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中学生英语学习天地

中学生 百科英语

第3册

PATRICIA ACKERT

清华大学出版社

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内 容 简 介

《中学生百科英语》是为广大中学生专门引进出版的一套知识性很强的阅读教材。它以动物、植物、音乐、探险、发明等专题百科知识为线索，循序渐进地引导读者在愉快的阅读、思考、练习、听录音带、欣赏 CNN 节目、做游戏的过程中逐步提高阅读能力，迅速扩大单词量。

本教材选材丰富生动、课程编排科学完整、版式活泼新颖、配套课件原汁原味，是不可多得的中学阅读教材。本系列教材共分三级，可供不同层次的学生选用。本书是其中的第三级，适用于词汇量在 2000 个左右英语词汇的学生使用。学生在学完本书后，词汇量可达到 3000 个以上。

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出版说明

《中学生百科英语》是为广大中学生专门引进出版的一套知识性、趣味性很强的阅读教材。它既可用于课堂教学使用，同时又是很好的课外训练图书。该教材共分三级，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。以下是本系列教材的结构：

级别	适用水平	学习后水平	配套音带	CNN 节目 VCD	教学训练参考书
第一级	300 个单词量	800 个单词量	1 盘	1 盘	全一册
第二级	800 个单词量	2000 个单词量	1 盘	1 盘	
第三级	2000 个单词量	3000 个单词量	2 盘	1 盘	

总体来说，本书具有以下特点：

* 围绕单元主题编排课文，循序渐进提高阅读能力。本系列的每个单元 (unit) 都有一个明确的主题，单元内的每一课 (lesson) 的课文都是围绕该主题选材的。在任何一个单元中，课文是按照难度由浅入深编排，内容也是从人们最熟悉的事物扩展开来，有利于增强学生的信心和兴趣，同时也更便于教学。

* 系统重现生词，反复加强训练。学生学习英语的一个重要环节就是增加单词量。《中学生百科英语》非常注重单词的重复学习和使用，所有生词均在课文中系统地重复出现若干次，最大限度地利用阅读扩大学生的单词量。课文中的生词以黑体标注，在课文右侧的空白处注明了标有下划线的生词的图示或解释。在每一本书后的词汇表 (Vocabulary) 中可以检索到该单词首次出现的页数，以备学习查阅。

* 教学设计科学完整，注重学与练的结合。《中学生百科英语》的中心任务是培养学生生活、工作和科研中的阅读思考能力。为此，每一课都设置了课前问答 (Pre-reading Question)，在课文后又有的放矢地设置了一系列练习以巩固所学内容，在有限的时间内将学习效果最优化。

《中学生百科英语》的教学设计非常完整，充分利用每一个环节，必将事半功倍地提高教学和学习效果。下面是根据教学设计对本教材使用的简单说明。

Context Clues (课文线索)：是设置在每一个单元 (unit) 最开始的词汇热身训练，

使学生熟悉课文中将出现的一些词汇。

Pre-reading Questions (课前问题): 是设置在每一课 (lesson) 最开始的思考问题。其中, 包括一些只需观察课文所配图画便可回答的是非问题。有些问题是学生必须阅读课文后才能回答的。这些问题有效地将课文的内容与学生所掌握的常识联系起来, 充分调动他们的思维活动。

Vocabulary (词汇练习): 阅读课文后的第一个练习。其中包括了所学课文中出现的全部生词。它利用课文中的句子训练学生阅读和拼写所学的新词汇。

Vocabulary (new context) (词汇练习——新的内容): 这是词汇练习的第二步, 利用课文以外的句子练习课文中学习的生词。

Vocabulary Review (词汇复习): 是为了使学生进一步巩固所学词汇而设置的练习。它将学过的单词及新学的单词进行同义词或反义词的填空或搭配练习。

Comprehension (阅读理解): 这是根据课文内容设置的是非选择题或多项选择题。其中加*的题是需要分析或讨论才能得出答案的。

Questions (问答): 是根据课文内容设置的问答题。一般来说, 这些问题可以直接从课文中找到答案, 加*的需要分析或讨论才能得出答案。本练习既可作为课上口头练习, 又可作为学生自己的写作训练。

