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高一年级第二学期



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- ★ 练习形式新颖，能帮助学生扩大词汇量、提高英语阅读技能和技巧。
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编写说明

阅读是获得知识和信息的主要手段,阅读理解能力是学习英语的最基本、最重要的能力之一。因此,阅读理解在中学英语教学中占有重要地位,也是高考的主要题型之一,并且占有较大的比重。

教育部颁布的《英语课程标准》对中学生的英语阅读能力提出了更高的要求,文章的难度也逐渐增大。其中八年级阅读的要求是:

能识别不同文体的特征;能通过分析句子结构理解难句和长句;能理解阅读材料中不同的观点和态度;能根据学习任务的需要从多种媒体中获取信息并进行加工处理;能在教师的帮助下欣赏浅显的英语文学作品;除教材外,课外阅读量应累计达到30 万词以上。

但是,目前一些英语阅读材料内容乏味,体例单一,很难满足广大师生的需求。编写一套全新的阅读教材,给广大中学生提供有效的阅读方法和技巧,帮助他们在备考的同时,养成终身受益的良好阅读习惯和出色的阅读能力,已成为目前我国中学英语教学的当务之急。为此,我们特地组织一批一线优秀特、高级教师,精心策划编写了本套书。

本套书的主要特点有:

强大的编写阵容:优秀特、高级教师、资深外教强强联手,合力打造。

鲜明的功能定位:依据课程标准,紧扣教学和考试热点,大胆创新,专项切入,授以秘诀。

地道的语言材料:广泛取材于最新英美报刊时文,既具时尚性,又不失规范。

丰富的题材内容:在内容选择上力求多题材、多角度,兼顾学习和欣赏。

系统的实战平台:提供大量的训练,使学生掌握技巧、提升信心,突破阅读难点。

多样的题型设计:融选择、正误判断、简答等题型于一体,全面考查学

生逻辑思维及分析能力,特别突出了阅读后续活动(follow-up activities)的重要性,强调了语言学习中的语用目的。

本套书在正式出版之前,已有多所学校的数千名师生试用过。广大师生对本套书都给予了较高的评价,选摘部分如下:

1. 文章结构清晰,便于寻找细节。
2. 选材的长度适中,题材较新,立意较高,适合中学生阅读。
3. 虽有一些未学过的单词,但不影响理解全文内容。
4. 文章语言地道,生词较少,题型灵活多变,适合大多数学生阅读。
5. 文章取材新颖,关注社会潮流,不仅可使学生兴趣大增,还能从中学到不少知识,真可谓一举两得。

同时,本书还提供资深外教录制的 mp3 网络下载,有助于转变传统的阅读理解教学手段,为学生创设良好的语言学习条件和环境。这也不失为本书的一大特色与亮点。

编者

2008 年 10 月

Passage 1

Sometimes your biggest weakness can become your biggest strength. Take, for example, the story of a 10-year-old boy who decided to study judo despite the fact that he had lost his left arm in a car accident.

The boy began lessons with an old Japanese judo master. The boy was doing well, so he couldn't understand why, after three months of training, the master had taught him only one move.

"Sensei," the boy finally said, "shouldn't I be learning more moves?"

"This is the only move you know, but this is the only move you'll ever need to know," the sensei replied.

Not quite understanding, but believing in his teacher, the boy kept training.

Several months later, the sensei took the boy to his first tournament.

Surprising himself, the boy easily won his first two matches. The third match proved to be more difficult, but after some time, his opponent became impatient and nervous; the boy used his one move to win the match. Still amazed by his success, the boy was now in the finals.

This time, his opponent was bigger, stronger, and more experienced. For a while, the boy appeared to be overmatched. Concerned that the boy might get hurt, the referee (裁判) called a time-out. He was about to stop the match when the sensei refused.

"No," the sensei insisted, "let him continue."

Soon after the match started again, his opponent made a critical mistake: he dropped his guard. Immediately, the boy used his move to pin him. The boy won the match and the tournament. He became the champion.

On the way home, the boy and his sensei went over every move in each and every match. Then the boy gathered the courage to ask what was really on his mind.

"Sensei, how did I win the tournament with only one move?"

"You won for two reasons," the sensei answered. "First, you've almost

mastered one of the most difficult throws in judo. Second, the only known defense against that move is for your opponent to grab your left arm. ”

The boy’s biggest weakness had become his biggest strength.

(381 words)

I. Here are some words from the passage. Choose the proper meaning for each one.

() 1. opponent (Para. 7)

A. person who takes the opposite side in a competition , game or fight

B. person who takes his side in a competition , game or fight

() 2. time-out (Para. 8)

A. break

B. competition

II. Answer the following questions according to the passage.

3. What do you think is the boy’s biggest weakness?

4. Why did the boy win the match?

5. What can we learn from the passage?

Passage 2

What is the secret quality of tough people that enables them to succeed? Why do they survive the tough times when others are overcome by them? Why do they win when others lose? Why do they soar when others sink?

