

大学英语四级 美文晨读120篇

纯正美音版（第二版）

120 BEAUTIFUL
MORNING READING ESSAYS
FOR CET-4

新东方
名师

宋平明 © 主编

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宋平明 © 主编 杨娜 © 副主编

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再版前言

本套书自出版以来，一再加印，深受读者喜爱和好评。最近出版社告诉我，要改版这套书，加以修订，争取为读者提供更好的阅读体验和更加丰富的学习资料。作为本套书的编著者，我深受鼓舞，也更加感觉到责任重大，生怕辜负读者的信任。

本套书的读者来自于五湖四海、各行各业。你们也许是在校的大学生，也许是高中生，也许是工作多年的职场人士，也许是纯粹的英语爱好者，但是大家在市面上多如牛毛的类似图书中选取了本书作为你们的学习资料，我深感荣幸。

大家之所以喜欢这套书，我想与本套书的如下几个特点密切相关。

第一，本套书的编著者是在新东方授课多年的英语教师，教学经验丰富，能深刻感悟到学生在学习中的困惑和疑虑，所以就能更加懂得读者在学习英语过程中的痛点，并能提供更好的解决方案。

第二，本套书的编写体系自成风格，独具特色。本书的编写架构已经成为业界的一个行业标杆，涵盖英语原文、精美译文、长难句解析、重难点词汇和词组，等等。这些都是能够直接和四六级考试所需要的技能直接对接的，使大家的学习更加卓有成效。

第三，本套书的设计精美，风格典雅。不像很多的同类图书，有些设计得太像辅导书，感觉考完四六级之后就可以马上扔了。本书则不

同，本书的编辑老师和设计老师给大家呈现的作品清新典雅、别具一格，让大家可以放在床头枕边，闲来无事读上一两篇。既学习英语，又陶冶情操；既可以自己留存，也可以作为礼品赠送给亲朋好友。

再次感谢大家选择了这套书，祝大家学习进步、生活开心、事业发达！

如果想和作者进一步沟通交流，可以关注作者微博@宋氏平民！

宋平明

前 言

作为一名在新东方讲授近十年的英语老师，我能够深刻感受到同学们在英语学习过程中的困惑和难处，也能够切实把握住同学们学习英语的节奏和规律，所以我希望通过自己对英语学习特点的理解以及学习规律的掌握，为同学们提供力所能及的、切实有效的以及简单易学的英语学习方法和教材。

前几年，我出版过一套大学英语四、六级美文阅读系列的图书，这些图书深受同学们喜爱，一再加印，供不应求；但是几年过去了，有些文章过于陈旧，出版时因为水平有限、时间紧张也有些错误，所以这次重新遴选更为时尚和经典的美文编写成书，希望能够给同学们的英语学习提供更大的帮助。

本套书是作者在深刻领悟四级考试规律、综合英语综合水平提升技巧以及总结长期一线教学实践经验而倾心编著的。我们精选了与大学英语四级考试难度相似以及长度相似的各类文章，配上精美译文，标注常考词汇以及常考词组，精准分析长难句，供大家学习、模仿以及写作时参考使用。总的来说本套书有如下特点和功用：

经典选文与时尚选文结合，扩展知识面

本套书既选编了流传已久的经典美文，又选入与时代脉搏紧密相连的时尚美文，让同学们阅读时既可以感悟经典也可以与时俱进，从而能够紧跟时代步伐，掌握英语精华。

素质提升与应试教育结合，注重实用性

同学们可以通过阅读和学习本套书而使阅读、翻译、语法甚至写作方面得到全面的提高，既能应付各类考试，亦能提高综合素质，成为时代完美弄潮儿。

常考词汇与语法分析结合，提升阅读力

选文结合大学英语四级常考词汇，让同学们能够全面掌握考试词汇，同时配备长难句的精准名师讲解，全面提升英语词汇基础和长难句分析能力。

美音朗读与精选美文结合，强化听和说

很多同学苦于难以提高英文听说能力，基于此，本书聘请美籍外教针对书中遴选的美文进行对应朗读，便于同学们在阅读之余强化听写和朗读的能力。本书所提供的纯正美音朗读均提供音频，同学们可以随时随地随身学英语。

