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英语阅读 100

主编\李芳琴 编著\周婷



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I. The English Language

英语语言

Part 1

Hello 哈 啰

Time Limit 15 Time Used _____

Read the following questions before reading and then answer them after reading:

1. What word is used most often in the world?
2. How often do people use "hello"?
3. Did Thomas Edison like talking much?

Hello. This is as good a way as¹ any to welcome you to this book.

The word "hello" is probably used more often than any other one in the English language. Everybody in the US and elsewhere uses the word, again and again, every day of the week.

The first thing you hear when you pick up the phone is "hello" unless the caller is an Englishman who might say, "Are you there?"

Where did the word come from? There are all sorts of beliefs. Some say it came from the French, "ho" and "ia"—"Ho, there!" This greeting may have arrived in England during the Norman



Conquest² in the year 1066.

As time passed, it changed into "hullo". And during the 1800's this was how people greeted each other in America.

The American inventor, Thomas Edison, is believed to be the first person to use "hello" in the late 1800's, soon after the invention of the telephone.

At first, people had greeted each other on the telephone with, "Are you there?" They were not sure the new instrument could really carry voices.

Thomas Edison was a man of few words. He wasted no time. The first time he picked up the phone he did not ask if anyone was there. He was sure someone was, and simply said, "Hello".

From that time on only about 100 years ago—the "hullo" became "hello," as it is heard today.



Notes:

1. as good as 实际上等于
- 2 The Norman Conquest 诺曼底人征服英国



Key to the questions:

- 1.The word "hello" is used most often.
- 2.It is used again and again every day of the week.
- 3.He didn't.

译文:

哈啰!这是一个再好不过的词来欢迎你阅读这本书。

"哈啰"大概是英语中用得最多的一个词。在美国和世界上其他地方,每个人每天都在不断地使用它。



你拿起电话,首先就听到“哈罗”,除非给你打电话的是英国人,他也许会说“你听见了吗?”

这个词到底是从哪儿来的呢?众说纷纭。有人认为他来自于法语的“ho”和“lo”——意思是:“喂,那边的!”这个打招呼的用语也许是在1066年诺曼底人征服英国时带去的。

随着时间的流逝,它逐渐演变成了“hullo”。在19世纪,美国人见面时就用此互相打招呼。

据说美国发明家托马斯·爱迪生是第一个使用“哈罗”的人,那是在19世纪末电话发明不久的事。

起初,人们拿起电话后首先相互询问:“你听见了吗?”他们还不太有把握这种新设备能传送说话的声音。

然而,托马斯·爱迪生是个沉默寡言的人。他从不浪费时间。他第一次拿起话筒就不问别人是否听得见。他确信有人在听,于是简单地说了声“哈罗”。

从那时起,只不过大约过了一百年,当时的“hullo”就变成了现在听到的“hello”——哈罗。

Part 2

A Fool and His Money Are Soon Parted 傻瓜有钱留不住

Time Limit 10 Time Used

Read the following questions before reading and then answer them after reading:

1. Was Rick still cautious when it came to money?
2. Would he often spend money on worthless and unnecessary



things?

3 What did he first do when he won the lottery?

4 Did he soon spend all the money he had won?

5 What can we draw from this story?

Rick had always thrown caution to the wind¹ when it came to money². He would often spend his money carelessly on things he really didn't need. When he won a large sum of money in the lottery, he was very excited. However, a fool and his money are soon parted. First Rick went on a shopping spree³, and then invited some friends to spend the weekend at a fancy, expensive resort⁴. It was not long before⁵ he went through⁶ every cent he had won. He foolishly spent his winnings on worthless and unnecessary things, and soon he had nothing left. How easy it would have been to put some of the money away⁷ for a rainy day⁸.

Notes:

1. throw/flip, cast --to the wind 不再考虑..., 完全不顾...

