

AN ENGLISH
READINGS FOR

四川科学技术出版社

中学英语精读 中学英语精读

中学英语精读编写组

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MIDDLE-SCHOOL AN ENGLISH READINGS FOR
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English Readings

中学英语精读

(1992 年版)

《中学英语精读》编写组

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责任编辑：周绍传

封面设计：韩健勇

技术设计：周红军

责任校对：盛 李

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编写说明

本书自 1989 年逐年出版以来，深受广大中学师生和自学英语读者的欢迎，被越来越多的学校选用。在广泛征求读者对编排形式、内容、难度和份量等方面意见的基础上，本书 1992 年版仍由十个单元练习组成，每个单元包括阅读理解、完形填空和书面表达三部份内容，适合高中二、三年级与自学英语人员使用。

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Unit I

一、阅读理解

A

For years, children in the industrial areas of Europe and America seldom left their smoky cities to see the beauties of the countryside(乡村). Not that the woods and fields were always far away, but they were too far from the city to permit people to make a round trip between morning and nightfall(黄昏). What's more, factory workers did not have enough money to send their children on country holidays away from home.

In 1907, a young German schoolmaster had an idea which changed this state of affairs. He decided to turn his little schoolhouse into a dormitory(宿舍) for the summer holidays. Anyone who brought his sleeping bag and cooking equipment along could stay there for a very small amount of money. The idea was a success. A few years later, the schoolhouse was far too small to hold many young people who wanted to stay there. Therefore, a dormitory was set up in an old castle(城堡) nearby. This was the first Youth Hostel(青年招待所).

() 1. Some children seldom left their home to go to the country because _____.

- A. they did not want to go there
- B. their parents did not have enough money to send them to go there
- C. the forests and fields were far away
- D. their parents did not allow them to go there

() 2. The first dormitory for the summer holidays was set up _____.

- A. in an old castle nearby
- B. at a schoolmaster's home
- C. in a little schoolhouse
- D. in the place where the young people wanted to live

() 3. The price of the dormitory was low because _____.

- A. an old castle did not cost anything
- B. people brought their own equipment
- C. the dormitory received money from the government
- D. the dormitory was in a little schoolhouse

() 4. The reason why many young people wanted to stay there is _____.

- A. that they would like to know each other
- B. that they would see the surrounding sight
- C. not given by the author

D. that they wanted to spend their weekend

() 5. The first Youth Hostel was opened in _____.

- A. America B. Germany
C. England D. Austria

B

Smoking, which may be a pleasure for some people, is a serious reason of discomfort for their fellows (同事, 同伴). Medical scientists have expressed their concern about effect of smoking on the health not only of those who smoke but also of those who do not. In fact non-smokers who take in the air polluted by tobacco (烟草) smoke suffer more than the smokers themselves. A great number of students have joined in an effort to persuade the university to forbid smoking in classrooms. I believe they are entirely right in their aim. However, I think it more important to achieve this by calling on the smokers to use good judgement and to show concern for others.

Smoking is not allowed in theatres, cinemas, and in other public places. Therefore, smoking must be forbidden in our classrooms.

() 1. Smoking is good _____.

- A. to the smokers B. to some people
C. to nobody D. to the old people

() 2. Which of the following is true?

- A. Non-smokers suffer more than the smokers from the polluted air.
B. Smokers suffer more than non-smokers from the polluted air.
C. Non-smokers don't suffer from the polluted air.
D. Nobody can suffer from the polluted air.

() 3. Many students ask the university _____.

- A. to be allowed smoking
B. to smoke outside classrooms
C. to understand smokers
D. to forbid smoking in classrooms

() 4. The writer thinks _____.

- A. the students are not right to persuade others to give up smoking
B. it more important to make smokers realize the result of smoking and show concern for others
C. it right to forbid smoking in classrooms
D. it impossible to stop smoking

() 5. Smoking is allowed _____.

- A. in any places B. outside classrooms only
C. in some public places D. in no public places

One of the loveliest sights in the world is a multicolored(五彩缤纷的) butterfly(蝴蝶), gracefully(优美地) gliding(飞翔) through the air. Some poets have called butterflies and moths(飞蛾) "flying flowers" or "living jewels". Yet these little insects(昆虫) must go through many changes to become such lovely creatures.

Together, butterflies and moths form one order(目) of insects. Generally, butterflies are seen in the daytime while moths are seen as the evening sky darkens. Butterflies' bodies are usually thinner than moths'; and butterflies have thin feelers with tips like little knobs(球形), while moths have feathery or threadlike feelers.

