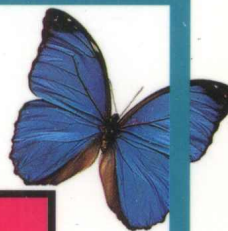


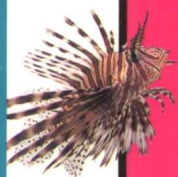


Classified English Vocabulary
& Reading Series

陆乃圣 主编



英语分类 词汇记忆 与 阅读理解



动物篇
英汉对照



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辽宁教育出版社
贝塔斯曼亚洲出版公司

适用大学英语四、六级考试
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前 言

中国人学习英文，最拿手的是英文语法。就拿托福考试结构部分来说，几乎是难不倒中国学生的，许多人可以得个满分。但是，一讲到英文词汇，则大部分人会摇头，直说英文单词实在难记。有的人拿着词典背单词，记了后面的就忘了前面的。单词记不住，就读不懂文章，听不懂话，结果影响工作和学习，影响考试成绩。英文单词成了许多人的大敌。

要解决词汇问题，光靠背词典是不行的。几千个光秃秃的单词，怎么背都不可能记下来。单词要放到词组中去，词组要放到句子中去，句子要放到文章中去。记单词的最好办法是多读英文文章。通过读文章来记单词，不仅能记住它的意义，而且能知道它的用法。

读英文文章，除了有文字障碍，还有知识面问题。有的时候，英文词都认识，可是就不知道这句话是什么意思。这往往是因为文章涉及到某个你不熟悉的内容，譬如说历史、地理、风俗、习惯等，对你的阅读理解构成了障碍。换言之，对中国学生来说，阅读英文有两大障碍：词汇和知识。

从另一个角度来看，如果你大量阅读英文文章，就有助于你扫除这两大障碍，使你既掌握了词汇，又增长了知识，我们编写《英语分类词汇记忆与阅读理解》的目的就在于此。

《英语分类词汇记忆与阅读理解》是一部系列丛书，有专门

讲天文的，也有专讲地质的，还有关于气象、历史、经济、动物以及生活知识等等内容的。每个内容便是一本小册子，每本小册子里都有几十篇涉及同一主题的文章，文章短小精悍，通俗易懂，英文朴素简练。每篇文章的前面列出主要单词和词组，文章的后面有阅读理解练习与答案，还有中译文供你对照参考。你在闲暇的时候，读上一篇，便能轻轻松松扩大了知识和英文词汇量，久而久之你的英文水平就会大有进步。

本册是“动物篇”，共有二十四篇文章，覆盖了有关动物的种种方面，例如进化论、自然选择、无脊椎动物、两栖类动物、恐龙的灭绝、鸟类的迁移、哺乳类动物、昆虫、海豚、鲸鱼、蝙蝠等等。本册由陆乃圣教授主编，参加编写的有英语硕士研究生白芸、蒋岚、严鸿娟、金颖颖和丁大刚。由于覆盖面广，涉及一定的专业知识，所以编写工作难免出现纰漏，恳请读者不吝指正。

CONTENTS

目 录

1	Evolution 进化论	1
2	Natural Selection 自然选择	9
3	Biogeography 生物地理学	18
4	Darwin's Theory 达尔文理论	26
5	Recent Theoretical Developments 最新理论发展	35
6	Zoology 动物学	44
7	Invertebrates 无脊椎动物	52
8	Insects 昆虫	59
9	Worms 蠕虫	67
10	Parasites 寄生虫	74
11	Reptiles 爬行动物	81
12	Lizards 蜥蜴	89
13	Snakes 蛇	97
14	Crocodiles 鳄鱼	104
15	Amphibians 两栖类动物	111
16	The Dinosaur 恐龙	118
17	Extinction of the Dinosaur 恐龙的灭绝	125
18	Songs of Birds 鸟的啾鸣	133

19	Bird Migration 鸟的迁移	141
20	Mammals 哺乳类动物	149
21	Apes 猿	157
22	The Dolphin 海豚	165
23	Whales 鲸鱼	173
24	The Bat 蝙蝠	180
Key to Exercises		188
练习答案及参考译文		
Index of Vocabulary in Alphabetical Order		216
按字母排列词汇索引		