Main Idea (课文大意): 要求学生从提供的三个总结性的句子中选出最能体现课文大意的一个。

Word Study (单词学习): 设置在每个单元最后。它通过多种练习巩固与单词相关的语法知识, 如动词的时态变化、代词的使用、形容词比较级、名词的复数变化。这项练习的目的是为了将复杂的语法转化为单词逐步使学生适应。配套的《教学训练参考》对这些语法进行了详细的讲解。

Writing (写作): 这是每一单元最后的练习。它包括相关单元内容的三个问题, 学生可以自己选择笔头回答其中的一个、两个或全部问题。

Extension Activities (扩展活动): 在每个单元 (unit) 最后都有这部分。它通过一些非常有趣的活动帮助学生练习使用所学的单词和其他知识, 使他们的思维更开阔。该部分包括 CNN Video Activity (CNN 节目活动) 和 Activity Page (游戏活动) 两部分。

CNN Video Activity (CNN 节目活动): 这是根据节选自真实生动的 CNN 专题节目的片段而设置的视听说练习。它包括以下三个步骤:

Before You Watch: 鼓励学生回想日常生活中或所学课文中的相关知识。

As You Watch: 让学生观看相关 CNN 节目。

After You Watch: 鼓励学生将节目内容与课文中的内容及他们的常识、经历和想法结合起来思考。

Active Page: 这是一个愉快的游戏栏目。它使学生在轻松的游戏练习所学的词汇和

语法。

Skills Index (技能检索): 它在全书的最后部分, 为学生和老师查阅书中读写技能和语法知识提供了方便。

作为一套系统培养学生阅读能力的教材, 《中学生百科英语》完整的教学理念、科学的教学步骤、丰富生动的内容使之成为英语教学领域非常实用、有效的教材, 我们衷心地希望它能成为更多同学们的良好益友!



序

中学英语教育是为今后打基础的一步，应该为广大中学生提供丰富的教材和读物，让他们能根据自己的兴趣挑选。《中学生百科英语》是一套适用于中学生选用的阅读教材。它共分三级，可供不同层次的学生选用。这是一套从国外引进的教材，从选材、课程编排、版式设计、配套课件上都很有特色。

《中学生百科英语》在选材上突出了“百科”，注重知识教育。书中的课文以知识为线索，按照专题分类成章，如：动物、植物、音乐、探险、食物、发明等。这样，学生可以在学习知识的过程中学习英语，在学习英语的同时增长了见识，同时课文的趣味性也提高了学生的学习积极性。现在，我们提倡素质教育，而素质教育是要渗透到各门学科的学习中的，英语教学也不例外。

《中学生百科英语》的编排注重教学的启发性。它的每一课的课文前都有一张反映课文主旨或帮助理解课文的图片、图画或是照片以引起学生的兴趣。在课文前有与课文内容相关的课前思考题（Pre-reading Questions），引导学生热身从而进入与课文相关的思考。课文后的练习有步骤地帮助学生掌握所学的内容，这些生动活泼的辅助练习有效地强化了知识点，第三册中的写作训练（Guided Writing）更是利用丰富的想象训练学生的综合能力。在每一章最后都有词汇学习（Word Study）、聚焦录像（Video Highlights）及我们一起做游戏（Activity Page）栏目在活跃了课堂的同时温习了单词并考察了学习效果。全书最后的总词汇表（Vocabulary）在每个词汇后都注明了该单词在课文中出现的页数以方便学生学习。

《中学生百科英语》的版式设计很有特色。它不同于一般的课文设计，它的课文在左侧，右侧留出一部分注解课文中必要的单词，扫除学生的阅读障碍，增强学习信心。同时，也为学生作笔记留下了空间，方便他们学习课文，使学生感到很亲切。

《中学生百科英语》的课件配备是比较完善的。它配有诵读课文的录音带和配合聚焦录像（Video Highlights）的CNN节目录像带。录音带语音清晰标准，适于学生

模仿；录像带中的节目丰富有趣，可以拓展学生的视、听、说能力。

学习英语是一个持续不断的艰苦工作，书、录音带、录像带是学习过程中的帮手。《中学生百科英语》是一套比较适于中学阶段使用的教材。不同的人有不同的学习习惯，《中学生百科英语》是否合适你，这里不能下结论，但不妨试试看。或许它会成为你学习道路上的一位良师益友。