There are over eighty thousand kinds of butterflies and moths, and they are found in any part of the world where flowering plants grow. There are naturally more moths and butterflies in tropical(热带的) countries, but a few are found in the north of the Arctic Circle.

Certain kinds of butterflies and moths migrate(迁徙) from one place to another in different seasons. Some butterflies spend the summer in Europe and the winter in Africa or southern Asia. Once in a while, ships may sight them far out at sea. And some butterflies have been seen a thousand miles from land.

- () 1. People call butterflies "flying flowers" or "living jewels" because _____.
- A. they can fly in the sky
 - B. they are one of the most beautiful insects while they are gliding in the air.
 - C. no creature is more lovely than them
 - D. people love them dearly
- () 2. Butterflies and moths have _____.
- A. no legs
 - B. the same shaped feelers
 - C. differently shaped feelers
 - D. differently shaped heads
- () 3. Altogether there are _____ kinds of butterflies and moths in the world.
- A. more than 80,000
 - B. over 8,000
 - C. more than 800,000
 - D. over 800
- () 4. Butterflies and moths live in large numbers in the tropics because _____.
- A. there is lots of heat
 - B. there are many flowers
 - C. there is a lot of sunshine
 - D. there are many big trees
- () 5. Some butterflies spend winter the _____.
- A. in Europe
 - B. in southern Africa

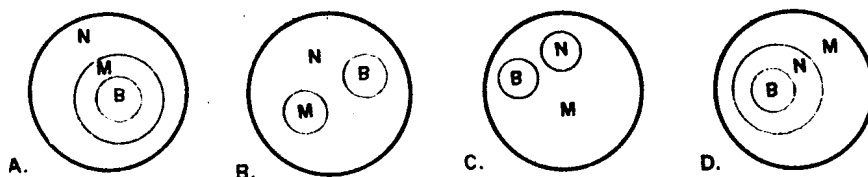
- C. in the north of the Arctic Circle
- D. in southern Asia

D

In the northeast of the USA there are six small states. Together they are called New England. The most important state of New England is Massachusetts. Its capital city is Boston, with a population of just over half a million, which is the biggest city in New England. Greater Boston is made up of 78 cities and towns. It has a population of nearly 3 million, which is half the population of the state of Massachusetts.

Boston was founded in 1630. The American Revolution began here when the people of Boston took up arms to fight their English rulers. The Boston Tea Party is one of the most famous events in American history. Americans were very fond of tea, and a large amount of tea was brought to the port (港口) of Boston. The British government was looking for more ways to get money out of its American colonies (殖民地). So it put a heavy tax on tea. That aroused (唤醒) the Bostonians. They rushed to the port and onto a ship there. They threw all the tea into the sea. This led to a fight between the people of Boston and the British soldiers. Thus the American Revolution was unleashed (发动).

- () 1. Among the following pictures, which is right?
(N=New England; B=Boston; M=Massachusetts)



- () 2. The state of Massachusetts has _____ .
- A. a population of over half a million
 - B. three million population
 - C. a population of about six million
 - D. 1.5 million population
- () 3. The Bostonians fought against their English rulers because _____ .
- A. they had no tea to drink
 - B. they wanted to get more money
 - C. the British government put a heavy tax on tea
 - D. they were fond of tea very much at that time
- () 4. Boston is _____ .
- A. the biggest city in America
 - B. the capital of New England
 - C. a tiny city in American history
 - D. one of the important ports in America

- () 5. The American Revolution was unleashed when _____.
- A. the people of Boston did not get tea
 - B. the Bostonians rose up to fight their English rulers
 - C. there was a fight between the Bostonians and the English government
 - D. the people of Boston threw all tea into the sea.

二、完形填空

Through the living-room 1 I watched our 15-year-old son, Jay, walk 2 the path toward school. I was afraid that he might head out into the snow-covered fields to 3 his missing Cricket. But he didn't. He turned, waved and then 4.

Ten days had passed since that Sunday morning when Cricket didn't return 5 his usual playing about in the fields. 6 now my husband, Bill, and I were sure Cricket had been taken by a hunter or struck by a car. But Jay refused to 7 and said "I keep 8 the feeling that Cricket's 9 there somewhere".

I wanted to tell Jay that he could easily get another 10. But I remembered 11 well the day four years before when we brought him his Cricket. The two of them soon became inseparable and although Cricket was 12 to sleep in the garage, it wasn't long before I 13 find him peacefully lie on the foot of Jay's bed.

