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4

Reading & Vocabulary Development

中学生百科英语

Concepts & Comments

CNN®

Patricia Ackert | Linda Lee



清华大学出版社

清华中学英语分级读物

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Concepts & Comments

编 A 夏大平 学大平 京北：址：地

100084 编：地

010-62788844 址：地

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Patricia Ackert, Linda Lee

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出版说明

《中学生百科英语》(*Reading & Vocabulary Development*)是一套畅销世界各地的英语阅读与词汇训练丛书。该丛书2002年在中国内地面世以来,受到全国各地教师与学生的好评。读者一致反映该丛书内容丰富有趣、具有很强的知识性与科学性,练习题目设计完善,符合中国学生学习的要求。随着国外原版教材的改版更新,我们及时引进了新一版教材,推出《中学生百科英语》第二版。新一版的《中学生百科英语》保留了原书的框架,但在阅读材料、教学法和练习题目上都有所改进,更加符合教学需要和认知规律。它既可以用于课堂教学使用,同时又是很好的课外训练图书。

《中学生百科英语》(第二版)一套4册,可供不同层次的学生选用。如果从低级到高级连续使用,学习效果会更好。第1册可供英语程度较好的初一学生使用,第2、3、4册依次递进。全部4册学完后可达到或超过高考水平。以下是本系列阅读教材的结构:

级 别	总词汇量 (个)	重点学习词汇 (个)
第1级 Facts & Figures	1380	500
第2级 Thoughts & Notions	1800	500
第3级 Cause & Effect	2500	700
第4级 Concepts & Comments	3000	500

每个级别除了主课文和练习外,还包括练习答案、CNN录像文字、单元测试题及答案以及课文朗读CD。CNN录像DVD由于版权关系,仅提供给用此书作教材的学校,请选用此教材的学校或教师同我社联系(c-service@tup.tsinghua.edu.cn),在出具相关证明后,我们将免费提供一份录像资料。学生个人使用,可以利用提供的录像文字材料,做阅读理解练习。

最后,祝使用本套图书的读者在获得知识、开阔视野的同时,英语学习取得长足进步!

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本书使用说明

《中学生百科英语4——*Concepts & Comments*》注重扩大学生的词汇量和提高阅读理解能力。重点提高学生理解文章主旨大意和通过上下文猜测词义的能力。使用本书的学生需要已经掌握2000个左右基础单词。本书词汇量3000个，其中重点学习词汇量500余个。

*Concepts & Comments*是中学生百科英语系列新增的一员。在前三册的基础上，本书进一步系统地提高学生阅读、词汇、语法技能。适合中高级英语程度的读者使用。

《中学生百科英语4——*Concepts & Comments*》的指导思想

- 主题式阅读。本书的5个单元每个单元都围绕一个主题，如艺术、国际组织、世界各地、科技、健康等。

- 系统地呈现和复现词汇。学生的首要任务之一是构建一个常用的基础词库。本书每课约有24个新词，用粗体表示。其中下划线的单词页边有图示或文字注释。所有这些生词都在本课（包括练习）中多次出现，并在以后的课文中系统地复现。

- 教学设计思想。阅读能力高低对学生今后的学业发展、个人生活、事业生涯都有重要影响。*Concepts & Comments*一书的核心目标是培养学生的阅读能力。基于这一目标，本书设计了丰富多样的练习形式：阅读理解、扩大词汇量、根据文章内容推理、找出文章主旨大意、确定因果关系、快速阅读、归纳、释义、理解事情发展的过程等。本书还注重微技能的练习，如对短语动词、复合词、关联词语和代名词的练习。

《中学生百科英语4——*Concepts & Comments*》的体例结构

本书共分5个单元，每个单元有4课，每课均有丰富的练习和活动。

- 设问导读（“Before You Read” Questions）。阅读前的问题，充分调动学生思维活动，激发学生阅读兴趣。

- “望文生义”（Context Clues）。每单元开始都有一个词汇热身训练：通过上下文

推断词义。预习一些课文中将出现的非常重要的词汇。

- 词汇练习 (Vocabulary)。共有两道大题。利用课文以外的句子练习课文中学习的生词。

- 词汇复习 (Vocabulary Review)。通过填空、同义词、反义词等练习形式, 综合复习以前学过的词汇。

- 阅读理解 (Comprehension)。首先是根据课文内容设置的正误判断或多项选择题, 然后是问答题。有些问答题需要学生进行推理和讨论。这些题目也可以留作书面作业, 练习学生写作能力。