2 when it comes to 涉及到; 谈到

3 a shopping spree 疯狂采购; spree: 无节制的狂热行为

4 a fancy, expensive resort 豪华奢侈的度假地

resort: 胜地 a health resort 疗养地; a summer resort 避暑胜地

5. It is not long before... 没过多久就...; 例如: It was not long before he could speak fluent English. 没过多久他就可以讲很流利的英语。

6. go through = use up 用光(钱等)

7. put away 储存...备用

8 a rainy day 雨天; (喻) 困难的日子



Key to the questions:

- 1.No, he was no longer cautious.
- 2.Yes, he would.
- 3.He first went on a shopping spree.
- 4 He soon spent all the money.
- 5.From this story we can draw that a person should save some money for a rainy day.

译文:

李克花钱从来都是大手大脚。他常会买一些他并不真正需要的东西。他买彩票中奖时,他激动万分。但是,傻瓜有钱留不住。他中奖后的第一件事便是进行疯狂购买,然后邀请一些朋友到豪华奢侈的度假地过周末。很快他使用光了他赢得的每一分钱。他傻乎乎地用赢来的钱买了很多没有价值和无用的东西,他因此变得一无所有。其实把钱存起来以备不时之需是多么容易的事。

Part 3

Yankee 扬基佬

Time Limit 20 Time Used

Read the following questions before reading and then answer them after reading:

- 1.Whom did the word "Yankee" first refer to?
- 2.How many stories are there to explain the origin of "Yankee"?



3. How were the northern soldiers called by the southern army during the Civil War?
4. How is an American nicknamed today?
5. What should also be mentioned when talking about "Yankee"?

The word "Yankee" is about 300 years old. It was first used as a nickname for the colonists who settled in New England.¹

There are 20 stories explaining where "Yankee" came from. But the experts say only two of these stories are believable.

A number of people believe that it came from a Scottish word meaning sharp and clever. Even today, anyone who is a sharp trader is called a "Yankee trader". But most experts agree that "Yankee" came from Holland.

Many years ago, the Hollanders who made cheese were called Jan Kees by the Germans. Some of these Hollanders came to America in the early 1600's. They settled near the New England colonists. The Hollanders were great farmers. They laughed at the colonists in the north who tried to build farms on the mountain rocks. And so, the Hollanders gave their own nickname to the New England colonists. The British quickly picked up the nickname and the New Englanders became Yankees.

During the American Civil War² "Yankee" took on a wider meaning. The soldiers in the northern states were called "Yankees" by the men of the southern army.

Today, "Yankee" is known throughout the world as another name for an American.

Of course, one cannot talk about "Yankee" and not mention "Doodle" or "Yankee Doodle,"³ which is an American marching song.



Notes:

1. New England 新英格兰(美国东北部; Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut六州的总称)
2. the American Civil War 美国南北战争
3. an American marching song 美国的一首进行曲
4. Yankee Doodle 扬基佬笨蛋

Key to the questions:

1. It first referred to the New England colonists.
2. There are 20 stories.
3. They were called "Yankees".
4. An American is nicknamed as "Yankee".
5. "Yankee Doodle" must be mentioned.

译文:

“扬基佬”这个词已有三百多年的历史了。这个绰号起初用来称呼在新英格兰定居的移民。

解释这个词来源的典故有二十个。但是,专家们认为可信的只有两个。

有些人认为这个词起源于一个苏格兰词,意为“厉害”、“聪明”。直到今天,人们把一个精明的买卖人称为“扬基商人”。然而,大多数专家都认为“扬基佬”一词出自于荷兰。

多年以前,德国人把制作干酪的荷兰人叫做“扬基斯”。17世纪初,有些制作干酪的荷兰人来到了美洲。他们定居的地方靠新英格兰移民很近。他们很会种地,讥笑那边企图在山坡石头地上开荒的移民。于是,这些荷兰人把自己的外号送给了新英格兰的移民。英国人很快把这个词拣了过来;这样,新英格兰人便成了“扬基佬”。