14, that night I did tell Jay that temperatures were very 15, and I felt sure no lost animal could have survived

"Mom", he said, "I know 16 seems impossible. But Jesus (耶稣) said that a sparrow (麻雀) doesn't fall without God knowing it. That must be true of dogs, too, 17 you think?"

What could I do?

The next day, at two o'clock when I was at my office forgetting all about missing dogs, the telephone rang. "They let us out early, Mom—a teachers' meeting. I 18 I'd hunt for Cricket."

My heart twisted, "Jay," I said. "The radio here says it's below freezing, and you know there's no chance of _____."

"But Mom," he said, "I have this feeling. I 19 to try."

After our phone call, he took off through the fields where he and Cricket used to go. He walked about a half-mile east 20 something made him dead 21 and listen. From a fence nearby came a weak voice. He pushed some growth apart 22 a pitifully weak Cricket, 23 in the old fence. The snow around him was 24. It had saved him 25 dying of thirst.

My son carried him home and phoned me excitedly. I rushed to the house. There in the kitchen was Cricket eating food from his dish with my happy son kneeling next to him.

- () 1. A. floor B. window C. wall D. ceiling
- () 2. A. down B. to C. across D. over
- () 3. A. search for B. search of C. search after D. in search of
- () 4. A. left B. walked on C. went away D. stopped

- () 5. A. after B. to C. back D. from
- () 6. A. Till B. To C. By D. From
- () 7. A. give in B. give up C. give away D. give off
- () 8. A. getting B. got C. get D. to get
- () 9. A. inside B. out C. away D. off
- () 10. A. toy B. boy C. dog D. cat
- () 11. A. too B. very C. rather D. fairly
- () 12. A. told B. invited C. supposed D. forced
- () 13. A. would B. had C. will D. should
- () 14. A. Therefore B. Thus C. Still D. However
- () 15. A. cold B. low C. hot D. high
- () 16. A. that B. it C. he D. this
- () 17. A. don't B. do C. will D. would
- () 18. A. thought B. think C. had thought D. do think
- () 19. A. must B. have got C. will D. should
- () 20. A. and B. then C. when D. while
- () 21. A. still B. cry C. jump D. noisy
- () 22. A. and find B. to find C. found D. finding
- () 23. A. caught B. got C. tied D. made
- () 24. A. flowed away B. melted away (融化) C. taken away D. eaten away
- () 25. A. of B. out C. to D. from

三、书面表达

假如你叫王林。你收到一位叫 Jack 的男孩来信。他希望你作他的笔友 (pen friend)。并告诉有关你家庭的情况。内容要点如下:

1. 你家有三口人。父亲在中学教书, 母亲在医院工作。
2. 你十七岁, 在七中读书, 明年毕业, 准备学医。
3. 你爱好体育和音乐, 是校排球队队员。你的家庭地址是: 四川省成都市致民路 (ZhiMinLu) 82号。写信日期: 1990年10月10日。

请按上述提示写一封150—200个词的回信。

Unit II

一、阅读理解

A

A warm-hearted nurse on her first day's work met a patient who had come to London as a traveller. She asked him if there was anything she could do for him, but he only waved his hands and said something she could not understand. With a cheerful smile she asked him again and he just kept saying the same words, but in a very low voice. When he closed his eyes, she felt his pulse and found out he was gone. Filled with deep sympathy (同情) for this man who had died so far away from his native land, she rushed to the doctor and repeated to him the words she had heard. "My dear girl", said the doctor after listening carefully to what she repeated, "he was saying 'you are standing on my oxygen pipe!'"

- () 1. The patient had come to London _____.
- A. to call on one of his friends
 - B. to attend a meeting
 - C. to see a doctor
 - D. to visit the city
- () 2. The patient and the nurse _____.
- A. spoke the same language
 - B. spoke different languages
 - C. couldn't hear each other
 - D. didn't listen to one another
- () 3. In order to _____ the nurse went into the sickroom.
- A. save the patient
 - B. take good care of the patient
 - C. feel the patient's pulse
 - D. stand on the oxygen pipe
- () 4. The patient waved his hands because _____.
- A. he didn't understand the nurse's words
 - B. he refused to take some medicine
 - C. he wanted her to go away
 - D. he knew nothing could save him
- () 5. The patient died because _____.
- A. of nurse's carelessness
 - B. he needed oxygen

- C. the doctor couldn't do anything to save him
- D. the nurse could not hear what the patient said

B

Tom had retired (退休) and lived by himself a long way from town . He hardly ever left his home , but one day he went into town to buy some things in the market . After he had bought them , he went into a restaurant and sat down at a table by himself. When he looked around, he saw several old people put eyeglasses on before reading their newspapers . So after lunch he decided to go to a store to buy himself some glasses, too. He walked along the road , and soon found a store.

