

美国之音 特别节目听读



高考参考书

Special
English

情人节

赵恒元 主编



北京出版社

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G634.413
44912

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本书所采用的美国之音文字材料和录音均得到美国之音华盛顿总部允许，对此谨表谢意。

北京出版社

图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

情人节/赵恒元主编. — 北京: 北京出版社, 2000.7

(蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库. 美国之音特别节目听读)

ISBN 7-200-04135-1

I. 情… II. 赵… III. 英语—阅读教学—中学—教学参考资料 IV. G634.413

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2000) 第 35558 号

美国之音特别节目听读

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QING REN JIE

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北 京 出 版 社 出 版

(北京北三环中路6号)

邮政编码: 100011

北京出版社出版集团总发行

新 华 书 店 经 销

北京市瀛洲印刷厂印刷

*

880×1230 毫米 64 开本 1.5 印张 45 000 字

2000 年 9 月第 1 版 2000 年 9 月第 1 次印刷

印数 1-5 000

ISBN 7-200-04135-1/G·1315

定价: 10.00 元 (含磁带)

序

学习外语要掌握听说读写四项技能，听和读是接受性技能，说和写是产出性技能。从交际教学法来说，学外语就是为了交际，通过掌握实际应用的能力，能说会写。要做到这一点，便要多听多读，因此听说读写是互补的，缺一不可的。其次，当代语言教学理论的实践，强调学习与习得兼顾。前者在宏观上通过老师在教室内进行，配有固定的教材；在微观上指导老师改进课堂教学方法，以学生为中心，多让学生参与，可取得更好的教学效果。惟独在习得方面，尽管在理论上谁都明白让学生在自然真实条件下，无意识地、轻轻松松地接触英语，但很少有人为学生创造习得的环境和物质条件，形成自流。

从目前国内的出版市场上看，所提供的一些听力和阅读材料，多半是供成人用的，或是直接从国外引进的教材，不能引起国内广大青少年的兴趣，不能满足他们的要求。其次，某些编书者把听和读分开，听力教材和阅读教材分流，这不利于接受性技能的综合培养。现北京出版社出版的《蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库》将听和读两者通盘考虑，可谓英明之举。如文库的一个品种《美国之音特别节目听读》以听为主，同时提供文字材料，而另一品种《Ladybird 英语听读》以读为主，同时配有磁带。

《蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库》的第二个优点是，这些课外学习材料针对性明确，面向中学生的需要。它非常注意趣味性和可读性。如《中学英语轻松阅读》有学生们所喜欢的寓言、诗歌、故事、幻想、传说等内容，也把学生引入蜘蛛、黑猩猩、狮子、小狗、小猫等动物世界。

《文库》注意将英语学习和文化知识的传授结合起来，使学生在学英语过程中同时增长文化知识，或者在接受文化知识的不知不觉过程中习得了英语。如《美国之音特别节目听读》介绍了

西方国家的“愚人节”、“劳动节”等文化习俗，以及美国拳王阿里在体育运动上的成就和政治上的正义感等。《Ladybird 英语听读》让学生接触到英美国家的优秀儿童文学，如《格列佛游记》、《金银岛》、《艾丽丝漫游奇境》等名著。《Cowin 英语百科阅读》的内容有对英语学习的指导、英国的衰落、英国剑桥和牛津两所名大学的掌故、美国的穷富差距、体育音乐等。《中学英语轻松阅读》和《Cowin 英语百科阅读》还收入计算机千年虫、克隆技术、航天、健康长寿等现代科技知识。

由于中学生涵盖从初一到高三的不同年龄段，《文库》的优势是提供难易度不同的品种，供读者酌情选用。有的是初中生的理想材料，如《美国之音特别节目听读》；有的适合高中生，如《Cowin 英语百科阅读》；而《中学英语轻松阅读》共 6 册，分别与初中和高中相对应。

教育部英语课程标准研制组起草的《国家英语课程标准（义务教育阶段）》的讨论稿曾规定，在阅读方面除正规教材外，应引导学生进行课外阅读，如英语标准第 3 级应达到 10 万字的阅读

量。《蓝鹦鹉中学英语听读文库》将与广大中学生读者携手，共同向这个目标迈进。

胡壮麟

2000年7月13日于

北京大学畅春园

前 言

中考和高考试卷中以短文形式出现的考题有阅读理解、完形填空和短文改错。这些短文考题的篇数在逐年增多，所占总分的比例越来越大，在高考中已达60%，因此抓住了短文就是抓住了重点。然而对许多学生来说，重点并不是他们的强点，而是他们的弱点。如何变弱点为强点，固然有一些技巧，但是最根本的、最关键的、最起作用的是进行大量的语言实践，即多看、多听英语短文，尤其是多看那些原汁原味的文章，多听那些纯正原声的朗读。

本套丛书《美国之音特别节目听读》的一篇篇短文均来自美国之音电台的广播节目文字稿。这些文字稿是用约1 500个最简单的英语单词写成的，文章的内容涉猎很广。我们可以从中了解到外国的诸多风俗习惯、文化传统、节日假日、文艺明星、歌曲大奖、体育冠军、名人趣事、总统