- 新! 阅读策略 (Reading Strategies)。学生如果要在学业上取得优异成绩, 必须掌握一些重要的阅读技能, 如做摘要、引申、总结因果关系等。本书精心设计了练习, 帮助学生掌握阅读策略。

- 词汇扩展 (Vocabulary Expansion)。通过搭配、词形变化、前缀后缀等练习, 帮助学生扩大词汇量。

- 语法 (Grammar)。每课后都有一组语法练习, 强化课文中出现的句型结构, 本册中的语法点包括代名词、冠词、复合名词、动词时态等。

- 写作 (Writing)。每课最后一个栏目是写作练习, 针对本课的阅读内容, 提出几个问题供学生思索、调研、抒发己见。大多数写作问题都为学生发表自己的观点提供了一个平台, 教师可以选择一些题目进行课堂讨论, 既提高学生口语能力, 又帮助学生形成健全的情感、态度、价值观。

- 扩展活动 (Extension Activities)。每个单元的最后部分都有一组趣味性强、互动式、开放式的活动, 帮助学生使用新学的词汇与技能。这些活动包括以下三项内容:

CNN 聚焦录像 (CNN Video Highlights): 这是扩展活动的核心部分, 由一段从CNN所有真实录像材料中精心选出的短片及练习组成。这段短片与本单元的阅读同一主题。练习活动共分三部分:

Before You Watch 鼓励学生回想自己原有的经验或从课文阅读中获得的背景知识。

As You Watch 要求学生在观看短片时注意短片的话题和主要内容。

After You Watch 要求学生掌握录像片中的要点, 并将其与课文内容、自己已有的经验、个人观点和看法相联系, 在提升语言能力的同时, 获得更多情感体验。

我们一起做游戏 (Activity Page): 填词游戏再现本单元中出现的单词。

词典好帮手 (Dictionary Page): 帮助学生熟悉并学会充分利用词典功能。本部分作为例子的词条引自 *The Newbury House Dictionary of American English* 词典。

• 技能索引 (Skills Index)。书后所附的Skills Index能够让教师和学生很方便地查出本书所有的阅读与写作技能以及课文中出现的所有的语法点。

辅助材料

Concepts & Comments 包含一整套教学、教辅材料。

- “答案”册提供书中全部练习的答案。
- 原汁原味的CNN录像DVD, 录像文字材料附在学生用书后。
- 课文朗读CD帮助学生有声学习, 练习朗读与听力。
- 单元测试题帮助教师评估学生的进步, 学生也可以用来自测。
- 新网站 (<http://elt.thomson.com/readingandvocabulary>) 提供词汇抽认卡、填字游戏、小测验等多种手段帮助学生复习。

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Art

unit 1

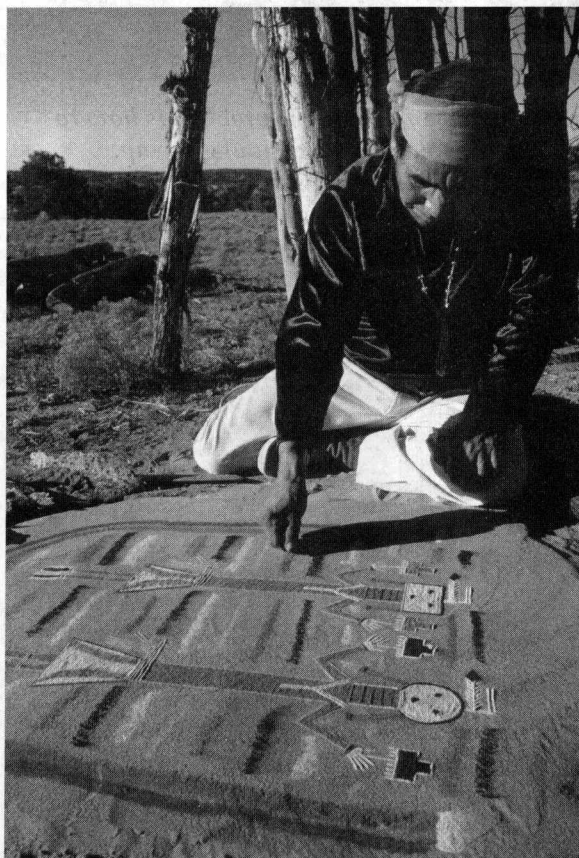
*Every child is an artist. The problem is how to
remain an artist once [you] grow up.*
—Pablo Picasso