The man in the store made him try on a lot of glasses, but Tom always said , "No, I can't read with these. "

The man became more and more puzzled , until finally he said , "Excuse me , but can you read at all ?"

"No , of course I can't ! "Tom said angrily , "If I was already able to read , do you think I would come here to buy glasses?"

- () 1. Which statement of the following is true?
 - A. Tom went into town to buy some glasses.
 - B. Tom had been to town for many times.
 - C. Tom had been well educated when he was young.
 - D. Tom worked in the countryside all his life .
- () 2. Why did Tom want to buy some glasses? Because _____.
 - A. he wanted some glasses for his house windows
 - B. he wanted some glasses for drinking.
 - C. he wanted to read
 - D. his eyesight was too weak to read
- () 3. Finally Tom didn't buy any glasses because _____.
 - A. he changed his idea
 - B. the shop owner wasn't patient enough
 - C. the glasses were not good enough
 - D. it was no use wearing any pair of the glasses
- () 4. Tom wanted to buy the glasses with the help of which he could _____.
 - A. read B. see clearly
 - C. look a little younger D. read at night
- () 5. From the passage we can know _____.
 - A. Tom got angry very easily
 - B. Tom was one of those who couldn't read
 - C. Tom was too old to read
 - D. Tom liked reading all his life

C

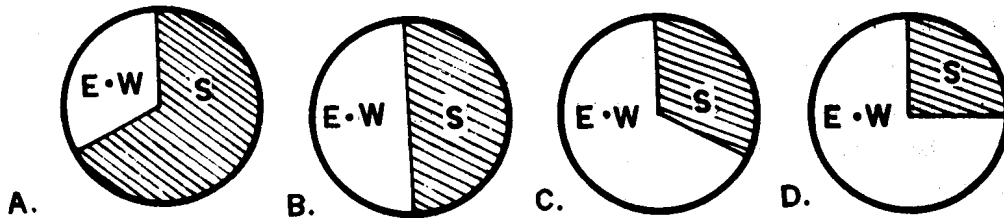
England , Wales and Scotland together form Great Britain . Scotland , lying in the northern part of Great Britain and bordering England on the south , is the half of size of England and Wales , having an area of about 76, 000 square kilometers . It's 400km . from the England border to John O'Groats at the northern tip of the main land . Most of Northern Scotland is a mountainous area known as the Scottish Highlands. In the center of Scotland there're the Central Lowlands , and the South is a wave-like , hilly area known as the Southern Upland which rise to 800 meters.

() 1. Scotland lies _____.

- A. in the south of Great Britain
- B. to the north of England
- C. in the northern part of England
- D. to the north of Great Britain

() 2. Which of the following shows rightly the size of Scotland?

S=Scotland E+W=England and Wales



() 3. Britain has an area of about _____ square kilometers.

- A. 76, 000 B. 152, 000 C. 228, 000 D. 244, 000

() 4. The whole country contains _____.

- A. England , Scotland and Wales
- B. Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- C. England , Scotland , Wales and Ireland
- D. Great Britain , Wales , Scotland and England

() 5. In the passage, " 400km " means _____.

- A. the distance between the northern and southern borders of Great Britain
- B. the distance between the eastern and western borders of Scotland
- C. the distance between the northern tip of the main land and the southern border of England
- D. the distance between the northern tip of the Great Britain and the southern border of Scotland

D

Atoms are all around us . They are the bricks of which everything is made . Many millions of atoms are contained in just one grain of salt . But despite (尽管) their small size they are very important . The way an everyday object behaves (呈现) depends on what kinds of atoms are in it and how they act .

For instance , you know that most solid object melt if they get hot enough . Why is that ? It is the effect of the heat on the objects atoms . All atoms move costantly. When they are hot , they move faster.

Usually the atoms in an object hold together (聚集在一起) and give the object its shape . But if the object grows hot , its atoms move so fast that the object loses its shape . Then we say that the object is melting.