生平、夫人逸闻、科技进展、环境保护、动物生态、世界之谜等。文章的难度和长度与中考、高考试卷中的短文类考题大体相当。

语言是流动的音乐，音乐是羽化的语言。美国之音电台资深广播员的纯正、圆润、舒缓、甜美的声音就像是跳动的音符，他们朗读的一篇篇短文就像是一首首音乐。在音乐氛围中学习语言，在阅读文字中享受音乐，变枯燥为乐趣，化沉闷为振奋。这是学习语言的佳境。本套丛书《美国之音特别节目听读》就是进入这种佳境的最好途径。

我们在每段短文后都配有一段间歇音乐。它可以缓解做题后的紧张，又可以使人在愉悦的心境中继续阅读思考下一段文字。

红入桃花嫩，青归柳叶新。如果本丛书中的“听”和“读”能化作“红”和“青”，为花季春柳的中学生在学习和迎考中增光添彩，那将是作者最高兴的。

参加本书编写工作的还有：潘书祥、郑宏、王泽斌、张培权、姚霞、马秀娥等。

赵恒元

2000年5月于北京

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1. Valentine's Day

情人节

听读下面短文。根据短文内容,从短文后面每题所给的四个选项中选择最佳的一项。

Our VOA listener question this week comes in an e-mail from Iran. Hojatoullah Ghaledezani asks about Valentine's Day and how is it celebrated.

Americans celebrate Valentine's Day each year on February fourteenth. It is named for Saint Valentine, an early Christian churchman who reportedly helped young lovers. Valentine was executed for his Christian beliefs on February fourteenth, more than 1,700 years ago. But the day that has his name is even older than that!

More than 2,000 years ago, the ancient Romans celebrated a holiday for lovers. As part of the celebration, girls wrote their names on pieces of paper and put them in a large container. Boys reached into the container and pulled one out. The girl whose name was written on the paper became

his girlfriend, or sweetheart, for a year.

Lovers still put their names on pieces of paper. They send each other Valentine's Day cards that tell of their love. Sometimes they also send gifts, like jewelry, or flowers, or chocolate candy, or all three!


Americans usually send these gifts and cards through the mail system. . . or lately, in a computer message. But some use still another way to send their messages. They pay to have them printed in a newspaper.

Some of the messages are simple and short: "Jen, I love you very much, Pete." Others say more. This one, for example: "Dan, roses are red, violets are blue, I hope you love me as much as I love you. Forever, Mary."

Most of the newspapers that print such messages are local. But one is sold throughout the United States and in many other countries too. It is *USA Today*. This means that a Valentine message can be sent to someone you love in a far away city

or town almost anywhere in the world.

Will this kind of Valentine's Day message reach the one you love? Only if you are sure that he or she reads the newspaper.

- 
1. When do Americans celebrate Valentine's Day?
 - A. On Jan. 14.
 - B. On June 4.
 - C. On Feb. 14.
 - D. On July 4.
 2. Saint Valentine was killed because _____.
 - A. he helped the young lovers
 - B. he had his own religious belief
 - C. he sent a message to his lover by a computer
 - D. he sent his lover a piece of love message
 3. The day of celebrating Valentine's Day is the same as that _____.

- A. St. Valentine was killed
- B. St. Valentine was born
- C. the ancient Romans celebrated their lover's day
- D. St. Valentine sent a message to his lover

4. On Valentine's Day Americans send their lovers a message that are ____.

- A. long
- B. short
- C. simple
- D. decided by themselves

5. On Valentine's Day the gifts Americans send are ____.

- A. jewelry
- B. flowers
- C. chocolate candy
- D. anything they like

2. First Wife: Hillary Clinton

第一夫人:希拉里·克林顿

听读下面短文。根据短文内容,从短文后面每题所给的四个选项中选择最佳的一项。

Hillary Rodham Clinton recently became the first wife of an American President to run for public office. She announced she will compete as a Democrat for the United States Senate from the state of New York. The election is in November.

Her announcement did not surprise anyone. Missus Clinton has been campaigning in New York for months. During those months she has spent less time in the White House. So, some critics say Missus Clinton is not doing her job as America's First Lady.

However, other people are pleased that Mrs Clinton is seeking an official, elected leadership position. They praise her for doing more than the traditional duties of First Ladies: Duties like organizing dinners for world leaders and politicians. Or

welcoming groups to the White House.

Bill Clinton has been President of the United States for more than seven years. For almost all that time his wife has been a subject of debate. Many people like her very much. Others do not approve of her.

Missus Clinton is a lawyer and social activist. She is known for her work on issues involving children and health care. She has worked to improve the lives of women around the world.

But Hillary Clinton is also the only First Lady ever ordered to give evidence in court about possible wrongdoing. A special government lawyer has tried for years to show that she is guilty of dishonesty. He suspects her of illegal acts while she worked as a lawyer in Arkansas in the 1980s. But Missus Clinton denies any wrongdoing. And she has never been charged with any crime.

Mister Clinton was sworn in as President in January, 1993. A short time later, he appointed his wife as the unpaid leader of a team working to