我希望这套书能够为大家的英语学习提供切实的帮助，同学们能够在阅读之后提升英文水平、感受英文魅力。希望大家能喜欢这套书！

宋平明

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Part One

环球人物

Unit 1



Foreword

近日,中国国家主席习近平偕夫人彭丽媛首次外访。代表中国形象的第一夫人优雅亮相,其时尚造型获得中外媒体的赞誉,同时引发了本土品牌时尚热潮。

China's New First Lady

China's new First Lady, Peng Liyuan, has become something of a global style icon on her first official state visit.

Peng Liyuan, wife of the new Chinese president Xi Jinping, has become a surprise style sensation with her native fashion bloggers and style commentators around the world on her first official state visit.

Disembarking from her private plane in Moscow on Friday, Peng, 50, chose an elegant black double-breasted belted coat and ladylike handbag by Chinese fashion label Exception; a look which, teamed with her neatly pinned up hair, fresh-faced make-up and understated accessories, wouldn't have looked out of place in the front row at Paris Haute Couture Week.

"First ladies are ambassadors of the culture and the design and of the soft power of a country. I'm glad that she chose to wear Chinese and take up that role of spokesperson for Chinese design here." said Hong Huang, publisher of the fashion magazine *iLOOK* and one of the most popular microbloggers in China.

"It's the first time that China's first lady appears like a modern woman. I think she dressed very well, with taste and confidence." said Zhang Yu, editor of China's *VOGUE* magazine. "After so many years, we finally have a first lady who can represent us so appropriately. I think it is a landmark event."

① Online retailers have sought to associate their products with what news portals are terming the "Peng Liyuan style". with searches for those key words resul-

ting in lists of handbags and trench coats, many of which did not even resemble the items she wore.

Heavy online traffic to Exception's website has caused it to crash since Friday, with it loading only sporadically on Monday.

② Chatter about her winning personal style quickly spread globally with U. S. newspaper's comparing her to Michelle Obama (both have daughters and are only a year apart in age), though we think her ladylike style is more reminiscent of ex First Lady of France, Carla Bruni.

中国新任第一夫人

首次出访的中国新任第一夫人彭丽媛,俨然成为全球时尚偶像。

彭丽媛是中国国家主席习近平的妻子,日前她随习近平主席开始了首次正式国事访问。优雅的彭丽媛女士如今已经成为了时尚象征,给中国国内时尚博主和国外时尚评论家带来了不少惊喜。

上周五彭丽媛抵达外访的第一站俄罗斯莫斯科市。现年 50 岁的彭丽媛女士从私人专机上优雅地走下来,她身着一件黑色双排扣束腰外套,手上提着的是中国时尚品牌“例外”的女士提包。这样的装扮搭配上精心梳理的发髻、清新妆容以及低调朴素的首饰,就算是坐在巴黎高级定制时装周的前排也毫不逊色。

“第一夫人一直是一个国家的文化大使,通常代表的就是一种软实力。看到彭丽媛女士选择中国本土品牌我非常高兴,她充当了中国设计的发言人的角色。”时尚杂志《iLOOK》的出版人、中国最著名的微博达人之一洪晃表示。

中国版《VOGUE》杂志的编辑张宇则表示:“这是第一次中国第一夫人展现现代女性的形象。我觉得她的穿着非常得体,很有品味也很自信。在这么多年后,我们终于能找到一位可以大方得体地代表中国女性的第一夫人。我觉得这是里程碑式的事件。”

① 新闻门户网站将这股潮流称为“彭丽媛 style”,中国的网络零售商也都在使他们的产品赶上这股最热时尚潮流。搜索这些关键词,你可以看到许多提包和风衣,很多其实跟彭丽媛女士的穿戴并不相符。