- () 1. Everything is made of ____ .
A. bricks B. atoms
C. one million of atoms D. millions of heated atoms
- () 2. Atoms are very important because ____ .
A. they are in small size
B. they are solid
C. they form the world
D. they are too small to see
- () 3. If an solid object is melting , the atoms in it ____ .
A. keep their usual places
B. change their size
C. change into different objects
D. leave their usual places
- () 4. If an object hasn't got any heat the atoms in it ____ .
A. stop to move B. still move all the time C. move at times D. keep still
- () 5. Usually an solid object keeps its shape because its atoms ____ .
A. move around it very fast
B. are very hot
C. are not moving
D. hold together

二、完形填空

I went 1 to the Devon School not long ago , and found it looking oddly 2 than 3 I was a student there fifteen years before . It seemed quieter than I remembered it , with narrower windows and shinier woodwork. A 4 of paint had just been put 5 everything . But , of course , fifteen

years 6 there had been a war 7 . Perhaps the school wasn't 8 kept in those days ; perhaps paint, 9 everything else , had gone to war .

I didn't 10 like this surface , because it made the school 11 a museum , and 12 exactly 13 it was to me , and what I did not want it 14 . I had always felt that the Devon School came into being the day I 15 it , was 16 while I was a student there , and then disappeared the day I left .

Now here it was , 17 , well kept by 18 considerate hand with great care . Kept along with 19 , like 20 air in an unopened room , was the well-known fear which had surrounded and filled 21 .

Looking back now across fifteen years , I could see the fear I had lived in , along with that , I felt the uncontrollable joy which had been its 22 face , joy which had 23 sometimes in those days like Northern Lights across 24 sky . There were , of course , a couple of places 25 I wanted to see .

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------|
| () 1. A. × | B. back | C. forwards | D. away |
| () 2. A. newer | B. older | C. smaller | D. bigger |
| () 3. A. that | B. which | C. where | D. when |
| () 4. A. surface | B. layer | C. jar | D. coat |
| () 5. A. over | B. above | C. around | D. inside |
| () 6. A. ago | B. before | C. since | D. till |
| () 7. A. fighting | B. breaking out | C. going | D. going on |
| () 8. A. as well | B. as well as | C. even | D. also |
| () 9. A. along with | B. without | C. along | D. together |
| () 10. A. truly | B. entirely | C. never | D. always |
| () 11. A. like | B. become | C. look like | D. change into |
| () 12. A. that's | B. what's | C. which is | D. this is |
| () 13. A. that | B. what | C. which | D. this |
| () 14. A. to be | B. be | C. was | D. would be |
| () 15. A. remember | B. left | C. forgot | D. entered |
| () 16. A. true | B. real | C. false | D. unreal |
| () 17. A. in spite of | B. yet | C. after all | D. at all |
| () 18. A. certain | B. some | C. a | D. an |
| () 19. A. it | B. them | C. him | D. us |
| () 20. A. happy | B. unhappy | C. fresh | D. unfresh |
| () 21. A. these days | B. those days | C. now | D. then |
| () 22. A. opposite | B. different | C. same | D. direct |
| () 23. A. broke out | B. been broken out | C. broken out | D. broke in |
| () 24. A. blue | B. clear | C. sunny | D. black |
| () 25. A. so | B. so that | C. now which | D. so as to |

三、书面表达

假如你是班长，你向你班同学们宣布下列事情，请就此写50——80个词的口头通知稿。内容要点如下：

1. 星期五下午四点半，在学校操场举行一场排球赛。
2. 你校和五中比赛。
3. 要求大家前往观看。

Unit III

一、阅读理解

A

Not long ago , there were three men's outfitters (服装商店) in Glasgow. These three shops were not only in the same street , they were actually next-door to one another . Each shop naturally lost a good deal of trade to the other two . So one day the owner of the first shop put up a prominent (醒目的) notice which read : ESTABLISHED (建立) 1870—ONLY BEST QUALITY (质量) GOODS SOLD HERE. The following day , the owner of the third shop put up a notice of his own which read : ESTABLISHED 1970—LASTESET FASHIONS (时装) . A week later , the owner of the middle shop put up a notice which read , in very large letters : MAIN ENTRANCE.

- () 1. In order to do their business better , the owners of the three shops _____.
- A. competed (竞争) with one another
B. make their shops together
C. helped each other
D. make friends with one another
- () 2. If people entered the middle shop after they read the notice of it , they would find _____.
- A. it was easy for them to get into the other two shops there
B. the owner of this shop was also the owner of the other two shops .
C. they had been cheated .
D. the notice was really telling them the truth