Evolution

进 化 论

主要单词和词组

evolution 进化; 演变

idea 观点; 主意

species 物种

actually 实际上

undergo 经历

transform 转换

brief 简短的

probably 有可能

branch 分支; 树枝

speciation 物种形成

common 普通的; 共有的

share 共享

distantly 遥远的

formation 形成

organism 有机物

theory 理论

interrelated 相互关联

characteristic 特征

relatively 相对地

extinct 灭绝

billion 十亿

process 过程

inhabit 居住

ancestor 祖先

recent 近来的

trace 追溯

ancestry 祖先; 远古	chimpanzee 黑猩猩
gorilla 大猩猩	reptile 爬虫类
selection 选择	environment 环境
tend 倾向; 往往	descendant 后代; 子女
compete 竞争	limit 限制
supply 供给	necessity 必需品
individual 个别的	variation 变化
condition 条件	advantage 长处
offspring 后代	proportion 比例
trait 特性	generation 一代
term 术语	fitness 合适
reproduce 繁殖	survival 生存
in turn 转而	on average 平均
to refer to 指的是	to be known as 被称为
to be suited to 适合于	to be adapted to 适应

The word evolution usually refers to the formation and development of life on earth. The idea that all living things evolved from simple organisms and changed through the ages to produce millions of species is known as the theory of organic evolution. Most people call it simply the theory of evolution.

The theory of evolution is actually a set of several interrelated ideas. The basic idea is that species undergo changes in their characteristics over time. These changes transformed some of the species that lived long ago into the species that are alive today. During the last few million years—a relatively brief period in the history of the earth—thousands of species have become

extinct and thousands of other species have evolved.

Evolutionary theory holds that all species probably evolved from a single form of life which lived about 3.5 billion years ago. Over time, the basic life form evolved into two or more species. These species, in turn, developed into many other species. This branching process, called speciation, produced the more than 10 million species that inhabit the earth today.

Related to speciation is the idea of common ancestry. Because all organisms evolved from one basic life form, any two species once had a common ancestor. Closely related species share a more recent common ancestor, but distantly related species must trace their ancestry far into the past to find a common ancestor. For example, human beings, chimpanzees, and gorillas evolved from a common ancestor that lived between 4 million and 10 million years ago, while the common ancestor of human beings and reptiles lived about 300 million years ago.

Another idea related to evolution is natural selection, a process by which the organisms best suited to their environment tend to leave the most descendants. All living things must compete for a limited supply of food, water, space, and other necessities. The individual plants and animals whose variations are best adapted to conditions have an advantage in this struggle. These organisms, on average, tend to leave a larger number of offspring than other members of their group. As a result, the proportion of the group sharing the traits of the best-adapted organisms increases from generation to generation. Scientists use the term fitness to refer to the ability of an organism to reproduce. For this reason, natural selection is often called the "sur-

vival of the fittest” .

Questions

I. Make the right choice:

- () 1. The word “evolution” we use when we talk about the theory of evolution refers to which of the following?
- (A) simple organisms evolved from more complex ones
 - (B) millions of species scattered on planets
 - (C) origin and development of living things on earth
 - (D) formation and development of inorganic substances on earth
- () 2. Which of the following conclusions is true according to the theory of evolution?
- (A) Species change their characteristics instantly.
 - (B) The present-day species are transformed from species that lived long ago.
 - (C) Millions of years are a brief period in human history.
 - (D) Thousands of species became extinct because they had lived too long.
- () 3. The word “undergo” in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to
- (A) demonstrate
 - (B) evolve
 - (C) survive
 - (D) experience
- () 4. What does the term speciation mean?
- (A) differentiating into new biological species
 - (B) synthesizing into one single form of life
 - (C) abrupt transforming of millions of species

- (D)inhibiting the growth of higher organisms
- () 5. Why does the author mention human beings, chimpanzees, and gorillas in paragraph 4?
- (A) to support the idea that all organisms evolved from one basic life form
- (B) to illustrate the point that distantly related species must trace their ancestry far into the past to find a common ancestor
- (C) to show that closely related species share a more recent common ancestor
- (D) to demonstrate that human beings evolved from chimpanzees and gorillas
- () 6. The word “trace” in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to
- (A) share (B) recur
- (C) discover (D) produce
- () 7. Which of the following best explains natural selection?
- (A) the changing of environments
- (B) the survival of the fittest
- (C) the reproduction of the next generation
- (D) the supply of natural resources
- () 8. The word “descendant” in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to
- (A) parentage (B) selection
- (C) offspring (D) resistance
- () 9. The word “trait” in paragraph 5 is closest in meaning to
- (A) advantage (B) disadvantage
- (C) adaptation (D) characteristic
- () 10. Which of the following organisms leave the most descen-

dants?