程穆胜

2002年2月8日

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Unit

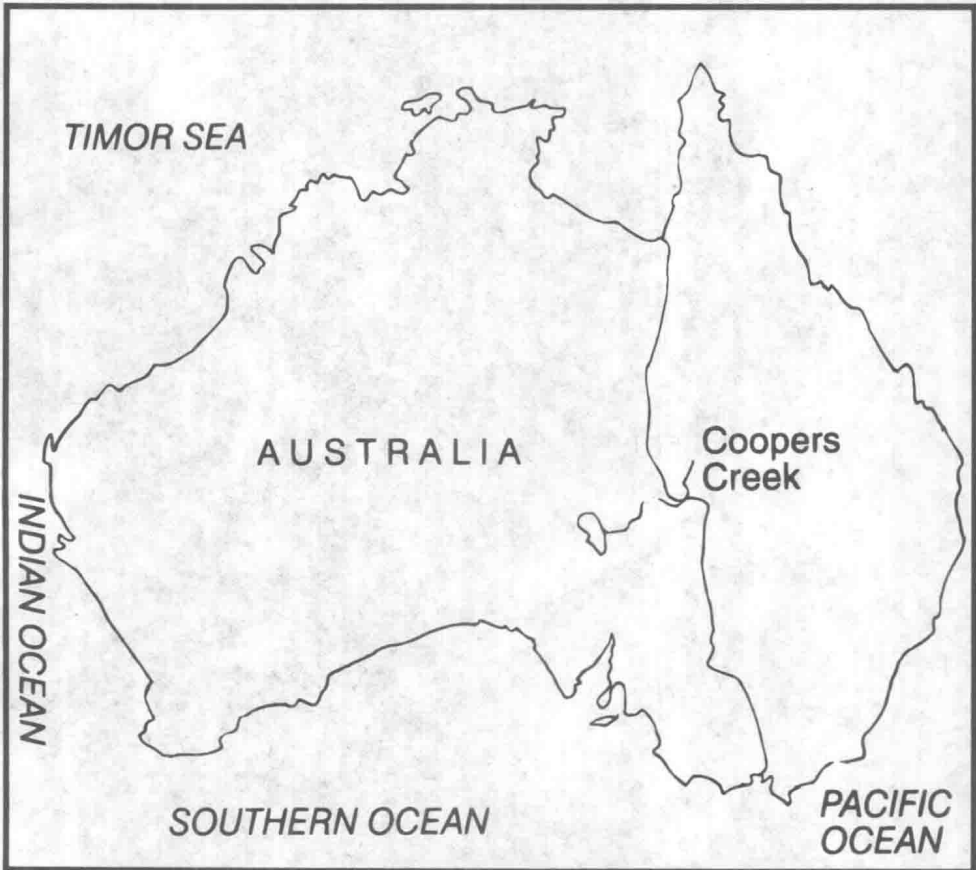
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Explorers





Burke and Wills— Across Australia



LESSON

1

Pre-reading Questions

1. Is August summer or winter in Australia?
2. Do camels live in Australia?
3. Is Australia larger or smaller than your country?



1



Burke and Wills— Across Australia

Australia is a **huge** country, and the outback (the Australian word for the **interior** of the country) is desert. In some years, it rains only 8 centimeters in the outback, but in other years, rainstorms **turn** the desert **into** sandy **swamps**.

very large

inside, away from the coast

change into, become

100 years

Until the eighteenth **century**, only **aborigines** lived in Australia. These are the first people who lived in Australia. When Europeans went there to live, they built town on the coast. However, by the 1850s, people began thinking more about the interior.

In 1860, Robert O'Hara Burke, a police officer from Ireland, was **chosen** to lead an **expedition** across the **continent** from south to north. He took with him William John Wills and eleven other men, camels, horses, and enough **supplies** for a year and a half. They left Melbourne for the Gulf of Carpentaria on August 20, winter in the southern **hemisphere**.

past participle of *choose*

food and other necessary things

half of the earth

The expedition had problems from the beginning. Burke had no **experience** in the outback. The men fought and would not follow orders. Twice they left some of their supplies so they could move faster and later sent one of the men, William Wright, back for them.

25



Finally, a small group led by Burke moved on **ahead** of the others to a river named Cooper's Creek and set up their **base** camp. They were halfway across the continent, but it was summer
30 now, with very hot weather and sandstorms.

They waited a month for Wright, and then Burke decided that four from his small group, with 3 months' supplies, should travel the 1250
35 kilometers to the north coast as quickly as possible. They told the others to wait for them at Cooper's Creek.