The answer is very simple. It's all in how they perceive their problems. Yes, every living person has problems. A problem-free life is a mirage (海市蜃楼) in the desert. Accept that fact.

Every mountain has a peak. Every valley has its low point. Life has its ups and downs, its peaks and its valleys. No one is up all the time, nor are they down all the time. Problems do end. They are all resolved in time.

You may not be able to control the times, but you can control your response. You can turn your pain into disaster or into poetry. The choice is up to you. You may not have chosen your tough time, but you can choose how you will react to it.

For instance, what is the positive reaction to a terrible financial difficulty? In this situation would it be the positive reaction to run away? Escape through alcohol (酒精), drug, or suicide? No! Such negative reactions only produce greater problems by promising a temporary (暂时的) solution to the pressing problem.

The positive solution to a problem may require courage to start it. When you control your reaction to the seemingly uncontrollable problem of life, then in fact you do control the problem's effect on you. Your reaction to the problem is the last word (the most important)! That's the bottom line. What will you let this problem do to you? It can make you tender or tough. It can make you better or bitter. It all depends on you.

In the final analysis, the tough people who survive the tough times do so because they've chosen to react positively to their predicament. Tough times never last, but tough people do. Tough people stick it out. History teaches us that every problem has a lifespan.

No problem is permanent. Storms always give way to the sun. Winter al-

Passage 3

The story of how the song “Happy Birthday to You” came into being began as a sweet one, but later soured. Two sisters, Mildred Hill, a teacher at Louisville, Kentucky Experimental Kindergarten, and Dr. Patty Hill, the principal of the same school, together wrote a song entitled “Good Morning to All” for the children. When Mildred, the resident expert on spiritual songs and the organist (风琴手) for the church, combined her musical talent with her sister’s expertise in the area of Kindergarten Education, “Good Morning to All” was sure to be a success.

The sisters published the song in a collection entitled “Song Stories of the Kindergarten” in 1893. Thirty-one years later, after Dr. Patty Hill became the head of the Department of Kindergarten Education at Columbia University’s Teacher College, a gentleman by the name of Robert H. Coleman published the song without the sisters’ permission. What’s more, he added a second verse, the familiar “Happy Birthday to You”.

Mr. Coleman’s addition of the second verse popularized the song and, eventually, the sisters’ original first verse disappeared. “Happy Birthday to You”, the one and only birthday song, had altogether replaced the sisters’ original one, “Good Morning to All”.

After Mildred died in 1916, Patty, together with a third sister named Jessica, sprang into action and took Mr. Coleman to court. In court, they proved that they, indeed, owned the melody. Because the family legally owns the song, it is entitled to royalties (版税) from it whenever it is sung for commercial purposes.

(286 words)

I. Here are some words from the passage. Choose the proper meaning for each one.

() 1. combine (Para. 1)

A. join or mix together

B. base on

() 2. eventually (Para. 3)

A. finally

B. accidentally

II. Answer the following questions according to the passage.

3. Who owned the melody of “Happy Birthday to You”?

4. When and by whom was the birthday song written?

5. Which one is more popular, “Happy Birthday to You” or “Good Morning to All”? And who will get the royalties if it is used for commercial purposes?

Passage 4

As far as holidays go, American Independence Day is just not as funny as Halloween, Christmas or Thanksgiving. I base this bold statement (陈述) on the number of holiday jokes we get from kids. Halloween is the runaway winner, followed by Christmas and Thanksgiving.

Poor 4th of July barely makes a showing. But as summer approaches, and those cold weather holidays are a distant memory, we have to make due with the jokes we have at hand. So, without further ado, here are the top ten 4th of July jokes sent in by kids (and one grown-up) from all over the country.

- 10) What's red, white, blue, and green?

A patriotic turtle! (From Jessica, age 7, Abilene, TX)

- 9) What did one flag say to the other flag?

Nothing. It just waved! (From Eloise, age 9, Charlottesville, VA)

- 8) Why did Paul Revere ride his horse from Boston to Lexington?

Because the horse was too heavy to carry! (From Betty, age 9, CT)

- 7) How is a healthy person like the United States?

They both have good constitutions! (From Tom P., age 8, KY)

- 6) What dance was very popular in 1776?

Indepen-dance! (From Rachel, age 8, Long Beach, CA)

- 5) What would you get if you crossed George Washington with cattle feed?

The Fodder of Our Country! (From Marie K., age 12, Dallas, TX)

- 4) Teacher: "Where was the Declaration of Independence (《独立宣言》) signed?"