“例外”品牌网站吸引了大量浏览量,造成网站从周五开始一直处于拥堵状态,在本周一也还是偶尔才能登录上去的状态。

② 彭丽媛女士在此次外访中个人形象大获成功,也让很多美国报纸将其与美国第一夫人米歇尔·奥巴马进行比较,毕竟这两位女士情况很相

似:都各有一个女儿,年龄也只相差一岁。不过我们认为彭丽媛女士的优雅风格其实与前任法国第一夫人卡拉·布吕尼更为相似。

重难点词汇

- icon['ai,kɒn] *n.* 偶像,崇拜对象
 sensation[sen' seɪʃən] *n.* 感觉,感受,知觉
 disembark[,dɪsem' bɑ:k] *vt. & vi.* (使)登陆[上岸]
 ambassador[æm' bæsədə] *n.* 大使,使节
 retailer['ri:teɪlə] *n.* 零售商,零售店
 resemble[ri' zembl] *vt.* 与……相像,类似于
 sporadically[spə' rædɪkli] *adv.* 偶发地,零星地

重难点词组

- out of place 不合适,不恰当
 take up 拿起,占去,开始从事

长难句精析

1. Online retailers have sought to associate their products with what news portals are terming the "Peng Liyuan style," with searches for those key words resulting in lists of handbags and trench coats, many of which did not even resemble the items she wore.

结构精析:本句是复合句。主句是 Online retailers with..., 后面 what news portals are terming the "Peng Liyuan style" 是宾语从句, with searches for those... and trench coats 是介词短语作结果状语, 后面 many of which did not even resemble the items... 是非限定性定语从句, 从句中还有一个省略了 that 的定语从句 she wore。

语法重点:宾语从句,介词短语作状语,定语从句。

2. Chatter about her winning personal style quickly spread globally with U. S. newspaper's comparing her to Michelle Obama (both have daughters and are only a year apart in age), though we think her ladylike style is more reminiscent of ex First Lady of France, Carla Bruni.

结构精析:本句是复合句。主句是 Chatter... spread globally, 其中 with U. S. newspaper's comparing her to Michelle Obama 是介词短语作方式状语, though 引导让步状语从句, 从句中 her ladylike style is more reminiscent of ex First Lady of France 是省略 that 的宾语从句。

语法重点:让步状语从句,宾语从句,介词短语作状语,同位语结构。

No road of flowers lead to glory. —La Fontaine

没有一条通向光荣的道路是铺满鲜花的。——拉封丹



Foreword

英国前首相撒切尔夫人因为中风去世,享年 87 岁。她的家人宣布这一消息后,英国女王和首相大卫·卡梅伦分别致哀。葬礼定于 2013 年 4 月 17 日在圣保罗大教堂(St. Paul's Cathedral)举行,英国女王伊丽莎白二世(Queen Elizabeth II)和英国前任及现任知名官员都会参加为撒切尔夫人举行的盛大仪式。

Lady Margaret Thatcher

Baroness Thatcher, Britain's greatest post-war prime minister, has died at the age of 87 after suffering a stroke, her family has announced.

Known as the Iron Lady, Margaret Thatcher governed Britain from 1979 to 1990.

① She will go down in history not only as Britain's first female prime minister, but as the woman who transformed Britain's economy in addition to being a formidable rival on the international stage.

Lady Thatcher was the only British prime minister to leave behind a set of ideas about the role of the state which other leaders and nations strove to copy and apply.

The funeral for former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was set to take place on April 17 at St. Paul's Cathedral, with an elaborate ceremony attended by Queen Elizabeth II and a who's who of British public officials, past and present.

Attendees included the queen and her husband, Prince Philip, as well as British Prime Minister David Cameron and a host of other well-known figures from British public life, including both some who worked with Mrs. Thatcher and some who currently serve in politics. Also present were other friends and family, including her two children and her grandchildren.

② The ceremonial funeral is one step short of a state funeral, which is usually reserved for the monarch but was provided for Winston Churchill, Britain's prime minister during World War II. Mrs. Thatcher had requested that she not lie in state and that