The **journey** across the desert was very difficult, but at the end of January, they reached the Flinders River near the Gulf of Carpentaria.

40 They started their return journey, but now it was the rainy season and traveling was slow and even more difficult than on their trip north. They did not have enough food, and the men became hungry and sick. Then one of them died.
45 Some of the camels died or were killed for food.

Finally, on April 21, they arrived back at Cooper's Creek, only to find that no one was there. The rest of the expedition left the day before because they thought Burke must be dead.

50 The men continued south, but without enough food, both Burke and Wills died. Aborigines helped the last man who was still alive, and a **search party** found him in September 1861. He was half crazy from hunger
55 and loneliness.

There were many reasons that the expedition did not go as it was planned. It had an inexperienced leader, the men made bad **decisions**, some did not follow orders, and they did not **get**
60 **along**. But they were the first expedition to cross Australia, and Burke and Wills are still known as **heroes of exploration**.

search = look for,
party = a group of people

noun for *decide*
be friendly, not fight



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 each lesson, when you read the text the first time, underline the words that you don't know. Then you can give yourself a test when you finish the lesson. Look at the words you underlined and see if you understand them. If you don't know them yet, this is the time to memorize them.

In the vocabulary exercises in this book, write the correct word in each blank. Use each word only once. Use capital letters where they are necessary.

exploration	decision	hemisphere	experience
continents	ahead	expedition	century
aborigines	gets along	base	heroes

1. Please decide what you want to do. You must make a _____.
2. In baseball, a player hits the ball and runs to first _____.
3. The first Australians are called _____.
4. Do you have any _____ as a secretary, or is this your first job?
5. Kumiko _____ well with everyone. She is always nice and never fights with people.
6. The years 1900–1999 are the twentieth _____.
7. Tom saw some children _____ of him in the street while he was driving home, so he slowed down.
8. Asia is in the northern _____.
9. Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America are the seven _____.
10. People who win in the Olympic Games are _____ in their countries.



B Vocabulary

Do this exercise like Exercise A.

chosen

expedition

experience

exploration

huge

interior

journey

party

searching

supplies

swamps

turned into

1. Burke and Wills led an _____ into the interior of Australia.
2. Christopher Columbus was _____ for a new way to go to India.
3. Canada is a _____ country, one of the biggest in the world.
4. Birds like to live in _____ because there is a lot of water and food.
5. We use one kind of paint for the _____ of a house and another kind for the exterior.
6. It is a long _____ from Melbourne to London.
7. A search _____ was sent to find the Burke and Wills expedition.
8. Most of the earth has been explored. Now we are in the age of space _____, searching for more information about the stars, the moon, and other planets besides Earth.
9. The secretary ordered paper, pens, and other _____ for the office.
10. Carlos started to study hard and _____ a good student.

C True/False

Write **T** if the sentence is true. Write **F** if it is false. If a question is false, change it to make it true, or explain why it is false.

An asterisk (*) before a question means it is either an **inference** or an **opinion** question. You cannot find a sentence in the text with the answer. You have to use the information in the text and things you already know and then decide on the answer.

- _____ 1. The first Europeans in Australia built villages in the outback because there were too many aborigines on the coast.



- _____ 2. The Burke and Wills expedition crossed Australia from south to north.
- _____ *3. December is a summer month in Australia.
- _____ 4. Much of the interior of Australia is swampy all year long.
- _____ 5. Eleven men crossed Australia with Burke and Wills.
- _____ *6. Burke and Wills did not have enough food for their journey back to Cooper's Creek because the rain slowed them down.
- _____ *7. The aborigines could help the last man still alive because they understood how to live in the desert.
- _____ 8. Burke was a good leader for this expedition.

D Comprehension Questions

Answer these questions in complete sentences. An asterisk (*) means it is either an **inference** or an **opinion** question. You cannot find the exact answer in the text.

1. Where did the first Europeans live when they went to Australia?
- *2. Why were camels good animals for this expedition?
3. Why did the men leave some of their supplies behind them?
4. Why was it difficult to travel in the interior of Australia?
5. What happened to some of the camels?
6. Name two reasons why this expedition had so many problems.
- *7. Do you think Burke and Wills should be called heroes of exploration? Why?

E Main Idea

What is the main idea of paragraph 4 (lines 20–25)?

1. Robert Burke led this expedition.
2. The expedition had many problems.
3. Burke had no experience in the outback.