(A) those that are kept from competition for life necessities

(B) those that are most capable of selecting mating partners

(C) those that are best adapted to conditions

(D) those that are deprived of food supply

II. Fill in the right word or phrase:

() 1. In biology, the word evolution refers to the development of a species from its original or _____ state to its present or _____ state.

(A) individual / specialized

(B) rudimentary / completed

(C) relative / absolute

(D) sophisticated / barbarous

() 2. The theory of organic evolution is also _____ the theory of evolution.

(A) called as (B) referred as

(C) known as (D) thought as

() 3. During the last few millions of years, thousands of species _____ and thousands of other species _____.

(A) contracted / extended

(B) aged / emerged

(C) extinguished / popularized

(D) died off / developed

() 4. All species probably evolved from _____ form of life, which evolved into _____ species over time, and these species developed into _____ species.

- (A) an unknown / some known / many unknown
(B) one / two / three
(C) a single / two or more / many other
(D) a one cell / two or more cell / multiple cell
- () 5. There are more than 10 million species _____ the earth today.
(A) inhabit (B) inhabited
(C) inhabiting (D) that inhabit on
- () 6. Any two species once had a common ancestor _____ that all organisms evolved from one basic life form.
(A) on the assumption
(B) contrary to the belief
(C) from the development
(D) to the extent
- () 7. Human beings, chimpanzees, and gorillas are _____ species that share a common ancestor.
(A) basic forms of (B) closely related
(C) recently evolved (D) distantly related
- () 8. Natural selection _____ the organisms best suited to their environment tend to leave the most descendants.
(A) a process which
(B) a process by which
(C) is a process which
(D) is a process by which
- () 9. All living things, _____, must compete for a limited supply of food, water, and space on earth.
(A) evolved from closely related species
(B) deprived of necessities

(C) without exception

(D) with large members of offspring

() 10. Organisms _____ will increase from generation to generation.

(A) best adapt themselves to conditions

(B) adapt best to conditions

(C) condition best to adaptations

(D) best adapted to conditions

III. Translate the following paragraph into Chinese:

Another idea related to evolution is natural selection, a process by which the organisms best suited to their environment tend to leave the most descendants. All living things must compete for a limited supply of food, water, space, and other necessities. The individual plants and animals whose variations are best adapted to conditions have an advantage in this struggle. These organisms, on average, tend to leave a larger number of offspring than other members of their group. As a result, the proportion of the group sharing the traits of the best-adapted organisms increases from generation to generation. Scientists use the term *fitness* to refer to the ability of an organism to reproduce. For this reason, natural selection is often called the "survival of the fittest".

Natural Selection

自然选择

主要单词和词组

population 人口；群体

shift 转移

cactus 仙人掌

normally 通常

island 岛屿

tortoise 乌龟

tough 坚硬的

directional 定向的

sexual 有性（繁殖）的

occur 发生

weight 重量

adult 成年

mate 伙伴

gradually 逐渐地

illustrate 说明；描述

prickly 有刺的

spine 刺；脊椎

giant 巨大的

ordinary 普通的

type 种类

stabilize 使稳定

feature 特征

differ 不同

primarily 主要地

prefer 宁愿；喜欢

display 展示

behavior 行为	external 外部的
complicated 复杂的	courtship 求爱
ritual 仪式；习惯	explain 解释
feather 羽毛	female 雌性
breed 繁殖	unique 独特的
factor 因素	mule 骡
donkey 驴	sterile 不生育的
as a whole 作为整体	
to respond to 对……做出响应	

Natural selection is a group process. It causes the evolution of a population or a species as a whole—not the evolution of an individual—by gradually shifting the average characteristics of the group over time.

Natural selection can be illustrated by a cactus called the prickly pear, which normally grows close to the ground and has soft spines. On the Galapagos Islands, in the Pacific Ocean off South America, prickly pears are the chief food of giant tortoises. A tortoise is more likely to eat an ordinary prickly pear than a tall one with tough spines. As a result, tall, tough-spined prickly pears have evolved from their short, soft-spined ancestors and reproduced in greater numbers over the years. Today, they are the most common form of prickly pears on the islands. But on the islands with no tortoises, almost all the prickly pears are short and have soft spines.

There are several types of natural selection. They include directional selection, stabilizing selection, and sexual selection.