly collected in vast sums with one hand, it is paid out in increasingly vaster sums with the other. Enormous amounts are spent on cancer research and on efforts to cure people suffering from the disease. Countless valuable lives are lost. In the long run, there is no doubt that everybody would be much better off if smoking were banned altogether.

5.

Smoking can provide constant consolation. When I feel worried or nervous, I just get a cigarette and everything seems to get right. After a day's hard work, the thing I want to do most is smoking. It can be even better with a cup of coffee. It's so enjoyable and relaxing that it relieves stresses of everyday life. So why bother to ban it and take the pleasure from us.

Words: 343

Suggested reading time: 3 min.

Name: _____ No. _____

Score: _____

Answer: _____



Mixed-Ability Teaching

We find that bright children are rarely held back by mixed-ability teaching. On the contrary, both their knowledge and experience are enriched. We feel that there are many disadvantages in streaming pupils. It does not take into account the fact that children develop at different rates. It can have a bad effect on both the bright and the not-so-bright child. After all, it can be quite discouraging to be at the bottom of the top grade!

Besides, it is rather unreal to grade people just according to their intellectual ability. This is only one aspect of their total personality. We are concerned to develop the abilities of all our pupils to the full, not just their academic ability. We also value personal qualities and social skills, and we find that mixed-ability teaching contributes to all these aspects of learning.

In our classroom, we work in various ways. The pupils often work in groups: this gives them the opportunity to learn to cooperate, to share, and to develop leadership skills. They also learn how to cope with personal problems as well as learning how to think, to make decisions, to analyze and evaluate, and to communicate effectively. The pupils learn from each other as well as from the teacher. Sometimes the pupils work in pairs; sometimes they work on individual tasks and assignments, and they can do this at their own speed. They also have some formal class teaching when this is appropriate. We encourage our pupils to use the library, and we teach them the skills they need in order to do this efficiently. An advanced pupil can do advanced work: it does not matter what age the child is. We expect our pupils to do their best, not their least, and we give them every encouragement to attain this goal.

Words: 301

Suggested reading time: 3.5 min.