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遵循教学大纲
开拓知识视野
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阅读英语



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前 言

激发学生学习兴趣，养成良好的学习习惯，为进一步学习打好初步的基础；发展学生的思维能力和自学能力，这是九年义务教育初中英语教学的目的。初中英语教学大纲指出：起始阶段以后，在继续发展听说能力的同时，要重视读写能力；英语教学必须增加语言实践的量，使学生获得充分语言实践的机会，获得为交际运用英语的能力，提高英语教学质量。高中英语教学大纲指出：高中英语教学侧重培养阅读能力，阅读是理解和吸收书面信息的手段，有助于扩大词汇量，丰富语言知识，了解英语国家的社会和文化；在教学中特别要增加泛读训练，指导学生进行课外阅读。近年来，全国各省、地、市的中、高考英语测试都很注重对学生阅读能力的考查，语篇阅读量在试题中所占比例高达30%—55%。教科书提供的阅读材料十分有限，同学们的阅读能力亟待加强。鉴此，我们特组织一些知名教师编写出这套素质教育丛书《英语系列阅读训练100篇》。

这套丛书包括：《阅读中国》、《阅读外国》、《阅读英语》、《阅读名人》、《阅读动物》、《阅读寓言》、《阅读趣事》、《阅读科普》。这是一套生动的素质教育教材，我们跨世纪的中学生不可不读，读了，同学们会受益无穷，爱不释手！通过本丛书的系列阅读与训练，同学们可以提高自身素质：加深对我们祖国的了解，加强对祖国大好河山的热爱；增进对外国尤其是一些英语国家的认识，了解国外的风土文化习俗；认知英语的方方面

面，弄清语言和文化的关系，掌握英语学习的金钥匙，变被动学习为主动学习，提高学习效率；通览古今中外名人，扬名人之长，弃名人之短，确定我们的人生坐标；走进动物世界，饱览各类动物，丰富动物学知识；学寓言悟寓言，加强真、善、美的修养，树立正确的世界观、人生观；品味趣事的幽默、诙谐，寓学于乐，进行愉快学习，变“要我学”为“我要学”、“我爱学”；步入科学迷宫，普及科学知识，感受科学魅力，勇攀科学高峰。本丛书可给同学们提供一次课外学习的好机会，扩大词汇量，巩固与扩展所学知识，养成良好的阅读习惯，加快阅读速度，培养语感，拓宽视野，提高阅读分析、推理判断的能力，为写作打好坚实的基础。

本系列的阅读文章内容丰富，知识面广，难易适中，生动有趣，语言地道，对所学词汇、句型的复现率高，针对性强。对于文中出现的生词，有些作了汉语注解，有些同学们可通过上下文猜测其含义。

这套丛书的各分册均收入了100篇文章，其中，阅读理解70篇，完形填空20篇，短文改错10篇。

《许国璋英语》经久不衰，使我国几代学子、数千万读者受益，其奥秘就在于：许多老前辈抓住了中国人学英语的特点，选取的素材适合中国人的口味。本丛书的编者吸纳了许老先生的这一做法，进行了有益的尝试，希望我们的读者朋友能够从中吸取养分，提高阅读能力，为祖国的繁荣昌盛、为21世纪的到来作好知识的积蓄、能力的储备！

阅读就是 Practice in learning, learning in practice. (学中用，用中学。) Reading is to the mind while exercise is to the body. (锻炼使体魄强健，阅读使大脑敏锐。) “书读百遍，其意

自见。”“读书破万卷，下笔如有神。”培根说：“读书可以怡情养性，可以摭拾文采，可以增长才干……读书使人充实。”同学们，让我们一起来领略阅读的魅力吧！

本书融思想性、知识性、趣味性、科学性于一体，力避俗套，适合中学各年级学生和自学青年阅读。

参加本书练习设计的有：陈俊、古诚、闻博、王冬青、查美术、常成标、耿长城等同志。

由于编者水平有限，错漏在所难免，恳切希望读者朋友批评指正。

编 者

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一、阅读理解

阅读下列短文,从每题所给的四个选项中,选出一个最佳答案。



Languages in the World

How many different languages are spoken in the world today? There are about 5,000 different languages. Nearly 900 languages are spoken in India.

Chinese is the language spoken by the most number of people in the world. But the most widely spoken language in the world is English. Three hundred and thirty million people speak English as the first language. Nearly twice as many—about 650 million people—speak it as second or foreign language.

How many words are there in the English language? There are about 490,000 words. Also, there are about 300,000 words used in science. There are more words in English than many other languages. But most people use no more than 60,000 words.

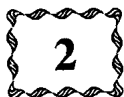
1. The kinds of language spoken in India are B.

- A. less than China B. the most
C. more than China D. the least

2. Which language is spoken by the most people? A.

- A. Chinese B. English

- C. Indian D. Japanese
3. Three hundred and thirty million means B.
- A. 33,000,000 B. 330,000,000
- C. 300,000 D. 3,000,000
4. How many English words are used often? C
- A. 190,000 B. 300,000
- C. 60,000 D. 490,000
5. The topic(标题) maybe is A.
- A. The Languages in the World
- B. The Words in the World
- C. English Language
- D. The English and Chinese Languages



The Mystery of Language

How men first learned to invent words is unknown; in other words, the origin of language is a mystery (秘密). All we really know is that men, unlike animals, somehow invented certain sounds to express thoughts and feelings, actions and things, so that they could communicate with each other; and that later they agreed upon certain signs, called letters, which could be written down. Those sounds, whether spoken or written in letters, we call them words.

The power of words, then, lies in their associations (联系) — the things they bring up before our minds. Words become filled with meaning for us by experience; and the longer we live, the more certain words recall to us the glad and sad events of our past; and the more we read and learn, the more the number of words that mean something to us increases.

1. The origin of language is D .

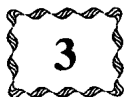
A. a legend (传说) handed down from the past

B. a matter that is hidden to answer

C. a question difficult to answer

mystery

- D. a problem unsolved
2. One of the reasons why men invented certain sounds to express thoughts and actions was that ____.
- A. they could agree upon certain signs
 - B. they could write them down
 - C. they could communicate with each other
 - D. they could combine them
3. What is true about the words?
- A. They are used to express feelings only.
 - B. They can not be written down.
 - C. They are simply sounds.
 - D. They are mysterious.
4. By "association" the author means ____.
- A. a special quality
 - B. a joining of ideas in the mind
 - C. an appearance which is puzzling
 - D. a strange feature (面貌)
5. Which of the following statements is true?
- A. The more we read and learn, the more unlearned we are.
 - B. The more we read and learn, the more puzzled we will be.
 - C. The more we read and learn, the more learned we are.
 - D. The more we read and learn, the more unselfish we become.



Countries and Languages

Nobody knows how many different languages there are in the world. There are at least 2,000. The most widely used of these languages is English. It is used all over the world. It is the language of business, the sea, and the air; it is used by business people, by airline pilots, and sea captains all over the world. It is also the first language of sport and science. So to learn English is very important.

English is the most widely spoken language in the world, but Chinese has the largest number of speakers. There are not only over one billion people living in China, but also many Chinese people living outside China. You will find large or small groups of Chinese people living in almost every country in the world. For example, in London or New York, you will find several thousand Chinese people living and working together.

What languages do they speak in the United Nations? There are so many different languages in the world that they decided to use only six. These languages are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish. Everything spoken or