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GO FOR READING AND WRITING
新目标人教版中学英语同步读写

English through Everyday Idioms

读谚语 学英语

Graham Sage

*The first step is
the hardest.*

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使用指南

《读谚语 学英语》是为中学生设计的一套课外阅读和写作材料。该材料与新目标人教版中学英语教材 *Go for it!* 配套。作者 **Graham Sage** 先生出生于英格兰,牛津大学现代语言学硕士。他曾在新加坡创办了一所语言培训学校,具有丰富的语言教学经验。

本书并非教材,也没有具体讲解语法。但教材每个单元要求学生掌握的语法要点已经融入本书相应单元生动有趣的故事之中。

阅读能力是语言学习的基本功。培养良好的阅读习惯可以帮助学生实实在在地学好英语,而不只是应付各类考试一时之需。

遗憾的是,目前市面上供中学生阅读的材料不多。有些材料只是一些零散的段落,而没有完整的故事情节,很难吸引现在的中学生;有些材料乃从国外引进,其中涉及的情景与他们的日常生活相去甚远。

基于此,出版者和作者在做了充分的市场调查的基础上,为中国中学生奉上了这套读写丛书。书中的故事就像发生在孩子们身边——因为足球耽搁功课、上课玩手机、被家长逼着学钢琴;精灵古怪的万圣节、温馨和睦的春节;严厉的老师、调皮的同学、恨铁不成钢的父母……所有这些天天一再重复的事情都被作者用地道的语言描绘了出来。孩子们在这种风趣幽默的语境中,不知不觉地逐渐了解、熟悉英语谚语和惯用语的内涵及用法,从而能更加从容地表达自己。

对于这套系列丛书的使用,我们有如下建议:

1. 学生作为自学的听力和阅读材料使用

第一遍,边听边默读。每段材料中我们特意使用了约 50 个生词。遇见生词不要急着查辞典,仅掌握全文大意即可。读完后,再翻查书后所附的中英文词汇表。

第二遍,精读。我们建议,既不要听录音,也不要查词汇表。即使一下子记不

住这些生词也没有关系，因为在以后的单元中这些词汇会重复出现在不同的语境中。你会发现这些生词慢慢地从“陌生人”变成了你熟悉的“朋友”。

精读之后，关上书，仔细听录音。我们相信此时，你已经成竹在胸。做做练习吧，你会对自己更加自信。

练习 A 是综合理解多项选择题。

开始使用本书时，你也许会一边做练习一边翻翻前面的内容。但到了后面的阶段，我们建议你凭借自己的记忆和理解来做出选择。一定要等 10 道选择题做完之后，再查对阅读材料，最后才核对书后的参考答案。

练习 D 是字谜游戏。

填词游戏在国外非常盛行：地铁、火车、汽车上经常可以看见男男女女、老老少少，或坐，或站，拿着笔对着报纸或杂志上的字谜游戏苦苦思索。这套书中的字谜游戏主要是为了复习本单元或前面几个单元的词汇所设计的。通过这个挑战智力的小游戏，你会发现词汇量在悄悄地增加，也许还会在不经意间发掘出自己的潜力呢！当然我们有一条忠告：千万别边做边看答案！如果这样，则不仅失去挑战乐趣，而且降低学习效率。

2. 教师作为提高学生写作能力的辅导材料使用

阅读和听力训练暂告一个段落，现在孩子们需要运用才学会的生词和短语练练笔了。

练习 B 和练习 C 是两种不同的写作训练。练习 B 多为造句练习，练习 C 程度稍高一些。不管是哪一种，其目的都是鼓励学生学以致用。这个“用”是指在实际生活中的运用，而不是考试之“用”。

做完练习后，还需要教师的细心评讲和指导，学生的写作能力才能有所提高。

3. 教师作为提高学生口语能力的辅导材料使用

如果教师在课堂上讲授此书，则可以用书中的这些词汇和短语作口头练习，还可以让学生分角色扮演课本剧。其中最为关键之处是多听录音，尽量模仿，掌握正确的重音和语调，表演时才能惟妙惟肖、细致传神。

由于人物对话所用的都是现在英国孩子们的口头语，惯用语更是俯拾皆是。这给孩子们操练口语提供了必需的素材，而避免了即兴“创造”英语表达之虞。孩

子们兴之所至还可以充分发挥自己的想像,或改写情节、扩展对话,或延伸故事……这样又会反过来激发孩子们阅读的兴趣:听—读—说—写—听……如此循环往复,孩子们的语感就在这样一个轻松愉快的语言环境中逐渐养成。

总之,学英语的终极目的不是考试,而是把它作为一种对外交流的工具,让外界了解自己,让自己的思想得到充分的表达。这套丛书可以助你一臂之力,向目标靠近。

Introduction

The purpose of language is to convey meaning. The variety of ways in which meaning is expressed adds to the richness of a language. Sometimes meaning is more powerful when it is conveyed indirectly, and in most languages we find examples of meaning conveyed through the use of stories and fables. These usually have a moral ending which can often become a commonly used catchphrase, surviving unchanged, and still found today in everyday idioms.