Student: "On the bottom!" (From Christy, age 14, Denver, CO)

- 3) Did you hear the one about the Liberty Bell?

Yeah, it cracked me up! (From Tom P., age 8, KY)

- 2) What did King George think of the American colonists?

He thought they were revolting! (From Scott, age 11, Colorado)

- 1) Do they have a 4th of July in England?

Yes. That's how they get from the 3rd to the 5th. (From Big Al, a grown-up, Frankfort, KY)

(316 words)

I. Here are some words from the passage. Choose the proper meaning for each one.

- ()1. approach (Para.2)
A. come near B. think something is good
- ()2. distant (Para.2)
A. faraway B. disaster

II. Choose the best answer.

- ()3. Which holiday is the most funny one?
A. Halloween B. Christmas
C. Thanksgiving D. Independence Day
- ()4. What are the meanings of the word “constitution” in the Number 7 joke?
A. 章程、构造 B. 结构、宪法
C. 体格、国体 D. 宪法、体质
- ()5. Is 4th of July a special day in England?
A. Yes. It has the same meaning as it does in the U. S.
B. Yes, but its meaning is different from that of U. S.
C. No, it's just a common day as the 3rd of July.
D. No, but people prefer this day than the other days of July.

Passage 5

A new trend of recycling textbooks is to trade them online. There are several programs making space for students to trade. These websites are like bulletin (公告) boards where various websites list their ability to trade and students can choose where to go.

Most sites have been created to help students save the money to be spent on new textbooks. When you list your books, other students can find the books they need.

There are many different ways to cut the cost by trading. You can look for the books you need on a variety of social sites. For instance, MySpace, Craigslist, and Facebook have people who want to get rid of their used textbooks. Ask around on these websites. Bookswaps on Campusbookswap are other organizations that allow students to trade their books online.

Another new idea is to rent your textbook. You can find sites online that provide books at a low price. For example, Chegg allows you to rent books for the entire semester and they have an easy way to get your books and send them back.

One of the places where most students may not go for their textbooks is their college library. Often there is a copy or two of a current textbook on display for students. This is a great way to find the textbook too.

As more students find ways to get used textbooks, some of the publishers are facing challenges because they make most of their money by selling new books. In some situations they are asking college bookstores not to sell used copies of their textbooks, and some college bookstores are asking professors not to tell students to buy books online. However, with the rising prices of new textbooks, something has to be done. Every student has the right to get their books wherever they can find the best bargain.

(308 words)

I. Here are some words from the passage. Choose the proper meaning for each one.

- () 1. trade (Para. 1)
A. buy and sell B. ride a bike
- () 2. challenge (Para. 6)
A. chance B. difficult and demanding task

II. Choose the best answer.

- () 3. Why have recycled textbooks become so popular?
- A. Because using recycled textbooks is a trend among young people.
 - B. Because used textbooks are cheaper than new textbooks.
 - C. Because people care about the environment and want to save paper.
 - D. Because the new owner of recycled textbooks can gain some experience from the former owner.
- () 4. In the author's opinion, all the following ways are available to save money spent on textbooks EXCEPT _____.
- A. buying second-hand books
 - B. borrowing copies from the library
 - C. renting books
 - D. asking the bookseller whether the new books have a discount
- () 5. What challenge do the publishers have to face?
- A. The booksellers prefer old books to latest books.
 - B. People sell discounted new books online.
 - C. Professors require students to buy books online.
 - D. People's demand for new books declines.

Passage 6

I want to show you how you can build muscle faster. There is a demand by most people to have quick fixes in their life and what I'm offering you isn't a quick fix. It still takes a lot of time, but since it works on the idea of maximizing your potential, it will happen much faster in time. It still takes a lot of hard work and dedication (奉献) to make it work and if you're for that, you should give it a try.

The number one thing you need to focus on is your diet. Your diet determines how well your muscles grow and if you don't have a good diet, no matter how great your workout is, you're not going to have good results. You need more time to plan your diet than you ever would with your workouts.

I think one of the most important things you can do is get back to "real" food. When I say that, I'm talking about the food that isn't processed. There is a lot of great food out there, but it's full of chemicals that aren't designed for the body and I doubt whether you could even pronounce them. You'll notice a whole difference in your body when you get back to eating real food.

When you're working out, you need to have an intense workout. I see so many people at the gym doing their hour-long workout without even breaking a sweat. I work on the philosophy that a short, but intense workout will help you build muscle faster.

(287 words)

I. Here are some words from the passage. Choose the proper meaning for each one.

- () 1. potential (Para. 1)
A. qualities that exist
B. possibility that can be changed
- () 2. workout (Para. 4)
A. work in the open air
B. intense physical exercise