© Jeff Greenberg/Photo Edit



Navajo Sand Painting



© Ted Spiegel/CORBIS

Before You Read

1. What three adjectives would you use to describe the sand painting in the photograph?
2. How do you think a sand painting is made?
3. Sand paintings are usually destroyed soon after they are finished. Why do you think this is done?



Context Clues

It is not necessary to look up every new word in the dictionary. Often, the other words and ideas in the sentence or surrounding sentences (the context) can help you guess the meaning of the new word. When you are reading, try to use context to guess the meaning of new words. Try not to look up every new word in your dictionary.

*The words in **bold print** below are from this lesson. Use context clues to guess what each word means. Do all of the Context Clues exercises in the book this way.*

1. More than 500 years ago, the **ancestors** of the Navajo people moved south.
2. A small sand painting may have 2 or 3 people working on it, while a large painting may **require** 10 people.
3. At the end of the ceremony, it is **imperative** that the sand painting be destroyed. The Navajo believe that something terrible will happen if they don't do this.
4. One reason for this change is the **extensive** training necessary to perform the duties of a singer; it can take as long as 14 years to train someone.
5. A singer can train only one student at a time. This need for **one-on-one** training has limited the number of students who can be trained.



1 Navajo Sand Painting



More than 500 years ago, the **ancestors** of the Navajo people left the cold northern region that is now part of western Canada and Alaska and migrated south to what is now the southwestern part of the United States.

- 5 The area in which the Navajo finally settled is **mainly** mostly; primarily desert. It is a **harsh** environment that gets little rain. The animals and plants that live there have had to **adapt** in order to survive in the **unforgiving** climate and **landscape**.

- 10 When the Navajo arrived in the area, they too had to adapt to the harsh desert conditions in order to survive. They had to learn to make use of the natural resources in their environment to provide for their shelter, food, and other necessities. Over time, the Navajo became
15 famous for the things they were able to create from the natural resources at hand. One of the most famous Navajo creations is called sand painting.

Most people think of a painting as a work of art. For the Navajo, however, sand painting is not artwork.

- 20 Rather, sand painting is an important part of a religious ceremony. The making of a sand painting is part of a **healing** ceremony that is supposed to **restore** the health and **well-being** of a sick person. bring back; return to normal

- The only people who are allowed to create sand
25 paintings are specially trained Navajo "singers" or "medicine men" and their **assistants**. A Navajo singer begins the process of creating a sand painting by collecting different rocks. The rocks are then crushed and ground into sand. Traditionally, a Navajo singer
30 and his assistants make the sand painting on the floor of a small Navajo house called a *hogán*. Working under the direction of the singer, the assistants take colored sand in their hands and drip it on the floor in a line. Using different colors, they slowly make a picture.

- 35 The size of Navajo sand paintings varies. A small sand painting is less than a meter wide, while a large



sand painting can be over 6 meters wide. The number of people assisting the singer also varies. A small sand painting may have 2 or 3 people working on it and take an hour to complete, while a large painting may **require** 10 men and women and take all day to finish.

During the healing ceremony, the sick person moves onto the completed sand painting. The sick person sits directly on the sand painting so that it can **serve** as a pathway for **evil** or illness to leave the person's body and for goodness or health to return to it. This explains why the Navajo word for sand painting means "place where the gods come and go." After the sick person has been treated, other visitors may go up to the painting and dab some of the sand on themselves so that the sand painting brings health and well-being into their lives too.