This series of reading materials for Chinese middle school students introduces some of the more well-known idioms, maxims, proverbs and sayings in common usage in the English language.

Many of these express ideas which are common to several different languages and cultures, and, where appropriate the equivalent Chinese expression is also given.

The reading passages are graded to suit the level of English Chinese middle school students are expected to have acquired at each stage of the academic year.

Each unit of each book contains a reading passage illustrating a particular saying, and is followed by comprehension and grammar exercises and a crossword puzzle to make the challenge of vocabulary learning more exciting.

The vocabulary is introduced gradually and as the reading passages become more difficult there is also a regular review of words previously used. You are encouraged to have a dictionary at hand, particularly when doing the crossword puzzles, as they are designed not only to review some of the new vocabulary items in each unit but also to introduce some of the new words which will appear in later units.

The passages very often contain dialogues which students can enjoy acting out as a classroom exercise. There are many opportunities for you to use your ingenuity and also practice your spoken English as you work through the material in this book.

English is a living language and learning it should be fun and enjoyable.

导言

语言的目的在于承载意义。其各种各样的表现方式使语言的表达更加多姿多彩。有的时候委婉的表达比直接表露更有力量。在许多语言中都可以找到用故事和寓言来说明道理的例证。它们常常以一些含有教育意义的句子结尾,而这些句子又常常被引用,经久不衰,成为今天的日常惯用语。

这套为中国中学生编撰的阅读丛书,遴选介绍了英语中广为人知的成语、格言、谚语和惯用语。

它们在很多不同的语言和文化中都有近似的表达,本书中我们也给出了相应的汉语意义。

阅读材料按照中国中学生每个学年应该达到的级别进行编排。

书中的各单元以一个谚语为主题,围绕这个主题我们编写了一个个小故事、综合理解和语法练习。为使词汇学习更加有趣,我们还精心设计了字谜游戏。

词汇的引入是循序渐进的。随着阅读材料难度的增加,以前出现过的词汇也会在后面的单元中重现。我们建议你手边准备一本辞典,尤其是在做字谜游戏的时候。因为字谜游戏设计的目的不仅在于复习学过的单词,而且还要预习下面几个单元中将出现的词汇。

书中的人物对话,学生可以分角色扮演课本剧。这套阅读材料给你提供了若干机会,让你在挖掘潜力的同时操练口语。

英语是一门活生生的语言,英语学习也一定会兴致盎然,充满乐趣。

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Unit 1

Que sera sera.

Whatever will be will be.



Ming Liang and Hai Tao are close friends at school. They are glad to meet up with each other again after the Chinese New Year break.

"Hi, Ming Liang," said Hai Tao. "Did you have a good time with your family over the Chinese New Year holidays?"

"Not really, Hai Tao," said Ming Liang. "Apart from going to Grandma's place on New Year's Eve, we didn't do anything special."

"Me, neither," said Hai Tao. "I stayed indoors most of the time."

"So did I," said Ming Liang. "The weather was so cold I didn't fancy going out much."

"I read a lot of books," continued Hai Tao. "There was one really good one. I just couldn't put it down, even at mealtimes. My mum said that it was at least better than having my eyes glued to the TV all day. I'll lend it to you if you like."

"What's it about?" asked Ming Liang.

"It's about an old woman who told people's fortunes," replied Hai Tao. "She had a crystal ball and when she rubbed her hands over it she could see into the future."

"We've got a crystal ball at home, too. My dad brought it back from Hainan last year as a souvenir. I got it out of the cupboard and rubbed my hands over it but nothing happened."

The two friends were silent for a while.

"Do you think there really are people who can see into the future and predict what will happen?" said Ming Liang at last.

"No," said Hai Tao. "They only exist in stories."

"What about destiny?" Ming Liang went on. "Perhaps our lives are already mapped out for us from the moment we are born."

Hai Tao thought about this.

"Perhaps so," he said. "Perhaps the future already exists and nothing we do will change it."

"Well, in that case, there's no point in losing any sleep over tomorrow's English test," joked Ming Liang. "Whatever will be will be. We can't change our destiny."

"Yes," said Hai Tao philosophically, "but then perhaps it's also our destiny to study hard for the test."

"Even though the result is a foregone conclusion?" asked Ming Liang.

"If people believe they can't change their destiny," said Hai Tao, "nobody will make any effort anymore. People will just let things happen. I think we have to believe we can change the course of events and shape our own futures. What do you think?"

The conversation was becoming far too philosophical for a first day of term.

Ming Liang said on a less serious note: "I think I'd better burn the midnight oil tonight and make sure I'm ready for tomorrow's test... unless your crystal ball can tell us what the questions and answers will be."

A. Reading Practice

From the information given in the Reading Passage, circle the best answer, A), B), C) or D).