At the end of the healing ceremony, it is **imperative** that the sand painting be destroyed. The Navajo believe that something terrible will happen if they fail to destroy a sand painting **properly**. So, in the reverse of the order in which it was made, the singer sweeps the painting away and returns the sand to the landscape.

Navajo singers make their sand paintings from memory, and they always make the same pictures in exactly the same way. There are between 600 and 1,000 different pictures for sand paintings. At one point in history, there was one singer for every 150 Navajos. Today, the **ratio** is much lower, with one singer for roughly every 2,200 people. One reason for this change is the **extensive** training required to perform the duties of a singer; it can take as long as 14 years to train someone. A second reason for the change in ratio is that a singer can train only one student at a time. This need for **one-on-one** training has limited the number of students who can be trained.

While a true sand painting is part of a Navajo ceremony and lasts for only a short time, sand painting as a permanent art form has also developed. The first permanent sand paintings appeared in the early 1900s. These early pieces of art were actually **tapestries** rather

correctly

relationship
between two
numbers

artworks made of
cloth, often used as
wall hangings



than paintings made with sand. The tapestries were **woven** by a **respected** Navajo singer named Hosteen Klah, who copied the pictures from sand paintings.

made from yarn
into cloth; past
participle of *weave*
admired

- However, to avoid causing something terrible to happen by making a permanent picture, Klah never made the picture exactly the same as the **original**. He would not use a Navajo picture without changing it a little. Before long, tourists in the area saw Klah's weavings and asked to buy them. Klah finally agreed to sell one of his weavings if the buyer **promised** never to put it on the floor or walk on it.

- In the 1930s, the Navajo began creating another type of permanent sand painting. They made these permanent paintings by slowly dripping colored sand onto glue-covered boards. Today, these sand paintings are considered to be works of art rather than part of a religious ceremony. They are made by artists rather than singers, and they appear in art shows and in art museums.

- There is still **controversy** over the selling of sand paintings. Some Navajos say that sand paintings are part of their religion and should not be sold. But others believe that the artists' changes to the pictures protect their religious power.

(913 words)



a Vocabulary

In this book, difficult words are repeated several times in the exercises. These words are also repeated and reviewed in other lessons. It is not necessary to list new English words with their meanings in your own language. You will learn them just by practicing.

In the Vocabulary exercises in this book, write the correct word in each blank. Use a word only once, and use capital letters if they are necessary.

harshly	ratio	proper	controversy
one-on-one	original	tapestries	ancestors
assistant	landscape	evil	well-being

1. The _____ way to destroy a sand painting is to sweep it away.
2. To become a Navajo singer, a person needs _____ training, or private instruction.
3. People have different likes and dislikes. That's why there is always _____ about what makes good art.
4. There are 10 men and 5 women in a class. That's a _____ of 2 to 1.
5. The _____ in some parts of the country is mountainous.
6. You should make a copy of your birth certificate and then put the _____ in a safe place.
7. I apologize for speaking to you _____, but I was very angry.
8. He can't do all the research by himself. He really needs an _____.
9. You can be certain that our _____ lived very differently from the way we live now.
10. Parents are always concerned about the _____ of their children.
11. The Navajo believe that a sand painting can help to drive _____ out of a person.
12. Navajo _____ are very expensive, but they look beautiful hanging on a wall.



b Vocabulary

Do this exercise the same way you did Exercise a.

adapt	heal	restore	require
serve	imperative	weave	extensively
respect	promises	mainly	unforgiving

- How long would it take you to _____ to a completely different environment?
- In some cultures, shaking hands when you meet someone is a sign of _____.
- You can't depend on people who break their _____; you can never be sure they will do what they say they will do.
- If you cut yourself, you should clean the cut so that it can _____ properly.
- To get a driver's license, it is _____ that you learn the rules of the road.
- Before he could write his report, he had to study the topic _____.
- A loom is a frame or a machine that is used to _____ cloth and tapestries.
- Their house is made _____ of wood, but there is a little stonework on the front.
- A piece of woven material can _____ as a wall hanging or a rug.
- He tried many different things to _____ his health.
- Did your parents _____ you to help out with the cooking and cleaning at home?
- An _____ person never lets you forget the things you did wrong; an _____ climate never lets you forget how harsh it is.