1. Why did Ming Liang stay indoors most of the time during the holidays?
 - A) Because he was sick.
 - B) Because he wanted to watch TV.
 - C) Because the weather was too cold.
 - D) Because he wanted to see his grandmother.
2. What did Hai Tao do during the Chinese New Year holidays?
 - A) He read a lot of books.
 - B) He watched TV most of the time.
 - C) He helped his mother.
 - D) He helped his father.
3. What book did Hai Tao particularly enjoy reading?
 - A) A book about Hainan.
 - B) An English language book.
 - C) A book about old people.
 - D) A book about a fortune teller.
4. What did Hai Tao's father bring back from Hainan?
 - A) An old lady.
 - B) A football.
 - C) A crystal ball.
 - D) A map of the island.
5. What did the old lady do in the story?
 - A) She predicted the future.
 - B) She rubbed her hands together.
 - C) She changed people's destiny.
 - D) She looked into a mirror.
6. What does Hai Tao say about fortune tellers?
 - A) They can help the two boys pass their English test.
 - B) They only exist in stories.
 - C) They can make people rich.
 - D) There aren't any on Hainan Island.
7. What would happen if we could not change our destiny?
 - A) People would not make any effort.
 - B) People would spend time looking into crystal balls.
 - C) People would be happy.
 - D) People wouldn't have to learn English.
8. What is Ming Liang going to do tonight?
 - A) Watch TV.
 - B) Read Hai Tao's book.
 - C) Heat some oil in the frying pan.
 - D) Study hard late into the night.
9. Why does Ming Liang end the conversation on a less serious note?
 - A) Because Hai Tao is talking too philosophically.
 - B) Because he wants to go home and study.
 - C) Because he believes his destiny is already mapped out.
 - D) Because Hai Tao already knows the answers to the test.
10. What is going to happen tomorrow?
 - A) Hai Tao is going to bring the crystal ball to school.
 - B) Hai Tao is going to lend Ming Liang the book.
 - C) The two boys are going to have an English test.
 - D) The old lady is going to give them the answers to the test.

B. Writing Practice

Use the word/s in brackets and put them into a sentence of your own.

1. (glad)

2. (have a good time)

3. (anything special)

4. (apart from)

5. (if you like)

6. (souvenir)

7. (predict)

8. (let something happen)

9. (far too ...)

10. (foregone conclusion)

C. Composition

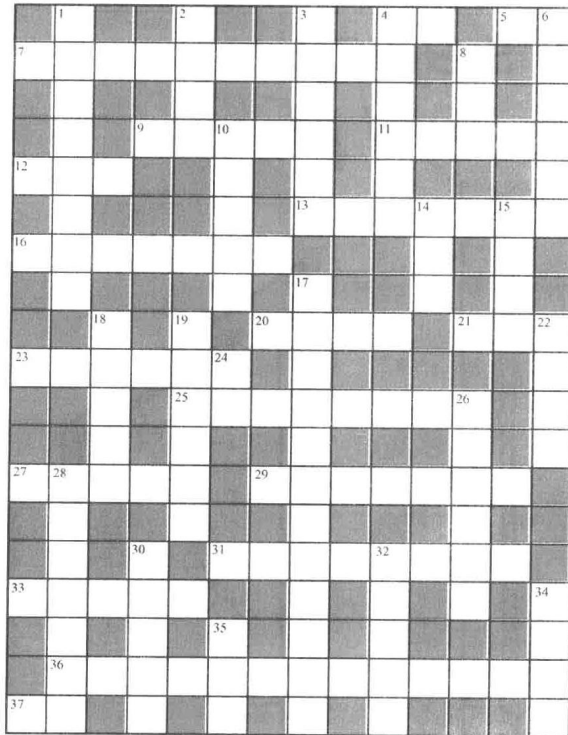
Imagine you can predict the future. Describe China in 50 years' time. Use each of the following words / expressions in your composition.

economy, cities, transportation, clothing, living environment, countryside, cultural activities, peace, health, wealth

Lined area for writing the composition.

D. Vocabulary Practice

Crossword Puzzle



Clues across

4. If you don't know a word, look it _____.(2)
5. Morning. (2)
7. (With 1 down) Predictable outcome.(10)
9. The smallest amount.(5)
11. Finished.(5)
12. Opposite of 'after'.(3)
13. Fate. (7)
16. No longer. Not _____. (3,4)
20. A story to make you laugh.(4)
21. These clues _____ easy.(3)
23. Noiseless.(6)
25. Present bought on holiday.(8)
27. Common fruit. (5)
29. As clear as _____. (7)
31. Whichever.(8)
33. Form. (5)
36. Connected with philosophy. (13)
37. — Is this yours? — Yes, it _____. (2)

Clues down

1. (With 7 across) Predictable outcome.(8)
2. This is one. (4)
3. Past tense of 'lift'. (6)
4. You can't go in _____ you have a ticket. (6)
6. Noon. (6)
8. Opposite of 'subtract' .(3)
10. Separate.(5)
14. Best in the class.(3)
15. Close. (4)
17. Talk between two people. (12)
18. You do this at night. (5)
19. Reply to a question. (6)
22. Opposite of difficult. (4)
24. — Do I have _____ ? — Yes. (2)
26. A person who reads.(6)
28. Maybe. (7)
30. Divide. (5)
32. Between seven and nine. (5)
34. Whitish.(4)
35. One of five on each foot. (3)

Unit 2

*When the cat's away
the mice will play.*

